

Workers
of the World
Unite!

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THE PRODUCERS NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED FARMERS LEAGUE IN THE NORTHWEST
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Join the
United Farmers
League

Price Five Cents

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National Hunger March Nears Washington

UNITED STATES ARMY OFFICERS IN MANCHURIAN WAR COUNCILS

Leadership of the United States in the Attack on the Soviet Union Shown in Soviet Press

The first American army observer has reached Mukden for a survey of the battle scene in Manchuria. Lieut. Col. J. G. McElroy, United States military attaché in Tokyo has already reached the scene of conflict. This is an open step of the United States in the step of the ring of imperialist steel around the Soviet Union.

TRY TO MISLEAD STRUGGLE FOR TAX REDUCTION

Meeting of N. D. Taxpayers Association Shows Clearly that the Businessmen Propose Farmers Should Suffer in Budgets.

The meeting of the North Dakota Taxpayers Association which was held at Devils Lake on Nov. 11 showed clearly the attempt on the part of the shopkeepers and businessmen to prevent any real struggle on the part of the exploited masses for tax relief. The character of the meeting came out clearly when G. A. Lamb, of Michigan City, a Farm Implement Dealer, was elected to head the association. The tax situation was explained by Iver Acker, State Tax Commissioner, the representative of the state government which is squeezing the last drop out of the poor farmers in order to save the profits of the bankers and the rich farmers.

Acker gave the main purpose of the meeting in his speech in which he stated that:

"The state organization will undoubtedly enter its interest and efforts toward REDUCING STATE EXPENDITURES. In order that it may function intelligently, a capable committee of the association should attend the hearings of the state budget board and the association should of course be represented at Bismarck when the legislature convenes. If a TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION FUNCTIONS AS A FACT FINDING BODY and works to effect a fair and intelligent elimination of unwise and unnecessary public expenditures and functions to promote efficiency and economy in administration of all governmental affairs, such an organization will render the taxpayers of this state a service of inestimable value."

What this agent of the state government wants is a "fact finding body" in order to cut those expenditures of the state which are for the benefit of the poor and middle farmers and the workers of the state.

They want reduction in expenditures for new schools and for school transportation for the children of the poor farmers. They want taxes cut by forcing on the farmers' children the worst possible in the way of educational facilities. They want to deny the farmers' children even the miserable pittance that is given to the children in the cities.

WANT "REASONABLE" TAX REDUCTION

"The demand for tax reduction should be reasonable," said Acker. "It must necessarily be gradual." He wants "reasonable" tax reduction, when the majority of farmers throughout the state cannot pay any taxes. The farmers do not want "gradual" tax reduction. The United Farmers League demands decisive tax reductions for all poor and middle farmers and abolition of taxes for those who cannot pay.

The "fact finding body" proposed by the North Dakota Taxpayers Association is an attempt to prevent tax reduction for the poor and middle farmers.

At the Meeker County (Minnesota) Taxpayers Association meeting which was held on November 6, a resolution was passed which stated "Let the watchword be, 'How little and not how much can we levy.'" The theme of the entire speech made by the main speaker of the meeting, J. F. Reed of Dawson, president of the Minnesota Tax Payers Association. The attempt is to cut taxes for the bankers and the rich farmers and to eliminate from the budget "unnecessary expenses" and "extraneous" — those miserable benefits that the poor and middle farmers get out of the state and county budgets.

According to the Meeker News: "When questioned about an income tax Mr. Reed stated the league at this time was not in favor of such a tax." Mr. Reed, like the remainder of the bankers' agents who are leading the fight against reduction of taxes for the poor farmer, rejected the idea of even an income tax, because the capitalist class might have to pay over a few additional dollars in taxes.

Senator Magnus Johnson, who filled in while Reed was on his way to the meeting, hypocritically said:

"But that does not mean that the Chinese people will take their defeat lying down. The Chinese people — not the government, which is a different thing" (Continued on Last Page)

Danish Industrialists See Great Progress in the Soviet Five Year Plan

A party of Danish industrialists have just returned from the Soviet Union. On their way through Stockholm the members of the party were interviewed by Stockholm journalists. The leader of the party, Director H. Blache of the Copenhagen shipyard Burmeister & Wain, the biggest shipyard in Denmark, declared:

"I received the impression that the Soviet Union is on the march. The Russian people are at work under a firm leadership. They have made great progress since I was there last. We saw great electrical plants, impressive steel works, factories for the production of airplanes, tractors, etc. All of these factories and works have been built with the assistance of the best experts to be had in their respective fields. Personally, I am convinced that the Soviet Union will carry out the five year plan. In my opinion it is already well on the way to having done so."

FARMERS RALLY IN BIG MICHIGAN MASS MEETINGS

RESOLUTIONS ARE PASSED
DEMANDING THE IMMEDIATE
RELIEF OF BOSSES

Hancock, Mich., Nov. 18.—Here as elsewhere the farmers are beginning to move toward organization. In Ontonagon, Baraga and Houghton counties, all bordering each other, seven big farmers' mass meetings have been held.

At these meetings the poor and middle farmers have passed resolutions containing the immediate demands for which they are organizing to struggle. (In another place in this issue we print in full one of these resolutions.—Ed.)

We have elected Farmers' Committees of Action at every meeting and on Dec. 8th all these committees gather at the Houghton county court house, backed up by hundreds of sympathizers, to present their demands to the supervisors.

Copper Trust Closes Mine

One would think that there is no such thing as farming here in the north country were to Copper Trust rules, but there is. In the last six weeks about 800 farmers have attended mass meetings protesting against high taxes and mortgage foreclosures. The first copper deposits were found in 1867 and it was about that time that the Calumet and Hecla Co. was organized. It is estimated that 195 million dollars has been paid as dividends to stockholders. This company has never been taxed according to its real value because the company's henchmen and tools have always been in the official leadership in Houghton county where most of the mines are. One of the biggest copper mines closed down completely about two months ago. This affected, not only these industrial centers but thousands of farmers were hard hit as a result.

QUITMEYER COUNCIL OF U.F.L. TO MEET SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

The Quitmeyer council of the United Farmers League will hold its next regular meeting at the Franklin school house, Saturday afternoon at one o'clock.

There will be an interesting and worthwhile program. The members will carry on an impromptu discussion based on the "corruption of the capitalist system."

Every member is urged to attend. The matter of dues will receive special attention.

At this meeting Mother Bloor will speak on the conditions of the toiling farmers in the United States.

The last meeting, Saturday, November 15th was a splendid one, most of the members of the committee being present. Palmer Christensen is executive secretary of the committee, which holds meetings twice a month without fail. The committee is a large force and still gaining prestige as the bankruptcy of the capitalist farmers organization is becoming more and more obvious.

At the next meeting the committee will take up for consideration the inadequacy of the Red Cross relief. The coal needs, there being many farmers who are sorely in want of fuel. Also the feed loan applications rejection will be investigated to discover if possible the reasons for the rejections and the source of these reasons.

The Quitmeyer committee has taken up the matter of subscriptions and reports that it has secured several new subscribers and several renewals have been taken.

The committee will make a canvass of the members for the paper, especially now that the Producers News has been designated official organ of the United Farmers League.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED FARMERS LEAGUE IN NORTHWEST

With this issue the Producers News appears as the official organ of the United Farmers League in the Northwest. The farmers who have so long supported the Producers News, realizing the necessity for spreading the work of the United Farmers League, offered the Producers News, thru the directors, to the United Farmers League for its use. The United Farmers League has accepted the offer of the farmer owners of the Producers News, and the United Farmer, formerly the official organ of the United Farmers League, is amalgamated with the Producers News with the present issue. Those farmers who formerly subscribed to the United Farmer will now receive the Producers News to the expiration date of their subscription.

As the official organ of the United Farmers League the Producers News takes on further tasks. It becomes the fighting organ of the militant farmers throughout the Northwest.

The rapid growth of the membership and the influence of the United Farmers League has made a weekly organ necessary. The Producers News assumes that function in the United Farmers League activities. In the struggles that the United Farmers League leads against the robbery of the farmers by the bankers and the capitalist class the Producers

News will be not only an agitator but one of the chief organizers in the fight. It will not only report the news of the struggles of the farmers throughout the Northwest but will give as much guidance and leadership to these struggles as is possible.

With the constant worsening of the world economic crisis, which means ever greater misery for the toiling farmers and the city workers the entire capitalist press is intensifying its attempts to mislead the toiling masses. In the agrarian sections of the country as in the industrial centers all manner of demagogues and fakers are increasing their vicious activities in order to divert the masses from determined struggle. This is especially true of these fakers in the agrarian sections.

The Producers News, as official organ of the United Farmers League in the northwest will carry on a constant exposure of these demagogues and fakers. The aim of these fakers is to prevent a consistent struggle of the toiling farmers against those who exploit them.

The only possible way for the farmers to repel the attack on the capitalist class and to win immediate concession from the ruling class is by organized and determined struggle. The United Farmers League is leading that struggle aided to the fullest extent possible by the Producers News.

CALL TO THE TOILING FARMERS EVERYWHERE

By ELLA REEVE BLOOR
State Organizer, United Farmers League, North Dakota

The news that the farmers now have a paper of their very own is surely good news. The Producers News is distinctly a farmer's paper, and we must use it as a mighty force in organizing the United Farmers League. In the wide distribution of news about the activities of the farmers it must be utilized to the fullest possible extent.

It is up to us who are organized in the United Farmers League to use this great opportunity as an organizing force to bring our membership in closer touch with each other, to build up that membership. In order to do that we must immediately organize shock troops, groups pledged to get hundreds of new subscribers, in every township to buy and distribute bundle orders. In a systematic way we can get our paper into the hands of every farmer.

News Correspondents. This too must be an organized campaign. In every township committee one member must be held responsible to send in the news from his section and to see that it is live and interesting news.

The entire country is now in-

terested in the struggles of the farmers and we must keep on sustaining this interest and arousing new forces to spread our militant program.

Rally around the Producers News!
Build the subscription list!
Order bundles for every township!
Send in your news!
All together for the Producers News!

GREETINGS OF YCL STUDENTS

Revolutionary Appreciation of Farmers Support

Editor Producers News,
Dear Comrade:

Thru the Producers News, our fighting organ, the students of the Young Communist League Training School extend their revolutionary appreciation to the farmers of North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana, particularly of Sheridan county, for the support which has made our school possible.

The support which the militant poor farmers of the northwest have given the school is the symbol of the rallying of toiling farmers in solidarity with the workers of the cities behind the militant leadership of the party of the toiling masses, the Communist Party. In the Northwest the United Farmers League, the fighting organization of the poor and middle farmers has been the organizer of the support for our school.

In order that the farmers who have given their support so willingly and with great sacrifice may know something more about the school we will mention a few facts. The student body of the school now contains 31 sons and daughters of poor and middle farmers from North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana.

The students have, without exception, found in the school the greatest spur to further activity in the struggle of the oppressed masses. The theoretical training has opened to them a world view of the struggle of the oppressed against the exploiters. It is providing them with a very sound understanding of their place in the vanguard of the exploited masses, and particularly in the struggle of the farm youth against the misery and exploitation of this robber system.

With comradely greetings,
The Student Council of the Young Communist League Training School.

Labor Sports Union Pledges Solidarity With Men on Hunger March

New York City.—The National executive board of the Labor Sports Union has given its unreserved endorsement to the National Hunger March.

The L. S. U. calls upon all its members and all worker sportsmen to support the National Hunger March and join in the fight for unemployment relief and unemployment insurance.

The L. S. U. also pledged itself to help organize trained, disciplined marching in the National Hunger March.

UFL SPREADS IN NORTH DAKOTA

SENDER GARLIN TO SPEAK
ON FIVE YEAR PLAN

In the last few weeks the United Farmers League has entered new territory—away up on the Canadian border. We held a rousing meeting in Northgate community hall with Ash Ingerson and Mother Bloor speaking on "The Farmers' Struggle for Existence." The crowd was so big that one farmer said "I guess there isn't a farmer in the district staying home tonight."

In Flaxton the UFL was on the job to protest against the building and dedication of an expensive war memorial building—paid for by the farmers of the county—a memorial to a war for profits.

The occasion of the dedication was also used by the "leading citizens," especially the banker and the American Legion, to stir up "patriotism."

The United Farmers League organized an anti-war meeting the next night after the dedication. The American Legion threatened to run Mother Bloor, the speaker, out of town—but when the meeting opened many husky farmers appeared on the scene. The American Legion faded out of the picture and a rousing protest meeting was held right in the shadow of the war memorial.

300 FARMERS MEET AT MAX
In Minot and Max the League is coming forward in great shape. In Max the schools and halls were denied us and the meeting had to be held in a pool hall granted us by a sympathizer.

Over 300 farmers crowded the place. A good deal of literature was sold, and much interest was shown, especially among the farm youth. These farmers have sent two young farm boys to the Young Communist school at Plentywood and were the first ones in the district to raise their quota for the National Hunger March.

The northwest district is sending five delegates to the National Hunger March and when they return they will visit the UFL locals to tell of their experiences.

TAYLOR SPEAKING IN MOUNTAIN COUNTY

Charles E. Taylor, now state organizer of the League in South Dakota will speak at Flaxton for the United Farmers League, Monday, Nov. 30. From Flaxton he will go thru Mountair county speaking every night for the UFL before returning to South Dakota.

Mother Bloor is now in Montana for an intensive campaign but will return in a few days to help in organizing the meetings for Sender Garlin, editor of the Labor Defender, who has just returned from the Soviet Union and will give a series of illustrated talks thruout the district. He will begin his tour in Frederick, S. D., Dec. 6, then go on to North Dakota, beginning Dec. 8 at Grand Forks. A complete list of Garlin's lecture dates will be published next week in the Producers News.

Civil Aviation Makes Big Strides in Soviet Russia —Many New Air Lines

In accordance with the appeal issued some months back by the Soviet authorities and by the Communist party, a great drive is being made in the Soviet Union to develop the civil aviation service. Last year the civil air lines totaled 26,000 kilometers. This year they total 41,000 kilometers. Next year 40 new air lines are to be opened up with a length of 30,000 kilometers, so that the total length of the Soviet civil aviation lines will be 71,000 kilometers, so that the Soviet Union will take pride of place over all capitalist countries. Still more important is the extraordinarily high safety percentage in the Soviet civil aviation service. It is by far the highest in the world, thanks to the elimination of the capitalist profit-grabbing element.

Marchers Coming In 4 Columns Represent 12,000,000 Jobless

National Civic Federation Attacks Marchers' Demands as "Impossible" for Capitalist Exploiters

1500 DELEGATES WILL PRESENT THE DEMANDS OF UNEMPLOYED MILLIONS AND TOILING FARMERS TO CONGRESS

Five delegates started last Tuesday from Grand Forks to participate together with 1500 other delegates in the National Hunger March to Washington, D. C. These five delegates, Hans Rasmussen, farmer, of Plentywood; James Allen, unemployed farm worker; Subo Mayala, farm youth from Belden, N. D.; Bill DeLuxe, member of the Unemployed Council of Grand Forks; and a farmer from South Dakota, were chosen by the farmers and unemployed workers of the northwest to represent them in this gigantic demonstration and demand for immediate relief.

These 1500 delegates represent the thirteen million unemployed and the millions of destitute farmers. They come from practically every city and town of any size throughout the country and from the most important agrarian sections. These delegates are converging on Washington in four militant columns, bringing workers from the Gulf to Seattle, and from Maine to San Francisco, on to Washington.

SOLIDARITY OF TOILING MASSES

The march is being made possible by the sacrifices of the millions of the masses throughout the country and the sacrifices of the delegates themselves. These sacrifices are the willing contribution of the masses throughout the country for this demonstration of unity against the capitalist class and for immediate relief for the hungry millions. This National Hunger March is the solidarity of the toiling masses, white and negro, employed and jobless, adult and youth. It is the solidarity of the toiling masses in the cities with those on the land—the solidarity of the city workers with the toiling farmers.

CIVIC FEDERATION ATTACKS JOBLESS

The National Civic Federation, the most vicious enemy of the toiling masses in the United States has come out with a demand that the National Hunger March and the militant workers organizations supporting it should be suppressed by the capitalist state. The National Hunger March, which is approaching Washington, is making the agents of the capitalist class and its agents quake with fear, not only because the 1500 determined unemployed workers and poor farmers in the march, but because behind these fifteen hundred marchers, the capitalist class realizes, is the mighty mass movement of the oppressed millions throughout the country.

The National Civic Federation begins its attack by trying to throw up a Red Bogy around the hunger march. The demands of the millions of unemployed throughout the country are "impossible demands" for the capitalist class and its National Civic Federation. The demands for immediate relief to prevent the working masses from starving by the millions are "impossible demands" for the capitalist class which is spending over more millions on war preparations.

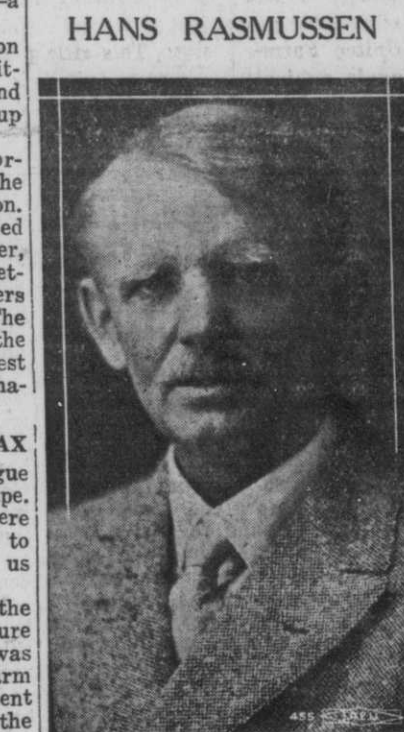
DEMANDS OUTLAWING OF WORKERS' ORGANIZATIONS

The National Civic Federation, one of whose leading lights is the chief labor lieutenant of the capitalist class, Mathew Woll, demands that the militant working class organizations be suppressed. Not unemployment relief for the millions of starving but coonsack oppression is the answer the National Civic Federation wants to throw in the face of the jobless.

The National Hunger March, says the Civic Federation:

"May serve to secure legislation to protect our government and our institutions against the underground movement which today is operating in this country without let or hindrance."

The fifteen hundred elected delegates (Continued on page two)



"ON TO WASHINGTON"

By Hans Rasmussen
Lakota, N. D., Nov. 25.—Arrived in Minot Sunday evening, James Allen waiting ready to go. Report that truck load from Seattle, Wash., were thru Bismarck on way to Minneapolis.

Late Monday evening young Subo Mayala from Belden arrived ready to go.

Left Minot Tuesday morning for Grand Forks where we are to pick up one or two more delegates.

Ran into blizzard, the further we went the bigger the snow drifts. One big truck had run into a snow drift and turned over. No body hurt—men helped us push through.

Storm getting worse, bitterly cold, windshield covered with ice. Jim is at the wheel. Forgot to turn corner and went over into the ditch but made it.

Run into more snow, got stuck and had to borrow shovel from a farmer. Got stuck again. Had to borrow more shovels. Jim is at the wheel, shivering—it is cold and I without overshoes. But outside that young Mayala is digging a way in the snow with the borrowed shovel—snow and blizzard are his delight—he is a life saver. His father just left for Russia. That's the kind Russia is looking for.

It's getting dark, run into another snow bank outside of Lakota and Pete Fay, living next to town pulls us out with horses—did it without asking. That's the kind of North Dakota we are going to tell Hoover about. Send him a Producers News and a million more if he wants them.

Had to stop over at Lakota, 75 miles from Grand Forks. Slept three in a bed last night. It was an emergency bed.

Snow plow went thru last night so on we go to Grand Forks and Minneapolis. We will have a lot of things to tell Hoover by the time we get there.

DEMAND GOVERNMENT RELIEF IN CASH TO ALL FARMERS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO ARE IN NEED.

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ERIK BERT, Editor
HANS RASMUSSEN, Business Manager

Friday, November 27, 1931

GOV. OLSON'S "RELIEF" PROPOSALS

ACCORDING to the Farmers Union Advocate, the organ of the reactionary American Federation of Labor leaders in St. Paul, "Governor Olson has taken the lead in compelling enactment of legislative relief measures." The very editorial which supports Olson's proposals admits the demagogic character. The Union Advocate after stating the two chief points of Olson's program to be reduction of taxes for the farmer and small home owner and the cut in the interest rate on farm loans made by the Rural Credit Bureau, continues as follows:

"It is now up to the Governor to call the legislature in special session and force action from the representatives. When he has done this he has gone as far as he can with the material in hand."

The Union Advocate paves the way here for absolutely nothing for the farmers. When Olson "has done this"—if he does—called the legislature into special session—"he has gone as far as he can with the material in hand" and the farmers will be just where they were before or in a worse situation. The rest of the editorial is designed to rally the workers and farmers to follow the misleading demagoguery of Olson.

The capitalist class will give concession to the toiling masses only if they are forced to do so. They can be forced into concessions only thru the mass pressure of the millions of farmers under the militant leadership of the United Farmers League. Toiling farmers—join the United Farmers League to carry forward the struggle against evictions and foreclosures and for immediate relief for the poor and middle farmers.

TOILING FARMERS! BE "DIGNIFIED AND PROPER"

The McLean County (N. D.) Independent in its issue of Nov. 12 makes an appeal for the "opinion" of its readers regarding "questions of the day, whether they are of local, state or national importance." "But the Language Must Be Dignified and Proper." Just what is it that the McLean County Independent wants? What is it that the Producers News asks for when it asks for farmers' correspondence? The McLean County Independent is owned, so its mast head tells us, by farmers and BUSINESSMEN and what it wants is what the BUSINESSMEN want. It wants "opinions" because the capitalist class and its press would like to get the toiling farmers to express their militancy in letter writing and not in struggle against exploitation and in resistance to attacks of the exploiters. That is why the "language must be dignified and proper."

"Dignified language" means not calling the bankers—robbers; not calling the political representatives of the bankers—enemies of the toiling farmers; and not calling the reactionary leaders of farmers' organizations like the Farmers Union, the Farm Bureau and the Grange—traitors to the poor and middle farmers. "Proper language" means not exposing the misery and degradation that exploitation by the bankers and the capitalist class means for the toiling farmers.

The Producers News, the official organ of the United Farmers League in the northwest, calls on the toiling farmers to write in about the conditions in their territory in any kind of language that will express best the monstrous brutality in which the capitalist system expresses itself in the agrarian sections of the country. The Producers News calls on the farmer correspondents to report the class struggle on the land, the meetings, the conferences, the militant actions taken by the farmers to repel the attack of the bankers who want to drive the farmer who cannot pay his interest, off the land into which he has put the sweat and blood of himself and his family for years, the resistance of the toiling farmers to sheriffs' sales for the millstone taxes thru which the capitalist class robs the agrarian masses.

The Producers News calls on its correspondents to write of and for the class struggle of the toiling farmers against their exploiters. The McLean County Independent, like the rest of the capitalist press, wants the farmers to leave the struggle in order to write "opinions." The Producers News calls on the toiling farmers to write for the struggle.

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SIXTY FRESHMEN have reported for rifle practice at Montana State College. Thruout the country the capitalist class is increasing the emphasis on rifle practice. Every summer the Citizens' Military Training Camps try to give the young workers and young farmers military training. This rifle practice in the colleges and in the summer camps is not for rabbit shooting. This rifle practice is for the attack on the militant workers and farmers!

fraternal societies and at great mass-meetings, hundreds of thousands of workers and poor farmers, white and negro, native and foreign born, men, women and young workers, have elected delegates and instructed them to proceed to Washington and place before Congress and yourself, their program and demands. These delegates will represent not only those who have directly participated in their election. They will represent the interests and needs of all who suffer hunger, privation, fear of insecurity and premature death because of the unemployed problem. Poverty compels these delegates to undertake the additional hardships of a long march, on meager rations, in all kinds of weather and to brave possible attacks by hostile local authorities. They are determined however, to carry out the important mission which has been entrusted to them.

DEMAND FOOD, SHELTER FOR DELEGATES

We have been instructed to demand in behalf of the Hunger Marchers, that you, as Chief Executive of the nation, shall see that those representatives of the nation's producers, are provided with all essentials during their two day stay in Washington. These include warm lodgings, food, a place of assembly and the opportunity to address Congress and yourself.

Our committee will meet with representatives you may authorize to represent you in these arrangements.

Washington Arrangements Committee, National Hunger March.
(Signed) HERBERT BENJAMIN,
National Field Representative

WRITE OF YOUR STRUG-
GLES FOR YOUR PAPER—THE
PRODUCERS NEWS.

Hoover's Thanksgiving Insult

While the toiling masses of the United States are forced to endure privations and misery on an unprecedented scale; while the present crisis drives down the living standards of the American people to the hunger levels of the Chinese and Indian masses, President Hoover and the governors of the forty-eight states have in their Thanksgiving proclamations offered the most brazen insult to the toiling masses of the United States. This insult, which has been made yearly, is the more vicious in this present crisis than it has yet been.

The messages this year proclaiming Thanksgiving Day as a holiday carry each of them the same outrageous attempt to mislead the masses in the United States from realizing the full significance of the present crisis and from struggling in united million masses against it under the leadership of the revolutionary fighting organizations of the toiling masses. The messages are an attempt on the part of the capitalist class to force the submission of the masses to the most terrible horrors of starvation and disease without militant and determined resistance. With these messages the capitalist class is carrying on its attempt to stem the rise of the determination of the masses to resistance against the starvation and war programs of the capitalist class that means extermination for millions on millions of the working population of the world.

President Hoover proclaimed November 26 Thanksgiving Day in a message that fairly drips with hypocrisy and deceit. The message begins with an enumeration of the reasons why "our country has cause for gratitude to the Almighty."

"We Have Been Blessed With Abundant Harvests." This to the farmers of the drouth stricken areas of North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana where there is not enough of a harvest to feed the stock—where thousands of cattle have been butchered because they could not be fed.

Despite the drouth of the past year there is enough and more than enough of wheat, corn, cotton, etc., to supply amply the entire population of the country with food and clothing. Yet millions are starving, millions are clothed in rags while the granaries, the elevators, the warehouses are stuffed with grain and cotton that is rotting.

"We Have Been Spared From Pestilence and Calamities . . . The Health of Our People has Increased." To this well fed, stuffed bankers' hound the thousands of children in the Kentucky mine fields who are suffering from flux, a starvation disease that makes the intestines bleed, are not suffering from pestilence. Their health has increased! He and his masters, the bankers and the robbers HAVE been spared from pestilence and calamities. THEIR health has increased.

In every city and town thruout the land the hospitals are choked as never before with diseased farmers and workers and their children, while tens of thousands are refused admission to these abodes of charity and mercy because they cannot pay or are not near enough to death.

The farmers' children of the Northwest are showing the results of your hunger program, Mr. Hoover. The "flu" strikes more frequently now due to the undernourishment that is slow starvation.

"Our Institutions Have Served the People." "Our institutions," the mailed fist of the capitalist class, have served the toiling masses with tear gas, with clubs, with cassack brutality. Strikers and unemployed have been clubbed and beaten. The militia was sent with cold steel against the farmers of Iowa who militantly resisted the T.B. testing of the Meat Packing Trust. "Our institutions" have sentenced nine innocent Negro children in Scottsboro to the electric chair. "Our institutions" have deported thousands of foreign born from the United States to torture and death at the hands of fascist executioners in foreign countries. "Our institution," the dungeon of San Quentin holds Tom Mooney for the 16th year. Your institutions, the institutions of the Capitalist Class, have served you well, Mr. Hoover.

"We Have Dwelt in Peace with All Men." We, the capitalist class of the United States are leading the imperialist front against the Soviet Union. "Our" general, McArthur, chief of staff of "our" United States army, reviewed the troops of France, Yugoslavia and Rumania this past summer and met with the general staffs of those countries for the purpose of working out the details of the attack on the Soviet Union.

"Our" observers are in Manchuria preparing the attack on the eastern frontiers of the Soviet Union.

While we "dwell in peace with all men," the preparations for war go on at an intensified pace, new murder weapons are perfected, new gasses and aircraft, more terrible explosives are devised. The naval forces are extended under cover of hypocritical announcements of cuts in the naval budget. This peace is the preparation for the attack on the workers and farmers of the Soviet Union, the attack on the workers and farmers of the entire world. This peace is war.

"The Measure of Passing Adversity Which Has Come Upon Us Should Deepen the Spiritual Life of the People, Quicken their Sympathies and Spirit of Sacrifice for Others, and Strengthen their Courage." Yes, Hoovey Hoover, this "passing adversity" has been passing for two years now—passing to deeper and deeper levels of misery for the toiling masses. This crisis will "quicken the sympathies and the spirit of sacrifice" of the masses. It will "strengthen their courage" to fight to the bitter end against this misery; to stand against the armed forces of Hoover and his class to win concessions from the robbers. It is this spirit of courage and determination that you will see Mr. Hoover when the 1500 hunger marchers arrive in Washington on December 7th, to present the demands of the toiling masses of the entire country for immediate relief and unemployment insurance to Congress. This is the courage and determination of the toiling masses such as you and your armed hirlings have never known. Mr. Hoover.

This is the most terrible Thanksgiving Day that the workers and poor farmers of the United States have ever known. The toiling farmers must determine that this starvation shall not last—that the exploiters will be forced to grant them adequate relief.

Build the United Farmers League. Answer the hypocrisy and hunger program of Hoover with organized determination of the masses of the toiling farmers to beat back this robber gang.

HUNGER MARCH

(Continued from Front Page)

legates of unemployed workers in every city of the United States will be in Washington Dec. 6 and 7.

NATIONAL HUNGER MARCH
DEMANDS

They will place before congress

and before President Hoover the following demands:

1. Unemployment insurance equal to full wages to be paid for by the government thru special taxes if necessary. They will demand that Congress pass the Unemployment Insurance Bill brot there by the last Hunger March.
2. Special Winter Relief of \$150 cash in a lump sum and \$50 additional for each dependent.
3. Seven hour day without re-

duction in wages; federal program of furnishing work to the jobless at full wages; abolition of terror and discrimination against negroes and foreign born workers.
4. Special demands for farmers and ex-servicemen.

New Freezing Process

Utilizing intense cold at 50 degrees below zero, a process has been perfected by which perishable foods are frozen so that they retain their original fresh flavor and texture for months in a frozen state.

Meats, seafoods, poultry, vegetables and fruits are being processed by the new method. According to the inventor, the foods are frozen so quickly that no harmful chemical or organic change can take place in them.

FIGHT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN RED CROSS RELIEF



Call Them
Tonight

It's a thrill to chat with out-of-town friends by telephone. It's next best to actually seeing them. Typical station-to-station night rates:

from PLENTYWOOD to—
CULBERTSON — .35
GLASGOW — .45
WILLISTON — .35

NIGHT RATES—8:30 p. m. to 4:30 a. m.
Calls by number are given.

Just Call Long Distance
Number Please?

TELEPHONE

Positive Proof of FORD ECONOMY

City of Detroit purchases 137 new Ford cars
Hundreds now in use prove low cost of operation

THESE 137 new Ford cars represent one of the largest deliveries ever made to a municipality at one time.

21 radio-equipped Ford scout cars were traded in on this purchase. They had been operated day and night for two years in heavy traffic and all kinds of weather.

Their individual records ranged from 78,434 miles to 143,723 miles with a grand total of 2,283,097 miles. The operating cost of the 21 cars was 2.284 cents a mile—less than 2 1/3 cents. This cost included all fuel, oil, tires, repairs and every other item except depreciation and insurance.

Of 577 Ford cars in Detroit City service, the 300 in the Police Department traveled a total of 6,591,937 miles during the past fiscal year, at an average cost of 2.9 cents a mile.

Many claims have been made on operating costs, but here in the carefully kept motor car records of the City of Detroit is positive proof of Ford economy.

In the paragraphs above, it is seen that 21 Ford scout cars averaged less than 2 1/3

cents a mile and 300 Ford cars in all branches of Detroit police work averaged 2.9 cents a mile!

Day and night, twenty-four hours a day, these Ford cars are in operation. Few branches of transportation demand such grueling service. The records show that low fuel and oil consumption is but one of the Ford's many economies. Ford materials, simplicity of design and accuracy in manufacturing provide unusual strength, stamina and freedom from replacement and repairs.

The individual car buyer as well as the purchasing department of a city or a business cannot afford to ignore the proved economy of the Ford car.

FIFTEEN DIFFERENT BODY TYPES

\$430 to \$640

(F. O. B. Detroit, plus freight and delivery. Bumpers and spare tire extra at low cost. Economical time payments through the Authorized Ford Finance Plans of the Universal Credit Co.)



UNEMPLOYED COUNCIL DEMANDS SHELTER FOR HUNGRY MARCHERS

Washington, D. C.—The Washington arrangements committee for the National Hunger March of which Herbert Benjamin is in charge, has written President Hoover demanding, provisions for feeding, lodging, placing of assembly and arrangements for addressing congress with the program for Unemployed Insurance in behalf of the National Hunger Marchers.

The letter follows:

FOR PROTECTION

AGAINST
FIRE, LIGHTNING, CY-
CLONE, WINDSTORM

GET A
POLICY

—IN THE—
NORTHWESTERN
NATIONAL

FOR RATES SEE "JERRY"
THE LITTLE AGENT

Call or Address

G. G. POWELL

Plentywood Montana

KC BAKING POWDER

SAME PRICE
FOR OVER
40 YEARS

Guaranteed pure
and efficient.

USE
less than of high
priced brands.

25
ounces for
25¢
MILLIONS OF POUNDS USED
BY OUR GOVERNMENT

CRISIS WILL CONTINUE

The end of the present crisis is nowhere in sight. It will take years, even if this crisis is overcome, before the many millions of unemployed can hope to be again admitted to the factories. Modern production methods, labor saving devices, intensive speed-up, etc., totally eliminates millions of workers and leaves them to swell an ever growing army of permanently unemployed. The miserable charity relief, which you sponsor, and which is the only form of relief afforded to workers who are fully able and willing to work and entitled to a decent livelihood, in no way meets even the most elementary needs of these workers.

The workers, unemployed and employed, refuse to accept the status of paupers. They demand the right to live. They demand and are determined to fight for unemployment insurance which under present circumstances is the only means of securing the right to live.

DELEGATES REPRESENT TOILING MASSES

Through their unions, unemploy-
ed organizations, in the shops,



Mr. and Mrs. McMillan, Miss Benice Robel and Miss Thora Lerovold of Plentywood were dinner guests at the Alexander home Monday.

Mrs. J. West and mother of Plentywood were callers here Tuesday.

Mrs. Griffin and daughter, Mrs. Walter Lee of Daleview were callers here Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Nelson and Lucille, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Eggar and Mrs. Ella West were five o'clock dinner guests at the Art Ueland home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Anderson returned from Minneapolis Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Meharry were Plentywood callers Monday.

A one act comedy entitled "Can't Be Done," was presented to the public by four of the pupils of the Meharry school Friday evening, Nov. 20th. The teacher, Miss Leah Michaels, is to be commended for the fine manner in which was presented, due to her excellent coaching. Much tal-

ent was displayed and those present were very well pleased with having attended. Immediately after the play dancing was the diversion for the balance of the evening. A fairly sized crowd was in attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Weiss spent Wednesday evening at the Tom Clawson home.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ladd, Jr. were

among those who attended the A. C. U. W. party held Tuesday evening in the lodge hall.

Frances and Melvin Deck were dinner guests at the Lloyd Deck home last Tuesday. They were pleasantly surprised when they returned home at 7:30 to find their friends gathered to spend the evening with them, the occasion being their birthday. All present proclaimed a good time.

LEGAL NOTICES

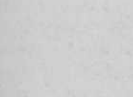
NOTES TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

the undersigned, Wm. Erickson, Administrator of the Estate of Carl A. Krook, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, to exhibit them with the necessary vouchers, within four (4) months after the first publication of this notice, to the said Wm. Erickson, at the law offices of Howard M. Lewis, Esquire, at Plentywood, Montana.

the same being the place for
transaction of the business of s
estate in the county of Sheridan.
Dated Nov. 5, 1931. 3
WM. ERICKSON
Adminsitrator of the Estate
Carl W. A. Krook, Deceased
First publication Nov. 13, 1931.

rs. Last publication Dec. 4, 1931.



ing!

r toast

ever parched or toasted
scientifically applying heat

o much assurance that
ey're *made* fresh — not

en they're *kept* fresh in

a change. Switch over
back — if you can.
PANY, Winston-Salem, N. C.



Smoke a
fresh
cigarette

© 1951, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco

100

MILITANT MICHIGAN FARMERS PREPARING FOR DEBT STRUGGLE

The following resolution is one of many passed by farmers meeting in Ontonagon, Baraga and Houghton counties, Michigan. This resolution was passed at a meeting of farmers held in Snake River Hall, Chassel, Michigan, Nov. 14. These demands are, as the comrades who sent in the report said, PLAIN AND CONCRETE AND THE FARMERS ARE RAILING AROUND THEM. They are not going to stop at passing this resolution.

This is only the beginning of the struggle for these poor farmers. They are going to put behind this resolution the weight of thousands of farmers in the territory when the resolution is presented to the Houghton county supervisors at their meeting in the court house on December 8, at 10 o'clock in the morning. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION

Taxes

Whereas: The economic crisis has developed to such a point that the farmers cannot market a large portion of their produce at all, and what little can be sold brings so small returns as to hardly keep the farmers' families provided with the common necessities of life. At the present moment there is no lumber industry as in the past where the farmer could obtain seasonal work which would enable him to pay taxes and other current expenses. So be it.

Resolved that: We demand the postponement of tax payments and the cancellation of delinquent taxes until conditions improve. We demand that the tax burden be placed upon the Banks, Railroads, Mining Companies and all rich owners of property. In addition to this, we most emphatically demand that none of the small farmers' property be sold for delinquent taxes.

MORTGAGES AND INTEREST

The small farmers are unable to pay their mortgages or interest thereof. We demand that the county supervisors must see to it that no foreclosures shall take place during this crisis. We also demand that no mortgagor shall foreclose or evict any one off of their farms or home because of their inability to meet these payments. We further demand that all small farmers mortgage payments be postponed and all unpaid mortgages and interest payments be cancelled until conditions improve.

OFFICIALS' WAGES and LETTING OF CONTRACTS

Regardless of the tremendous decrease in the small farmer's income, the county officials are still drawing large salaries. We demand that the county officials' salaries be reduced 30% at once.

We also demand: No county work be turned over to contractors from now on and that all road work and other work be done directly by the state, county or township as the case may be. We further demand that only unemployed workers and poor farmers be employed on these jobs. Under no circumstances shall any work be turned over to contractors who

always reap huge profits in the form of graft which the small taxpayer ultimately has to pay.

USELESS COUNTY OFFICIALS

The small farmers and unemployed workers are overburdened with high taxes and debts, while at the same time the county maintains on its payroll useless officials such as the county agent, dozens of game wardens, who squander large sums of money without any appreciable returns to the poor farmer. We demand that all useless county officials be disposed of at once.

FREE MEDICAL AID

The poor farmers families and farm laborers are often in need of medical aid and are without funds. This meeting demands that the supervisors at their next meeting shall see to it that all poor farmers and farm workers will be provided with medical attention without any "red tape" and, no doctor shall refuse to render medical attention when called upon and all this expense be paid by the county.

We also demand that: All school children shall get medical and dental attention as prescribed by the county nurse at the expense of the county.

COMMITTEE TO PRESENT RESOLUTION

So be it Resolved: That the Chassel Farmers Committee of Action present this resolution to the Houghton county supervisors at their meeting in the court house on Dec. 8th, 1931 at 10 o'clock a. m.

(Signed) ALMA TORMALA, Secretary
John Lassila, Chairman.

Propose Wheat Diet for Starving U. S. Farmers

The capitalist press reports the success that has been achieved in putting the toiling and starving population of the United States on a prairie diet as follows:

"A menu of all wheat 'from soup to nuts,' developed by Dr. Robert E. Brown, professor of theology at Oberlin college, will be presented to the national unemployment relief committee, he said today.

"He has made wheat soup by boiling wheat grains, straining off the water, and seasoning; wheat meat loaf with one third to two-thirds meat baked into a loaf; hot muffins from wheat ground in a coffee mill; parched wheat coffee and parched wheat breakfast food."

It is quite appropriate that this cattle diet should be presented to the Hoover unemployment relief committee. Even if they turn it down as they probably will because even wheat costs something and they are determined that not one cent should be spent by the federal government for unemployment relief, the Red Cross will probably be able to use it.

The capitalist news item goes on to say that "The Oberlin professor has worked out his preparations only a short while and has much more experimenting to do." He is probably trying to discover if the farmers can exist on some less nourishing and even cheaper diet than wheat. The next step of this hunger expert of the capitalist class is to see if the farmer of the northwest can be put on a diet of Russian thistles like the hungry cattle of these prairies.

BUILD THE PRODUCERS NEWS—THE VOICE OF THE EXPLOITED FARM MASSES.



"LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. G. McILROY, UNITED STATES MILITARY ATTACHE AT TOKYO ARRIVES IN MUKDEN, MANCHURIA."

Build the Producers News, Your Paper, Write Articles for It

The Producers News, the official organ of the United Farmers League in the northwest will only become the real fighting organ of the farmers in the northwest if it reflects in the greatest possible detail the condition of the poor farmers and the course of their struggle against the exploiting class. The Producers News can only play its part in the struggle in the agrarian field if the poor and middle farmers who read it will feel it their duty to participate actively in the writing of the paper. That means farmers correspondence and lots of it.

We don't care a damn about literary frills and fancies. What we want is news of your conditions and what is doing in your neck of the woods to organize the farmers in the struggle for their immediate demands. Are you on the Red Cross? Do you get macaroni or beans or rotten spuds? Give us an idea about what the plug uglies at the head of the Red Cross in your county look like and how they act in letting go of the macaroni rations.

Have you held any meetings to stop the eviction of one of your fellow poor farmers from his land, or to prevent foreclosure by whatever capitalist outfit has the mortgage? Did you hold a mass meeting on November 21 in your neighborhood to bring the horrible reality of the approaching war danger to the mass of the poor toiling farmers. How many attended and what was the spirit of the farmers present concerning the approaching war against

the Soviet Union?

The members of the United Farmers League must see to it that the Producers News is kept informed of the growth of the U.F.L., how the farmers are responding to the leadership of the United Farmers League and what actions the U.F.L. is leading against the robber class.

Every incident or action which seems important to you should be reported to the Producers News because it is important not only to you but to the rest of the farmers throughout the northwest and to the United Farmers League which is leading the struggle of the poor and middle farmers against all oppression and exploitation.

WRITE FOR YOUR PAPER. BECOME A FARMER CORRESPONDENT OF THE PRODUCERS NEWS, THE FIGHTING ORGAN OF THE UNITED FARMERS LEAGUE IN THE NORTHWEST, THE MILITANT VOICE OF THE POOR AND MIDDLE FARMERS.

U. S. "Dumping" Cattle in the Soviet Union

Kansas City, Nov. 23.—Representatives of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, New York City organization which handles American exports to Russia for the Soviet government, began a survey here today of purebred beef cattle of the middle west. The Soviet government is planning a tremendous program of state cattle ranches, where beef cattle will be raised.

BOSSSES FAVOR 'CO-OPERATION'

CLASS STRUGGLE IS BASE OF REAL CO-OPERATIVES

In a recent letter to members, Fred H. Sexauer, president of the Dairymen's League Co-operative Association of New York, said:

"Working together... will hold the price decline in check as long as possible. Then, if, because of surplus and distributors' actions, the prices do break, we will reorganize our plans and set about to rebuild the structure...."

"This fight is just begun... Our real job will always be ahead of us. Even before we retreat we must get ready for the next advance... Dark days may be ahead but that is only one more reason for greater effort."

This view of the co-operative movement as expressed by the agent of the Milk Trust is greeted with approval by the Manufacturers and Industrial News Bureau of Portland, Ore., which states the following about this kind of co-operation:

"This is the spirit that will make a success of the co-operative movement—if the members, as individuals, live up to their responsibilities. It is certainly not encouraging to see prices sag—but they will sag a great deal farther, and stay down a great deal longer, without co-operatives than with them."

"Co-operatives, large and small, are the greatest hope agriculture has for future prosperity."

The capitalist press approves

this kind of co-operation because it keeps the farmer and the co-operative tied down to capitalist methods of getting every last cent possible by capitalist methods of hi-jacking and robbery. The capitalist class approves of this kind of co-operation because it uses the same methods that the capitalist class uses—it is bred in the image of this system of exploitation.

The only co-operatives which serve the toiling farmer are those co-operatives in the Workers and Farmers Co-operative Unity Alliance which have as their basis not capitalist thievery but the class struggle.

Only those co-operatives which stand on the basis of the class struggle are in the interests of the toiling masses, the poor farmers and the city workers. All other co-operatives are instruments in the hands of the capitalist class to divert the militant class struggle of the toiling masses against the oppressors into channels of exploitation and profit grabbing.

WHITE GUARDISTS PLOTTING MURDER

Berlin, Oct. 30.—Today's "Rote Fahne" make revelations concerning the activity and plans of the "All-Russia Military Union" led by the notorious czarist general, Miller. This organization maintains close connections with the French general staff. The fact that the contributions from capitalist financial and industrial sources have dropped considerably to look around for means of arousing capitalist interest in it once again, writes the "Rote Fahne." General Shaulovsk and Turkul proposed that various Communist leaders should be assassinated both in the Soviet Union and in other countries. The question was broached with the French

512 BANKS SHUT DOORS IN OCT.

Savings of \$566,686,000 Are Wiped Out in Single Month.

New York.—Following close on the heels of numerous statements of bankers and financiers throughout the country that the American financial and banking system was safe, the Federal Reserve Board, in a statement issued Nov. 18, reports that during the month of October 512 banks closed their doors in the U. S., wiping out \$566,686,000 in savings, the most of which were the hard-earned dollars of workers. This large number of failures stands as a record for such a period.

Among the banks that crashed are: Ninety-nine national banks with deposits of \$138,282,000, twenty-five state member banks with deposits of \$141,188,000 and 388 non-member banks with deposits of \$287,216,000.

In the ten months ending Oct. 21, 1,753 banks with deposits of \$1,461,852,000, closed their doors and placed police in front of them to keep the workers from coming in and demanding their money.

general staff which, however, was unwilling to agree to such terrorism in France or in other countries under French influence, and suggested that they should be confined to Germany, Italy, Turkey, etc., in order that the responsibility for the crimes should be placed on other shoulders and the Franco-Soviet negotiations not endangered.

The Rote Fahne then describes the preparations of the white guards in Prague under the leadership of Major General Horshevi. Former White officers are being trained in special courses for their tasks. The terrorists are supplied with bombs and revolvers. When everything was prepared for attempts on the lives of prominent communist leaders in the Soviet Union, and above all, on the life of Stalin, various of the conspirators were sent to the Soviet Union with false passports under the command of the white guardist Captain Trotinoff. These men never returned from the Soviet Union.

Organize Murder Gangs

Berlin, Oct. 31.—The former czarist general, Turkul, is organizing special murder bands in Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. While his colleague, Gen. Horshevi plans to carry out his outrages in the Soviet Union, Turkul plans to perpetrate outrages in Europe. Both Gorki and Litvinov were chosen as victims. Gorki is now in Italy where he is now staying for the benefit of his health, and Litvinov on his arrival in Berlin.

Capt. Fors was in charge of the white guardist training school in Sofia where prospective assassins were taught the art of pistol and rifle shooting and of bomb throwing. A white guardist murder organization also existed in Poland, where it was furthered and directed by the general staff of the Polish army.

Last year the murderers made an attempt on the life of the Soviet ambassador to France, Comrade Dovgalevski. The attempt was prevented by the watchfulness of these entrusts with the case of Dovgalevski's life, whereby the satraps of Monsieur Chiappe are meant.

The Rote Fahne points out that the bourgeois and social democratic press, which is busy conducting a furious campaign of incitement in connection with non-existing communist terror groups, shows no interest whatever for the real terrorist and murderers.

U. S. ARMY

(Continued from Front Page)

—will know settle down to a systematic boycott of Japan and Japanese goods....

"This is the stage of the conflict between China and Japan upon which both countries are now entering. It is a hard, bitter, cold phase, one which leads to mass movements and often to changes in government in China and sometimes in Japan."

YEN ADMITS DISTURB BY MASSES

That the masses are in motion against the Japanese and the Kuomintang traitors is further borne out by the admission of the Nanking charge d'affaires in Washington, Hawkin Yen.

"A general feeling of disappointment, distrust and despair now pervades the masses of the Chinese people as to the sanctity of treaties and the repeated protestations of friendship which the powers of the world have professed for China and her people."

That this distrust, which extends to the Kuomintang government is the real reason for the new demagogic gestures of Nanking, is shown in a dispatch from Shanghai which states:

"The Japanese occupation of Tsingtao has aggravated the situation to such an extent that the party congress (Kuomintang) in secret session has resolved that in view of recent events the generalissimo should proceed north to watch events. The attitude of the Chinese government is unchanged, and it is not lost faith in the League, but the resolution is the outcome of a feeling of uneasiness."

U. S. CONTINUES TO SUPPORT JAPAN

The United States, in its role of leader of the anti-soviet front, continues to support the Japanese position in the secret conference of the League council in Paris. A Paris dispatch reports:

"In League quarters it was said that Ambassador Dawes' statement to the members of the council was: 'If the League wishes to apply economic sanctions to get the Japanese to withdraw, very well; but America will not participate.'"

BUILD THE UNITED FARMERS LEAGUE—THE MILITANT ORGANIZATION OF THE TOILING FARMERS.

TRY TO MISLEAD

(Continued from Front Page)

stated that "We could blame ourselves for letting him run away with us." This to the farmers who have been bled white by the capitalist state in which Magnus Johnson functions as one of the important organs for misleading the farmers.

The answer of the poor and middle farmers to Lamb, Reed, Magnus Johnson, and such like and to the exploiters they serve must be the organized demand for real reduction for the poor and middle farmers, cancellation of taxes for those who are unable to pay them, and the demand that immediate relief be paid to the poor farmers out of the state budgets out of additional taxes levied on the bankers, rich farmers, big landlords, farm corporations and market monopolies. Tax reduction can be achieved by the farmer only thru mass action—refusal to pay taxes until their demands for reduction or cancellation are granted.

FARMERS!

You need your own paper now more than ever before. Pay up your subscription to The Producers News.

Red Villages The FIVE YEAR PLAN in SOVIET AGRICULTURE by Y. A. Yakovlev

People's Commissar of Agriculture
Translated by Anna Louise Strong

EDITOR'S PREFACE

In this issue we begin the publication of "RED VILLAGES"—the Five-Year Plan in Soviet Agriculture. The author of the book is the Soviet Commissar of Agriculture who has written not only a brilliant review of the rapid progress of agriculture in the Soviet Union under the Five Year Plan but has given us a telling contrast between the lot of the agrarian masses in the workers and farmers fatherland where socialism is being built and the lot of the toiling farmers in the land of decaying capitalism.

The best indication of the giant steps forward being taken in agriculture in the Soviet Union is best shown by the fact that the figures of soviet progress are far out of date by the time any book containing them is off the press. The report of Comrade Yakovlev on which the book is based was made over a year ago. When the book was first published in English about six months ago the figures had to be brought up to date. But now even these figures are far out of date. In future issues of the Producers News we shall bring the latest figures of the development of the Five Year Plan in the Soviet Union in all fields of production and especially in agriculture.

While victorious socialist construction in the Soviet Union reaches greater goals daily, decaying capitalist society has nothing to look but deepening crisis and greater misery for the toiling masses.

The present book is the work of a man intimately connected with the Five-Year Plan, the Soviet Commissar of Agriculture. "Red

Villages" is a careful study of the Five Year Plan in relation to agriculture, a field in which amazing successes have been recorded. The most archaic forms of cultivation and organization have been replaced by the tractor, the combine and other advanced agricultural machinery, and by modern technique. Vast tracts of unused land have been reclaimed; huge industrialized state farms really grain factories, have been developed; and the multitudinous strips of land cultivated by individual peasants are being combined into large collectives.

The central idea of the Five Year Plan for Soviet agriculture during 1928-33 is the reorganization and socialization of the village. The program, in terms of state and collective farms, was successfully completed by the spring of 1931—in about half the time allotted by the plan. Before the development of the collectivization movement there were about 25 million peasant households; today well over 12 million of them have been collectivized, and by the end of the plan period collectivization is expected to be universal in the country. The stupendous achievements in the mechanization and collectivization of Soviet agriculture have been likened to the revolution in manufacturing which came with the industrial revolution and the establishment of the factory system.

In the first four chapters of this book, the reader will find a speech delivered by Commissar of Agriculture Yakovlev before the 16th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, held in 1930. It has been translated from the Russian by Anna Louise Strong,

long a resident of the Soviet Union and herself a close student and writer on the Russian village.

CHAPTER I

The American Method of Organizing Large-Scale Farming

AN ADEQUATE understanding of the progress and the present status of Soviet agriculture can not be obtained from a study of our country alone. In order not to err in our estimate of past results and future aims, it is necessary to begin with a brief comparison of the development of large-scale farming on the basis of new technical methods in the Soviet Union and in capitalist countries, principally the United States. Such a comparison will clearly reveal the special characteristics of this development in our country, and will facilitate an analysis of the strong and weak points of our work.

What are the characteristics of the process of the development of agriculture in the United States? The tremendous increase in the use of the tractor in the United States during the decade that followed the World War is well known to all. In this period the number of tractors in the United States increased more than fivefold—until it has reached nearly a million at present. The number of combines increased eightfold between 1920 and 1928, reaching 28,000. The figure now is probably about 45,000. Moreover, the increased utilization of combines due to the very nature of these machines, has resulted in a corresponding increase in the number of automobile trucks. These lat-

ter, of which, according to the Hoover Commission, there were 600,000 in 1928, now probably number about 800,000. Moreover, both the power of the tractors themselves and of the combines used with them has increased from year to year.

What is the significance of these basic figures: almost a million tractors, some 45,000 combines, and about 800,000 automobile trucks?

They signify a tremendous revolution in the methods and forms of agricultural production. The importance of their effect on the future of agriculture can be compared only with the revolution which took place in the methods and forms of industry as a result of the invention of the steam engine and the power loom.

In any case, it cannot be doubted that this present revolution in the methods of agricultural production is incomparably more important than the transformation in agriculture brought about by the development of capitalism in the 19th century. While the technical revolution in agriculture then replaced hand sowing by the sowing machine, hand threshing by the horse drawn thresher, and sickle and scythe by the reaper and the binder, it still maintained the same basic draft power—the horse. The technical transformation which we witness today lies, first of all, in the change of that basic draft power: the horse is replaced by the tractor. This new draft power, which fundamentally alters the speed of the processes of agricultural production and the capacity of the accessory equipment, changes also the whole system of accessory machines, which are per-

fected to a new degree both as regards speed and the quality of the work they perform.

The tractor and its accessories basically change the methods and forms of agricultural production, and thereby change also the corresponding socio-economic relationships.

In order to evaluate the results of this revolution in the methods of farming, it is not sufficient, however, merely to record the extent of the adoption of the new machinery, although that is what many of our Soviet scientists do, who go every year to America, returning as Columbus who have newly discovered that land.

In order to draw the lessons from the revolution taking place in American farming methods, one must take fully into account the causes of this revolution and its consequences as regards increase in agricultural production, the degree of well being of the broad masses of the people, and consumption among the rural and urban population.

The introduction of 20 million horse power into agricultural production in the United States, in the form of nearly a million tractors, naturally leads one to expect an unusually flourishing agriculture, a change by the overwhelming majority of farmers to the use of tractors in cultivating the soil, and a correspondingly enormous growth of consumption in town and countryside. We are justified in expecting this from one fact alone—20 million horse power is enough to cultivate an area almost twice that farmed in the United States today.

But what do we really see? We shall analyze the actual conditions

there solely by means of a few basic indices, utilizing, in order to avoid the charge of prejudice, only official sources—the Yearbooks of the Department of Agriculture and the reports of a number of officials of that department.

Although nearly a million tractors have been introduced into agriculture in the United States, the sown area has remained practically unchanged, for an increase of four million hectares (one hectare equals 2.47 acres—Ed.) in a decade can hardly be called an increase when the use of the 20 million horse power could have doubled the sown area. A million tractors and an increase in the sown area of only 9,890,000 acres in a decade! Instead of doubling the area sown, which was made possible by technical conditions, we find a feverish alternation between small decreases and unimportant increases, characteristic of a decaying economic order.

Even if we agree with the palpably inaccurate declaration of the well known American agricultural economist, Dr. O. E. Baker, of the United States Department of Agriculture, which portrays conditions as better than they are, stating that in five years after the war, farm production increased by 13.5 per cent as a result of the supplanting of less valuable by more valuable crops, and of low grade by high grade stock; still this—as compared to the extent to which new technique has been introduced—gives no satisfactory answer to the basic question: Why, in the face of so much technical improvement, are the results so small?

That we are correct in our evaluation of the results of the tech-

nical revolution in the United States, from the standpoint of its effect on the extent of agricultural production, is shown by the character of the changes in the consumption of farm products.

Official sources show that in the first quarter of this century the per capita consumption of meat fell by 2.5 per cent and that of wheat by over 20 per cent. At the same time there was no change in that of potatoes and fruit, and an increase only in the use of vegetables and sugar.

But perhaps as a result of this "stabilization" of agricultural production the living conditions of the farmers themselves have improved? Perhaps the purchasing power of the farm population has increased and their taxes and debts lessened? Let us answer these questions too from official sources.

The purchasing power of the farm population in the United States has decreased during the post war decade. The "scissors" created by the post war crisis were still so great in 1929 that the index of prices for farm products was 138 (1909-1914 equalled 100) while that of industrial products purchased by the farmer was 161. The purchasing power of the farmer's dollar, which fell catastrophically after the war, had not recovered even by 1929.

It cannot be said that American government officials, and bourgeois economists are ignorant of the incredibly difficult situation which results to the farmers from this decrease in their purchasing power. But, serving a capitalist society, they can find no better advice to give than to reduce agricultural production. With this re-

duction the Department of Agriculture of the United States is compelled to concern itself as one of its most important tasks. Contrast this with our Commissariat of Agriculture in the U.S.S.R.

We shall give one example to show how this reduction is accomplished. In the Department of Agriculture report for 1929 we read:

"The most important single factor in the yearly variations in the farm price of potatoes is the variation in the size of the crop in the United States. The relation between production and price has been such that a small crop of a bushel brought a price of around \$2.00 while a large crop of 440 million bushels brought a price of around \$0.40, indicating that the value of the large crop (valued at \$352,000,000) was considerably smaller than that of the smaller crop (valued at \$676,000,000)."

A detailed study of the course of development of any of the farm products during the past decade shows that the total amount of money received by the farmer has remained practically unchanged from year to year. An increase in production automatically causes such a fall in prices that whether it results from an increase in sown area or a better than usual yield, it brings no increase in the sum received by the farmer.

We are considering the average farmer. The same thing, of course, does not apply to the upper strata in whose hands are concentrated the bulk of the new machinery and all the extra profits derived from their monopoly on the improved means of production. (Continued next week.)