

A Newspaper  
Devoted to the Interests  
of the  
Socialist and Labor  
Movement

# NEW LEADER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
One Year ..... \$2.00  
Six Months ..... 1.00  
Three Months ..... .75

VOL. VII—No. 23

Published Weekly at  
7 East 15th Street, New York, N. Y.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1928

Entered as Second Class Matter, January  
19, 1924, at the Post Office at New York,  
New York, under act of March 3, 1879.

Price Five Cents

## Tammany Grafts 50 Per Cent of Appropriations, Sewer, Snow and Garbage Scandals Reveal

### Thomas To Make 3 Months Tour; N. E. C. Meets

#### TIMELY TOPICS

By Norman Thomas

Socialist Candidate  
for President

IN New Jersey five women face a slow, horrible and inevitable death as the result of radium poisoning. In a little town near Hamburg, Germany eleven people are dead and hundreds ill as the result of an explosion of a poison gas tank. In Mathers, Pennsylvania one hundred and thirty eight men, dead or dying, are entombed in a coal mine.

These are only three illustrations taken from one day's news to show the price we pay for our high powered mechanical civilization geared to the making of profits rather than to the preservation of life. Rarely has the cold blooded selfishness of capitalism control been better shown than in the New Jersey case where the employers and the insurance companies are using high priced lawyers and every device of delay to avoid paying damages to women unnecessarily poisoned in the process of painting watch dials with radium paint.

In Germany we have a conspicuous illustration of the cost in time of peace in preparing for war. In Mathers, Pennsylvania it is not yet clear whether the terrible disaster (in a non union mine, be it observed) was due to negligence of the owners in providing safety devices or not. What is clear is the fact that American coal generally is worse stained with blood more than the coal of any other civilized country. A few years ago the Bureau of Mines reported that three of the most horrible disasters could certainly have been prevented had it not been that the competition for profit made the owners begrudge every extra cent. In 1926 twenty-five hundred and fourteen men were killed in anthracite and bituminous mines. That is an average death rate of 3.39 per cent. per thousand employed.

It is true enough that under any system our modern age of machinery and chemicals involve dangers as well as blessings. Some accidents as yet are practically unavoidable. The shocking and shameful fact is that under the profit system men become so careless of human life in comparison with financial gain. The ghastly tale of industrial accidents, no less than the chronic misery of the poor and the unemployed, illustrates this fact.

Yet the day's news is not all of the sacrifice of life to selfish greed. The same papers tell a nobler tale. Frank

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#### Mother Driven Insane By Children's Plea For Food

New Bedford.—One of the tragedies of the strike came to light today when a little child asked the police department to send an officer to her home. The patrolman sent to the home of Mrs. Eva Polito, found the woman apparently insane.

The poor woman, who had been making a disturbance, was looked up on a technical complaint charging her with disturbing the peace, and following an examination by physicians, was committed to Taunton early this morning.

The children were in want and their case has been referred to the proper authorities. Mrs. Polito is a widow and has supported her six children by working in the Grinnell mill. The few pennies she was able to save have dwindled since the strike. Worry for her children is believed to have resulted in mental trouble.

#### Campaign Quarters To Be Opened in New York and Chicago—G. A. Gerber Made Manager

#### NEW LITERATURE WILL BE RUSHED

#### Maurer and Score of Others Will Also Make Tours—Enthusiastic Dinner in Newark

THE National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party held a fruitful two-days session in Newark last Saturday and Sunday, its sessions being devoted to plans for the national campaign. Some unfinished business of the recent national convention and urgent consideration of the campaign made an earlier meeting necessary, but some difficulties were encountered in selecting a date that was suitable to the members. As it turned out Victor L. Berger, Mayor Daniel W. Hoan of Wisconsin and Joseph W. Sharts of Ohio were unable to be present.

Members of the committee who attended were George E. Roemer of Boston, Lilith Wilson and James H. Maurer of Pennsylvania, Jasper McLevey of Connecticut, James Oneal and Morris Hillquit of New York, and William H. Henry, National Executive Secretary of Chicago. Norman Thomas, presidential candidate of the party, August Gerber and Louis Waldman of the Socialist Action Committee of New York also sat with the committee.

Among the most important matters decided was the location of campaign headquarters, election of delegates to the International Socialist and Labor Congress which meets in Brussels August 5, consideration of the national campaign tours of Thomas and Maurer, raising a large campaign fund, literature for use all over the country, and aid to some of the weak states in filing tickets and organizing the party.

#### Two Headquarters To Be Opened

The committee was convinced that an effective campaign will require two campaign headquarters. This is the first time in the history of the party that it has undertaken such an ambitious project. The eastern headquarters will be located in New York City with G. August Gerber as manager. Karl Jursek of Connecticut was appointed assistant manager with headquarters at Chicago. Jursek will also do some field work in some of the states west of the Mississippi River which need special attention.

Definite arrangements were made for the speaking tours of our standard bearers and the campaign committee will work out the details. Norman Thomas will begin his tour with a few intervals of rest beginning August 1 and continuing to November 1. About three weeks will be spent in the western states and the more important cities will be reached with big meetings. Publicity, advertising and general instructions will go to each city and everything will be done to make each meeting the largest Socialist demonstration during the campaign.

Owing to his duties as head of the finance department in Reading, "Jim" Maurer will be unable to make as extensive a tour as will be arranged for Thomas and yet he is likely to speak at as many meetings. Maurer will be available for week end meetings and on Friday nights where a meeting is not very far from his home city. From October 12 to October 29 Maurer will be available for meetings each night in a continuous tour that will take him into quite a number of states.

Speaking Dates Being Arranged  
With the announcement of these arrangements it is expected that applications will begin to come in from the larger cities all over the country. The difficulty will be to distribute the dates satisfactorily to all

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#### Manna Descending From Heaven—A. D. 1928



Drawn by Harry Bressler for The New Leader

### Ill. Socialists Pick Cunnea As Governor

#### Norman Thomas to Speak at Demonstration in Riverview Park, June 10

CHICAGO—Illinois Socialists met in state convention in the Douglas Park Auditorium, Chicago, Sunday, May 13, and nominated a strong state ticket. There may be a few changes in the nominations later on but the candidates named by the convention are as follows:  
For Governor, William A. Cunnea of Chicago; Lieutenant-Governor, George Koop of Chicago; U. S. Senator, George R. Kirkpatrick of Chicago; Attorney General, Morris A. Gold of Chicago; Secretary of State, David McKaig of Gillespie; State Treasurer, John T. Whitlock of Chicago; State Auditor, Ansel M. Brooks of Rockford; Trustees of the State University, Anna T. Howe, Mary O'Reilly, and Meyer Halushka of Chicago. Congressmen at Large, Florence H. Kirkpatrick and John E. Mahoney of Chicago.

Committees on Platform, Resolutions, Constitution, and Ways and Means made reports and any vacancies on the ticket were left to the State Executive Committee. A strong committee was elected to take charge of the big picnic which will be held in Riverview Park on June 10.

#### Dinner To Thomas

This picnic is also intended as a great mass meeting at which the party will open its campaign in Illinois. Norman Thomas, the Socialist candidate for President, will be the principal speaker and it is expected that delegations will be present not only

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### 'The Power and The Glory,'— A Bit Dimmed

Once in a great while a book appears that is "news". This is true of "Power Control" by Harry W. Laidler and H. S. Raushenbush and for that reason The New Leader departs from its usual practice and prints this book review on page one.

#### By McAlister Coleman

THE publication of such a book as "Power Control" by H. S. Raushenbush and Harry W. Laidler, published by the New Republic, Inc., New York, (\$1.00) is a news event of prime importance. For the first time in the history of the long fight against the steady encroachment of private monopoly upon the public domain, we have between two covers a well-documented and thoroughly readable brief for the Common People of America vs. the Electrical Trust.

The publication of "Power Control" more than justifies the setting up of the Committee on Coal and Giant Power, at 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City, under the auspices of the League for Industrial Democracy. Mr. Raushenbush is the able secretary of this committee, and this book is partly the result of his research work undertaken for that body. Dr. Laidler's knowledge of public utilities is well known to readers of the New Leader, and he brings it to bear in this volume most effectively. The combination of these two doughty champions of the people's side in the fight for power control makes a book that is keeping the press-agents of the National Electric Light Association working overtime to offset.

If I had my way, I would make this book compulsory reading for every speaker who will take the Socialist platform this fall. Here is the full and detailed story of the control of the power industry passing into fev-

er and fewer hands. Here, too, is a story under the significant heading, "The Power and The Glory" of the devious and clever ways with which the power propagandists continually befuddle the public.

#### Mass Production of Hukum

The testimony before the Federal Trade Commission in regard to the use of this propaganda in our schools and colleges, which has come out since the publication of this book, simply verifies many of the statements of the authors. But it gives us by no means as comprehensive a picture of one of the most powerful propaganda machines the world has ever seen, as Raushenbush and Laidler present. They sum up by saying:

"We are still in somewhat the same stage as the people who larked and took a holiday on the first railroad trains, who massed before the shop windows in Philadelphia and Boston to see the first gas lights burn. The claims which the railroads and gas companies were to stake out for themselves on the nation's income were not dreamed of then. We did not foresee their power in the nation. Now we are just beginning to see the field which the electric light and power industry has staked out for itself in the national life. We are beginning to see its somewhat unappealing intolerance towards the mildest sort of competition. We are just beginning to see that we cannot develop a single one of our great national resources ourselves without a vitriolic attack on our presumptions. We are just beginning to see that not a light will burn, not a wheel turn in the whole country, without increasing the industry's claim upon the national income. The glory the engineers

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### Socialists Sweep Reich; Gain 21 Seats

#### Party Increases Lead—Is Largest in the Country —Communists Make Good Gains

BERLIN.—The first returns of the general election in Germany showing big gains for the Socialists have been confirmed by the more complete returns arriving from all parts of the republic on Monday. The Socialists already were the leading party in the old Reichstag and their strength is further increased by the Sunday elections. The new Cabinet provided the Socialists agree to enter it, is likely to be dominated by the Socialists headed by Otto Braun who is now Premier of Prussia where the party also realized notable gains in the vote and increased representation in the Diet.

The outstanding development of the election is the overwhelming success

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#### Berger Warns of Crisis When Dawes Payments Are Due In September

Washington.—Predicting that a European economic crisis will be precipitated next September, when the larger of the reparations sums under the Dawes plan will have to be paid by Germany, Representative Victor L. Berger, Socialist of Wisconsin, has introduced a resolution directing President Coolidge to call an international conference for the purpose of revising the so-called reparations terms and the terms of the Versailles pact.

### \$11,000,000 Loot Bared; Total Bigger

Annual Budget of Half  
Billion Dollars Loaded  
With Thefts, Is Belief

#### EXTORTION AN ADDED ITEM

Tammany Mayor Offered  
To Defend Biggest  
Bodder—Much Investi-  
gation, No Action

By Louis Stanley

FIFTY-FIFTY is the law of graft of the New Tammany, according to the recent exposes. Fifty for graft and fifty for "legitimate" expenses.

Allowing for exceptions to the rule, in a half billion dollar annual budget of the city of New York that would mean at least one hundred million dollars graft every year. How much is "earned" by extortion, bribery and the "honest" graft obtained by being on the inside of things can hardly be measured.

In the \$16,000,000 sewer construction project in Jamaica, a section of the borough of Queens, it has been estimated that \$8,000,000 went towards graft—just fifty-fifty.

In but one street cleaning garage in the borough of the Bronx \$120,000 in graft was obtained by padding the payrolls for emergency laborers. At this rate \$1,000,000 graft in a \$2,000,000 appropriation for temporary help would be conservative. Another fifty-fifty.

In the snow removal scandal of 1926 it was shown that \$2,500,000 out of the \$5,000,000 appropriated for the removal of snow was taken by grafters. Still another fifty-fifty.

Here we have a total amount of graft of \$11,500,000 out of a possible \$23,000,000 of three items alone. Fifty-fifty is a simple rule.

Last December the Borough President of Queens, Maurice E. Connolly was accused of being a grafter. There was a hubbub. Everybody rushed to investigate. The Governor probed, the Mayor dug, the District Attorney inquired and the Courts heard. What has happened? Nothing. Mayor Walker, Tammany to the bone, had the temerity to suggest giving Connolly \$100,000 of the city's money as a defense fund. Public outcry killed that.

#### Connolly's Man Phillips

Connolly's record was laid bare. He had succeeded in a sensational line of grafting borough presidents in 1911. He had been under fire in 1921 at the time of the Meyer Legislative Committee's investigation. He had had close relations with John M. Phillips, corrupter supreme.

Phillips is a political buccaner. Twenty odd years ago when he was Under-Sheriff he was indicted for grand larceny involving a borough contract, for bribery and for book-making. He lay low for a while but soon bobbed up again in Albany, an appointee of Governor Sulzer. He was made inspector of supplies for state hospitals but within a short while the State Hospital Board removed him for compelling hospitals to accept spoiled or under weighted meat.

Phillips, then, returned to Queens. He became the sole agent of a patented lock-joint sewer pipe and then through his influence with Connolly saw to it that the contract specifications were worded in such a manner that only the pipe in which he held the monopoly could meet the requirements. It was against the law to specify patented commodities in city contracts without authorization from the Board of Estimate and Apportionment but that was a small matter for Connolly and Phillips.

No wonder Phillips collected \$14,000 from contractors in Queens to advance the candidacy of his friend Connolly for Justice of the Supreme Court seven years ago. Now the United States Government is suing Phillips for a million dollars that he dodged in income taxes in the last three years. He is out on \$50,000



best. Had it not been for the exorbitant tax assessments that Jamalca residents had to pay Connolly would still be a reformer, Phillips a busy friend, and the fifty-fifty graft rule nobody's business.

#### A Gaffer Tells All

When William J. Loughheed was suspended a month ago as foreman of the Crownwell avenue garage of the Street Cleaning Department in the Bronx, his goose was cooked. He therefore, told all. He had been padding the emergency workers' payrolls for years with the connivance of those higher up. The local officers of the Corn Exchange Bank, a city depositor, had become suspicious late in March and had informed city officials. A month later Street Cleaning Commissioner Taylor had come around to the Crownwell avenue garage to investigate. He explained that it was not his doing. The Controller's office had started this fiasco. Of course, the Commissioner found nothing. It was only later when Loughheed's assistant had been trapped by Deputy Controller Prial and the District Attorney that the truth began to come out. It was all new to him, said Taylor. Loughheed testified that he had been making \$500 to \$1800 a week in graft, that he had been paying \$75 to \$100 weekly to one of his superior officers, \$130 to another, and \$400 to \$800 to the highest. He then stated that a system of street cleaning graft was widespread in the boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx, where the Street Cleaning Department had jurisdiction. He ventured no guess as to Queens and Richmond where the borough presidents are in charge. He stated that the city was defrauded of \$5,000,000 to \$7,000,000 by grafters in the Street Cleaning Department every year. When the Mayor was informed of this dreadful news, he declared that the estimate was too high. How much, then, Mr. Mayor?

#### The Beautiful Snow

His Honor may not love New York's snowfall, as his winter trips to Florida seem to indicate, but the grafters do. To them it is money from heaven. Every year the charges of graft come thick and heavy as the snow.

Early in 1926, in the first months of the Mayor's administration, a plot to steal half of the city's \$5,000,000 snow fund was exposed. By this time winter was melting into spring. Joseph A. Warren, now Police Commissioner and then Commissioner of Accounts, went on the war path.

"The men we have got are the small birds," he announced. "We haven't gotten the big ones yet."

That is a good motto for all time. This winter some more snow birds were caught—though little ones. A fingerprinting system was introduced on February 1 of this year by the new Commissioner of Accounts, James A. Higgins.

Immediately fifty per cent—the correct proportion—of the pay checks were not called for in one district. Deputy Controller Prial, who is trying to make good in the street cleaning investigation after having failed to invalidate the Queens contracts involving the illegal patent lock-joint sewer pipe, denounced the fingerprinting system as high-handed. Commissioner Higgins says Prial is still smarting because he had exposed the Deputy Controller's negligence in the Queens sewer investigation. It is a lot of dirty work anyway and "fifty-fifty" explains it all.

### III. Socialists Name Cunnea

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from the surrounding territory of Cook County but that they will come from many cities and towns in automobiles and by train. With good weather on that day there is little doubt that the picnic and mass meeting will be one of the biggest Socialist affairs held in the state for many years.

In addition to the campaign demonstration with Norman Thomas as the big feature other speakers have been placed on the program. These include George R. Kirkpatrick, vice-presidential candidate for the party in 1916 and author of "War What For?" William H. Henry, National Executive Secretary of the party, and William A. Cunnea, candidate for Governor.

The program for the day has been rounded out with entertainment for the children, dancing, music by Henry's Band, and a soccer game by the Meyer London Club and a rival team. The following evening, June 11, a big banquet will be held in honor of Norman Thomas who will be the guest of the evening and the principal speaker. Every sympathetic organization in Chicago will be approached to make this dinner the most notable banquet held by Socialists since the end of the World War.

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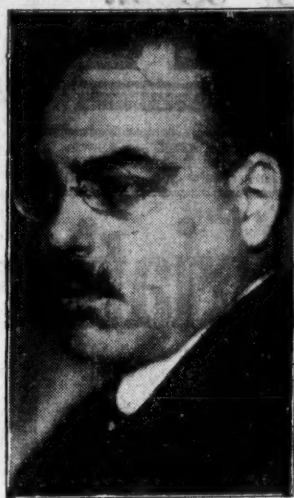
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## German Socialist Leaders Who Scored Great Victory



Rudolf Hilferding



Tony Sender



Randolph Breitscheid

## Socialists Sweep Reich; Gain 21 Seats

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of the Socialists to whom went over 1,000,000 votes of the 30,500,000 polled throughout the whole country.

The new national Legislature will have 152 Socialist members; twenty more than were elected in the parliamentary election of four years ago. The increase amounts to about 17 per cent which is considerably more than Braun and the other party leaders counted on the day before.

**Crushing Defeat of Reaction**  
The defeat of the Nationalists was crushing. The number of their legislative mandates was cut from 111 to 73. By the addition of eighteen deputies elected by regional factions, not officially but in practice amalgamated with the Junker Party, however, the Nationalists' Reichstag strength will total ninety-one.

The Catholic Centre lost about 8 per cent, the Populists, who had yielded fourth place to the Communists, 12 per cent, and the Democrats 20 per cent. The losses of the Centre and the Populists are attributed to their unpopular governmental collaboration with the Nationalists, and those of the Democrats to their support of Chancellor Marx when he ran against Marshal von Hindenburg for President.

In other words, every party directly, or even remotely, affiliated with the exponents of reaction in Germany far and ill at the hands of the voters.

The factions composing the Marx Cabinet received harsh treatment at the polls because the bulk of the electorate considered them guilty of having permitted the Nationalists to enact duties foodstuffs and other imposts that bore heavily on the masses of the people. The country's removal of the royalist and militarist contingent from the seat of power augurs well for the preservation of the existing regime. For even if no immediate danger threatens to German democracy obviously is safer in the hands of Otto Braun than in those of Count Westarp and his Junkers.

The Communists gained a considerable increased vote in Berlin and realized gains in Prussia. In the old Reichstag they had 45 members and in the new Reichstag they will have 54. In Prussia they have 56 members as compared with 44 in the former Diet.

**Reichstag Will Have 489 Members**  
The new Reichstag will have 489 members, four less than its predecessor.

A far larger total had been expected, but nearly 1,000,000 votes were scattered among numerous "splinter parties," with the consequence that some sixteen mandates were lost, since none of these minor factions polled in any one district the 60,000 votes required for a candidate's election.

As was expected the Socialists topped the returns in the Prussian legislative election and thereby guaranteed a continuance in power of the big coalition in Prussia. The Diet's membership remains the same, 450, of which the Socialists have 136, twenty-two more than before polling. The Communists increased their strength from forty-four to fifty-six. The bourgeois parties came out relatively as they did in the Reichstag election, all save the Economic Union showed a loss of votes.

**THE ORIGIN OF TAMMANY**  
Archaeological scholars have established the fact that graft in government administration existed as early as 1500 years before Christ and that sheep were taken as bribes. This seems to establish the origin of Tammany Hall.

## Boston Citizens Organized to Aid Pullman Porters

(By A New Leader Correspondent)

**BOSTON.**—A group of influential citizens have organized to give aid to the Pullman porters and maids in their fight to win recognition of their union by the Pullman Company. The Chairman of the Citizens group is Rev. Dr. Sidney Lovett, Pastor of the fashionable Mount Vernon church. Attorney Edgar P. Benjamin is Vice-chairman with Prof. Clarence Skinner as Secretary and Mr. Albert Sprague Coolidge, Treasurer. The Executive Committee is composed of the following persons: Rolfe Cobleigh, Benjamin Gerig, David K. Niles, E. B. Barco, Alfred Baker Lewis, Prof. Felix Frankfurter, Mrs. George W. Coleman, Mrs. Alice D. Crawford, Mrs. Lois Rantoul, Mrs. E. A. Codman, Mrs. Hannah L. Lee, Pres. Mary E. Woolley, Rev. George L. Paine, Rev. Herbert D. Greene, Rev. Charles E. Weller, Rev. L. R. Howard, Mr. George E. Roever, Jr., Rev. C. A. Ward.

## Johns, Socialist-Labor Nominee for President, Dies in Rescue Attempt

Bend, Ore.—Frank T. Johns, of Portland, candidate for President on the Socialist-Labor ticket, lost his life Monday in a fruitless attempt to rescue a twelve-year-old boy from drowning.

The boy was fishing from a bridge across the Deschutes River. A wire he was holding snapped under the boy's weight and the lad plunged into the river.

Mr. Johns, on his way to address a meeting, saw the struggling youngster drifting down stream and plunged in after him. He swam about twenty-five yards, took hold of the boy and was with in ten feet of the bank with the youngster when exhaustion overcame both.

In a final effort to complete his rescue, Mr. Johns attempted to shove the boy the short distance to the bank. He summoned all his strength and pushed, but it was not enough. The boy sank almost within reach of land, followed closely by Mr. Johns.

Scores of persons witnessed the tragedy, but were unable to reach the scene.

Mr. Johns, who was thirty-nine years old, received the nomination of the Socialist-Labor party for President a week ago, when the convention was held in New York City. He also was the party's Presidential candidate four years ago.

## Destroying Workers' Law in Porto Rico

**WASHINGTON.**—William Green, as president of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, has made public a letter and protest documents he has received from Santiago Iglesias, secretary of the P. A. F. of L. and Socialist senator in the Porto Rico legislature, dealing with the proposed destruction of the workmen's compensation law in that island.

Two bills were passed, eight hours after the statutory time limit for the recent session, replacing the compensation law with a substitute framed in the interest of the sugar, coffee, shipping and other corporations. Gen. McIntyre, head of the Bureau of Insular Affairs in the War Department at Washington, is charged by Iglesias as being behind this raid on the workers' rights. If signed by Gov. Towner, the new bills will be fought in the courts.

**Federation Bank Celebrates**  
Federation Bank & Trust Co., is celebrating its fifth birthday with resources near \$21,000,000 and capital, surplus and undivided profits of \$1,767,000. Forty international and 150 local unions are stockholders and 58 international and 400 locals are depositors in the largest union bank.

**Equity to Meet**  
NEW YORK.—When Actors Equity meets, every member of the union from coast to coast has a right to be present and help shape union policy. So the actors union has rented the Hotel Astor for the annual meeting May 28 and expects to fill it to the corridors.

## TIMELY TOPICS

(Continued from Page 1)

Johns, Socialist-Labor leader and candidate for President, came to a tragic end in trying to save a drowning boy. His courageous act is part of a very precious human heritage. It sheds lustre on himself, his party and mankind. To his party and his family we offer our heartfelt sympathy in the loss of a gallant fighter for the right whose heroic death was of a piece with his life.

The same sort of tribute must be paid to the great Japanese scientist, Dr. Hideyo Noguchi. He joins the long line of martyrs to science. He gave his life to the fight on African yellow fever, more deadly than the American variety which has been conquered. Yet he himself would have regarded his death as a little thing if it proves true, as he believed, that by his work he found a way to conquer this scourge of Africa's fever-stricken Gold Coast, a world which can produce such martyrs and heroes of humanity need not resign itself to the endless sacrifice of life on the altars of profit.

News from Washington is worth watching these days. The great Calvin, whom some of his party's leaders still talk of drafting, has vetoed a deserved increase to nightworkers in the Post Office Department in the name of economy, but he would like to sign a tax bill to provide further reductions in the surtaxes of the rich!

He is getting ready to veto the McNary-Haugen bill on the ground that it gives a subsidy to the farmers, but he will probably not veto the Jones bill which gives a far more indefensible subsidy to ship builders. His only reported objection to that bill is that it squints a little in the direction of public ownership. As a matter of fact it would be better for American shipping to be publicly owned and operated together. Why should we be taxed to put profits in the pockets of private ship owners? There is even a rumor that the President will veto the Muscle Shoals bill, thereby, perhaps, giving the Democrats an issue.

The passage of the Muscle Shoals bill and the probable passage of the Boulder Dam bill are distinct victories for a sane policy of public development of hydro-electric power. So far as the Democrats and Republicans in Congress are concerned they are non-partisan victories with Senator Norris as chief hero. The exposure of the shocking degree to which the power trust has invaded the public schools and colleges and subsidized politicians, professors, and newspapers, has, of course, helped the triumph of government operation at Muscle Shoals. In spite of the fact that the power trust was strong enough to shunt Senator Walsh's proposed investigation from the Senate to the corporation-packed Federal Trade Commission, in spite of the effort of newspapers directly or indirectly subsidized by power trust advertising to hush the inquiry, the facts were too raw and the actual investigating staff too competent to permit victory for a policy of silence. Some of our ex-comrades like John Spargo and Frank Bohn are caught with a pretty shady bunch of lobbyists.

Unless Coolidge should veto the Muscle Shoals bill the Democrats are in no position at all to show a more progressive record against the power trust than the Republicans. Their record on the tax bills is, if anything, a little worse. They wanted to carry tax reduction to unusual lengths and a majority of the Democratic Senators voted against the retention of the Federal inheritance tax, a point on which the supposedly progressive Al Smith of the "new" Tammany also went wrong. Fortunately they lost.

Which reminds me that according to a special writer in the New York Herald-Tribune, the "new" Tammany is worried because of the Socialist attacks on it. So far very good. But the writer goes on to say that I am now making "personal" attacks on Governor Smith which Mrs. Moscovitz and Judge Proskauer prevented my doing in 1924. Now as a matter of fact I don't know just what "personal" attacks may mean. I am not interested in some kinds of personal attacks. It's none of my business, for instance, how often Jimmy Walker goes to night clubs. I am interested in fighting political and economic issues and I am at all times willing to admit that my opponent on these issues may have character and ability. I have really admitted these virtues in the case of Governor Smith. In 1924 as in 1928 I called attention to defects in Governor Smith's alleged progressivism and I pointed out that he cannot escape responsibility for Tammany. The fact that by request I consented to see Judge Proskauer in 1924 made not the slightest difference in my campaign. To the degree that my criticism of Gov. Smith may be sharper in 1928 than in 1924 the explanation is to be found in no change in me or in the Socialist Party but simply in the fact that each new year's record makes both the Governor and Tammany more vulnerable.

I repeat that Governor Smith's connection with the so-called new Tammany is a matter of legitimate criticism in a national election. Of course the Republican Party with its record in Philadelphia, Chicago and elsewhere is guilty of abominable hypocrisy in casting the first stone at Tammany. We Socialists with our record in Milwaukee and Reading are not so handicapped. It is ridiculous nonsense for the New York World, Norman Haggood and others to argue that we must praise Smith for everything good in Tammany and not blame him for anything bad; that we must thank him for removing Hyman and not criticize him

## Hillman And Sigman Re-Elected

### International Elects Benjamin Schlesinger Vice-President for New York

THE two largest needle trades unions—the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America—have concluded their respective conventions. The International met in Boston, while the several hundred delegates to the Amalgamated were in session in Cincinnati.

The International convention's biggest problem was the election of a new president. Morris Sigman was a candidate for re-election. He was opposed by Benjamin Schlesinger, former president. For days the problem seemed one that would rock the organization to its foundations.

The contest between Sigman and Schlesinger was adjudged in a way that brought great satisfaction to all concerned. Sigman was re-elected president, while Schlesinger was made vice-president in charge of the New York market. Morris Hillquit, Socialist leader, and counsel to the union, helped in bringing about the compromise agreement which gives the union once more the services of Schlesinger and at the same time makes it possible for it to retain the ability of Sigman, who guided the union through some of the most stormy times any American union has ever faced. The old general executive board was re-elected.

The Amalgamated convention was unanimous for the election of Sidney Hillman, for many years president of the union. Joseph Schlossberg was elected general secretary-treasurer.

**TAMMANY'S PRIZE MAYOR**  
When our spats and cane Mayor of New York faces a problem he runs away for a vacation. With housing a grave problem Walker went to Rome to be photographed with Mussolini. When we had a strike on the transit lines he took in the Mardi Gras at New Orleans. With the seven cent fare facing us he goes to the Kentucky Derby. He is the champion Mayor Abroad.

For giving us Walker. Actually Governor Smith is a big part of Tammany Hall. He gave us Jimmy Walker and he gave us the Transit Commission. Not in twenty years has the Tammany government of New York been found in more flagrant scandals than this year. If you do not believe that Mayor Walker and the higher-ups are directly responsible for these scandals you must believe that they are grossly incompetent or negligent in their failure to discover them or remedy them. Governor Smith has not only done nothing as Democratic leader to help this situation, in the milk scandal and the transit tangle he has failed to do what we had a right to expect of him as Governor. If this new Messiah who is to save the nation cannot even control his own party in his own city more satisfactorily how shall he or it save the country?

I think that popular protest and, particularly Socialist protest, may have scared our fashion-plate Mayor into a belated sincerity in wanting to save the five-cent fare, at least until after the next election. They have not scared him into doing one single constructive thing about the transit muddle. He still keeps Craig with his unexplained transit concessions and his dangerous quarrels with Samuel Untermyer as counsel for the city. He still delays notice of recapture of the subways which is the one first step in any adjustment of New York's problem. Craig's alleged explanation that to give notice of recapture now might look to the courts like persecution is puerile. The city has a right and a duty to give notice, and courts that would regard that as persecution would simply give new evidence of an outrageous judicial oligarchy at a time when the decision of the Supreme Court in granting a stay in the five cent fare case until next fall gives some hope that it will reverse the amazing action of the lower court. It will certainly have to find better reasons for upsetting the five-cent fare than Judge Manion gave. Meanwhile watch Tammany!

I hope the editors will forgive me for running over space and spare me a few inches more to speak briefly of important foreign news. The great gains of the German Socialists ought to be an inspiration to us all. Since they have not a clear majority in the Reichstag we cannot expect too much of our German comrades. We look hopefully to their making the best of a situation which has in it great encouragement for us all.

The other foreign news is less good. Japan seems to be creating a very serious situation in China after the time honored methods of imperial powers. China, however, is a somewhat larger and more dangerous stage on which to strut than is Nicaragua for our imperialists.

The incorrigible Tory government of England has in effect embraced the outlawry of war only to strangle it by impossible reservations. Fortunately the outcry from the Labor party and even the liberals may save the situation. It must be admitted that one of the worst of Britain's reservations, that of setting up special areas exempt from the outlawry of war, finds little support in our conduct in the Caribbean regions.

UNANIMOUSLY Chosen President of Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



Sidney Hillman

## Matteotti Cards Frighten France

(By A New Leader Correspondent)

**PARIS.**—For the May-Day celebrations of this year post-cards bearing a likeness of Matteotti were issued by the International, inscribed: "The Executive of the Socialist International has resolved to issue this card for the May Day celebrations 1928, and to devote the proceeds to the Matteotti Fund, International Fund to help the Labor Movement in countries without democracy."

These cards were produced in Brussels and thence dispatched to the various countries. The French Customs officials at the Gare du Nord have judged the cards sent to France to be dangerous to the state and returned them to Brussels. They have refrained from giving reasons for this piece of philistinism, indicating the "ground" only with the words "Suivant decision du Controle de la Librairie." But we shall no doubt hear what they had in mind in this decision; and there are moreover, other ways for getting these cards into France than the way of the Gare du Nord.

## New Unemployment Study Ordered

**WASHINGTON.**—Adoption by the Senate May 19, of the LaFollette resolution instructing the Senate committee on education and labor, or a subcommittee thereof, to make a study of the causes of unemployment, and to report by February 15 next, is the first step taken by the federal government to seriously grapple with the problem of why millions of men are deprived of work.

## Socialist Party Picnic

SPEAKERS:

**NORMAN THOMAS**

SOCIALIST CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

**GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK**

AUTHOR OF "WAR WHAT FOR?"

**WM. H. HENRY** **WM. A. CUNNEA**

NATIONAL SEC'Y CHAIRMAN

**Riverview Park SUNDAY, JUNE 10th, 1928**

WESTERN, BELMONT & ROSCOE, CHICAGO, ILL.

DANCING MUSIC BY AL HENRY'S BAND

SOCCER GAME BY MEYER LONDON CLUB & RIVAL TEAM

Children under 12 Years Admitted Free ADMISSION 30 CENTS

## Spring Has Come to

**CAMP TAMIMENT, Forest Park, Pa.**  
and you may meet it on Decoration Day when this camp for adults where rare good fellowship is found, opens for the season on May 29th.

Everything for your happiness—a full orchestra—a brilliant review—a week-end of real fun with a delicious au revoir dinner on June 3rd.

P. S. If you can't come down on the 29th make it any day up to June 2nd.

For rates and routes write to

**CAMP TAMIMENT, 7 East 15th Street**

**NEW YORK CITY** **Phone: Algonquin 3694**

## You Cannot Be Beautiful

unless you are healthy, and you cannot be healthy unless you have a good, sound stomach and liver.

# EX-LAX

## The Sweet Chocolate Laxative

has been recognized as the national family remedy to keep liver and bowels in good working order. An occasional dose of Ex-Lax will relieve you of accumulated, undigested waste matter, will drive out the foul gases, will keep your blood red and pure, and you will always "look your best."

At all drug stores, 10, 25 and 50c a box.

## Workmen's Furniture Fire Insurance Society, Inc.

ESTABLISHED 1872

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A cooperative fire insurance society for working people. Fifty-three branches throughout the United States. Membership on June 30, 1927—49,000. Assets \$650,000. Insurance in force, \$51,000,000. No Profits or Dividends for Stockholders!

A yearly assessment of 10c for each \$100 insurance covers all expenses. A deposit of \$1.00 for every \$100 is required which is refundable in case of withdrawal.

Workingmen and women protect your homes in case of fire. Join the insurance society of your own class. No members at large admitted. Business transacted only through branches. For Further Information apply at 227 East 84th Street



## Mill Strike Holds Fort For Union

Organization of Labor in Textile Industry at Stake—Relief Imperative

By Frank J. Manning

NEW BEDFORD, Mass.—The desperate struggle here of 27,000 underpaid textile workers has not received much prominence in newspapers outside of New Bedford; because, as yet, no violence has taken place. It is none the less a major conflict between labor and capital, with the fate of textile unionism at stake.

When the facts are understood one realizes what an achievement it was for the union to hold together even 7,000 organized men and women. The union has had to contend with seven years of irregular employment, with wages as low as \$8.00 and \$9.00 a week. It is difficult to organize workers under such circumstances. Further, the textile barons here practice the cruel system of reprisals, suspending those active in organizing and using other methods to terrorize those who take an active part in unionism. On the whole, the leadership here is to be congratulated for what they have accomplished under existing conditions.

The Textile Council has held five weekly mass meetings since calling the strike. Their progressiveness is indicated by the type of speakers who have been called in: Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President; Alfred Baker Lewis, New England Secretary of the Socialist Party; representatives of the Young People's Socialist League and others.

The mill workers here are mostly English, Scotch, Irish, Portuguese, French and Polish. The Textile Mills Committee (the Communist group) have failed to make any headway here with the exception of the Portuguese element. However, they are fast losing their hold on these people. The Textile Council has inaugurated a series of special meetings where expert organizers address the workers in the Portuguese language. The folly of the fantastic promises held out by the Communists is being revealed to them and they are beginning to appreciate that the union is their real friend and their hope of a decent living.

The Communists have found a situation here entirely different than in Passaic; a well-organized union; support of the strikers by the community and the local papers. This is not the kind of meat upon which they thrive. Their usual methods of denunciation and sensationalism have set the entire community against them.

It looks like a long fight. The manufacturers have retired to their own peculiar atmosphere and are as silent as their servant in the White House, and as Butler by name and butler by nature. The only inference an observer can draw is that this small but wealthy clique of troglodytes hope to starve the people into submission.

They may be fooled this time. A well-planned national campaign for funds will save the day and enable the workers to hold out. These people here are not quitters. Moreover most of them realize that defeat in this struggle means humiliation and future reductions. Their fight is one involving their hopes for a decent future.

It is clear that only hunger threatens the workers' success. This can be avoided by the help of Labor and its friends. Any contribution sent now to the New Bedford Textile Council Strike Relief, P. O. Box 57, New Bedford, Mass., will be used to help some family fight off the common enemy.

The New Bedford Textile Council at its sixth weekly mass meeting heard Frank Crossworth, organizer of the Pullman Porters Union and Socialist leader. He took the assembled strikers by storm. As he was leaving the building, a loud demonstration of cheering followed him. Secretary Batty of the Textile Council, popular strike leader, asked those present how many of them would like to have Comrade Crossworth return for a monster outdoor meeting. All demonstrated their approval in an unmistakable way.

Horace A. Riviere, general organizer of the U. T. W., who has taken an active part in the strike since the local body affiliated with the A. F. of L., was another speaker. Batty was the final speaker. He told of encouraging aid received from outside firms.

Secretary-Treasurer Reisman of the Jewish Bakers Union of Boston has arrived in New Bedford to investigate relief conditions. This union has been appealed to for donations of bread. Secretary Reisman said that the Union would probably make daily donations of bread for the strikers after his report had been submitted.

### THE Workmen's Circle

The Largest Radical Working-Men's Fraternal Order in Existence

85,000 MEMBERS  
\$3,200,000 ASSETS

750 Branches All Over the United States and Canada

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Sick benefit, 10 weeks per year, at \$8 per week. Many branches pay additional benefit from \$5 to \$50 per week. Consumption benefit, \$200 or nine months in our own sanatorium, located in the most beautiful region of the Catskill Mountains—besides the regular weekly benefit.

For information, apply to  
THE WORKMEN'S CIRCLE  
115 East Broadway, N. Y. City  
Telephone Orchard 0614-0617

## Socialist Candidate for President Lashes Textile Bosses, Cheers Workers On, In Address to New Bedford Mill Strikers



"It is the blackest wrong for dividends to be paid when you cannot pay living wages to men. Men should come first."

"We should make industry serve the workers, not the workers serve industry. We should work to live, not live to work."

"Sweet land of liberty, they call it, where you have the liberty to have your children eat less, and wear poorer clothes made from the cloth that you have woven yourself."

"I invite Mr. Hoover to come to New Bedford and explain this 'prosperity' which, in this city, pays an average wage of \$20 a week."

"Strikers of New Bedford! Fight on, strike on until you are victorious! The workers of America are with you. Your's is the cause of justice and decency!"

Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for president, caught by the camera in characteristic speaking poses, as he addressed a huge open air demonstration of New Bedford strikers, 27,000 of whom have been out for more than a month.

## Minister Who Aided Miners Under Arrest

Ohio Babbitts Trump Up Charge Against W. Walter Ludwig, University Instructor

DAYTON, OHIO.—In the struggle of the Ohio miners to prevent their sinking to lower levels of economic distress there has developed a case of class malice that is simply amazing. Over in Athens, the home of the Hopkings Valley, which produced a civil war in the early 'eighties as a result of mine owners employing Pinkertons in a big strike, an effort is being made to "get" two men whose offense is that they have helped the miners in their struggle.

Ohio University is a state subsidized institution and its Director of Religious Instruction is W. Walter Ludwig, a young Methodist minister. Wesley Maurer is Associate Professor of Journalism and also city and district editor of the "Messenger," the only daily paper in the county. Ludwig and Maurer have been very sympathetic with the strikers of whom there are 11,000 in the county. They have held classes in sociology, and Maurer has endeavored to give the miners a fair hearing in the "Messenger."

Into the picture steps a former president of the sub-district of the Ohio miners, a man by the name of Daugherty. He has gone over to the other side and is working with the business interests to end the strike. This has happened often in the miners' organization and one wonders what there is in the environment of an official position that has lured many union officials into the service of the mine owners.

May Day was chosen for a meeting of the business and professional men at Athens for a meeting at which about 700 attended. Ludwig and Maurer were present and asked a number of questions regarding the purposes of a fund which was to be raised at the meeting which brought hostile cries from the audience. "Bolsheviks," bawled quite a number of the gentlemen, in reply.

Arrest Follows

In the evening of the following day Ludwig was arrested on a charge of perjury on the ground that he had failed to make a personal property tax return in March, 1927, on his automobile, but had sworn in December, 1927, when taking out his auto license, that he had made the tax return.

The charge was made before a Justice of the Peace, Karl H. Porter, who has the power to bind the defendant over to the grand jury and if it returns an indictment it means a possible one to ten years in the penitentiary. Ludwig has retained a Columbus firm of attorneys and in the meantime affidavits of prejudice have been filed against the Justice of the Peace by Ludwig which ask for a change of venue on the ground that he cannot get a fair trial in the county.

There is little doubt that the charge against Ludwig grows out of his sympathetic aid to the miners. The procedure against him is inaccurate when a citizen makes an inaccurate return it is customary to send him a notice to that effect and not to take action unless he persists in his delinquency after having received such notice. Moreover, it is practically certain that if the tax records are investigated it will be found that many who attended the May Day meeting cannot themselves make their personal property square with the returns they have made.

It is said that as a result of the unusual action taken in Ludwig's case quite a number of people have proceeded to the auditor's office to correct discrepancies between their returns and what they really possess.

## Emil Herman Tour Through Minnesota Covers 14 Towns

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—Work of organizing the Socialist Party in Minnesota is more encouraging than was anticipated when the National Office sent Emil Herman into the state a few weeks ago. The Local organized in Minneapolis has already doubled its membership and it is preparing to hold a big picnic in June. The date has been set tentatively for June 24 in the hope of having Norman Thomas as the speaker. Should he be unable to come an attempt to engage Congressman Victor L. Berger will be made.

It is probable that petitions to place Socialist Party electors will not be circulated until after the primary elections which take place June 18. The petitions will require 2,000 signatures but the members of the party are confident that most of these can be obtained at the big picnic. In the meantime organizer Emil Herman requests any friends who wish to volunteer to collect signatures to write him at the Hotel Ritz, Minneapolis.

On May 24 Herman began a speaking and organizing trip in other parts of the state. On May 24 he spoke at Sandstone and May 25 at Askov. His schedule as thus far completed runs into June and includes the following cities and towns:

Saturday, May 26, Moose Lake; Sunday, May 27, Duluth; Monday, May 28, Duluth; Tuesday, May 29, Cloquet; Wednesday, May 30, Grand Rapids; Thursday, May 31, Bemidji; Friday, June 1, Bagley; Saturday, June 2, Pequot; Sunday, June 3, Brainerd; Monday, June 4, Crosby; Tuesday, June 5, Battle Lake; Wednesday, June 6, Fergus Falls; Thursday, June 7, Westport; Friday, June 8, St. Cloud; Saturday, June 9, Anoka.

A number of these cities and towns had very active locals of the party before the United States entered the World War but Minnesota received a huge installment of Wilson "democracy." The terror was so rampant that a Socialist organization could not function. Conditions are now favorable for organization and a good number of votes should be cast for Thomas and Maurer in November.

## Municipal Machine Shop For Reading

(By A New Leader Correspondent)

Reading, Pa.—"The idea of a municipal machine shop has not been forgotten," declared Councilman James H. Maurer at a recent meeting of the County Committee of the Socialist Party in reviewing some of the activities of the Socialist administration. For years the city has been milked by excessive charges made by numerous repair firms and it is the intention of the Socialists to stop this leak and save the city's funds for purposes that will bring some substantial good to the city.

Maurer stated that the immediate big job is to complete the plans for the converting of the old boys' high school into a modern city hall.

Maurer declared that he is still looking forward to the day when all of the many pieces of equipment owned by the city will be repaired and conditioned in a modern central plant owned by the city. The city now owns a building at Moss and Bern streets which has practically all the heavy machinery needed;

"It makes me sick to see some of the bills that we are forced to pay for repairs which are made by private firms," Maurer declared. "I am satisfied that we could save money and promote efficiency if we had the proper machinery installed in a modern shop. Why do we not even own a valve-grinding machine, despite the fact that the city owns upward to 80 pieces of motor equipment counting fire apparatus. I am now studying the budget and hope to prepare a plan for financing and maintaining a shop of our own."

## John D. Plant In Bayonne Hit By Strike

"Labor Utopia" in Oil Plant Shattered by Spontaneous Rebellion of Men

Bayonne, N. J.—Another strike has been out in John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s "Republic of Labor" in the Tide Water Oil plant.

2,200 oil workers, goaded to desperation by successive wage cuts and speed-up struck in a wave that started with 55 men employed on crude stills. Word flashed through the immense plant and group by group, men dropped tools, deserted stills, grabbed lunch baskets and joined the stream of strikers. By midnight the plant was deserted, save for a small managerial force who had to peel off coats and tend the furnaces.

John D. Jr.'s republic of labor was stripped of all its benevolence within 24 hours. Managers snarled and issued ultimatums. One paragraph read: "Employees are reminded that absence from duty subjects them to discharge. This includes the forfeiting of all rights to company benefits, such as sickness benefits, death benefits, group insurance, vacations with pay and pension eligibility based on continuous service."

Hisses, boos and jeers swept strikers' ranks as the manager's ultimatum was read to them, crowded into a barn-like Bayonne meeting hall.

"The plant will not before we return, unless our petition is granted," shouted one striker. "Tell them to go plumb to hell," cried another.

Wage Cuts Attacked

Then speaker mounted the rostrum and detailed grievances of unorganized workers in every department. "Scientific wage reduction" the management calls it. But it's just plain speed-up and starvation wages to Standard Oil's workers who process men are transferred to laborer's wages while other men are forced to take process jobs at lower wages. A man handling five stills was assigned eight more. Other jobs were wiped out, and the work given men already loaded up with all they could handle.

Workers council has been a bad joke, strikers charged. At the last meeting, "workers representatives" failed to present a single request, although the men were on the verge of using the most drastic action they knew to gain demands. Finally they drew up a petition which was handed directly to the management. This was refused, and workers were told to present grievances through their "representatives."

John D. Jr.'s company union meets quarterly. Wages, hours and conditions are not subjects of discussion. In the first place, the "workers' representatives" are stuffed shirts for the company. And anyway, the management has veto power over all decisions. Final appeal is to the board of directors, but no wage questions have ever ascended to the board. The stuffed shirt "workers' representatives" are invited to an annual dinner at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, where they are filled with food and company gospel. Formerly they were fed chicken, but at the last dinner fish was the high spot. "Workers' representatives" were quite disgusted at this evidence of the company's economy program.

Workers in two other Standard Oil plants at Bayonne, situated across the harbor from New York, have Republics of Labor, but they are never allowed to get together. The company has a bloody history of labor oppression on Constance Hook. In 1915 workers struck for 10 days for a 15 per cent. increase. Company thugs rode through strikers' blocks, injuring scores. In 1916 another bloody strike occurred.

## Three Months Tour For Norman Thomas Is Planned By N. E. C.

(Continued from Page 1)

who apply. In order to work out the schedule of meetings to the utmost advantage for the party these early applications will be welcomed by the campaign committee. Then there is the consideration that the sooner all the dates for our standard bearers are fixed the local organization will have a longer period for making thorough preparations for the meetings.

Of course there will be demands for other speakers and the committee took this into account. It plans to be able to meet any demands that may be made from any part of the country for capable speakers and a tentative list of speakers was compiled which will be added to later on. Among those who will be available are Congressman Victor L. Berger, Morris Hillquit, Mayor Daniel W. Hoan of Milwaukee, Mary Windsor, Esther Friedman, Lilith Wilson, James O'Neal, George R. Kirkpatrick, Cameron King, Upton Sinclair, Lena Morris Lewis, Frank R. Crossworth, Jessie Wallace Hughan, Jacob Fanken, Joseph Bearak, Algernon Lee, Louis Weidman, Charles Solomon, Abraham Shipiloff, Lew Head, William Van Essen, Birch Wilson, J. Henry Stump, Mayor of Reading: George H. Goebel, James R. Kelly, Harry W. Laidler, Paul Blanchard, John Haynes Holmes, Jessie Holmes, Leo Krzyzsky, Emil Seidel, Herman O. Kent, John M. Work, Alfred Baker Lewis, Phil Callery, Caroline Lowe, George Clifton Edwards, Oscar Ameringer, Frieda Hogan, Dan Hogan, William Toole, Murray A. King, Emil Herman, William Karlin, John Burke, August Claessens, McAllister Coleman, S. John Block and Anita Block.

Radio To Be Used

The campaign committee will also give attention to the possibility of banquets as a campaign feature where the radio is available in reaching larger audiences than can be assembled even in a large hall. The radio has become an important factor in political campaigns and Socialists throughout the country will be urged not to overlook any opportunity to use it.

Campaign funds are of supreme importance in putting across a big Socialist campaign and it is estimated that about \$10,000 alone will have to be spent in helping some weak states where unemployment makes it difficult for Socialists to handle the situation in their respective states. There will be a general solicitation of individual contributions to the campaign fund all over the country and other plans are forming which will be unfolded in the next few weeks.

One important piece of work can be done by Socialists in the larger cities and this will be recommended to them. This is to follow the example of New York City where a Socialist Action Committee is doing excellent work. This special organization associates the local Socialist organization, sympathetic trade unions, Workers' Circles, and other organizations in a central action committee. The committee in turn subdivides into committees on literature, membership, finance, public meetings, and so on with a chairman of each sub-committee who constitute an executive committee. They plan their work, submit reports to the general committee, and thus tie all sympathetic organizations into a comprehensive working organization for Socialist campaign work.

New Literature Ordered

Of course, a variety of excellent leaflets will be printed in large quantities for distribution. An edition of 100,000 copies of the platform was ordered immediately and more will be printed as the campaign develops. A number of the leaflets have already been written. A few revisions were made on the Address to the Trade Unions of the United States which was adopted by the convention and this will be available as an appeal to

NATIONAL DIRECTOR of Socialist party activities during the campaign will be G. A. Gerber, of New York, probably the youngest man who ever handled a job of such magnitude.



G. AUGUST GERBER

the organized workers of the country.

The convention had also adopted a resolution providing for cooperation with the Rand School of Social Science in getting out text books and Algernon Lee, Director of the school, reported that the first publication he recommended is a text book on Socialist economics. This was approved and Hillquit and O'Neal were made an advisory committee of the party to cooperate with the school in these publications.

An important decision made necessary because of the need of giving full time to the campaign was to postpone any alteration relating to annual dues. It was the sense of the committee that this provision in the new constitution contemplates a change to go into effect at the beginning of next year. However, this does not affect the provision in Section 3 of Article X which provides for affiliated members who belong to labor farmer, cooperative and educational societies. As no date had been set for the contemplated change it is believed that the party members agree that any radical change during a campaign would take attention away from the immediate tasks before the party.

Two special phases of campaign work and party organization came before the committee in organization of young people and women. The Young People's Socialist League has for many months been in need of a national director but it has been difficult to engage a competent person. Louis Rabinovitch of Boston was appointed to take up this work and it is believed that the campaign will help in organizing the young Socialists and sympathizers.

Women's Committee Appointed

The convention had also referred to the committee the election of a committee of five on the propaganda of Socialism among women and organization of groups of women for systematic work in the campaign. At least three members of this committee were to be women but the committee decided to make it an all-women committee. The members are Elizabeth Gilman of Connecticut, Lilith Wilson and Mary Windsor of Pennsylvania, Bertha H. Mally and Jessie Wallace Hughan of New York, Bertha Hale King of Washington, D. C., and Charlotte Bohlin of New Jersey. Lilith Wilson was made chairman to call the committee together.

## Power Trust Exposed In New Book

Rauschenbush and Laidler Collaborate On "Power Control"

(Continued from Page 1)

have wrong for themselves is sold to us by the holding companies. It is a working arrangement. It meets the American pragmatic test: it works. But we pay the bill.

"The men of the power industry who stand behind and in the shadow of the engineers know what they want. So they have one simple aim, that the people say Oh! and Ah! and that theirs be the power and the glory forever."

The reasons for this mass production of hokum on the part of utilities are twofold. First the electrical press-agents want to head off any thorough-going investigation into their peculiar methods of financing and rate-fixing; and second they are anxious to stop at its outset any determined drive for public control and real regulation. By bedazzling the public with huge and complex figures, which only the most expert statistician can analyze, they hope to convince us that we are not paying half enough for our electrical blessings, and that the majority of the companies take their "Service" blah. As the authors point out, they would have us open our collective mouths, and shut our collective eyes, and pay seven cents and more a kilowatt hour when there is no real economic excuse for paying more than five cents, as Morris Llewellyn Cook indicates in a recent pamphlet called "What Price Electricity for Our Homes?"

Statistics Really Vital

There is a general assumption that the public will not read statistics. If this is true, it is a pity, for the statistics in this book are indeed vital. They have to do with a financing as frenzied in many respects as anything undertaken by the railroads. Here for the first time this reviewer, at any rate, gets a clear and close up picture of the operations of holding companies, those semi-mystical organizations which move behind the scenes of every one of the fast increasing utility mergers, and which are well beyond the reach of any sort of public regulation.

Here again we have the story of the successful operation of publicly owned plants from Ontario to California. And here finally we have the constructive suggestions that we develop such water powers as Muscle Shoals and the St. Lawrence, which still remain in our ownership, and use them as scientific measuring-sticks, laid against the much-touted "Service" of private ownership.

Every alive American realizes today that he stands on the threshold of a new civilization. The fact of industry's coming of age with a vengeance can no longer be blinked by any progressively minded citizen.

Strange-hold Sought

And now there are two ways of arriving at that electrical Utopia where life will be more spacious, more leisurely, with the coming of cheap and abundant power. One way is to wait until the twenty companies which have control of four-fifths of the national output of electricity choose to come around and dump this Utopia into our laps. This would seem to be a long-drawn-out affair. Rate reductions follow only after bitter and unequal battles, in which the public are usually inadequately represented, and the private companies are able to organize armies of "experts," to say nothing of what they are able to do in the way of political bribery and chicanery.

On the other hand, we can resolve now before it is too late not to let the electrical industry get the strange-hold over us which the railroads possess. Using such books as these for factual weapons, we can, as the authors suggest, go out "to regain our lost provinces, and to make electricity at reasonable rates available for the people." We can do this by first demanding the passage of such measures for the ownership and operation of Muscle Shoals as that successfully put through Congress by Senator Norris, and then, by day in and day out advocacy of public ownership, which, as Rauschenbush and Laidler say, "affords the basis for a more far-reaching and less bureaucratic integration of the power industry in the service of the people than the best system of regulation that can now be devised."

Thomas On Committee

If during the coming campaign the Socialist Party performs no other function than this intelligent agitation for public ownership of power, the campaign will have been worth all the money and energy put into it. Fortunately we have for our candidate, in the person of Norman Thomas, a man unusually well equipped for the handling of this all important question. Thomas, as a member of the Committee on Coal and Giant Power, has kept in close touch with all the facts developed by that committee's researches. He is one of the few men in this country who is able to stand up in a platform, meet the adherents of private ownership on their own ground, and present in convincing manner the case for the people. He will undoubtedly be opposed by Herbert Hoover, one of the most strenuous adherents of private ownership in the country today, and by Governor Smith, who refuses to follow the logic of his own conclusions in regard to public operation. That Thomas by the sheer force of facts will be able to confound spokesmen for both old parties is as sure as death and taxes. While logic, of course, does not win elections, it nevertheless has a certain compulsion over large sections of the public, who may still be unaware of what the Socialists are shooting at, but who will come over to our side, once they understand the significance of the issues involved in our power platform.



# The Socialist Criticism Of Things As They Are

By Harry W. Laidler

THIS is the third short article on the life and ideals of modern Socialism. In my two former articles I tried to bring out something of what Socialism was after and to describe some of the changes in our industry which were making Socialism a logical outgrowth of our present day industrial structure. I declared that Socialism, like many other people who believe in social change, were aiming to bring about a state of society where justice, equality of opportunity and brotherhood would exist among men; that they believed that society should be organized in such a way as to subserve the happiness of the great number, and they were of the opinion that this could be best achieved through the application of democracy to industry, through the social ownership and democratic control of the natural resources and the principal industries of the country. By social ownership they meant ownership of industry by the community and, in some cases, by voluntary cooperative groups. Democratic control, they believed, could be achieved through giving the producers, the technicians and the consumers adequate representation on boards of control of public and of cooperative industries. They of course did not advocate the abolition of private ownership in consumption goods—in clothing or personal belongings, or even of all industry.

I mentioned the fact known to all readers of the New Leader that industry in the past had evolved from chattel slavery to feudalism and from feudalism to the present wage system and that under the present wage system known as capitalism, we had developed from a time when each worker could own individually the tools with which he worked to the time when the great industrial machinery of the land was concentrated in the hands of a comparatively few industrial and financial groups. It is impossible to go back to the old days in the past. We must go forward. The question increasingly arises as to whether we are going to permit private monopoly of the country's necessities or whether we are going to go forward to public ownership and control of our great industries. I also tried to show that the community was beginning to take charge of certain services that were formerly left altogether to private enterprise. This has been the case for the most part with our school system, with recreation, our highways, our water supply, our street cleaning system, our fire protection agencies and a host of other services.

**The Inequality of Wealth**  
Socialists contend, furthermore, that a cooperative system would eliminate certain serious evils found in present day civilization. We realize that our present industrial system is a distinct step in advance of anything that has gone before. We find in it, however, a number of defects. We find under our present industrial system an unjust inequality of wealth and income exists. In the United States at the present time, 1 per cent of the population receive about 20 per cent of the income and own about 33 per cent of the wealth; 10 per cent of the population receive about 40 per cent of the nation's income and own about 2-3rds of the wealth, while the poorest 25 per cent of the population receive only 3-1-2 per cent of the income and own only 3-1-2 per cent of the nation's wealth. Some of this difference in income is based, it is true, on a difference in ability and productivity.

A great deal of this difference, however, is based upon a difference in ownership rather than in ability or in hard work. Under the modern form of corporation, I may own—which I do not—a thousand shares in the Standard Oil Company, in the United States Steel Company, in General Motors or in the Radio Corporation of America. I may have received part of that stock from my father or my grandfather without any effort on my part. I may be an imbecile or a baby, in arms or I may live in Timbuctoo, or Calcutta. I may never have been near any of the plants of the corporations, in which I am a stockholder. I might not know anything

whatever of the conduct of these corporations, but because of my ownership and not because of my ability, my income for year by year is in respect of my contribution to industry. This might be an extreme case but it is a case that happens every day under private ownership of industry. Mr. Harry Thaw, for instance, has never been noted for his contribution to industry and yet because of his ownership of certain lands and stocks and bonds, he has been able to live a parasitic life and spend freely of the income he receives year in and year out.

On the other hand, we find tens of thousands in this land who toil from morning until night and who obtain hardly enough to keep body and soul together. It is estimated that, despite our unparalleled prosperity during the few years that have passed, 80 per cent of the people of the country belong to families whose income is \$2000 or less a year. When we turn to the statistics of our government, we find out that several hundred dollars more than such \$2000 are necessary in order to keep a family in decency and comfort. Socialists maintain that this inequality is responsible on the one hand for the development of the spirit of arrogance and snobbery among the members of the "House of Have" and on the other hand for the spirit of subservience among the members of the "House of Have Not". It means untold misery in the case of millions and idleness and superfluity and affluence in the case of the

minority of the population. Socialists believe that this unjust inequality of wealth will continue so long as we allow come time for year by year in respect of my contribution to industry. This might be an extreme case but it is a case that happens every day under private ownership of industry. Mr. Harry Thaw, for instance, has never been noted for his contribution to industry and yet because of his ownership of certain lands and stocks and bonds, he has been able to live a parasitic life and spend freely of the income he receives year in and year out.

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## The Unequal Rewards of Industry, Stupendous Waste and Unemployment the Three Chief Indictments

Under our competitive system we are digging twice as many coal mines in the soft coal district as we now need and we are wasting untold millions of dollars in producing unnecessary equipment and in keeping in idleness miners whose services are required but one, two or three days a week. Under our competitive system, our manufacturing plants are overdeveloped. In periods of prosperity we utilize only three-fourths of our productive capacity and in periods of depression we have to use only about one-half. Under our competitive system we waste billions of dollars in unnecessary advertising and salesmanship much of which is directed merely toward getting people to purchase one commodity done up in a blue package in place of another commodity dressed up in a yellow package. Under our competitive system, in every city, he finds a senseless duplication of retail stores each with their separate salesmen force employed perhaps only half the time, with their separate accounting systems, their separate delivery systems and their separate overhead generally.

**"The Tragedy of Waste"**  
The second count of Socialists against capitalism is that it is extremely wasteful. Mr. Stuart Chase, former accountant for the Federal Trade Commission, in his brilliant book, "The Tragedy of Waste" roughly estimates that one-half of the labor power in the United States is wasted either in idleness or in the production of useless or anti-social goods. It is his contention that if society will organize in the same manner as a social engineer would organize a particular factory, we could produce as much as is now being produced with the expenditure of about half as much labor.

A committee on Foods and Markets in New York State about a decade ago made a survey of the manner in which New York City was supplied with food. Food went from the farmer through the hands of jobbers, speculators, wholesalers and other middle men to the hands of over 20,000 retail stores, pushcarts, etc. and from there finally reached the consumer. This Commission estimated that if instead of distributing goods in this manner food and other commodities

were sent directly from the producer to some couple of hundred markets situated in convenient parts of the City of New York and from there directly to the consumer, the people of the City of New York would save something like \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 a year.

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Take our delivery system. Suppose that we tried the distribution of mail on the same basis as we distribute our groceries, our furniture and our clothing—suppose when mail came to the City of New York, instead of its being classified and reclassified as it now is and instead of one mail man taking a street car for his assignment and going in a systematic fashion from house to house delivering mail, just suppose that we allowed our mailmen, when letters reached the city grab all of the mail they could grab, deliver a letter in one part of town and then whirl around to the second part of town and deliver the second letter and then go to the third part of town and deliver the third letter. You would say that was a pretty chaotic system of distribution and yet when we look at our present competitive system we find the same kind of chaos. Socialists believe that a tremendous amount of duplication could be eliminated by community and cooperative management of essential commodities and that such elimination of waste would mean more leisure to the mass of men and women to enjoy the beauties of civilization.

**The Uncertainty of Employment**  
The Socialists criticize capitalism also on the ground of the insecurity of life under capitalism as far as the ordinary worker is concerned. It is true that American workers enjoy the highest wage rate in the world, low as that may be compared with the ideal. It is tragically true, however, that the worker's livelihood under capitalism is one of tremendous uncertainty. He has a job today and may be without it tomorrow through no fault of his own. It is estimated that in periods of prosperity, there are a million

workers out of employment while in periods of depression that number becomes possible five or six million. At this time several million able bodied men and women are walking the streets of the great cities of our land asking for the privilege of work which may mean life and being denied that privilege. What a commentary it is on our civilization that this state of things should exist, a state which means hunger and want not only to the grown man and woman but more particularly to great numbers of little children who are begging piteously for bread before the empty larders. We are told that one of the reasons for the present unemployment is that American workers now produce too much. The value of the product poured out from our factories last year was far in excess of that before the World War and yet the number of workers employed in those factories was several hundred thousand fewer.

We are told that our shoe factories, our clothing factories, our furniture factories, must close down because there is no further demand for their respective products. Does that mean that every man, woman or child in this country who works is decently shod, is decently clothed, has decent furniture in his home? No. It merely means that those who have the money have need for no more of these commodities and those who need these necessities have not the wherewithal to purchase them. Our unequal inequality of wealth has made it impossible for the many to purchase the

things which their labor produces and that lack of purchasing power means in turn that they are thrown on the scrap heap and denied access for the time being to further employment. Only by enlarging the purchasing power of the masses of the people so that that purchasing power may be sufficient to permit them to buy the product of their toil and only by a social regulation which would bring about a proper balance between investment in new productive machinery and the consumption of products produced can the problem be solved. And this, the Socialist insists, requires some sort of a Socialist system of industry.

**Scrapped at Fifty**  
Furthermore, with our present mass production we find workers thrown on the scrap heap at a much earlier age than formerly. Many factories are not employing new workers who are older than 50 years of age and an increasing number are making the age limit 40 to 45. A recent investigation into the steel industry brought out the fact that in the plants investigated the average age of the worker was 31-2 years and that in the automobile industry the average age of half of the workers investigated was 29 years. What are the men and women going to do after they have been exhausted in our intensive factory production and told they are no longer needed? The present competitive industry has thus far given no answer to this. With the development of workman's compensation laws and the placing of increased responsibility for accidents on industrial plants many firms are making the workers submit to a much more vigorous physical examination than in years gone by. This also presents an increasing problem of insecurity to thousands of workers. It seems likely that only under a system of industry the main ideal of which is human happiness rather than private profits will this problem of insecurity be properly solved.

Socialists contend, furthermore, that the present system of industry does not provide a proper incentive to the average worker to do his best work. In our present day industry most workers have no share either in the ownership or in the management of industry. The employees in the corporations of the country own only about 2 per cent of the stock.

The present industrial system is a war system. It places the workers in constant warfare sometimes open and sometimes smouldering, with the owners and leads in many instances to such tragic situations as now exist in the state of Pennsylvania. Here thousands of miners are now on strike for a decent wage patiently pitted against the mine operators, backed by the coal and iron police, and state constabulary, the judge with his ever-ready injunction and most of the forces of organized society. Furthermore, the present capitalist system, say the Socialists, has been one of the great causes of international warfare. Its motto, "Each for himself and the devil take the hindmost," when adjusted to the international situation, too often leads to international conflict. Its great economic groups are constantly found bringing pressure to bear upon their respective governments to send the army and navy to undeveloped countries to safeguard their investments. They demand high rates of interest because of great risk and then demand that this government practically guarantee them against risk, even at the point of the gun. In order, say the Socialists, that the unequal inequality of wealth might be eliminated, that the man energy might be conserved, that the workers might be secure in their livelihood, that adequate incentives might be given to the mass of people to do their best work and that class and international warfare might be a thing of the past, the present system of private monopoly should gradually be transformed to a system of public or social ownership with control by producers, consumers and technicians. This cannot be achieved in a day. It may take decades but it is a commonwealth, the Socialists declare, toward which humanity is marching and under which the great basic wants of workers will be substantially satisfied and the ideals of equality of opportunity and freedom be achieved.

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## "Big Bill" Haywood—Fighter

By William Feigenbaum

WITH the death of "Big Bill" Haywood in Moscow one of the stormiest figures in the American class war in the past half century quietly passes out of the scene. His death was in marked contrast to his turbulent life. For six years he was a museum piece in Russia, honored and respected and supported by the Soviet authorities as an American rebel although he was not even a Communist while in the United States.

William Dudley Haywood was born in Salt Lake City in 1869 of working class parents. At nine years of age he had already started labor in the copper mines, and at 16 he was a full-fledged workman. He had no formal education whatever, but he somehow acquired a remarkable command of written and spoken English that aided him in his later leadership of masses of workers.

The dominant fact of his life, the one thing that fully explains his whole career, is that in the west in his day (and in ours as well) the class struggle raged raw. There were no pink teas, no courteous discussions over the right of collective bargaining. Men fought each other with guns in their hands, and the class struggle meant something real to the workers there, not mere theories in books. Haywood grew up in that sort of environment, and that is why his leadership of a section of the labor movement is a story every page of which is smeared red with blood. Whose fault it was, whose lawlessness came first, the employers' or the workers', doesn't really matter. Its cause was in the mountain air, the frontier conditions, the primitive way life was led.

**Emerges As Leader**  
Early in the '90s Bill Haywood joined the Western Federation of Miners, the union of metal miners not then affiliated with the A. F. of L. His natural qualities of leadership were so great that by 1899 he was on the General Executive Board and in 1902 he was General Secretary-Treasurer.

The W. F. of M. was then a radical organization (now it is known as the International Union of Mine, Mill and

## I. W. W. Leader Dead in Moscow Devoted Life To Oppressed Workers of the West

"BIG BILL" HAYWOOD, who died in Russia last week, epitomized the bitter class struggle of Western United States.



WILLIAM D. HAYWOOD

Smelter Workers and is a part of the A. F. of L., and in those days it had a Socialist outlook, endorsing the Socialist Party, and with its excellent publication, "The Miner's Magazine," edited by John O'Neill, conducted as a Socialist publication. Haywood, also, early became a member of the Party, and occasionally ran for office on the party's ticket.

In the years up to 1906 there had been many and bloody battles mainly in Colorado between the workers and the employers, the latter always supported by the state officials, the almost open warfare culminating in the destruction by a

bomb of the railroad station at Independence, Colo., in which 26 men lost their lives. The officials of the W. F. of M. were promptly accused of the crime.

In 1906 a bomb explosion killed Frank Steunenberg who was standing in front of his home in Boise, Idaho. Steunenberg had been governor of the state in 1899, during a particularly bitter strike, and his savage treatment of the men in the Coeur d'Alene region had been widely condemned. The Western Federation of Miners, however, had not been involved in that strike, and it was a surprise to all when Haywood, together with Charles H. Moyer, President of the W. F. of M., George A. Pettibone and Vincent St. John, executive board members, were indicted in Idaho for the murder of Steunenberg, kidnapped in Colorado and placed on trial in Boise for the crime.

**On Trial in Boise**  
The Haywood trial was one of the most spectacular in all American labor history. The whole Socialist and labor movement was united for once in the defense of the men. Pettibone died in jail, Haywood was tried first, and upon his acquittal Moyer was released. The prosecutor was William E. Borah, "Liberal" Senator from that state, and Haywood was defended by Clarence S. Darrow. The trial ranks as an epic in American industrial history, and in a sense it was the trial of the whole labor movement. Passions ran high, but solidarity was great. During the trial Haywood was named for Governor of Colorado on the Socialist ticket, and he polled an excellent vote.

Just before the trial Haywood had participated in the organization of the I. W. W., expecting that an industrial form of labor organization was the touchstone that would make so great a difference to the proletariat, that immediate by the masses of workers would desert the A. F. of L. and embrace the new organization. Daniel de Leon likewise

became active in the I. W. W., and within a short time, instead of a new form of labor organization, the I. W. W. had become the American representative of the new French philosophy of syndicalism—that is, the idea that the labor unions would grow so powerful that they would supplant the state, and where the executive council of the I. W. W. would meet, there would be the Government.

During the trial the I. W. W. was more or less quiescent, but after Haywood's acquittal in July, 1907, instead of throwing himself into trade union or party work, as had been expected, Haywood devoted himself to I. W. W. work. Indeed, many comrades boasted Haywood for President in 1908, and even in 1912, while he was paying very little attention to the party.

Haywood, however, had been elected to the International Socialist Congress in Copenhagen in 1910, and there he came in personal contact with the French advocates of syndicalism, of the general strike and of sabotage. From that time on his activities became more and more syndicalist, less and less political. He led a powerful movement within our party in 1912 in favor of belittling political action and in favor of "any" means—any means, in the minds of every one, sabotage and direct action. A young intellectual, Frank Bohn, Ph. D., of Michigan University, became his follower and the two men wrote a pamphlet called "Industrial Socialism" in which sabotage and direct action were openly advocated. The result was a hot fight within the party, culminating in the election of Haywood to the National Executive Committee, a struggle in the Indianapolis convention in 1912 in which "Section Six" was adopted providing for the expulsion from the party of any advocate of crime, violence or sabotage, and finally, in the recall of Haywood from the N. E. C. by a heavy vote of the party membership. That was the end of Haywood's

connection with the political movement.

**The I. W. W. Changes**  
The I. W. W. has taken at least three forms during its lifetime. At that period, it was mainly a drive to organize the unorganized. Haywood showed himself a remarkable organizer in the Lawrence woolen strike, the Paterson silk strike, and other struggles, but in no case did he build a lasting organization. The unions he built always dissolved after a spectacular strike, even though the strike might seem to have been victorious. Haywood, however, was always in the news, he was always being arrested and leading free speech fights. When the war came the I. W. W. was largely a movement of the itinerant workers in the West, who were constantly getting into conflict with the legal authorities and requiring free speech fights to get them out. Haywood's main activities were legal, and it was as head of the defense committee of the I. W. W. that he got into trouble in 1917.

It is literally true that Haywood and the I. W. W. had no particular interest in the war. The members organized themselves for self-protection and they got arrested, jailed and often lynched for their pains. Haywood was in charge of their defense and it was solely due to the insane hysteria of the day that he and over a hundred of his colleagues were arrested and tried before Judge Landis.

Haywood drew a 20-year sentence, and while out on appeal on \$20,000 bail he fled the country, arriving in Russia in May 1922. There he was placed in charge of the ill-fated Kuzbas experiment, but that was a failure. For the past few years he sat in his hotel room in Moscow smoking innumerable cigarettes and waiting for the end. His life was stormy, and his passing was so quiet that it was almost as if he had fallen asleep.

Haywood's great moment was 1906 when in his person the entire labor movement was united. Combers, Debs and every element in between standing shoulder to shoulder for justice to the big one-eyed miner. That was the honeymoon period of our movement. When he died he was already a monument.

## Socialist Party Plans and Progress Through The States

### National

Readers in unorganized communities desiring information on how to organize local Socialists in the Socialist Party may obtain instructions, leaflets, charter applications, membership cards, application cards and all other necessary information by addressing William H. Henry, National Executive Secretary, 2653 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois. Information regarding speakers, literature, platforms, etc., may be obtained from the National Office.

**Mountain States District**  
From O. A. Kennedy, Secretary, comes the following:  
"I wish you would make a special mention in the party news of the death of Comrade C. H. Abernethy, our secretary for the past six years at Gold Hill, Utah. He died May 8 at Gold Hill after a lingering illness at the age of 65. He was a graduate of the Kansas State Agricultural College and followed mining nearly all his life. He became a Socialist in British Columbia 30 years ago, and in 1905 joined the Portland, Oregon, local and his membership cards show an unbroken record since. The comrades at Gold Hill write that they will carry on the work he had laid down."

### Pennsylvania

**Reading**  
The new county committee has elected Stanley O. Selders chairman, V. J. Roslin secretary, and Roy Hoover treasurer. The county committee will have Socialists appointed as registrars in the precincts that gave the party first or second place on the ballot last November. Chairman Selders, County Organizer Aulenbach and Darlington Hoover were appointed as a committee to work with the ward organizations to secure suitable persons for registration duty.

**9th and 11th Wards**  
This old-time dependable organization has taken recognition of the importance of getting the women interested in Socialist activities and we may soon expect an increase in activity as a result of the influence of women Socialists. A suggestion for a special meeting in the near future for the purpose of entertaining women comrades is now receiving consideration.

**Philadelphia**  
Philadelphia Socialists have accomplished something in the establishment of a monthly party bulletin, the Party News. It is now in its fifth issue with the entire first page carrying a fine May Day article by Joseph E. Cohen. The second page carries news of the branches, the Woman's Auxiliary, Young People's Socialist League, and the Children's Democratic Club. The third page is devoted to news of the Labor College and of trade unions. The fourth page is devoted to advertising.

**Pittsburgh**  
Some sixty Socialists attended the banquet Sunday, May 13, and contributed \$800 for the campaign and headquarters expenses. An attempt will be made to increase this to \$1200 by reaching others who were unable to be present. They are urged to get in touch with the county office.

The County Executive Committee is arranging three picnics at Elder's Grove on Sunday, June 10, July 4, and Sunday, Sept. 16. The grove has been much improved and a fine time is assured.

**General Membership Meeting**  
A general membership meeting will be held Sunday, June 3, at 2 p. m., at the county office in the Arcade Building. The meeting is of great importance and every member should attend. The county headquarters are located in the Fifth Avenue Arcade Building, Room 308, between Wood and Market streets. The Debs Branch will hold a social and lecture at the county office Saturday, June 2, at 8 p. m. All friends whether members or not are invited to attend.

### Connecticut

State Secretary Martin Plunkett has issued a call for nominations for State officers. Nominations must be in the State office before June 12. Officers to be nominated, Secretary-Treasurer, Organizer, Literature Agent, Executive Committee members, three Auditors. The new officers take office July 1.

Plans are progressing for the state convention which will be held June 23 and 24. It is expected that some prominent speaker from New York will address the delegates and friends at the banquet which will be held on the evening of June 23.

The State Office has been changed from Wallingford to Room 82, Poli Building, 23 Church street, New Haven.

The May meeting of the State Executive Committee will be held at the State office, Poli Building, 23 Church street, New Haven.

**Waterbury**  
A new local is in the process of organization in this city.

**New Haven**  
"The New Leader" is on sale at Sachs Bros. newsstand on Oak street.

**Hartford**  
The Socialists of Hartford are planning a series of street meetings.

**Hamden**  
Secretary Davis of the local has on sale the campaign booklet issued by the Socialist Party, price 25 cents each.

The booklet contains large pictures of our Presidential candidates, and articles written by Thomas, Maurer, Billquist, Mayor Hoan of Milwaukee, Oneal, and many others prominent in the Socialist Party here and abroad. Every member should have one of these booklets. W. E. Davis, 48 Belmont street, Hamden, Conn.

### Illinois

**Chicago Picnic**  
The Chicago Socialists are all set for a big turnout at their annual picnic, Riverview Park, June 10, when our candidate for President, Norman Thomas, will make his appearance in the "windy city." A committee of 100 is on the job to make this picnic a success. We want to give Norman Thomas a big crowd to speak to—we know he will do the rest. Then, on Monday, June 11, at 7 p. m., a large banquet will be held at the Douglas Park Labor Lyceum, where the Chicago Socialists will show Thomas that the "windy city" movement is on the job. We are going to have a big crowd. We want Thomas to be encouraged while we enthrone the movement and begin our campaign for the fall election.

**The German Branch**  
The German branch of Chicago shows progress because they have some live, active comrades to keep things going. At their last National Convention, M. V. Halushka, one of the Illinois delegates to the National Convention, spoke to the members giving a report of the National Convention and making an appeal for support to build a bigger and better P. S. in Chicago. The branch donated \$10. The members all took a supply of tickets for the big June 10 picnic and June 11 banquet at which Norman Thomas will be the central figure. Chicago will give the Socialist presidential candidate a warm welcome.

### New Mexico

**Socialist State Convention**  
A new local has been organized by the comrades in Eswell. The National Office has been so notified by Murray E. King, who states that this local will grow and become a power in politics in that city. He also writes that a state convention of the Socialists of New Mexico will be held at Roswell, Sunday, June 10, for the purpose of nominating a state Socialist ticket. Plans are also being made to further organization work throughout the state.

**West Haven**  
A new local has been formed here with Louis A. Colombo, 183 Park street, as temporary secretary. Anyone wishing to become a member should get in touch with him.

### California

**A New Local**  
M. Duty, an active member of the Socialist local at Ukiah for a number of years, has moved to La Habra, and immediately gets busy and organizes a new local. He sends for literature and writes that he cannot do without a Socialist local wherever he may be. This should be the case with every Socialist in his or her community if a little effort is put forth.

### Indiana



# A PAGE OF EXCLUSIVE FEATURES

## THE AD-MEN GO TRAGIC

WE DEEPLY regret to observe the note of depression which has come into the works of our younger ad-men. In our days the writing of advertising was a far cheerier occupation.

In fact, the first thing we learned was to pile as much unadulterated bliss into our writing as was possible under the circumstances. Thus we pictured family after family indulging in what amounted to little less than orgies over the arrival of boxes of new breakfast food, the appearance of cookstoves, and the delivery of a new pair of suspenders for Father.

We instructed our artists to picture little children cavoring about, clapping their hands in unaffected glee as the kind man from the grocery store came up the path, bearing in his basket a can of Eveready Baked Beans. Mother was doing a fancy dance on the porch and Father was firing off the household cannon from the roof. All told, it was a happy scene indeed.

How different nowadays, with grim tragedy called upon to furnish one of the chief elements in selling appeal.

A few years back, we entered upon the first scene of the Drama of Pyrrhia. Just as the great Greek tragedians keep us from the very beginning of the play aware of the dread fates hovering in the wings, so our latter-day tooth-paste tragedians made us aware from the outset that unless we hurried for their acclaimed tube, certain doom impended over our unscrubbed gum-lines.

However, as year after year went by, and we discovered that four out of five are still subject to the perils of pyrrhia, in spite of what must have been a very thorough distribution of its preventive, we became inured to these warnings, and were prepared to face life with renewed courage, when along came Halitosis.

No need here to rehearse the varied scenes in the developments of the Horrors of Halitosis. Who can forget the heart-rending pictures of impertinent children climbing up on the knees of innocent salesmen to whisper in their victims' ears that hair-raising information which no friend would impart? Before our startled eyes we beheld courtships ruined, social aspirations destroyed utterly, business successes imperilled, all because of neglect of Listerine.

Then taking a cue from the Listerine and Halitosis boys, the copywriters for the works of Elbert Hubbard and other curators of our national culture began to get low in their own minds. They showed us pictures of apparently successful young men, riding home in cabs from parties with their wives, with some such caption underneath as "You cock-eyed stiff, ain't you got no culture? When they were all talking about Voltaire, you sat there as dumb as Coolidge." The moral of course being that if the unfortunate wretch had only read Elbert Hubbard's scrap-book he would have known that Voltaire was a writing chap, and not the name of a new French liner, as he thought all along.

Unquestionably, this was most effective advertising. It evoked the terrifying thought that we ourselves might get caught at a party some night without having boned up on Elbert Hubbard's scrap-book, and that someone might start wise-cracking about Roger Bacon, and we would get confused and think he meant Roger Baldwin, and that all the way home from University Heights, our wife would point out in detail just how dumb we had been.

To be sure, we have not attended many parties of late at which conversation about Voltaire has been what you might call animated. The parties we have attended have been of one or two kinds: the Come-Out-In-The-Hall-And-I'll-Knock-Your-Block-Off kind or the Have-You-Seen-The-Latest-Pictures-Did-You? kind. In fact there has been practically no mention at all of Voltaire, except, of course, the Use-Voltaire-in-a-sentence proposition. And even without reading Elbert Hubbard, we have been able to think up some such crack as "Have you read Voltaire Scott?"

But now that most of the lip-reading population have been frightened into Hubbard, there looms a new apparition on the advertising scene. This consists of the misfortunes that dog the foot-steps of young men who do not wear Paris garters. Before me is a copy of a paper with a picture of a most attractive young lady sitting on a sofa, alongside of a young man who at first glance seems to be plenty hot-as-totsy. However she is averting her beautiful face from his woebegone gaze, and is wrinkling up her nose in the manner of a Southern gentlewoman smelling a skunk at a house party. Looking anxiously to find out what's the matter, you discover to your distress that the young man's socks are dangling about his foot-tops. The copy reads as follows:

"AND HE WONDER WHY SHE SAID 'NO!'"  
Could he have read her thoughts he would not have lost her. A picture of neatness herself, she detested slovenliness. And not once, but many times, she had noticed his ungartered socks crumpling down around his shoe tops. To have to apologize to her friends for a husband's careless habits was too much to ask. So she had to say "NO"—and in spite of his pleading couldn't tell him WHY.

The poignancy of the situation leaves us almost inarticulate. Is there not enough sorrow and unhappiness in this dreary old world of ours without going to the advertisements for more of it? Where are the old familiar faces which once lightened the white spaces between the obituaries and the account of the latest hammer murder? Is there no balm in the ad-man's Gilead?

If this keeps up we may soon expect to see the Thompson Starrett Construction Company using a picture of a youth standing beneath a twenty-four story skyscraper, the top five stories of which are falling down upon himself, and his bride, and just before the girders strike him, exclaiming, "It would have been such a happy home for us if we had been foresighted enough to use good old T.-S."

There are apparently no limits to the gloom with which the well-depressed young copywriter can sink us. If indeed through his efforts we become gum-breath, culture-less, and sock-conscious, he will unquestionably find out some new and fatal defect in our tout ensemble which will lose us the girl of our choice, cut us off at the outset of a promising career, or condemn us utterly to the ranks of those social pariahs who simply cannot think up the right answer to the twenty-one questions which every Harvard undergraduate has to answer.

Our plea is for more clean, wholesome fun in the advertising columns.

McAlister Coleman.

## Book Review

### The Labor Year Book

EXCEPT for a few fanatics, most every phase of the labor movement in the United States in the past few years has witnessed an interesting change in the presentation of its program. Time was when the agitator and organizer considered it sufficient if they followed the policy of the religious exhorter. Facts were not so important and exaggeration was common. In recent years the need of workers' education has brought an increasing respect for factual presentation of the world in which we live.

To be sure, in the case of many of the A. F. of L. classes the approach is timid and cautious, as though fearful of coming across something not quite consistent with old ways of thinking, yet there is also considerable respect for reliable data. The Rand School of Social Science was the pioneer in Workers' Education and it has the honor of having begun the publication of a year book in 1916 which presented a large amount of important information gathered from reliable sources, information of service to the Socialist movement and the trade unions.

The ninth volume of The American Labor Year Book is now available and, owing to the interest in politics and the national campaign this year, this issue varies in its contents from previous numbers. It is primarily intended as a digest and presentation of the most reliable information bearing upon questions that will be discussed this year. This presentation is all the more thorough as the section in previous volumes devoted to the political movements at home and

the international labor, Socialist and Communist developments are omitted. These subjects will be again taken up in the next volume to appear early next year.

The result is a comprehensive compilation of data on almost every conceivable theme of interest to the labor movement. Under the chapter headings of Industry, Labor, Social Problems, The American Farmer, The Courts and Labor, Civil Rights, Protective Labor Legislation, Social Insurance and American Foreign Relations will be found a mass of material which can be located in no other single volume. Speakers, writers, teachers, editors and organizers will find this issue invaluable. It may be obtained from the Rand Book Store, 7 East 15th street, New York City. Price, \$2.50.

### Economic History

Of the writing of economic histories of the United States there appears to be no end. We recall the volumes by Bogart, Coman, Jennings, Van Metre, Wright, Lippincott, Cowdick and Bolles and it is probable that a few others have been overlooked. Nevertheless, we welcome another one by Harold Underwood Faulkner (Economic History of the United States. New York: Macmillan). This is another addition to The World Today Bookshelf issued under the editorial chairmanship of Charles A. Beard.

Professor Faulkner has accomplished a difficult task in compressing so much that is vital within less than 300 pages. The whole range of American economic history is considered from the period of European origins to the World War and

## THE SAD TALE OF A SAP FROM STOUTSVILLE, OHIO

HIS name was John Strout. He lived in Stoutsville, Ohio. He measured six feet four in his stocking feet, weighed 240 pounds and had the brain capacity of a baby baboon.

John Strout was the owner of a single barrel muzzleloader with a shot sticking in its throat that would not come out. One day John got himself an iron ram-rod with a screw at one end. He rammed the ram-rod down the barrel of the muzzle loader and screwed until it had anchored in the old shot. Then he pulled and pulled and pulled but the shot wouldn't budge.

Having exhausted his pulling power, John proceeded to pack powder into the firing tube until he could pack no more. When the firing tube was full he placed the little gun cap over the firing tube, cocked the hammer, aimed in the general direction of the barn door, closed his eyes and pulled the trigger. But instead of the expected miniature earthquake, there was only a tiny puff, emanating from the powder in the firing tube.

Said John, pulling didn't get that old shot out, filling the firing tube with powder didn't do it but pulling and firing at the same time will bring it out sure as—

Well, John went all over it. He rammed the ram-rod down the barrel. He screwed it into the old shot. He packed powder down the firing tube. He placed the gun cap on the tube. He cocked the hammer and having done all this he added a new wrinkle, the fruit of his meditation. He wrapped a rag around the end of the iron ram-rod sticking out of the barrel. He clamped his powerful grinders on the rag-wrapped rod, pulled with all his might and being barefooted pushed the trigger at the same time.

The trick done it. It also did John Strout. The ram-rod stuck in the ceiling after passing through that part of John's anatomy where his brain was supposed to be. They say nothing succeeds like success and John had succeeded in getting that old shot out. The pity is that like most successful men, he didn't live long enough to reap the harvest of his success. However, John had a bigger and better funeral than ever was held in Stoutsville, Ohio, for nobody in that vicinity had ever sent a soul to its reward by shooting and pulling an iron ram-rod through its brain tank, so everybody for miles around was there and so was I.

Alas, poor John. I knew him well. He was a good son of his widowed mother, a good husband to his widow and a good father to his orphan children for when he ram-rod-ded himself to a better world he left a quarter section of Scioto River bottom land, eight horses, 18 cows and no end of pigs, chickens, ducks, geese and farm implements to posterity.

Yes, John was a good man. He was a tower of strength without a belfry in the upper end and he reminds me forcefully of my old friends among the Illinois Miners who are trying to save the union and solve the unemployed problem by striking union mines for the benefit of non-union operators below the

Ohio. Well, I guess the boys mean well but hell, so did John Strout of Stoutsville, Ohio, when he sucked that ram-rod through his noodle.

### INGRATITUDE

That was an awfully unkind thing for Henry Ford when he said that if there were five or fifty million unemployed in the Land of the Free, etc., it was their own fault, being that every man who wants work can find it.

Does Henry forget that he himself laid off some 70,000 men at the time when he re-organized his plants preliminary to bringing out his new car? A really foresighted Napoleon of Industry would have foreseen the end of the celebrated tin lizzy and brought about such changes as would enable him to bring out the new product without such a violent disruption as noticed in the Ford plants.

But Henry apparently does not believe in industrial evolution. He stuck to his tin can until the competition of better and lighter low priced cars forced him to join the procession.

I don't know how many hundreds of millions it cost Henry Ford to get pinched out of his fool snoot but I do know that at the time of the great shut-down there were over 100,000 unemployed in Detroit alone and most of them were ex-employees of Henry. Was it their fault to be out of work or Henry's?

Moreover the five or forty million of unemployed guessed at by Henry Ford are his very best friends for the job hunter who is this fast age is chasing a job won't get anywhere by hoofing it. So about the first thing an unemployed free man has to do to get within hailing distance of a place where the ghost walks is to acquire a second-hand Ford.

I have no statistics to prove it, but I have a hunch that Henry's five or fifty million unemployed were out at least for that million tin lizzies looking for jobs. The replacement of out-worn parts on these ancient vehicles should have netted Ford enough to re-imburse him for the modernization of his plants. At least a Ford dealer in a proletarian neighborhood told me that since the Ford plants shut down he made more money selling Ford parts than he ever made on new Fords.

The cold hard fact is that the old Lizzy was the shoddiest, seediest, out on the knees and down at the heel chariot ever conceived by the mind of mortal man. I know of what I'm talking. I wore out a dozen Fords in the last 2 years. Every one of them was a one-year car with a three man top and a four-year repair gang. It's Henry Ford that kept me poor. His tin lizzies dined and two-bitted me into poverty. It got so that every morning I had to rob the children's savings bank before cranking up the old coffee pot. No, my path through life was not strewn by Ford parts and watered by leaking radiators.

However, I admit the old tin can was a rattling good machine. Least ways, it rattled more than any aggregation of machines I ever heard rattle. I asked a friend once why he didn't attach a speedometer to his Ford. Don't need one, he replied, when I go ten miles the fenders rattle, when I go 15, the lamps rattle and when I go 20 my teeth rattle. That's it. Four out of five have it—I mean pyrrhia which is Greek for falling teeth—and four out of five drive Fords, so there you are.

Yes, poor people have poor ways and one of the best ways of staying poor is to drive a Ford after it gets its second set of tires.

Shame on you Henry, back-firing the hand that cranks you.

Adam Coaldigger.

after. Each chapter is followed by a list of suggested readings and fourteen maps help the reader to understand the text.

This small book has one distinct value aside from being an excellent narrative of the more important factors in American economic history. This type of history is dry at best and yet it underlies all other phases of our social development. The smaller work has required an avoidance of tedious details and it is likely to whet the appetite of the new student for some of the studies mentioned in the bibliography which follows each chapter. It is a very serviceable volume.

### On Communism

American Communism in the trade unions in the subject of a special study in the Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science by David M. Schneider, Ph. D. This monograph (The Workers' (Communist) Party and American Trade Unions) considers the activities of Communists in the Machinists' Union, the Carpenters' Union, the United Mine Workers, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the Furriers and the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union. The author has consulted the publications of these unions and of the Communists and approaches the study as a disinterested party. He adds little that is new to our readers but the monograph is very useful in that it places considerable interesting material in convenient form before those who are interested in the subject.

He concludes that "the most important single cause of the lack of success suffered by the Communists is the lack of knowledge on the part of their leaders concerning purely American conditions." He comes to the same conclusion regarding the Red International of Labor Unions.

### O'Neill's Longest

IN spite of the adulation showered upon it—equally in spite of the vehement protest of our Chatterbox, against its waste on such themes—"Strange Interlude" (Boni & Liveright) is a powerful analytical study of the mind of a woman, and of the five men, father, husband, lover, friend, and son, whom she needs to fulfill the desires of her being. Worked in dialogue, the play is otherwise rather a novel, so that it reads more effectively than a stage play; for we do not wonder in the reading why certain elements of the psychology of the characters are conveyed in the form of lengthy spoken thoughts, and not in ways more intrinsically of the theatre. It would be interesting to see how much (and I fancy little) alteration would be necessary, to make "Strange Interlude" a valid play, without the asides of spoken thinking. In other words, these parts of the play—and they extend to a goodly proportion of the whole—are seldom essential in any way that justifies their choice, rather than methods more closely knit into the dramatic structure.

For itself, the story is one that few will fail to follow with keen interest, even though it is highly individualized by details of coincidence, losing the added power of universality. Despite this loss, the life of Nina Leeds is searched with large measure of sympathetic understanding, and made vivid, if not real, in vigorous presentation.

Joseph T. Shipley.

### Chapbooks

To lovers of the unusual, the out-of-the-way, the quietly effective, the slight out-sound—to all who have learned that good goods may come in small parcels, and to all who have yet to learn—it is a pleasure to recommend one or another of the University of Washington Chap-

books. These booklets of attractive format and contents, edited by Glen Hughes (\$1.50 each), of which some thirteen have already appeared, are naturally of unequal merit; yet none is negligible, and some are excellent.

Richard Aidington, for example, both on D. H. Lawrence and on Remy de Gourmont, is searching and sound in criticism, while smooth and fluid in style. Isaac makes some interesting suggestions, by carrying us along an artist's way, in "The Painter Looks at Nature," which, despite its title, is not one of those vain products of "the doctor looks at..." variety. Babette Hughes has an interesting bit of verse satire on a subject that scarcely deserves the extended treatment (Christopher Morley) Menckensen is overdone in Menckensen, Lillian Glush is set for the idolatry of her author; but Sinclair Lewis "our own Diogenes—gadfly" is well placed by Vernon Louis Parrington, and Barrett H. Clark emphatically states a somewhat worn theme, in "Edipus or Polyanna." In the field of more purely literary endeavor, Gamaliel Bradford gives us some "dialogues of the dead," which haunted him after his biographical studies, that make us wonder how he attained his reputation; but again the series is redeemed by the interesting account of the Journal of Kenko, a Japanese of the Fourteenth Century, and especially in "Three Women Poets of Modern Japan," by the editor of the series and Yozan T. Iwasaki. The verse in this brochure is of high quality, and makes us wish we had as much space to give to this volume alone as we have spent on the entire attractive series of University of Washington Chapbooks.

Joseph T. Shipley

### A Bad Girl

IT SEEMS that Eddie Collins, who was a \$40 a week road man, was taking a ride up the Hudson one Sunday on the Burmah, when he "made" pretty little Dot, a nice girl who worked in an office.

He took her home, kissed her good night, and then met her again and again. In the course of time they "went together," and that was about all. One night it rained, and Dot went to Eddie's room to dry out. And there it happened. She became a "bad" girl.

But it had never occurred to Eddie before that he might marry Dot; and that little incident decided him. And so they were married, and they started a little flat and then Dot became pregnant, and after the requisite number of months the baby was born.

And believe it or not, that's the whole story of "Bad Girl," (Bad Girl; by Vina Delmar, N. Y. Harcourt, Brace, \$2), written by a young woman who confesses to 23 years herself and who has a three year old baby, and whose story is written with such intimate knowledge of the petty and heartbreakingly small lives of people in upper Harlem that you suspect that she didn't get all her information at second hand.

Mrs. Delmar's picture of small lives is brilliantly done. The ordeal of the pregnant woman, and the birth of the baby, occupies nearly half of the book, and it is written with something like genius. The short and simple annals of the poor approach the epic. It is a first-class piece of work and it promises much for the future of this writer.

W. M. FEIGENBAUM.

### CAL WILL REMEMBER

A headline declares that the principle of public ownership is an issue that will be put up to Coolidge in two bills before Congress adjourns. We will wager a nickel that if Cal finds anything big which the capitalist class want he will see to it that the government does not get it.

## HOME EDUCATION

"The Child's First School is the Family"—Freobel

### Ways of Happiness

By Edith L. Reid

ALL mothers have the secret hope that their children will always be happy and that their lives will be free from heartache. This is of course a natural longing born of love. Yet sometimes mothers do not use the surest means for bringing it to pass.

George was pulling his little wagon about the yard none too carefully when he bumped it against a tree and knocked a wheel off. He began to cry loudly and stood gazing helplessly at his broken toy. His mother, hearing his wails, ran quickly from the house, noticed what the trouble was, and immediately gathered him in her arms.

"That's too bad, dear," she consoled, at which sympathetic tone George boomed louder than ever. His mother continued, "Don't cry any more, and we'll take the wagon to the corner shop and have the man put the wheel on again. So George stopped his sobs, the wagon was repaired within a short time, and he was, as his mother felt sure, entirely happy once more.

This is one example of how to give a child happiness. But such a course fails to provide for happiness in the future when Mother, or some other person equally indulgent, is not present to sympathize and to relieve the trouble.

In contrast to this let us notice the boy next door to George, in connection with a similar incident. Clarence was running a small mechanical automobile which operated by winding a spring. He was having great fun with this when it ran into the wall of the porch and bent one of the front fenders so that the car would not run straight. Try as he would, Clarence could not make it follow the right course.

"I bent my auto," he called to his

mother, but with no thought of crying or complaining.

His mother asked casually, "What can you do about it, Son?"

"I don't know yet, but I'll do something," replied Clarence stoutly, and there was no more said about the accident for some time. But Mother heard Clarence in the basement rattling tools and wire, and at length he came hurrying towards her, exclaiming, "See what I invented!"

The invention was not perfect, to be sure, but it comprised a front bumper to the auto. It was made of a stout piece of wire that the small boy had bent with the pliers and twisted into place across the front of the car. He had also straightened the bent fender. "Now if my car hits the porch rail the fender won't bend, for my bumper will protect it," he said, and his eyes shone with the true joy of accomplishment. He had met a difficulty and conquered it, thus employing his own natural powers of vision and intelligence. He was not helpless, as George had been, in the face of what to a child was nothing less than disaster. Clarence had gained happiness in winning a victory over adverse conditions.

So it is in all phases of child life. We can either hand out temporary happiness because it is within our superior power to do so, or we can direct children towards achieving happiness by preparing them to solve their own problems without the supervision of adults. The teaching of resourcefulness is the wisest and surest means of insuring continued happiness with regard to all the things which such resourcefulness can reach.

## THE CHATTER BOX

### Mosholu Parkway, North-Bronx 5 A. M.

I wonder if the milkman sees  
The miracle of tipsy trees  
Who reel against the mortared hills  
And clutch upon the window sills.

I wonder if the milkman hears  
The sobbing leaves—the fragile tears  
Now dropping on the plots below  
I wonder should the milkman know . . . .

The wagon makes a raucous jar  
And scares away the morning star;  
The bottles clank, and send a fright  
Into the gentle heart of night . . . .

She dare not stretch a bit nor yawn;  
But vaults the roof and flees the lawn;  
The clanking always at her toes . . . .  
I wonder if the milkman knows . . . .

Ah! milkman do not scowl nor rue  
For all this preachment unto you;  
I hold your milk as good as truth  
To grow a manhood out of youth . . .

Yet silence too is wholesome food,  
And milk and quiet, doubly good . . . .

An Irish comrade from Belfast, Ireland, after modestly apologizing for reading this column at times, recommends and sends in for review a pamphlet of poems by Joe Corrie, entitled "The Image O' God." Joe is a Scotch miner, and he writes with all the fire and understanding that made Bobbie Burns such an everlasting figure in literature. With the exception of a few personal love poems, most of the work is ground-root proletarian reason in rhyme, and such songs as "A Cagelod of Men," and "Unemployed Miners" cry out an accusation and a verdict against society, as will some day read its smugness to smithereens. His homely Scotch dialect poems are just a trifle richer than those in the unadulterated English. From "Seed Time" I wish to smilingly quote . . . . Fuir Faither deid the day I went tae schule, For five lang years, till Robin got a fee, Oor bellies gined for want of claes and meal, Oor wee minds munt to sums and history . . . And yet the maister gies his face a twist, Tae hear my name noo I'm a Socialist. . .

There is all the quaint directness of the race throughout, and one can only hope that the mine doesn't shorter his years. Even liberal England could afford a few fearless singers of revolt. Thanks Hughie McIlraith of Ireland, for the pleasure of meeting Joe Corrie of Cardenden. From time to time, when mood and space allow, here will be re-printed such poetry of his as will best adorn the column.

Being a writer on cosmic topics is a perturbing task. You write about intellectual snobbery, and some piqued member of the tribe sends in an unsigned clipping of the article with all the "I's" and "My's" circled in it, to imply that you are conceited, egotistic, vain, and paranoiac because in a brochure of some twelve hundred words of personal opinion, you managed to squeeze in forty five first personal pronouns. The wise greeting at the bottom of the clipping, unsigned, says . . . "What of it?" Meaning again, what can your poor opinion really amount to.

I am neither flattered nor touched. At least you can find my name signed to anything I say here. Anonymity is such a spineless method of communicating one's thought to another.

On the other hand, Comrades Bella Freedman, of the Bronx, and Celia Baldwin of Denver take the trouble to use spoken and written approval of the sentiments expressed in the article mentioned. Many thanks to you all, for and friend alike. I am rebel enough to pray . . . "Keep me dissatisfied, O God, even with Chatterboxing. . . ."

And now let the Office Boy have his little say here. His looks toward the contribution box wherein the following verses have lain these two weeks have at last moved me to their inclusion. This is how the New Leader Gang looks to him:

### James Oneal

About you is the ponderous dignity connected with old tomes, and recordings of the deeds of men.

### S. A. DeWitt

I think the reason for your poems is the inflexibility of steel shelves and monkey-wrenches.

### Eddie Levinson

You are the ends of the carbon—the bridge of a spark gap. Yours is the nervous energy of a pennant snapping in the wind.

### McAlister Coleman

You speak, and the back-lash of your laughing whip brings tears.

### Ben Belsky

Since you have much to think of there is little left to do.

### Goldine Hillson

I wouldn't question the quality of the wind—or make a garland of sun-beams.

### Joseph Shipley

I have felt your feelings, but find it best to watch, rather than imitate.

### Elsie Freed

The echo of your pounding keys is a little cog that turns a big wheel.

### The Office Boy

I am quite adept at forming phrases into sentences. Bear not too much weight on the weak shoulders of a paraed verb.

### THE OFFICE BOY.

Except for the office boy's pictures, witness my name to the rest.

S. A. DeWitt.

## THE BIBLE in the BALANCE

By CHARLES SMITH

President American Ass'n for the Advancement of Atheism, Inc.

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Freeman Woodwood, General Sec'y 119 EAST 14th St. New York City







# Bag Makers Tie Up Two Factories

## Contract - Breakers Meet With Strike and Injunction Obtained by Union

**THE SUE Case, Bag & Portfolio Makers Union** is now conducting two strikes: one in New York against the Reliable SUE Case Co., and one in Newark, New Jersey, against Samuel Kne. Both strikes were forced upon the Union as a matter of self-defense in order to make these firms live up to a contract.

These firms have been union shops and had signed contracts with the Union last year which were to run for some time yet. A few weeks ago, taking advantage of the fact that their shops were running for several months on a part time basis, they tried in a secret and conspiring fashion to induce some of the workers to break from the union and agree to work 48 hours a week. In an inducement they offered these workers to give them full time and steady work after discharging the active union members of their shops. With the assistance of a few treacherous workers they thought that they would be able to mislead some of the rest of their workers, and therefore the Reliable firm on April 23rd, and the firm of Samuel Kne on May 1st boldly declared an open shop and increased their working hours to 48 per week, and when I Laderman, the manager of the union, in the presence of their shop chairman, asked the employees how they can so easily decide to break their contracts that they signed with the union, the answer in both cases was that they knew that they could not be held legally responsible for their contracts, and morally, they did not give a hang for it. The union thereupon declared the two shops on strike. In the shop of Samuel Kne nearly all the workers immediately went down on strike and in the Reliable the most important workers of the shop acted likewise.

**Union Gets Injunction**  
The SUE Case, Bag & Portfolio Makers Union has since, through the attorneys, Waldman & Lieberman applied for an injunction against the Reliable firm, and on Monday, May 7th it was granted a temporary injunction by Judge Crane restraining the firm from continuing to employ non-union people under non-union conditions. The Reliable firm, however, ignored the temporary injunction assuming that injunctions are serious only when issued against labor unions, but when issued against an employer they are only jokes. After due notice to the firm, and seeing that the violations are being continued, the union sued the firm for contempt of court.

Both the hearing on the permanent injunction and that for contempt of court took place on Thursday, May 17, but decisions were reserved as the cases were postponed for a later date.

In the case of Samuel Kne, both the firm and the union have asked for an injunction of the Court of Chancery in New Jersey. A hearing of these requests took place on Tuesday, May 15th before Vice-Chancellor Backes, and when the Vice-Chancellor heard the request of the union's attorney, Louis Ogust, for an injunction to restrain the firm from continuing to carry out the conspiracies with a few ringleaders of the shop to break a written contract, the Vice-Chancellor was at first rather astonished, never having heard of such a thing, that a union should ask for an injunction against a firm; but when he was told that such things have taken place in New York State and unions did receive redress in court, he took it more seriously. He reserved decision, however, asking for affidavits to be submitted to him.

According to the information which the union has obtained these two cases of breaking agreements on the part of the suit case manufacturers are not isolated, but are eagerly being watched and assisted by other employers in the trade who are looking for an opportunity to follow their example and turn their union shops into open shops.

The union is, however, determined to do everything in its power to teach these employers a lesson that union contract means something, and that their breaking of the contract will not remain unpunished.

For the union, it is of course a very serious struggle, entailing great financial outlays both in strike benefits and in legal expenses, but it feels confident that its entire membership will enthusiastically support their organization in these struggles which are indeed struggles for the very existence, the very life of the SUE Case, Bag & Portfolio Makers Union.

## Porters Are Aroused By Kansas Outrage

National officers of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters are aroused by the attack on Ashley L. Totten, Kansas City representative of the union, whose office was riddled by thugs believed to have been inspired by the Pullman Co. Six men, masquerading as police officers, descended on Totten's office, threw files on the floor and ruined valuable organization records in a hunt for opiate. Some of the thugs tried to plant dope in the office and then hustled Totten down the street, while others remained to examine Brotherhood documents at leisure. The thugs scattered after the office had been looted. Totten rushed to the police station, where officials denied any connection with the outrage.

# SOCIALIST PARTY AT WORK

## MANHATTAN 6-5-12 A. D.

The next meeting of this branch will be held Monday evening, May 28, at 96 Avenue C. The out-door educational campaign and raising of finances for the summer activities will be acted upon. Plans will be made for preliminary campaign work.

**22nd-23rd A. D.**  
A well attended meeting was held Tuesday evening at the home of Comrades Delson. A committee was appointed to obtain club-rooms. Arrangements are being made for an opening celebration. New people are coming in every week. The membership is increasing and there is every reason to believe that in the next campaign there will be a splendidly functioning organization in Washington Heights.

**Italian Branches**  
Italian Socialists are busy arranging a Matteotti Memorial Meeting. The anniversary of the martyrdom of the great Italian Socialist will fall on Sunday, June 10. The comrades hope to draw a large crowd to jam Cooper Union, where the meeting will take place at 2 p. m. Comrade Arturo Labriola, who arrived recently in the United States from Paris, will be the main speaker. Jacob Rankin will be chairman.

This memorial meeting will be held under the auspices of the Italian Socialists and the Italian Labor Daily. Nuovo Mondo, Branch secretaries and Party members are requested to keep the date open and cooperate towards its success.

## BRONX 5th A. D.

The next meeting of this branch will be held Friday, May 25, at County Headquarters, 1167 Boston Road.

**3rd A. D.**  
This new branch has been chartered and is now very well established. Membership is steadily increasing. The following are the officers: Organizer, Jonas Rosenthal; Financial Secretary, Jacob Orr; Recording Secretary, Ida Orr. Branch meetings will be held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at the Martinique Mansion, 156th and Beck Streets. The next meeting will be held on June 1. Further Friedman has been invited to be present and deliver an address.

## BROOKLYN 10th Congressional District

A joint meeting of the 23rd A. D. and the 5th-6th A. D. Branches, in the territory of the 10th Congressional District will be held on Tuesday evening, May 29, at the County Headquarters, 167 Tompkins Avenue 8 p. m. The principal object of this meeting will be the nomination of a candidate for Congress and State Senate and the organization of a Campaign Committee for the work in

## THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

Last week the circle was addressed by Organizer Jack Skurnick on "Psychological Analysis." Questions and discussion followed. Next week Sidney Solomon will lecture on "The Russian Revolution." All are invited. The Circle meets each Friday, 8:30 p. m. at 1167 Boston Road, Bronx.

**Declamation Contest**  
The second annual declamation contest held by the Bronx Boro Committee was held May 11, at 1167 Boston Road. Senior and Junior groups were represented. In the Junior Group Jack Skurnick won first prize with a rendition of "Thomas Hood's 'Bridge of Sighs.'" Claire Millmans' dialogue tied for second place with Thomas Dolgoff, who recited "A Vision of the Future" from Ingersoll. Abe Dobbin received honorable mention for the originality of his selection. In the Senior group Dorothy Steinberg won first prize. Honorable mention was awarded Winston Daniels of Circle 1. The circle believes that if Irving Bassoff had not been ill he would have won new honors for himself and the Circle.

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Labor Movement.  
Editor..... James Oneal  
Assistant Editor..... Edw. Levinson

**Contributing Editors:**

Victor L. Berger, Morris Hillquit, Abraham Cahan, Abraham Lincoln, Harry W. Laidler, Norman Thomas, Joseph P. Kamp, Clement Wood, Wm. M. Ferguson, John M. Work, McAllister Coleman, Joseph T. Shipley, Cameron H. King.



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SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1928

**The New York World's Tammany**

THE NEW YORK WORLD anticipates attacks on Governor Smith because of his affiliation with Tammany Hall and last week answered one of these criticisms. It declares that Tammany's crimes are better known than the crimes of the Philadelphia ring and they are no worse. This is like the answer of the kettle to the pot. Philadelphia and New York City are rotten, therefore the kettle is no blacker than the pot. Unfortunately, the pot is more widely known than the kettle says the World. Have a heart, it pleads.

Next defense. Tammany has been rotten for almost a century but Smith is not responsible for it. To claim this would be to say that Coolidge and Hoover are responsible for the "scandals of the Grant Administration." Therefore, be kind to Smith.

The answer is that the Grant Administration is dead and Tammany is alive and doing business at the old stand. Tammany recently had a milk scandal. It now has sewer and street department scandals. It isn't the Tammany of the Grant period which Smith represents but the Tammany of milk, sewer, and street grafts.

Don't forget that Smith is honest, says the World. Well, we have a good memory. Governor Sulzer was impeached and removed from office in 1913. Tammany controlled the State Legislature and its agents engineered the impeachment. Smith was Speaker of the Assembly. Charles F. Murphy was leader of Tammany and by telephone from New York City he ordered the impeachment. Smith carried out his end of the arrangement and for this job he was promoted by Tammany from one office to another.

Sulzer was no angel, but the alleged offenses for which he was removed occurred before he became Governor. Moreover, they were trivial. The reason why Murphy, Smith and other Tammany agents removed Sulzer was because he refused to be a rubber stamp for the vulgarian Murphy. Sulzer could have stolen the state capitol building and sold it at auction with the consent of Tammany if he had taken orders from Murphy. He could have made a few millions by playing Murphy's game instead of leaving office a poor man. Smith played the game. The World wants him rewarded at Houston.

New York City elections are still determined by intimidation, stuffing of ballot boxes, employment of criminals, and by brutal beating of opposition voters. Smith knows this. So does the World. Smith has never said a word against it. He has profited by these practices. The day following the election last year Smith and Olvany were photographed in fond embrace each, with a satisfied smirk on his face. There is little doubt that Judge Panken was defeated for reelection by crooked methods. His case was carried before Tammany Magistrates and his affidavits were thrown out by these gentlemen.

The World carries at the head of its editorial column the statement that it will "never tolerate injustice or corruption." The waiter will please pass the prunes.

**A Fisher for Capitalism**

YALE UNIVERSITY was the last outpost of the Federalist oligarchy which ruled Connecticut through a union of Church and State to the year 1818. Timothy Dwight, the high priest of Yale, was generally known as "Pope Dwight" and twelve influential politicians under his thumb were known as his "Twelve Cardinals." Not till the year mentioned were the aristocratic grafters forced out of their exclusive nest.

We recall this history because of a syndicated article by Irving Fisher, Professor of Economics in Yale University, which appears in the Knickerbocker Press of Albany. Moreover, it appears on the financial page and is apparently intended to instruct stock brokers, bankers and other illiterates. The theme is Socialism. He is opposed to it. We have no objections, but even a professor can be intelligent if he tries. Fisher does not try.

In the early days of the capitalist system economics became a handmaid of the mill owners and economists were its exponents. They stood by while men, women and children were consumed

in the horrors of the factory system. They solemnly warned that society would go to the bowwows if legislation interfered. They were eventually thrust aside and what they condemned was adopted as a policy, thanks to a growing working class movement.

Fisher is the guardian of the bloated descendants of the early exploiters. He confounds the Socialist by ascribing to him the statement that if a man plants a tree which will be worth five dollars in twenty years he should have the five dollars now. By a clever shifting of this man into the boots of a modern capitalist owning a big industry he indulges in an involved argument to show that an idle owner is entitled to a workless income for the same reason that the man who plants a tree is entitled to its fruit. Both men are rewarded for their "waiting."

Of course, Fisher is writing down to Babbitt minds and this drivell will stick. Our only consolation is that there are other Yale men who have no desire to carry on the tradition of Timothy Dwight and his Cardinals.

**Capitalism and Graft**

ANY person who spends a day or two in Canada will be impressed with the sentiment there in favor of public ownership. The principle has expanded into many activities, including railroads, municipal transport, docks, electric power, gas, and even hotels at many points along the publicly owned railroads. One can board a train in the East for the Pacific coast and stop enroute a number of times and for almost every service imaginable be cared for by some government enterprise.

A few weeks ago President Coolidge declared that politics and public administration would become corrupt if we ventured on a program of public ownership. The impudence of this statement is apparent in the graft and looting we have had in this country, especially in the past ten years. In almost every instance the graft trail leads to a capitalist enterprise.

The reverse is true in Canada. There politics and administration are clean. The reason why Canadian politics on the whole is decent and clean is because Canada has taken over so many enterprises that are public in character. They have eliminated the capitalist interest which in this country has a free field to bribe and loot. Public ownership is not responsible here for the war contract scandals, the oil swindle, the milk graft and the sewer graft in New York City.

Which country is more modern, the United States or Canada? The latter, of course. Private capitalist enterprise is as old as the capitalist system. Public ownership is a more modern principle. It is responsive to the social and collective trend of modern civilization. We are still barbarians in this matter and we pay a heavy price to our looters who alone are enriched by private exploitation of public services which should be publicly owned.

**The Road to Suicide**

WE ARE reminded of the foretaste of hell that is being prepared by the militarists of the world by the accidental release of phosgene gas in Germany which killed eleven people with more likely to die. It is said that this cloud of gas was sufficient to wipe out all life in the city of Hamburg. Only favorable winds and a heavy rain averted what might have been one of the greatest disasters in history.

We are not interested in responsibility for the making of this gas. We do not care two hoots in hades whether its making was in violation of the Treaty of Versailles or whether the Germans were within their rights in making the deadly stuff. This gas is being made in all the leading countries and it will destroy all forms of life within its range. It will be used in the next war and it is well within possibility that this deadly vapor will destroy civilization itself.

What makes it all the more hideous is that it brings the civilian population within the war zone. It wipes out the distinction between the soldier and the civilian. The invalid, the aged, the women, and even children are made combatants and legitimate prey of war. Whole cities may be easily wiped out. All traces of life may be blotted out on the farms and the whole countryside. Animals and every species of fowl will be numbered among the dead.

In short, a war of the dimensions of the last one may prove to be suicide for many nations. This reduces the war game to an absurdity to say nothing of its monstrous toll of death. The military fops and the diplomats are playing with this thing and hazarding the existence of civilization itself. Only the conquest of governments by the masses of each nation can avert this terrible disaster.

**One of the Mayor's "Best"**

VACATION JIMMIE left last week for the Kentucky Derby. Probably the prize fights at Madison Square Garden palled upon him. Where this prize Mayor will turn up next we do not know. Perhaps the two-headed calf at some county fair will attract him on the score of kinship which is hard to resist.

Before leaving the Mayor blessed Street Cleaning Commissioner Taylor as "one of the best of my Administration." This astonishing approval comes at a time when every intelligent citizen of New York City knows that Taylor's department has been honeycombed with grafters for years and the lid has been off for several weeks.

The Brooklyn Eagle is sore because the Mayor leaves the city for another joyfest, because he pins a rose on Taylor, and because Jimmie's conduct makes it embarrassing for Governor Smith. This is a poor performance, declares the Eagle, when it is known that Taylor's department is filled "with dolts, thieves or both." The Eagle adds that Walker's "administration may go down as the one which Gentleman Jimmie made safe for the gents with jimmies."

As a matter of fact, one cheap Jack succeeded another cheap Jack when Walker succeeded Hyland. Papers like the World and the Eagle helped boost Jimmie into office only to find that the boob by his silly actions and running around the country is likely to dump the Tammany apple cart. Just how genuine was Jimmie's indignation over the sewer graft may be surmised by his compliment to Taylor whose department throughout the boroughs is honeycombed with grafting rats.

**Communism  
From  
Within**

"The allegiance of the Communist is not to the colleagues with whom he is working, nor to his own judgment. It is to his headquarters. No one, therefore, can work with him comfortably because no one knows what he is. In his pocket are his secret instructions."—J. RAMSAY MACDONALD.

WITH the candidates chosen for it some weeks ago, the Workers' (Communist) Party convention is now going through the motions "choosing candidates for president and vice-president." The Communist party has succeeded very well in isolating itself from any workers. It operates perhaps two dozen possible connections with the American "innocent committees" which work hard at concealing their Communist origin. The New Leader has not found it necessary to devote much of its space to the Communists, so insignificant are their progress. In view of the current convention, however, it will interest our readers to be able to take a glance at Communist party workings from the inside. We are able to present such a view by quoting from minutes of the "secretariat" and "Executive Council" of the party. These minutes are dated from January 20, 1928, to February 4th, 1928. They are signed by William Veinstone, secretary. Written across each of the mimeographed sheets are the words "read and destroy." Here are some extracts from these minutes.

**Party Discipline**

On the matter of party discipline we find the following:

"January 20. . . Freiheit. Comrade Veinstone reported that an ad in the Volkszeitung jubilee has appeared in the Freiheit, also that there was a headline in the Freiheit as follows: 'I will never fight against the revolution—Trotsky.' Moved that we protest against the appearance of these two items and regarding the second, that we ask that he one responsible be disciplined for his headline."

"January 24. . . Comrade Wolfe's report on Comrade Knaizch read, pointing out that he had stated that there were elements of Thermidor in the Russian position situation. Comrade Knaizch stated that he did not mean that the CC of the CPSU was Thermidor. Admitted that he has said that Rykov would be expelled but he really meant Rakovsky. Admitted that he had said that Trotsky had been the big stick of Lenin. Claims that he criticized Jacobs. Admitted the reference to Thermidor but says he meant Schapnikov and Medvedev. Motions by Veinstone unanimously adopted. 1) That we accept the report of Comrade Wolfe. 2) That we are not satisfied with the statements of Comrade Knaizch because of the evasive character. 3) That we find a desire to correct the record adopted at the meeting, although refusing to accept responsibility for his statements. 4) That the ruling of the Central Committee regarding inability of Comrade Knaizch to be a functionary or the present time be adopted."

"January 27. . . Foreign Born. Comrade Veinstone reported the circular sent out by Jeannette Pearl in connection with the Yonkers mass meeting and conference, which contains a completely liberal face. Moved that Jeannette Pearl be withdrawn from foreign born work and put into a unit and into work which will give her greater party consciousness."

"February 10. . . Cooperative. Comrade Wattenberg proposed the following officers in the United Workers Cooperative. Goldstick as president; Auerbach, vice-president; Wattenberg, secretary. . . . Veinstone proposed: That endorse the action of the leading fraction with the following amendments: That Ziebel be made vice-president. . . . 'oting for Veinstone's motion: Miller, Itchel, Veinstone."

(Note. The Freiheit is the Jewish organ of the Communist party. The United Workers Cooperative referred to possess a non-Communist cooperative.)

**On Unemployment**

This is how the "Secretariat" and the "Executive Council" met the issue of unemployment:

"Minutes of the SECRETARIAT, January 27, 1928. . . . Unemployment. Veinstone reported that he had heard that Mary Meyers has called an unemployment meeting at the Church of All Nations on Monday from which they intend to march to City Hall. Recommend (1) that no publicity be given in our press. 2) That Intruder and Fleiss be in charge of organizing group of 30 to 50 needle trade workers that shall attend this meeting and in case any action is taken at this meeting that they capture the committee."

"Minutes of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, February 1, 1928. . . . Unemployment. Myers called an unemployment meeting. At this meeting about 50 per cent were floaters and the rest good elements. . . . A committee of 5 elected at his meeting, of which two are party members. . . . Proposed to enlarge same by drawing in the ILD and the Women's Council. We arranged for two secretaries, Fleiss and Meyers."

(Note: The ILD and the Women's Council are Communist party organizations.)

"New Jersey. Comrade Veinstone reporting on Passaic. The A. F. of L. and the Chamber of Commerce are calling an unemployment conference. . . . Suggestions by Ballam that the unemployed form a committee of 15 to present their demands. . . . Miller: Party steering committee be sent out there to direct the demonstration. Carried."

"MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, February 14, 1928. Unemployment. . . . (1) We have eliminated Harry Meyers as the leader and established John Di Santo as secretary of the Unemployed Council. . . . (5) We have conducted a demonstration in cooperation with the Central Trades and Labor Council, which was characterized by a militancy, and which caused adjournment of the Central Trades."

**Build the Foundations Right**



"Plans Have Been Approved for the League of Nations Building at Geneva"

**THE POLITICAL LINE-UP  
As Seen By the California Socialist Leader**

By Cameron H. King

IN CALIFORNIA four years ago four hundred and twenty four thousand citizens voted the Socialist ticket rather than support an old stained Republicanism or a blood dripping democracy. We cannot hope this year to repeat the full alignment of the forces that worked with us and through us that year. We can however confidently predict that a very great portion of that mass of citizens no longer fear Socialism as a foreign intrigue against their happiness. On the contrary they will go to the ballot-box again this year and repeat their protest against the corruption of capitalism. They will affirm once more their demand for a more honest system of industry, for a better and nobler manner of life.

Why should we not have faith that this year and in the succeeding years our great cause will prosper? To what party can the honest working man turn for aid amidst the difficulties which beset him? In whom else can the farmer place reliance?

The record of the Republican Party is unsurpassed for corruption and venality. As the chosen political instrument of capitalism the Republican Party has disclosed in full the degenerating influence of private greed. Under the last two administrations the minor indecency of the booze traffic, and the major infamy of the Veterans Relief, have been submerged by the steadily rising flood of the oil scandal. President Coolidge has been praised for strength. He was strong and therefore he was silent. My God, what could he say?

We have one authentic comment on his attitude. In the midst of the first disclosures he said to a friend "There will be no rocking of the boat." There sat the captain of the Ship of State white-faced and paralyzed with fear, speechless, light-lipped lest his least breath should add enough force to that tempest in Teapot Dome to overwhelm the craft and sink his fortune.

And now they are bringing forth the great engineer Herbert Hoover. They have confidence in Hoover. They know that as an engineer he will appreciate the importance of keeping the Republican machine in good order by the proper and judicious distribution of oil. Attending in that manner to its internal mechanism, they feel also that he can give it an outward appearance of respectability. He is the great dispenser of charity. That is what they need. Tremblingly they hope that his charity

will cover the enormous multitude of their sins.

My friends the Republicans may succeed in cleaning the outside of their cup but within it will remain full of filth and corruption. No decent man may put it to his lips without nausea and revulsion.

Shall we therefore turn to the Democratic Party? On what comparison of promise and performance may we rely or hope that better conditions will follow if we join the procession of the Democratic Host. I care not whether it is led by the pious sons of St. Tammany or by the hooded ghosts of the Ku Klux Klan. We trusted once a solemn democratic promise to keep us out of war. If we look into the Ark of that covenant we find that it is a whitened sepulchre full of dead men's bones.

The Democratic party once offered us New Freedom. Bitterly, bitterly, my comrades, we remember that dead sea-bull—the espionage act, the tyranny of burlesque, the red raids of A. Mitchell Palmer.

Again the move is on to deceive us. We are to be fooled by a tiger in a donkey's skin. It will be a blind tiger, perhaps, blind in one eye to the bootleggers and with the other raised in pious adoration of the Constitution at such an angle the image of the Amendment will fall on the blind spot. Beyond the personal liberty to get drunk the northern democracy offers nothing. The southern democracy offers not even that. Doubtless my friends, we shall witness a bitter puppet fight in which the charges of Rum, Romanism and Rebellion will be hurled at Al Smith and his doctrine of nullification, while his partisans retort with anathemas and bulls of excommunication against the Ku Klux Klan. If the American people stand gaping open mouthed at this fools spectacle they will find themselves robbed once more by the same old pickpocket of capitalism.

**The "Progressive" Sirens**

Another counsel will ask the American working classes to listen to the siren song of progressivism. See, it exclaims, the good work done by the progressives in both old parties. Let us call the roll! The Sherman Anti-Trust Act. It was proposed to break up the trusts. It has been used successfully only to destroy the organizations of labor. The Clayton Act was the same history. The Progressives created the Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate the trusts because they could not endorse the Socialist program of hav-

ing the Nation down the trusts. The Commission does not regulate the trusts. The trusts regulate the commission.

The Food Control Act was an achievement of democracy. It muzzled the farmers while every plutocratic hog in the country wallowed in the trough of wartime profiteering.

The Federal Trade Commission, has become an effective means of fostering the consolidation of the great industries. The Federal Reserve Bank, triumphant democracy's greatest contribution to the money question has become the means of consolidating Wall Street control over the finances of the nation. Its power was most ruthlessly exhibited in the deflation of 1920.

In all these cases, comrades and friends, one thing becomes increasingly evident. The creation of powerful organs of government is of no avail to the people unless they create at the same time a powerful political force to control those organs. So far the capitalists have seized that control and used those organs for their own advancement.

And here the need for the Socialist Party becomes evident. From the far Pacific Coast, from the Rocky Mountains, from the Alleghenies and the broad prairies that stretch between, from New England and from the South we rally to answer that need to raise again the standard of struggle against the tyranny of capital. We come with renewed courage. We come with renewed hope. We are prepared to march breast forward never doubting right will triumph. We send out a rallying call to the mills, to the mines, to the factories, to the railroads, to the farmers.

Let us form again the phalanxes of our fellowship! Let us order the ranks and choose the leaders and with self-evident march forward toward our goal. Never was there greater need. Never was there greater hope.

Ah, Comrades, then and cast off fooling

And put by ease and rest

For the cause alone is worthy

Till the new day brings the best,

Ah, Come and cast off fooling

For this at last we know

The dawn and the day is coming

And forth the banners go!

**Woodworth Added  
To Speakers List at  
L. I. D. Conference**

The League for Industrial Democracy has just announced that its most recent acquisition as a June Conference speaker is James S. Woodworth, one of the few labor members of the Canadian parliament from Winnipeg, Canada. Comrade Woodworth is a graduate of the University of Toronto and of Oxford University, England. For many years he served as teacher, minister and social worker in Canada and as the director of the Bureau of Social Research in Manitoba. On account of his anti-war views he was forced out of his government position during the war and resigned from his church. During the general strike in Winnipeg in 1919, he was one of its most active spirits and editor of the strike bulletin which led to his arrest on the charge of seditious libel. Since that time Comrade Woodworth has devoted his attention to political and educational work in Canada and has been a tower of strength in the cause of labor during the last several years as a labor member of parliament from Manitoba.

Reservations for the conference are coming in rapidly. They should be sent to the League for Industrial Democracy, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

**Typen Meet Sept. 10**

CHARLESTON, S. C.—The 13rd convention of the International Typographical Union opens in Charleston, September 10.



From a woodcut by J. J. Lanke, drawn for "Spring Plowing" by Charles Maier (Doubleday, Doran).