



Watching the Palatial Yachts

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER.
Prisoner No. 52350.

(Communist Candidate for Governor of New York State.)

WHILE many millions of workers and their families, denied an opportunity to make a living by the bankrupt capitalist system, are on the verge of actual starvation, the wealth-bloated capitalists go on undisturbed with their orgy of luxury.

What matters it to them if the workers who produced their great wealth suffer in want and privation?

A Political Prisoner Looks At the Idle Rich.

From this prison island we can see many interesting features of the plutocrats' wealth. The shores, Long Island and the mainland, are lined up with the great estates and country palaces of multi-millionaires. Every morning one sees many rich parasites rushing to New York in their costly speed boats. Automobiles and trains are too fatiguing for these pampered people.

The air is hardly ever free from the roar of their privately owned airplanes. While the workers sweat in boiling hot tenements, they are cooling themselves in the skies.

Morgan Yacht Near Hart's Island Prison.

Off City Island, just next to us, the stretch of water is constantly dotted with yachts of every description, from small sloops to gigantic steam yachts. Many of the latter veritable liners owned by Morgan, Vanderbilt, Hannon, etc., are palatial in character. They are constant scenes of voluptuous parties and reckless gaiety. They are forever coming and going, bearing their rich owners to Canada, Europe, the Bermudas, or wherever the jaded tastes of the rich may urge them.

But most extravagant of all are the yachts built to defend the American Cup against Lipton's Shamrock V. All summer long the Enterprise, Whirlwind, etc., have been in and out of City Island waters. They are great toys, sailing monstrosities, neither beautiful nor useful. Built for just these races, they are worthless when the races are over. They cost many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Fortunes have been wasted upon them, just to give a thrill to their super-wealthy owners.

Meanwhile, millions of workers stand in line

Industrial strikes governing cities, spread out to other cities, or spread out to workers in other industries. The aim of the bourgeoisie, the government and the A. F. of L. leaders is to narrow the strike and isolate the strikers. Our policy must be the opposite, to widen the strike and to bring large sections of workers to its support.

Broadening the strike, however, is only possible after serious and energetic preparations, coldly calculated and worked out on the basis of revolutionary strike strategy. What is the strongest point of the workers? What is the weakest point of the employers? After careful consideration is the determining factor on whether or not a certain category of workers should be called upon to join the strike. Have the employers transferred their order to another corporation? Are they importing goods, or parts from other sections of the country? These are all points to be considered in the broadening of the strikes.

he gets in education like that. But when there's a demonstration of hungry jobless, he and his hosts are Johnny on the Spot. Funny, ain't it?

* * *

In these days when thousands of workers are hunting through the garbage heaps to get something to eat, and when news from Chicago says that 2,500 workers are evicted monthly for failure to pay rent, it may cheer someone up to know that the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals says—"There is no food on the streets for abandoned animal pets" and offers to take care of unwanted dogs and cats. It doesn't cheer us up. It makes us swear!

* * *

Gov. Roosevelt of New York blooms out as a "dirt farmer," which is a term invented by rich farmers to cover up the differences between rich and poor farmers, and in the spirit of this demagoguery says that taxes are too high. The poor farmers really ought to take this seriously and, all together in one bunch, refuse to pay any taxes at all until they come down. Roosevelt would be the first one to have heart failure if they did that.

* * *

The widow of John B. Kennedy, a banker and partner in robbery with the unlamented James J. Hill, has bequeathed \$10,000,000 to foreign missions. The "mission" of missionaries is, as someone has said, to make the heathen wear pants so the imperialists can pick his pockets.

* * *

The much advertised "investigation of food prices" in New York City, has now reached the stage where it gets a half column on the fourth page. Which means that the food monopolists are coming through with the graft, and a slow and painless disappearance of the "investigation." Food prices will, in the meantime, go up because of the added overhead due to graft payments.

* * *

Santo Domingo hurricane notes: "U. S. Minister Curtis' Home Destroyed; Insane Asylum Wrecked, Inmates Loose." If you ask us, we think that a U. S. Minister in Santo Domingo is more dangerous to the toiling inhabitants than any number of maniacs set loose by the hurricane, even adding the hurricane to boot.

* * *

We are reminded that Mrs. Ruth Hanna McCormick who spent some \$500,000 to get the republican nomination in the Illinois primaries for the U. S. Senatorship which pays \$10,000 a year salary, is a daughter of old Mark Hanna. When asked if she was having private detectives dig up some dirt on Senator Nye who is "investigating" her campaign expenses, the old girl said: "I did it. I am still doing it." And this is the system of society that Professor Butler tells us is "liberalism" and not "capitalism." Huh!

at the factory gates and employment offices vainly searching for work to fend off the threatening starvation.

This is the boasted prosperity of American imperialism!

But the workers are waking up. Sooner than we realize they will be delivering powerful blows at the capitalist system, and these will grow heavier until they finally smash capitalism.

The present election campaign is a fruitful opportunity for us to wake up masses of workers and to unite them under the banner of our revolutionary Party.

Workers, fight for unemployment insurance. Strike against wage cuts. Join the T. U. U. L. Defend the Soviet Union. Vote the Communist ticket!

(Written at Hart's Island Penitentiary.)

Demand the release of Foster, Minor, Amter and Raymond, in prison for fighting for unemployment insurance.

Write as you fight! Become a worker correspondent.