

FOR COMMUNIST  
UNITY IN THE  
REVOLUTIONARY  
CLASS STRUGGLE!

# THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

WORKERS OF ALL

COUNTRIES

UNITE!

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEFENDING  
THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY  
(Majority Group)

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## RED MAYOR SHUNS U. S. MAYORS

### Strasbourg Head Hits Boss Visitors from U. S. A.

STRASBOURG, Alsace.—The group of American mayors, now touring France, met with a reception they are not likely to forget when they came to the city of Strasbourg, the capital of Alsace, on June 2.

Strasbourg has a Communist Mayor and a Communist Municipal Council. The mayor is Charles Hueber, the leader of the Communist Party of Alsace, adhering to the International Communist Opposition.

Comrade Hueber, in the name of the Alsatian workers and peasants, refused to extend any welcome to the visiting American mayors, the representatives of American capitalist "democracy" that murdered Sacco and Vanzetti and is keeping Mooney and Billings in jail, that deports foreign-born workers to death and kills American workers who dare to fight for their rights and interests. The American mayors were therefore compelled to pass through Strasbourg without official reception whatever. At the unofficial banquet that took place the vice-president of the National Touring Association presided.

It is characteristic that in this citadel of Communism, where the representatives of the American ruling class stood face to face in hostile array against the representatives of the Alsatian masses, it was the Socialist mayor of Milwaukee, Daniel W. Hoan, who was the spokesman for capitalism. It was he who responded to the toasts in behalf of the party of American mayors.

Communists—the spokesmen of the toiling masses; Socialists—the spokesmen of the ruling classes!

## INT'L WORKERS ORDER HOLDS MEET; TO CONTINUE SPLITTING LINE

### 12,000 Members Reported with Loss of 1,300 in 10 Months; Independent W. C. Also Convenes

On Friday evening, May 29, there opened the two-day convention of the International Workers Order, the newly organized Red fraternal society. According to the report of the general secretary, R. Salzman, there were 241 branches, with about 12,000 members, represented by 240 delegates. Of the 241 branches (with 11,000 members), 191 were reported as Jewish, 17 youth branches, 4 women's branches, with the remainder divided up among the other foreign-language groups. It was also announced that in the ten-month period of the existence of the order, 1,300 members had been dropped for non-payment of dues, etc.

From the report it was evident that the International Workers Order is composed not only of the split-off sections from the Workmen's Circle and the Independent Workmen's Circle, but has also swallowed up practically all the left-wing foreign-language clubs, singing societies, etc. It was also reported by the Amalgamation Committee that plans are now under way to "amalgamate" still other labor fraternal societies (Hungarian, Croatian, Russian, etc.), i. e., to split off small groups of left-wingers and join them to the I. W. O.

The leadership of the convention went out of the way to "make it clear" that the organization was under the domination of the Communist Party. In the dispute over the manner in which to elect the officers a delegate protested against the mechanical control of the convention charging that the slate had already been selected in advance without the membership having had an opportunity to vote on it. In his reply, William Weiner, the official Party whip, now elected president, openly declared that "there was nothing wrong in the Communist Party deciding matters for the order because the Communist Party represents the working class..."

An issue that raised its head several times during the convention was the question of the composition of the order. Curiously enough the secretary had failed to say a word about the social composition of the organization. It turned out that the "proletarian order" was, in the smaller cities, made up predominantly of petty bourgeois elements and even bosses and that in the larger cities these elements were also prominent. No direct answer could be obtained from the leadership to the question asked by some delegates: "Can a boss employing more than three workers belong to the I. W. O.?"

The theory behind the organization of the I. W. O. was made clear in the speech of Louis Hyman, speaking for

## Shall This Be Our Last Issue?

Because the subscriptions are coming in too slowly, because the response to our appeals is weak, because funds are not coming in, we are in danger of suspension. It was literally a miracle that we were able to pull thru and get out this issue.

Frankly, THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF THE PAPER—unless in the next few days many, very many more subscriptions reach our office. We are now in the most difficult position since our paper was launched. The summer months are setting in and it will require much more work by our members, sympathizers and friends to pull the Revolutionary Age thru the coming months.

In the first three weeks of the drive

### URGE AMERICAN BLOC AGAINST SOVIETS

#### Barrett Calls for Yankee Rule to Fight U. S. S. R.

"The economic union of the nations North and South America to meet the challenge of Soviet Russia successfully," was urged by John Barrett, former director-general of the Pan-American Union at Washington, in speaking before the New York Kiwanis Club on June 2. Mr. Barrett declared that the United States alone "could not hope to keep pace with the economic strides of Soviet Russia."

The proposal for an "economic union of the nations of North and South America" is a proposal to completely subjugate the countries of Latin America to Yankee imperialism and to use them as a weapon in the imperialist offensive against the U. S. S. R.

we have not done well. We have so far (June 4th) gotten only:

- 70—yearly subs;
- 12—6 months subs;
- 2—4 months subs;
- 2—3 months subs;
- 1—2 months subs;
- 47 Trial Subs.

Total—134 subscribers. So far we have reached only 813 out of 5,000 points. This is entirely insufficient. We have got to get at least 500 new subscribers by mid-July. This is no mere wish. It is an absolute necessity for the Revolutionary Age. Otherwise it can't go on.

Those of our supporters who are already readers can HELP us now—IMMEDIATELY—in two ways: You can make a donation outright or you can donate for a subscription for one or more unemployed workers. This will be a real blow struck for the Revolutionary Age and for the enlightenment of the unemployed.

In Philadelphia this plan has been tried out. The district has set a good example by having the comrades contribute in payment of trial subs for unemployed workers and members of the Communist Party.

In Uniontown, Pa., a number of coal diggers have joined and raised sufficient funds for trial subscriptions.

New York, Uniontown, and Philadel-

phia have been on the job doing some work. The other districts haven't done a thing. That's especially responsible for the sad plight of the Revolutionary Age.

Comrades and friends! It's entirely up to you. Do you want the paper to live? You can kill it by doing nothing, by not answering our pressing call. Do help. Help at once. Subscribe now. Donate today.

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## Fascists Ban Catholic Organizations, Arrest Leaders; Clash Sharpens

### Mussolini Orders Dissolution of Catholic Children's and Youth Societies, Seizes Catholic Action Leaders; What's Behind the Clash?

ROME—The banning of all Catholic societies for boys and girls and their immediate dissolution, the "strict supervision" of the Catholic Action Society (the dissolution of which is forbidden by the Lateran treaties and the Concordat), the jailing of a number of Catholic leaders all over the country, marked the newest stage in the Fascist-Catholic clashes. At the same time rumors are widespread of "peace negotiations" under way.

The acute straining of relations between the Fascist regime and the Catholic organizations (primarily the organization Catholic Action) reflects certain readjustments that have recently taken place in class relations in Italy.

The Fascist regime is organically bound up with big monopoly capital in Italy and with the great landlords. On the other hand, the Catholic Action, the successor to the dissolved Catholic Popular party, finds its social roots in and therefore reflects the mood of the lower industrial capitalists, large sections of the petty bourgeoisie, and important strata of the richer peasantry. Thus its effective political demagoguery, it has also won considerable influence among the backward workers. The aggravation of the economic situation, especially the financial

crisis in Italy, and the consequent intensification in the misery not only of the working masses but of large sections of the petty bourgeois elements, have generated a great amount of unrest and dissatisfaction among practically all sections of the Italian people which are manifested in a growing hostility to the Fascist regime. As a result anti-Fascist sentiments have emerged in the various circles of the Catholic Action organization and even some anti-Fascist phrases are being indulged in. The bitterness of the Fascist attack upon the Catholic societies is not due to their actual menace but to Mussolini's keen appreciation of the volcanic social forces that lie in the background of the whole situation.

Such are the social roots of the Fascist-Catholic clash in Italy today. Of course these basic causes do not manifest themselves in the consciousness of the conflicting parties, also it is hardly likely that the leading elements in the Fascist and Catholic ranks are unaware of the political background of the situation. The social clash expresses itself in the clash of all sorts of theories and political ideas, as e. g., between the "integralist" theory of Fascism and the Catholic contention that in all matters of "faith and morals" the Church is supreme. But these conflicts of ideas and theories, while they have a certain influence in the situation, are themselves derivative and reflect more basic social issues.

Nobody has any illusions as to the ability of the Catholic Action to lead or even participate in a people's movement against Fascism, because such a movement would necessarily endanger the foundations of the bourgeois order in Italy with which the Catholic organizations and the social elements they represent are indissolubly bound up. Only a popular revolution of the workers and peasants under the leadership of the former, can overthrow the Fascist regime and the whole system of capitalist exploitation along with it.

## MINN. PRESS LAW IS VOIDED

### Supreme Court Hits Gag Law but Attacks on Labor Press On

WASHINGTON, D. C.—By a five-four decision, with Chief Justice Hughes in the majority, the Supreme Court, on June 1, declared unconstitutional the Minnesota state law which provides for the "abatement as a public nuisance of a malicious, scandalous, defamatory, newspaper, magazine or other periodical" and which was used in the attempt to suppress all criticism of public officials. Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone and Roberts stood with the majority, while Justices Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds and Sutherland formed the minority.

The decision of the Supreme Court will not seriously restrain the capitalist offensive against the labor press now under way since this offensive utilizes the arbitrary power of the Post Office authorities to exclude publications from the mails, a right which has frequently been upheld by the courts. The attitude of the Supreme Court to the freedom of the labor press as distinct from its attitude to the freedom of the press for capitalist papers (which was the issue involved in the Minnesota law) will be made clear when the Revolutionary Age comes to the court very soon.

## MACDONALD BOARD HITS LABOR DOLE

### Urges Cutting of Dole and Also Raising of Contributions.

LONDON—The reduction of the unemployment benefits with the simultaneous increase of the contributions of the workers, was recommended by a commission appointed by the MacDonald government. It is understood that MacDonald and the Labor party leaders favor these proposals. The recommendations of the commission have aroused the greatest protest among the rank and file of the Labor party and among large sections of the Labor members of the House of Commons.

WASHINGTON—Total deportation of aliens from the United States during April 1931 numbered 1,897, an increase of 171 over the last month and the largest number deported any month this year, the Labor department announced.

## MASS JAILINGS IN PHILIPPINES

### Drive to Crush Communists Nacionalistas Win in New Elections

MANILA, P. I.—As a part of the "preparations" for the election campaign, more than 300 Communists were arrested here on May 31 on charges of "unlawful assemblage and sedition." The Attorney General and the City Council recently promulgated rulings making a Communist meeting a "violation of the assemblage and sedition acts and entirely outlawing the Communist Party and all Communist organizations."

The Communist Party has been refused the right to hold any election meetings, in spite of the fact that its leader, Crisanto Evangelista, was a candidate for the Senate. Meetings arranged by labor unions and other workers organizations were also suppressed.

The government authorities in the Philippines, the obedient hand-men of Wall Street, seem determined to crush the newly formed Communist Party and to stamp out every sign of militant action of the workers and peasants. The American workers must rally to the support of the Filipino leaders in the fight for freedom for the enemy of the Filipino people is the same as the enemy of the American workers: the capitalist masters of Wall Street.

MANILA, P. I.—Amid considerable violence and scandalous corruption, the elections took place throughout the islands on June 2. The Nacionalistas succeeded in retaining their hold on the administration.

## Pinchot Shadowboxes Power Ring In 1932 Presidency Bid

### Pennsylvania Governor Declares G. O. P. in Grip of Power Trust; Roosevelt Throws Hat in Ring

The conflicts in the ranks of the ruling class are assuming more serious proportions.

At the conference of the Governors at French Licks Spring, Indiana, Gifford Pinchot, Republican governor of Pennsylvania, threw down the gauntlet to the powerful public utilities interests which are dominated by the biggest financial corporations in the country. It is now evident that the issue of government relations with the public utilities interests will assume paramount importance in the 1932 elections. Careful observers of recent development in this field maintain that the government relations with the railroads played in the 90's and at the opening of the century.

Pinchot plainly declared:

"The power of the public utilities is manifest in every political assembly from the Congress of the United States to the smallest town meeting and from the government of the least political unit to that of the largest state. Indeed it reaches the National government itself."

Pinchot even went so far as to admit that in his own state the public utilities control the Republican National committee, the Republican State chairman and the entire Republican machine.

Mr. Pinchot did not say a word about his failure to fight the power

interests with effective measures. The electric industry, biggest of all public utility corporations, already has an investment of approximately twelve billion dollars. The Morgan-Mellon group controls 60% of this industry. The Insull group, the North American and the Harris Forbes group, control the rest. Even in the year of severe economic crisis, 1930, the gross income of this corporation increased 3% above the banner year of 1929.

The problem of public utilities is assuming a special importance in rural areas. Electric service for farms increased 18% last year—the largest single gain in any single year of industrial history. Undoubtedly Pinchot launched this attack because of his playing for support for his presidential aspirations among the farmers who are very much discontented and who are developing increasing hostility to the public utilities corporations.

Gov. Roosevelt of New York joined Pinchot in playing around with "progressive" issues by hitting at the so-called passive government and demanded new leadership. This is likewise a bid by Roosevelt for the presidential nomination of the Democratic party. Roosevelt cited as his qualification the "achievements" of New York State.

The Governors Conference is really an arena where the leading Republican and Democratic politicians are engaged in preliminary skirmishes for the 1932 presidential campaign. Not the slightest constructive suggestions for helping unemployed millions, for alleviating starvation has emanated from this Conference. The reactionaries are silent about the hunger situation and the so-called progressives of the Republican and Democratic stripe like Pinchot and Roosevelt have simply tried to play with the sufferings of the masses.

## RAISE ELECTRIC RATE TO HIT POOR

### Companies Issue New Regulations With City Approval

A change of rates which will considerably increase the charges paid for electricity by over half of the residence users—and the poorer half at that—was put thru by the electric light companies in New York City and approved by the Public Service Commission.

The new rates are contrived to make those who pay small bills (the poor) pay more, and those who pay large bills (the rich) pay less.

mean France and even England demanding a reduction in their debt payments to the United States. The Wall Street government remains adamant in its opposition to all talk of debt reduction. The Hoover administration budget shows a total deficit of over a billion dollars and does not increase this huge deficit by cutting its foreign debt payment income.

Very likely the decisive force in the developments of the coming months will be the actions of the millions of workers who have been following the Social-democratic Party. The Leipzig Congress decisions will, therefore, prove fatal to the Social-democratic Party. If it continues to go full speed ahead with Bruening, millions of workers will probably desert it to Communism or Fascism. Should it weaken in the least in its alliance with Bruening, then, it will precipitate a crisis in the Socialist Party and the rank and file will demand a showdown policy.

The Communist Party of Germany (Opposition) is working for a proletarian bloc—Communists, Social-democrats, trade union members, and other working class organizations—against the swiftly rising Fascist menace.

A banquet was held in honor of Carlo Tresca for his twenty-five years of activity in the labor movement in the United States.

About six hundred were present at the banquet. Joe Ettore was chairman of the banquet. Roger Baldwin of the Civil Liberties Union was the toastmaster.

The speakers, in addition to Carlo Tresca, included Benjamin Gitlow, Secretary of the Communist Party (Majority Group), Michael Gold, editor of the New Masses, Heywood Brown, A. J. Muste, representing the Conference for Progressive Labor Action, Arthur Garfield Hays, Morris Ernst, and others.

## PULITZER PRIZE POISON PEN



## GERMAN CRISIS SHARPENS; LABOR HIT; BRUENING IN LONDON

### Industrialists Demand Suspension of Reparations Payments; Fascists Make Big Advances; Social-Democrats to Continue Reactionary Course

Events in Germany are rapidly coming to boiling point:

1. The Fascists are boldly laying plans for seizing power.

2. 1400 of the country's biggest industrialists, in convention at Dusseldorf emphatically demanded a dictatorship, wage-cuts, and suspension of reparation payments. It is these giant monopoly capitalist interests that are behind the "Nazis"—Hitler's party.

3. Bruening has arranged to have Hindenburg sign a new and more sweeping decree robbing the workers still more of social rights, reducing unemployment insurance, and cutting wages in a desperate effort to meet the acute financial crisis caused by the complete failure of the much-heralded Bruening economy budget.

4. The Social-democratic Party bureaucracy, in the national convention at Leipzig, is feverishly working to manipulate the delegations so that Socialists can continue to keep the Bruening government in power. The S.D. leadership is preparing to crush the mounting opposition in the rank and file to their policies of open betrayal.

5. The Communist Party is in a

distinctly favorable position but is unable to capitalize the situation because of its policies of splitting the trade unions, building new strictly "Red" unions, and pursuing a policy on the Young Plan very similar to that of the "Nazis."

6. Bruening and Foreign Affairs Minister Curtius are entering into a conference with MacDonald and Henderson at Chequers to go over the whole situation.

The eyes of the European capitals are now focused on Berlin.

Stimson will take a hand in the German situation when he gets to Europe shortly. The whole atmosphere is made all the more tense because of the insistence of the powerful German industrialists for a bigger export market which is already filled with intense competitors—British, French, Japanese, Americans, Germans, etc. Every big power is desperately trying to extend or at least to hold its place in the world market and will not accede to the proposal that the German imperialists be given a favored position.

Little is expected from the conference between Bruening and MacDonald because any reduction in reparations payments by Germany would

# CORTES TO MEET ON JULY 14

### Election Regulations Are Thoroughly Undemocratic; City Votes Cast

MADRID.—The Provisional Government, on June 3, formally issued a decree for the convocation of the Constituent Assembly to meet on July 14. The regulations under which the Constituent Assembly is to be elected show the completely anti-democratic character of the republican-socialist coalition government. The right to vote is limited to male citizens over 23 years of age, thus excluding the whole female population and millions of workers and farmers between 18 and 23. Moreover the election arrangements are such that the victorious side (the election bloc that gets a majority) will receive 80% of the seats in the Constituent Assembly. After the elections on June 28, run-off elections will be held on July 3, in which the majority bloc will get 80% of the seats, with the other 20% distributed among the other lists. Thus the ruling republican-socialist coalition is assuring itself an 80% majority, while the representation of the more radical parties will be greatly reduced.

At the same time that the Zamora regime is violating every principle of democracy in order to protect itself against the will of the people, it shows remarkable solicitude for the "rights" of the monarchists. The suspension order against the monarchist daily, ABC, has been revoked and the monarchists have been guaranteed full freedom of counter-revolutionary agitation and organization. At the same time, Communist and radical workers meetings are being smashed while a veritable reactionary reign of terror has been unleashed in many parts of the countryside against the peasantry who have shown their intention of turning the revolution to the advantage of the masses.

MADRID.—On June 1 there took place the run-off municipal elections for cases where no candidate obtained a majority in the April 12 elections. The results were an overwhelming victory for the republican-socialist bloc. Out of 4,790 seats to be filled, only 270 went to the monarchists, 47 to the Catholics and 354 to the various independent monarchist groups. The republican-socialist coalition received 1,695 of this Right Wing Liberal Republican (Zamora's party) got 737, the Socialists 674, the Radical Socialists 301. The Agrarian Republicans obtained 91 seats and the various republican autonomist groups together, 401. The Workers Party (Communist) received 13 seats.

# HORNER FACES EXPULSION

### Latest News from British C. P.

#### C. I. Hastens Horner's Expulsion

Arthur Horner, leading trade union figure in the Communist Party of Great Britain, is now expelled because of the new C.I. pressure. Under a heavy barrage of the "Enlightenment Campaign" he wavered, at last, and said: "Have practically decided that the path of my revolutionary duty is in the direction of submission to the Party. Intend to prepare a statement to this effect" (March 19, 1931).

But on April 15th, Comrade Horner wrote:

"I can't be a party to such deceit and refuse to submit a statement which would give assistance in perpetuating this weakness"

Comrade Horner in changing his mind challenged the correctness of the facts presented by the Central Committee. Soon the C. I. took a hand in the matter, thru having the R.L.L.U. send an Open Letter to the Minority Movement on the occasion of the Charter Convention. This Open Letter speaks of the "beginning of a mighty movement" and "the most favorable possibilities there have yet been in existence in Great Britain."

The Minority Movement is criticized for its "weakness," "dangerous isolation from the mass of workers". It is condemned for its ineffectiveness and its not having "firmly and boldly" taken up the fight for "independent leadership" of the economic struggles, for too often responding to the "fighting spirit of the masses with abstractions and generalities".

The Communist Party is rebuked for

# Rebuild the Left Wing in the Needle Trades Unions!

### Appeal of the United Progressive League of Needle Workers to the Workers of the Entire Industry

TO ALL NEEDLE TRADES — Brothers and sisters! Conditions in the needle trades industry are deplorable. From your every-day life you surely know that our conditions are now at the lowest level in years. The standards and working conditions which it took us years to win, are now being wiped out. The hardships brought to the needle trades workers by the growing permanent unemployment defies description. Working hours are being increased. Speed-up intensified, production standards put over, reorganization of shops forced, piece-work instituted and wage cuts enforced.

The plight of the unorganized workers, who are such a large section of the industry, is even worse. Brothers and sisters! These miserable conditions must not continue. It is high time that we did something to end the wretched situation in which the workers of our trade find themselves.

About six months ago there began to develop a number of left wing groups in the garment workers unions in order to wage a militant struggle against the intolerable conditions and the class-collaboration policies of the bureaucracy. This left-wing movement rapidly gained momentum, so that on May 9, there took place one of the most important conferences in the history of the needle trade workers: the conference of the eight left wing groups embracing every section of the needle trades in New York and organized the United Progressive League of Needle Workers. Cloak-makers, dressmakers, millinery workers, furriers, Amalgamated Clothing workers, members of the Needle Trades Workers Unity League, etc. were represented. This conference gathered to take steps to mobilize all needle trades workers thruout the country for taking up the left wing struggle, for the building of left wing groups in the conservative unions, and for strengthening such already existing groups.

The United Progressive League of Needle Trades Workers aims to rebuild the unions into effective fighting organs of the needle trades workers, to take up the struggle against the reactionary policies of the bureaucracy, to wage a militant fight against the

bosses, and to help build one union in the industry.

The United Progressive League of Needle Trades Workers appeals to every worker in the needle trades industry to join its ranks, to fight side by side with it for militant unionism to win better working and living conditions for the needle trades workers. The United Progressive League of Needle Trades Workers has laid down at its first conference, a program which will go a long way towards mobilizing on a large scale all workers, regardless of their political opinions, towards a successful struggle to improve the working conditions of the needle trades masses. This conference decided against the policies of the "center" groups for dilly-dallying with the bureaucrats and the bosses, as well as against any splitting tactics.

Towards this end the United Progressive League of Needle Trades Workers strongly urges all workers to get together, to join hands, and to mobilize their forces, to achieve the following:

1. For amalgamation! Against craft unionism! For one union in the industry!
2. For militant class struggle policies against the employers!
3. Against class collaboration policies and leadership!
4. For democracy in the unions! No expulsions or persecution of members for political opinions! For the right to recall officers!
5. Wages of officers not to exceed the average union wages in the industry! For proportional representation to joint boards and conventions!
6. For the shop delegates system!

Brothers and sisters! The conference of the United Progressive League of Needle Trades Workers marks a decisive, significant moment in the history of the militant struggles of the needle trades workers. We urgently appeal to all needle trades workers to close ranks for a united militant struggle against the bosses and the reactionary bureaucracy, for decent working and living conditions. The needle trades workers must again play the progressive role they have played for years in the American labor movement, must again become the spearhead of militancy in the whole trade union movement.

The revival of a powerful left wing in the needle trades will not only mean new life and success for the struggle in the present conservative needle trades unions, but will inspire the workers in all other trade unions to take up again an energetic battle against the reactionary bureaucrats and the employers.

Forward to a mighty left wing movement in the needle trades! Forward to a militant struggle against the bureaucrats and the bosses! Forward to one powerful union in the needle trades industry! Forward to a victorious struggle against the present unbearable conditions!

Join and build the United Progressive League of Needle Trades Workers! The United Progressive League of Needle Trades Workers has been extended from March 21 indefinitely.

THE NEW LEADERSHIP AMONG THE LITHUANIAN COMMUNISTS

After having expelled from the Party some of the experienced tried revolutionists among the Lithuanian Communists, the Party bureaucracy has forced upon the Lithuanian workers a most unsavory clique as the new leadership. For instance, in the Laive, the trusted spokesmen of the Party include such directors as:

1. Elena Jeskevich—long an opponent of the C.P.
2. Mr. Weiss—a church member and factory boss.
3. Mrs. Bimba—before she was given a job, she left the Party and denounced it.
4. Mr. Abelkas—an active White Guardist in Russia in 1917 and then joined the American Red Cross in Vladivostok.
5. Aleksynas—a speculator in raincoats and stockings.

BEDACHT BEING ADVANCED

Comrade Bedacht has been appointed as a member of the Executive Board of the International Workers Order, the Party's sectarian fraternal and benefit society.

# SWEDEN STRIKES SWEEP ON

### Mass Funeral in Kramfors; 100,000 in Stockholm

STOCKHOLM — The wave of strikes and demonstrations of protest against the murder of the six workers and in sympathy with the struggles at Adalen, Marma, etc., has been making great headway in the last two weeks. A tremendous demonstration of about 100,000 was held in Stockholm. On May 21, the day of the funeral of the murdered workers in Kramfors, there was a 100% demonstration strike of all the workers in the region. The funeral was accompanied by a demonstration march of 25,000.

In the Riksdag (Swedish Congress) the Communist deputies vigorously raised the issue of the suppression of strikes and the legal murder of workers with such effect that, in spite of the resistance of the government, a "commission of inquiry" was decided upon.

The movement in Sweden has developed on the broadest united front basis, including Communists, Social-democrats, syndicalists, non-party workers. The united front movement was initiated by the Communist Party of Sweden (affiliated with the International Communist Opposition) and developed under its leadership. The small rival set up by the Communist is playing a most shameful role. It refuses to take part in the united front movement; it calls rival meetings, issues rival appeals, and so on. Lately it has even attempted to break the fighting front by appeals to the government to arbitrate! And it covers up all this shameful activity by bragging, bombast and outright deceit. Thus, the Communist press is full of reports of the Swedish events in which the leadership is ascribed to "the Communists"; it is not declared, however, that "the Communists" referred to are the Communist Oppositionists who in the same articles are attacked as "renegades"!

# B. P. YOUTH CLUB IS BARRED FROM ICOR

### C. P. Bureaucrats Refuse to Seat Delegates at Meet

In response to a notice which appeared in the Freiheit inviting all organizations or Boro Park to the ICOR conference, the Boro Park Workers Youth Club decided to send two delegates to the conference. The club was sure that the conference would seat the delegates since the conference was called as a wholly non-partisan affair. The delegates were greatly surprised, therefore, when the credentials committee brought in its report refusing to seat the delegates and denounce the club as "counter-revolutionary" and "Lovestonite", merely because leading members of the club have expressed their disagreement with the present policies of the Communist Party. One of the Boro Park Youth Club delegates took the floor to criticize the action of the credentials committee. He pointed out that the club he represented had recently been accepted in the Communist May Day Conference and in the Scottsboro Defense Conference and asked how the delegates of a labor organization could be excluded from a conference that pretended to be non-partisan.

The conference consisted of the closest sympathizers of the Communist Party. One of the delegates spoke in favor of seating the Boro Park Workers Youth Club delegates. When a vote was taken, only 7 out of the 12 delegates present voted to sustain the action of the credentials committee.

# 1,000 HEAR GITLOW AT OPEN AIR MEETING

### Big Meetings Held by C.-P. Majority Group in New York City

Nearly 1,000 workers gathered at the huge open-air meeting that took place on Thursday, June 4, at Second Avenue and 10 Street in New York City. The chairman of the meeting was Elmer Smith while the chief speakers were Ben Gitlow and William J. White. The crowd listened for hours to the arguments of the speakers and indicated lively approval. Over fifty copies of the Revolutionary Age were sold.

This splendid meeting was only one of the series of meetings being held regularly by the Communist Party (Majority Group) in all parts of New York.

# Marine Worker Expelled from TUUL Union for Mass Work

### Jack Soderberg Ousted after Farcical Trial Because He Criticized Bureaucracy and Wrong Policies

June 5, 1931.

On Thursday, May 28, 1931, a special fraction meeting of the Marine Workers Industrial Union was called to consider the question of expelling Jack Soderberg. At this meeting the law was laid down by I. Anter, the district organizer, and everybody was told that Soderberg must be expelled at the next business meeting of the Union. Anyone that failed to vote against his motion would face instant expulsion from the Party. The reason for Soderberg's expulsion was given by Anter as follows: There is definite evidence that Soderberg has aligned himself with the Lovestone group and that he has written a series of articles in the Revolutionary Age wherein he has criticized the leadership and the policy of the leadership of the Union. He went on to state that there is a danger if Soderberg were allowed to continue this anti-split might occur in the Union and this we could not afford at present with its small membership. Several comrades, including the writer, took the floor and opposed the demands of Anter, pointing out that Soderberg, in the past had taken a very active part in building the Union as well as opposing disruptive elements who tried in the past to disrupt the Union for personal reasons. However all the opposition to this move on the part of the fraction was squashed by Anter's and Mink's definite orders that Soderberg must be expelled.

# The Membership Meeting

At the membership meeting of the Marine Workers Industrial Union held June 3, the regular business of the meeting was rushed thru in short order and the question of Soderberg's expulsion was taken up. The motion by Soderberg that he be allowed to read a written statement to the Union was opposed and defeated by the fraction. Another by a member to give Soderberg sufficient time to reply to the charges of joining a reactionary union was also defeated. Various other motions made with a view of giving Soderberg a fair opportunity to defend himself were also defeated. Finally Soderberg asked to be given the same chance that he would be given in a capitalist court. But when this was raised he was told by Mink that this was a "sign of bourgeois psychology."

Hudson now took the floor and rattled off a series of charges, the main one being that Soderberg had joined the reactionary union. Several other members of the fraction followed Hudson parrot-like, repeating more or less what he had said. Then R. A. McNamie took the floor and defended Soderberg on the grounds that his being a so-called "Lovestonite" has nothing to do with the Union and whether Soderberg had joined the reactionary union or not could not be a cause for expulsion. He could not understand why a man's political opinion should interfere with his economic organization. We could not build a union worthwhile if the first prerequisite should be membership in the Communist Party. Many others took the floor in defense of Soderberg; about fifteen left the meeting in disgust. Soderberg was finally given 15 minutes to defend himself. He started off by stating that this was the finest bunch of 14th Street Cafe-teria sailors that had ever assembled at one time. In order to make sure his expulsion, the Party had instructed at least twenty of these 14th St. freaks to go down to the Union hall where their cards would be stamped up so they could vote. In replying to the charges he stated that evidently he was not on trial but judging from the whole discussion the Revolutionary Age was on trial and consequently the Revolutionary Age would undoubtedly be expelled! He pointed out that he did not leave the Union of his own choice but was forced into inactivity for the last four months and a half by the Party leadership who had stolen the Party from the workers.

At the end of Soderberg's defense the heavy artillery was brought up and put into action. Taxi driver Mink took the floor and accused Soderberg not of being a bad union man but of taking his orders from "Lovestone and Company." And that the line that Soderberg proposed relative to the R.L.L.U. was the line of Love-

stone. However when members from the floor interrupted that Soderberg's political opinion had nothing to do with this Mink switched over to something different. He stated that Soderberg once tried to break a chair over his head and had threatened him. This brought applause from the hall—of course not from the fraction. Mink pointed out that as Soderberg had already been expelled from the Party it would only be natural that he should be expelled from the union also.

After this the vote was taken and after a lot of wrangling around, counting and recounting, Soderberg was finally declared "officially expelled" from the New York Branch of the Union. It is however a question what other branches will have to say about this expulsion. There are thousands of seamen knowing Soderberg for years and it is a question whether they will tacitly agree to these bureaucratic methods on the part of a few self-appointed "leaders." I also wish to draw the readers attention to the fact that when Soderberg spoke at this meeting Mink disappeared outside for a moment and shortly after his return two cops entered the hall obviously in order to cut the meeting short. We should like to know why? —A Marine Worker.

# For Our Feminine Readers

Stern's published a corset ad with a picture of the broad-hipped, free-bodied Venus de Milo and the announcement that "our figure ideals have gone Grecian."

If you don't see where corsets come in with a Venus de Milo figure, it's not our fault.

# CANADA TO RAISE TARIFF RATES

### Answer to American Tariff; U. S. to Retaliate

In answer to the high rates of the Smoot-Hawley tariff schedules the Canadian government has just decided to increase tariff rates on American products by about 25%.

The U. S. Department of Commerce expects that the new Canadian rates will mean a loss of \$25,000,000 a year in exports to Canada. The State Department, thru Secretary Stimson, has hastened to indicate that Washington will make no protest because it feels that it has all weapons of retaliation, if necessary, thru the flexible provisions of the American Tariff Act.

One interesting phase of the whole tariff conflict is the effect it will have on the export of United States capital to Canada especially thru the establishment of American branch factories. Already there are over 2,000 American branch factories in Canada. Undoubtedly the raising of the tariff walls by the Bennett government will stimulate more American corporations to establish branch factories in Canada in order to escape the tariff barriers.

The Bennett government, which is one of the most reactionary and anti-working class regimes that Canada has had in many a year, is playing with the tariff in order to fowl the workers with the bluff of help thru additional protection and virtual subsidy to certain powerful Canadian manufacturing and agricultural interests.

Pursuing this policy of aggressive support for Canadian big business the Bennett government has also taken drastic measures against the Soviet Union. At the same time the Canadian government is pushing wage-cuts and conducting severe repressive campaigns against the Canadian workers and especially the Communists.

# WORKERS HIT DISRUPTIVE POLICY

### Slovak Workers Reject Split of Fraternal Society

Uniontown, Pa. May 25, 1931.

There has just taken place the convocation of the Slovak Workers Society of District No. 2, held in Charlestown, Pa. Among the "distinguished" visitors were Jan Zuskar, manager of the Slovak Communist daily, Rovnost Ludu, who came to the conference for the special purpose of putting thru the resolution for a special convention of the S.W.S. and for the amalgamation with the International Workers Order.

Another visitor was our new I.L.D. director, Carl Irwin. He came on behalf of the Scottsboro defense. I am sorry to say that he left the hall as soon as the Scottsboro resolution was passed because later on the convention passed another resolution in which the district I.L.D. was blamed for disrupting several I.L.D. locals in this section. I helped to put thru this resolution.

There were 12 locals of the S.W.S. represented at the conference by 19 delegates. The present C.P. line was blamed by the delegates who represented over 400 miners and other workers for the inactivity among the workers in this section.

The T.U.U.L. resolution, which was introduced by Jan Zuskar, was very nearly defeated. The vote was 9 for endorsing the T.U.U.L. unions and 6 against. Comrade Julius Butchko, member of Braddock delegation who is a printer by trade and member of the A. F. of L., called the T.U.U.L. inoperative operators union a scab union because they broke up the strike of the typotype operators employed by the Rovnost Ludu last year and accepted \$30.00 weekly wages instead of \$55.00 union rates. He condemned dual unionism and called for more activity in building the left wing in the reactionary labor unions. But most important of all, was the adop-

tion of a resolution against the resolution of the National Executive Committee of the S.W.S. which called for special convention to be held this fall where the question of merger was to be decided. The conference turned the resolution of the National Executive Committee down which was presented by John Zuskar and adopted our resolution. I had 12 votes as against 6 for Zuskar and his resolution.

The Party leadership in this district came in for a good drubbing. This came after the present organizer of the S.W.S. in this district, Comrade Ferencik, who is also treasurer in the Daisytown branch of the S.W.S., reported that Max Salzman had borrowed from him last fall for the C.P. election campaign \$200,000 with the promise to repay this money in \$50.00 monthly payments. Since that time Comrade Ferencik was vainly trying to collect this money which belongs to the S.W.S. and which he needed to pay sick-benefits to the members of his branch. Finally he received from the Party offices in Pittsburgh Pa., twelve books of raffle tickets and was told to sell them and to keep the money as part payment on the debt.

Andy Overgaard, M.W.I.L. organizer, borrowed \$50.00 from the former organizer of the S.W.S. in this district, Comrade T. Shostak, also for the C.P. election campaign. At that time Comrade Alpi was here with him. Max Salzman owes me nearly \$20.00 and I will not see them again. Branch No. 89 of the S.W.S. (Pittsburgh) loaned to the I.L.D. there \$100.00 and can't collect. You can imagine the feeling of the delegates when they heard reports how the Party, I.L.D., N.M.U. functionaries tried to avoid these comrades from whom they had borrowed so much money. —Volny.

# The Youth Movement Nat'l Youth Day and Anti-Militarism

by ALBERT ESTEN

Even Mohanet is said to have gone to the mountain when the mountain refused to come to Mohanet. But the present leadership of the Y.C.L. is to the left of Mohanet. The Y.C.L. has commanded that the young workers and farmers of America should gather on May 30 and 31 in the newly created Meccas of America—Passaic, Milwaukee, Duluth, Youngstown, and Fresno. Can any sane person expect the millions of young toilers, scattered over an area of 3,000,000 square miles, to go on such a pilgrimage? Are they to reach these five "strategic centers" on foot? Are they to use airplanes? Railroads? Automobiles? Is Y.C.L. currency to be used for the payment of the question inevitably arises what is responsible for such a prize-winning stupidity? Two answers suggest themselves. (1) The Y.C.L. is so weak that the organizations are either ashamed or incapable of meeting singly in their own locality. (2) It is just an old Spanish custom. In other words, it is simply copying the ways of the European leagues—German and Russian. It may be a combination of the two.

learning from other leagues. But it is wrong and dangerous to mechanically transfer the methods of the Y.C.L. of the Soviet Union or Germany to the United States because of the very obvious differences between these countries. It seems quite likely that the League is so weak that in order to save its face it must band several districts together for any public appearance. And the smaller the town, the more impressive will be the demonstration. While several hundred demonstrators in New York on Memorial Day would attract little or no attention, they could create a stir in Passaic. Even Gullivers can be giants amongst Lilliputians. The originality to be used for the National Youth Day idea hope to arouse the workers in the towns chosen to militant action by their presence. A League leadership that has been unable to respond to any of the living issues confronting the young workers, seizes even upon a straw in the struggle for its existence.

The Y.C.L. is as weak organizationally as politically. The N.E.C. of the League claims no more than 2,000 members. We should be far nearer the truth if we accept the figure of 850 as the actual dues-paying mem-

New York District

## June Jamboree & Outing

at

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ALL DAY SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 1931

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Games — Camp Fire — Entertainment

A rollicking good time in the famous Ramapo Hills

TICKET—including fare on bus and dinner that will satisfy all—\$2.00

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There is of course nothing wrong in

# Hunger and War in Europe Czechoslovakia in Crisis

by Alois Neurath (Prague)

The Czechoslovakian Republic finds itself in a peculiar position. Among the so-called post-war states it suffers most under the influence of the petty-state anarchism brought about as a consequence of the "peace" in the Old Austrian empire. The Czech industrial enterprises based themselves upon an inner market of 50,000,000 people but today the C.S.R. embraces a population of only 14,000,000. The basis of the inner market has become far too narrow for the significant industries of the C.S.R. The development of export is extraordinarily hindered thru the dependence of Czechoslovakia upon the foreign policy of France. An ultra-reactionary tariff system, reflecting above all the usurious policies of the Czech agrarians, greatly influences the competitive ability of Czechoslovakian industry upon the world market. The offensive of German monopoly capital, the German-Austrian customs union action, created a panicky atmosphere here. A German-Austrian customs union would have fatal consequences for Czech industrial export. An alliance of German and Austrian industry would not only reduce to the barest minimum the export possibilities of Czech industry to these countries but would also destroy all hope for the expansion of Czech industrial capital towards the East, including the countries of the Little Entente. The spokesmen of Czechoslovakian industrial and agrarian capital shower themselves with the bitterest reproaches for having allowed themselves to get into the position of serious danger of economic isolation.

**Czechoslovakia and European Politics**

Foreign Minister Benes does whatever he can, officially and unofficially, to boost the high value of the French alliance. But the capitalists, the agrarians as well as the industrialists and above all the leaders of Czechoslovakian finance capital, cannot content themselves with parliamentary phrases. They know well enough that there has now been reached a very serious and decisive stage in the struggle between England and France for European hegemony, they appreciate that an "understanding," i.e., a breathing spell in this struggle, can only be achieved at the expense of the petty-state satellites of French and English imperialism. And since French imperialism is at a monetary disadvantage and finds it necessary to bend before the English-Italian-German offensive, so now the supporters of French imperialism, above all the C.S.R., must pay the price.

**The Customs Union Issue**

Whereas all other countries are beginning seriously to consider the idea of customs union, the agrarian leaders of the C.S.R. have come out very sharply against the plan of Foreign Minister Benes to counter the German-Austrian union with an economic union of the Little Entente. The agrarians refuse to give up an inch of their usurious tariff system. Their leader, the agrarian minister, Bradac, threatens with "government interference" in the business of the trusts and in this way hopes to sober up the industrialists, who are storming

bership. Scatter these 850 members over the hundred large cities and we have a little over eight members to a city. Consider that New York has from 200 to 250 members, and the number per city drops to six! But as a matter of fact the membership is not evenly distributed. There are League members probably in some 20 cities, none of which is strong enough to arrange a political demonstration by itself. What could be more simple than choosing five cities with 100 League members as a nucleus and arrange meetings in the five holy localities? No matter how many are present at these meetings, they will be more successful than if separate meetings were held thruout the country. If real accomplishments are not possible, why not juggle with numbers? In our opinion it would be far more profitable to hold even small meetings and demonstrations in 50 or 100 ordinary cities, for there we could at least attempt to reach the masses, a matter how feeble the attempt. We are inclined to believe that we can reach more New York young workers in New York than in Passaic. We are certain that we could reach more Boston young workers in Boston than in Passaic. But the ways of the gods are strange—especially godless gods.

As frantic efforts were made by the League to raise funds for the 20th century crusade, the capitalist government of America spent \$3,000,000 in staging an airplane maneuver over the U. S. The Y.C.L. was too deeply engrossed in prayer for the success of its exodus to carry on any anti-imperialist activity. In former years, when the League was following in the footsteps of Liebknecht and Doriot in its anti-imperialist activity, we were able to arouse the attention of the whole country. But in the year 1931, the pacifist preachers and old women had the field for themselves. Pacifists, regardless of their wishes and desires, can only discredit the movement against imperialist wars. They offer no way out for the fighting youth. Pacifists succeed only in displaying their impotence. The youth fights wars. And the youth must fight against wars. Only by following the ways of Lenin, Liebknecht, Ruthenberg and Dets can any effective struggle against war be conducted. And that cannot be done by running away from the masses.

against the high agrarian tariffs. It is interesting that in the struggle over the question of the customs union extraordinary differences have arisen in the ranks of the Social Democracy. The Czech Social Democrats are unconditionally for the struggle against the German-Austrian customs union, but the German Social Democrats in Czechoslovakia with obvious pains and hesitations, are for the standpoint of the Social Democrats of Germany and Austria, that is, for the customs union. Both belong to the government coalition. The development of the struggle on the customs union is inevitably leading to the break-up of the coalition. At the present time the chaos is complete.

**The Capitalist Offensive**

Unemployment is not on the decline and the prospects are not very hopeful. Since the entire policy of the C.S.R. is modeled upon the requirements of French imperialism, there seems to be no way out of the catastrophic economic situation. At the present time the government is occupied with the intensification of the war preparations of the C.S.R., which, among other things, implies that the government follow the directives of Paris in showing a "firm hand" in the struggle against the customs union plans. On the other hand, the industrial as well as the agrarian exploiters attempt to protect themselves against a further intensification of the economic crisis, against the danger of losses to capital, thru general, well-organized attacks upon the wage-levels of the workers, upon the standards of living of the entire toiling population. This offensive

does not meet with any real resistance. The reformist trade union bureaucracy not only does not want any struggle but it does not even speak of struggle any more. It limits itself to begging, thru negotiations, for bits of concessions from the attacking bourgeoisie. The reformists and the capitalists are having good times these days for their aims are furthered by the policies of the ultra-left petty bourgeois who today stand at the head of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and who bear the responsibility for what is called "Communist policy" here. Thru the ultra-left policy of separate trade union lists they destroy the chances of building up an opposition in the Amsterdam unions, certainly an opposition of any significance or clarity. The entirely isolated Red trade union organizations are absolutely without importance. Upon the class conscious workers they have the smallest conceivable influence; upon the indifferent masses, they have no influence whatever. They give evidence of their existence only by utilizing every opportunity in the various wage-struggles to tear away the smallest section of the working class into isolated, completely hopeless partial actions and thus to assure the defeat of the workers involved, the triumph of the class enemy, the victory of the capitalists. The reformists and the Social Democrats maintain all their positions—they are even gaining new positions here and there. The successes of the Hakenkreuzler (Nazis) are quite extraordinary and these successes are achieved at the expense of the Communist movement.

(Concluded in the next issue)

**The Fruits of Sectarianism**

**SPAIN AND THE COMINTERN**

by R. S.

The republican revolution in Spain has brought to the forefront the problem of the Communist Party. For only a strong Communist Party enjoying the confidence of the masses and with roots in their organizations can supply the force necessary to guide the revolution along the road which will lead to the triumph of the working and farming masses and to the complete realization of their demands. And precisely such a party is lacking today in Spain.

Since its very inception the C.P. of Spain never played much of a role in the Spanish labor movement. The April municipal elections showed clearly enough that its influence is quite small. Illegal under the Rivera dictatorship, misled by incompetent leaders and diverted into anarcho-sindicalist directions, the Party kept on disintegrating within recent years and finally became an altogether insignificant factor.

Now did the Comintern show any particular interest in the Spanish Party within the last three years. Once in a while a deviation or two were found and expulsions came as a matter of course. But in the last few years, which we can all see now were of fateful significance for the Spanish working class, none of the great "political leaders" of the E.C.C.I. thought it necessary to make any analysis of or give any directives for the maturing Spanish revolution. Indeed it was only a short time ago (December, 1930) that Maussily made an audacious declaration to the effect that the December political strikes in Spain were of "far less significance" than the weavers strike in England!

The Spanish trade union movement is split up into two big organizations: the reformist General Labor Union (U.G.T.), which has about 200,000 members, and which maintained a policy of capitulation to and collaboration with the Rivera dictatorship; and the National Federation of Labor (C.N.T.), under the influence of the anarcho-sindicalists, which was dissolved by the dictatorship. The C.N.T. was numerically stronger than the reformist federation. After the fall of Rivera, at a time when the C.N.T., under syndicalist leadership, had again become a very big factor in the labor world, the splitting policies of the C.P. leadership in the trade union movement began to make themselves felt. There was suddenly established under the "protection" of the R.I.L.U., a "reconstruction committee" which placed before itself the task of "rebuilding" the C.N.T.—alho this organization had already been revived and was growing daily. Well, soon the "reconstruction committee" showed its colors. A conference was held in Seville, made up largely of appointees of the C.P. leadership, the committee declared its adherence to the R.I.L.U. and made clear its intention of becoming the basis for a "new trade union center." In the approved style, the new committee began to speak in the name of the membership of the C.N.T., alho it had very little support among them. Later some of the organizations "represented" at the Seville conference declared their disaffiliation from the "reconstruction committee." At any rate the C.P. leadership succeeded in destroying what slim influence the Party had had in the labor movement.

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## Immigration and America

"Look what this country has done for you—and how you turn against it!" is the reproach always on the lips of the professional patriots in addressing foreign-born workers who show any tendency to stand up and defend their class interests. These patrioters talk as if the capitalist rulers of this country, out of the pure goodness of their hearts, had conferred a favor upon the foreign-born workers by letting them come to this country and toil in millions to build it up. No capitalist economist or American Legion preacher ever stops to explain exactly what the century-long flow of immigrants into the United States has meant to this country from the point of view of its industrial development. Let us see.

About 48,000,000 people have immigrated into the United States since 1790. The overwhelming majority of these immigrants (the exact proportion cannot now be determined) were adult, able-bodied workmen, many even skilled workers. Now it must be remembered that an able-bodied, adult workman (18 years of age and over) represents the embodiment of considerable social wealth (value), what it took to raise the child up to 18 years of age and to prepare him as a worker. What does this cost? The well-known statistician, Louis I. Dublin, has estimated the cost of raising a child to 18 years of age as \$10,000. We give his own explanation (Health and Wealth, p. 3):

"Our first task was to calculate what it cost to bring up a child in a typical American community to age eighteen when he may become self-supporting. Our computations were for the great body of wage-earning families of the country whose total family resources are about \$2,500 a year. Under present conditions the cost of rearing a child in such families to the age of self-support, including all the usual items of food, shelter, clothing, education, etc. is \$7,238. Including interest on the capital and making due allowance for the cost of those who do not survive age eighteen, the amount is increased to a little more than \$10,000. This amount does not include one very important item, namely, the money value of the mother's care."

Now, of course, many immigrants among the 48,000,000 were women who did not take direct part in production and some, no doubt, were children. However, it should be remembered that many millions were skilled and trained workmen over 18 years of age, representing a far greater investment of social wealth. If we take, as a mere estimate, that the average "value" of all the immigrants was that of an able-bodied boy of eighteen, we get the astounding result that the immigration since 1790 has brought to this country the staggering value of \$480,000,000,000 as a "present" from the countries of Europe to the American capitalist!

This sum is greater than the entire national wealth of the United States, which, in 1922, was \$321,000,000! Even if, to avoid all objections, we cut Dr. Dublin's estimate down to \$5,000 (to take into account the women and children), we still get \$240,000,000,000—three-quarters of the national wealth of this country.

This free "donation" of hundreds of billions to the American bourgeoisie has been one of the most important factors in making for the absolutely phenomenal rapidity of development of American capitalism.

## CAMP SOLIDARITY NOW OPEN FOR VISITORS

Good Vacation at Law Rates for Workers; Also Week-End Trips

Camp Solidarity, the new workers camp at Ramsey, N. J., is now open to visitors. A very pleasant vacation awaits workers at this camp. Workers who paid in advance for vacations can come out now to spend some time in the camp on their advance payments.

Arrangements have been made for buses to start every Saturday, 1:30 p. m., from 27th Street and Madison Avenue to go directly to camp. The buses will start back for the city on Sunday, at 8 p. m. Every worker is thus given an opportunity to enjoy a week-end of rest and recreation at an exceedingly low cost: \$1.50 for the round trip and \$2.50 for the day's meals and lodging.

Special arrangements can be made for organizations wishing to arrange excursions on Sunday, starting in the morning and returning in the evening. For information apply to 25 East 27th Street (Bozardus 4-3199) or to the Camp itself, telephone: Ramsey 1086.

proletariat at the present time is the proletarian (Socialist) dictatorship or the revolutionary democratic dictatorship of the proletariat and peasantry. The consequences to which such confusion and evasion on fundamental issues is certain to lead can very easily be imagined.

# U.S.'s Most Important Colony What's What in the Philippines

by A. P.

The recent rise in the workers and peasants movement in the Philippines—peasant revolts, strikes, independence movement—makes it necessary for American workers to have a general idea of the economic and social conditions in these islands. For this purpose the following article is published to serve as an introduction to a series of articles that will follow.

—The Editor.

The Philippine Islands, the most important colony of the U. S. A., consist of over seven thousand islands, of which thousands are still unnamed and largely unknown. On an area of about 114,000 square miles, there is a population estimated in 1927, of over 12,000,000, yielding a population density of 106 to the square mile. The population is mostly of Malayan stock, normally of the Christian religion (Roman Catholic), alho there is considerable Mohammedan population (Mindanao and Sulu). The native tongues and dialects are many, but English and Spanish are commonly known languages.

**Agriculture and Resources**

Agriculture predominates in the Philippines. Of 70,000,000 available acres, about 9,000,000 are under cultivation. The annual value of agricultural products is estimated at about \$250,000,000. The chief agricultural products in these islands are rice, hemp, coconut, sugar, corn and tobacco.

The Philippines are rich in mineral resources. Gold, iron, copper, silver are among the most important metallic deposits, while among the non-metallic resources, coal, petroleum, and sulphur are the most important. But these mineral deposits are only just beginning to be de-

veloped.

Rubber is a coming industry in the Philippines. There are between 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 acres of land suitable to rubber cultivation. It is estimated also that there are about 200,000,000 board feet of lumber available.

**Class Divisions in the Philippines**

The great majority of the Filipino people are peasants, small peasants. About 3,000,000 people are engaged in agriculture.

The average land holding is three acres, in most instances heavily mortgaged. There has been a rapid growth of tenancy in the islands. From 1903 to 1918, the number of tenant farmers grew from 658,000 to 1,500,000. In the same period, share-croppers increased from 132,500 to 237,000. In addition there are at least a million wage-earning farm-laborers.

The stranglehold of the big Filipino landlords (caciques) is shown by the fact that over three-quarters of the cultivated land is concentrated in 2,500 estates and plantations, of which about 1,000 are in the hands of native landowners, the rest belonging to foreigners, chiefly American.

The Filipino proletariat is growing fast. Today there must be at least a million and a half workers engaged in industry, transportation and mining.

There are large numbers of Filipinos engaged in small trade and in handicrafts (merchants, professionals) profit. The interest rates in the Philippines range from 100 to 1,500%. To rent and usury must be added peonage. Thru law and custom, peasants who owe in rent or on loans cannot leave their land, under legal penalties. As a result millions actually are in virtual slavery.

The condition of the agricultural laborers is even worse. Their hours are unlimited, their wages average about 35¢ a day, their treatment is horrible. The industrial workers receive an average wage of about 60¢ a day and toil from nine to twelve hours.

The exodus of peasants-to make way for big American corporations is proceeding rapidly. In 1929 over 500 peasants were evicted in the Province of Batangas; 1,000 and 3,000 in Rizal and Laguna respectively.

**Government and Parties**

The Philippine Islands are now being governed under the Jones Law passed in 1916. The Governor-General is appointed by the President of the United States, with the advice and consent of the Senate. In the islands, there is a local legislature, composed of a Senate of 24 members and a House of Representatives of 91 members, practically all Filipinos. There is a Cabinet, all the members of which are Filipinos, except the Minister of Public Instruction. The Governor-General may veto decisions of the Filipino Legislature, which may however, override the Governor-General's veto.

The question then goes to the President of the United States whose veto is final. But the whole of Wall Street over the Philippines is not secured merely thru such formal arrangements; it is secured, above all, thru the instrumentality of the Filipino politicians.

Politics in the Philippines is dominated by the so-called "politicians," or professional politicians. They reflect the class interests of the native bourgeoisie. At present the chief of these native bourgeois parties are the Nacionalista party and the Democrata party (the successor party of the Federal party). The Nacionalista party is in control of the government. Both parties have for a long time included immediate and complete independence in their programs, but within the last few years it became clear that this formula was purely formal and that both of the native bourgeois parties were essentially loyal to American imperialism. Recent declarations of the party leaders have made this clear. (A special article in a later issue of Revolutionary Age will be devoted to further discussion of the political situation in the Philippines and of the independence movement.)

While agriculture is the outstanding economic activity in the Philippines, there is some development of industry, primarily in encano, oil preparation, mining, smelting, railroads, etc. There are over 1,000 industrial establishments in the islands, with about \$120,000,000 invested capital. The annual value of industrial production is nearly \$180,000,000.

In the period 1925-28, about three-quarters of all Filipino exports went to the United States, while sixty percent of the imports come from the United States. In 1928, the figures were: total imports—\$124,000,000; from the U.S.A.—\$77,000,000; total exports—\$150,000,000; to the U. S. A.—\$110,000,000.

**Foreign Imperialism in the Philippines**

Wall Street has a stranglehold over every form of Filipino economic activity but it is not alone in the field. In capital investment in commercial houses, indeed, Great Britain stands first, with the United States a close second, and Germany and Japan following. In capital investments in industry and manufacturing, however, the United States is far in advance of every other imperialist power.

At present the total American investments in the Philippines amount to about \$400,000,000, of which nearly \$100,000,000 consist of outstanding government bonds. There are over 150 American corporations in the islands with a capital investment of over \$300,000,000.

**Unemployment and the Worker**

**A SOCIAL WORKER'S STORY**

From the Report of Anna D. Ward

We are herewith presenting excerpts from the report delivered by Anna D. Ward, General Secretary of the Family Welfare Association of Baltimore, to the recent Liberal Conference on unemployment held at Johns Hopkins University. It is a graphic picture of what unemployment does to the workingclass.

I shall tell you the story of one family, the Beck's (not their real name, of course) just as one of the workers of the Family Welfare Association wrote it:

"Ruefully the kindly neighbor shook her head. 'This family is no good, Miss, you'd better not waste your time or money on them,' 'cept to put the children in a home. You ought to see their rooms—the filthiest I ever saw—and those kids—they're wild, like animals, and always scared to death. And Mrs. Beck, I always did think she was crazy, letting things go like that, and this proves it—trying to kill herself and him in jail. Well, poor thing, I guess her troubles will soon be over. You'll see to the kids, there's nobody else to do a thing'."

The neighbor had come into one of the Family Welfare Association offices to ask help for a family that seemed truly gone to pieces. She had told a story of increasing degeneration of the family, which culminated the night before when Mrs. Beck had taken poison in an attempt to kill herself and was in a hospital where she was not expected to live. Mr. Beck was in jail serving a sentence for hogstealing, and the four children were left alone in the miserable rooms—with no food, no heat and no one to care for them.

"When a visit to the home showed that the accounts of the neighbor as to conditions were all true; there seemed little hope for reconstructing a normal home out of this material. The children were frightened, pathetically neglected, undernourished and stupid-looking. Only Alice, the oldest girl, would answer questions with any kind of intelligence. 'No,' she said 'we ain't got no money, and we've only had what the neighbors gave us to eat, and our rent's way back—it was after the landlord was here last night that Mom took that stuff!'

"From an aunt and from Mr. Beck, who was the next day seen in jail, the story of the long period of the family's trouble was learned, and the truth of it was verified from many sources.

"Three years ago, the Beck's presented quite a different picture. Mr. Beck, a semi-skilled workman, held a job in a company that had employed him for fourteen years. While his wages were never high, his family was comfortable and he was buying a nice little house in the suburbs. To Mrs. Beck, who had been raised in an institution, this was the first

Mussolini vs. Toscanini

Music may have charms to soothe the savage beast but when Dr. Karl Muck refused to set the Philharmonic to playing the musically stupid Star Spangled Banner, he was sent packing and now when Toscanini refused to direct the Fascist hymn, other and better music failed to soothe the savage Fascists. A beating for Toscanini, arrest for those who dare to cheer him at a concert—such is the balance sheet of the "social-fascistism" of music.

With the development of the rubber, lumber and mining resources the economic hold of Wall Street will be much increased.

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**The Labor Movement**

With the growth of the proletariat, trade unions have sprung up all over the Philippines where any industry exists. In 1927 most of them were affiliated with the Congress Obrera Filipinas (Philippine Labor Congress), alho there were considerable independent unions and independent federations. In 1929, a split took place in the C.O.P., a section of the organization broke away and formed the Proletarian Labor Congress, affiliated to the R.I.L.U.

The Philippine National Confederation of Peasants was established as the organization of the small peasants, also including farm laborers. Towards the end of 1928, this also was split and a new "Red" peasants league formed.

Alho radical sentiment of a rather vague sort was always extensive among the Filipino peasants and workers, it was only in November 1930 that a Communist Party was organized. Upon its illegal and a systematic campaign of suppression was initiated by the Filipino government authorities in conjunction with the American forces.

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## THE CONGRESS OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

THE Second ("Socialist and Labor") International is soon to hold its world congress. Millions of workers in the capitalist countries still follow the Social-democratic parties affiliated to this International. This world body, despite its loss of millions of workers who have advanced sufficiently to become Communists, is, therefore, still a body whose policies and deliberations vitally affect the interests of the international working class.

The workers and poor farmers, the toiling masses, cannot expect the slightest inspiration or help from this Second International in their struggle against imperialist oppression. It was the policies and leadership of this organization which betrayed the working class in the last war, and were the battering ram of the capitalist class in saving capitalism from the wrath and might of the international revolutionary proletariat right after the war. Today, with the entire capitalist system in its deepest economic crisis, it is again the policies and leadership of the Social-democratic parties which are coming to the rescue of the decaying system of exploitation.

Judging by the policies and action of the two main pillars of the Second International, the British and German Social-democratic parties, the coming world congress of this body will not only not help but will go out of its way to devise ways and means to hinder and paralyze the working class in its struggle against the exploiters. The British "Socialist" MacDonald has the lock and key to the jails imprisoning scores of thousands of Hindu workers and peasants fighting for national freedom. MacDonald, the "Socialist" Prime Minister, is hurt because the Pope has given a full 100% endorsement to the Second International. In Germany it is the Socialist party on which is founded the "Hunger Regime" of Bruening, the Catholic leader of the drive to cut wages, worsen conditions, take away all social and political rights from the workers, and restore German capitalism.

It is very instructive that on the eve of the world congress of this "Socialist and Labor" International (which is really anti-Labor and anti-Socialist) and in the midst of the sharpening imperialist war danger, we find the "Socialist" Premier of Prussia, Otto Braun, dedicating a memorial to the Kaiser's armies in the last war, saying: "The Prussian Republic, so often unjustly accused of neglecting Prussian tradition, chose the most Prussian of all Prussian spots and the purest example of old Prussian architecture for the monument. . . . Let this memorial to those who gave themselves unselfishly to the nation and Fatherland become a holy temple. . . . May the hearts of future generations remember a thousand years hence those 2,000,000 sons of Germany who gave themselves in defense of the Fatherland in a way the world has never known before."

It is this "Socialist" party which at its Leipzig Congress just closed, decided to continue the Bruening government, and it is this same Second International, thru its American section and its "Socialist" Mayor, Daniel Hoan of Milwaukee, which led the crew of United States Mayors at the tomb of the "unknown soldier" in Paris and at the celebration in Strasbourg.

The workers who still honestly follow the Social-democratic parties must be won away from them. Today, there is only one revolutionary working class International. This is the Communist International, the Comintern. It is largely because of the present crisis, due to the false tactical policies of its Executive Committee, that the Social-democratic, the Second International, has been able to hold its own and even increase its influence in a number of countries. The Second International must be destroyed. It can never be destroyed by refusing to differentiate between the millions of honest workers and the corrupt, the treacherous leaders they follow. The Second International will continue as an effective obstacle to working class victory, so long as the Communist International pursues its present policies that "there can be no . . . block with the Social-democratic WORKERS against fascism . . ."

On the occasion of this world congress of the anti-labor and anti-Socialist International it is most appropriate for the workers of the world to take steps which will lead the international proletariat—at an accelerated pace—to follow the example of the victorious Russian proletariat, to be guided by the inspiration and goal of the Fatherland of the international working class, the mighty Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

## UNITY OR DISRUPTION, STRUGGLE OR PASSIVITY?

THE first convention of the International Workers Order, just concluded, deserves the closest attention of all revolutionary workers. It was at this convention that a most astonishing theoretical system was elaborated in order to justify the splitting tactics of the Communist Party officialdom in the field of fraternal organizations and the consequent establishment of a self-contained and sectarian Red fraternal society.

What is the "theory" by which the creation of a Red fraternal order is justified? Speaking at the I. W. O. convention, Louis Hyman laid down its fundamental features:

1. Workers sometimes have to belong to conservative unions because otherwise they cannot obtain jobs.

2. But fraternal societies are quite something else again. Here it is not a "bread-and-butter" question and therefore revolutionary workers do not have to belong to labor fraternal societies under reactionary leadership. Here, on the contrary, it amounts to a betrayal of revolutionary principles to belong to such organizations. Left wing workers should leave the conservative labor fraternal societies and form their own Red, revolutionary fraternal order.

Before we examine these arguments it is interesting to note that precisely in the same arguments precisely in the same direction, almost the same words, are repeated by Herman Morgenstern writing in the Jewish capitalist paper, THE DAY. Declares Morgenstern:

"The parallel (between unions and fraternal societies) is, however, not consistent and the logic limps. Unions deal with bread and butter, rent and clothes. . . . But fraternal societies are quite different. True it's also a matter of getting some advantage out of it, but the main thing is sociability, common ideals, cultural activities."

What is fundamentally wrong in these ideas?

1. Both Hyman's and Morgenstern's views as to why workers must belong to unions are not revolutionary views, they are not even the views of the ordinary militant worker. They are the views of the backward worker, of the "scissor-bill" who joins a union not because he WANTS to but because he is COMPELLED to thru the danger of losing his job. Communists regard unions first, as elementary class rallying points of proletarian struggle, and secondly, as transmission belts to the masses, as spheres where revolutionary influence may be spread among the masses. From both of these viewpoints, the maintenance of the unity of the trade union organizations becomes a primary task of the Communists.

2. The estimation of both Hyman and Morgenstern as to the nature of labor fraternal societies is likewise that of a backward worker. Certainly only a backward worker regards it as the most important mission of a fraternal society to provide sociability and cultural life for the membership. That, of course, is one of points on which workers are recruited but, for Communists and left wingers, surely the role of labor fraternal societies in the class struggle is as transmission belts to masses, as fields where the more backward ranks of the workers can be tied up with the revolutionary vanguard, where the influence of the reformists can be broken and the influence of the Communists increased and spread. The splitting of the mass fraternal societies under conservative leadership and the segregation of the left wingers into their own Red fraternal society directly defeat these fundamental purposes.

A basic difference of outlook is implied here. The Leninist viewpoint regards the fraternal societies as fields of mass work, the sectarian and ultra-left viewpoint regards them as places where workers can come to pay their religious devotions to their political ideals in an atmosphere of "peace and quiet." Leninism SEEKS spheres of struggle against the reformists—the sectarians FLEE from the struggle.

And the bourgeois "labor" journalist, Morgenstern, who also, from his own viewpoint, would like to have "peace and quiet" in the Jewish labor movement, chimes in in agreement with the sectarians. . . . Let the militant workers choose: Unity or splits! Struggle or passivity!

## Marxism and Human Culture

# Communism and Science

by Will Herberg

On April 6 there opened, in Moscow, the first All-Union Conference on Planning Scientific Research. More than a thousand delegates were present, representing universities, scientific institutions, industrial and agricultural organizations and technical and research societies from all over the Soviet Union.

At this conference Nikolai Bukharin, the world-famous Marxist theoretician and member of the All-Union Academy of Science delivered a powerful report on the relations between science and social life from the point of view of the world-historical tasks facing the Soviet Union.

"Always and everywhere," he declared, "science in the past has developed on the basis of the practical needs of the given epoch. In a class society science is concentrated in the hands of the ruling class and reflects its philosophy. The tremendous conflict of Socialist construction which confronts us demands a complete break with the feudal bourgeoisie and a complete overthrowing of the whole system of scientific research institutions to be able to solve practical and urgent problems. This requires planning through all our scientific research work."

This declaration of Bukharin, which expresses the whole spirit of the conference, aroused a storm of virtuous indignation in the bourgeois press all over the world, and especially on the part of the "crusading" liberals, against the "desecration" of the "holy altar of the search for truth" by making it serve the lowly interests of mere humanity! What the value of such pious sermons is coming from those who contentedly applaud the systematic utilization of all human knowledge for the ruthless exploitation of the mass of mankind and for the horrible destruction of the race, we leave the reader to judge. The question, however, of the relations between science and human life is well worth considering, if only because in bourgeois society these relations are so thoroughly distorted and so fundamentally perverted.

### Science and Human Practice

That what we call science arises out of human practice, both in its content and in its form of development, is now so obvious a fact that it no longer requires any elaborate proof. (1) Science is both a specialized phase of the life-process of mankind and a weapon in it. The history of all science confirms this—from mathematics to psychology.

Moreover, at every stage of its development, science maintains its contact with practice (life), returning like the fabled giant to the earth from which it sprang for fresh strength and vigor. Mathematics arose out of land measurement; it is true, but having passed beyond this stage, it did not thereby sever the naval cord that bound it to life. Again and again this profound inner connection has manifested itself in the most diverse forms of human activity and involving the most abstract branches of mathematical science. It is, indeed, this permanent and ever-renewing bond with the process of life that has given science its abounding fertility; deprived of it, science loses all vitality and significance and degenerates into withered academicism.

### Science and Class Society

The stratification of society into classes has the most profound consequences for science, as it has for human culture in general. Class society puts its indelible stamp upon it; it is transformed into class science. The basic social-economic premises of class society produce a fundamental division between "those who do" (i.e., the toilers) and "those who think" (i.e., the holders of the economic process, the "directors"). Even when the actual direction of the economic process is delegated to a very specialized section of the possessing classes (engineers, for example) this basic division remains, for this specialized section exercises its functions merely as the delegate of the possessing classes. The possessing classes carry out their "thinking" functions vicariously, one might say.

This profound functional division in class society reflects itself in the cultural bifurcation: theory versus practice! The officially recognized chasm between theory (science) and practice (life) is an organic feature of all class society. In every class society, furthermore, as a consequence of the natural development of its inner laws, intellectual production becomes the delegated task of a special section of the possessing classes (the priesthood in Egypt, the "scholars" in Ancient China, the scholastics in the Middle Ages, the scientists of today). The essential character of this intellectual class, which is determined by the prevailing economic relations, in its turn stamps an indelible seal upon the character of the "thought" itself and upon its relation to life. The contrast between the priestly and esoteric character of ancient Egyptian knowledge and the mass distribution of "knowledge" today is a direct reflection of the specific character of the intellectual class in each epoch and, in last analysis, of the economic system upon which the whole social structure rests.

### The Creeping Paralysis of Parasitism

The rise of capitalism brought with it a period of almost boundless expansion of the limits of human knowledge, of almost miraculously rapid development of science in all its fields. The intimate relation between science and life (between the advance of human knowledge and the Industrial Revolution) in the heroic period of the bourgeois economy is a theme that even the most superficial historian is forced to treat.

As the capitalist system continues its development in pursuance to its immanent laws, as capitalism reaches its parasitic

stage, as the possessing classes completely lose their own direct and immediate connection with production, a deep double process takes place, reflecting the antagonistic character of the capitalist economy itself:

1. Science, physical and social, is completely and consciously mobilized for the narrow class ends of the parasitic bourgeoisie, which stand out as flagrant opponents to the interests of humanity. The external apparatus of science (laboratories, "researches," libraries, etc.) is greatly extended, but for what purpose? To intensify and rationalize the exploitation of the masses of the toilers, to discover new forms of the production of profit, to improve and to multiply the machinery of wholesale destruction and mass murder known as the armaments of war. These are the three consuming objectives of science under capitalism. The corruption of science for these objectives, so contrary to its purpose—or else, it destroys the inner life of science and transforms it into narrow-minded and blind specialization or into consciousness and cynical production to the destructive interests of the worst enemies of humanity.

2. At the same time, as a reflection of the polar antagonism of theory and practice, there develops a preposterous affectation of academicism, a pretentious divorce of thought from life, which grows to monstrous proportions as the decadent parasitism of the ruling classes eats into the vitals of society. "Learning" apparently rises above and beyond life, pretends to exist within and for itself. This phenomenon is at once the reflection of the parasitism creeping upon society and its ideal justification. (2)

Thus concludes the cycle of bourgeois science. . . .

### Communism: And Science

Already within bourgeois society a new vital force appears upon the field of human thought which, socially rooted in the class-unity of the bourgeoisie, the revolutionary proletariat, breaks radically with the ideological premises of bourgeois culture. This new spiritual force is Marxism and is embodied in the historical movement of Communism.

The proletarian dictatorship is the self-conscious lever for the transformation of the economic, social and cultural institutions of capitalism into those of Socialism (later Communism). The proletarian dictatorship, therefore, initiates a thorough reorientation in the relations of science and life. In the first place, Communism places before itself the grand objective of the complete eradication of classes and therefore of the age-old chasm between mental and manual labor. It aims to re-write theory and practice and to reconcile science and life (labor). With this reconciliation science loses its esoteric character and assumes a social-practical aspect. The separate existence of the category of "intellectual producers" vanishes: creative thought is socialized. And also this consummation represents the final conclusion of a long process, reflecting the dialectic growth of society into Communism, it nevertheless stands as the ever-present objective of the Communist movement.

The proletarian dictatorship is not simply Soviet Russia. Review, May 1931.

## Thru A Sailor's Eyes MISERY IN NORTH AFRICA

by R. A. MacNamee

In view-port of Spanish and French North Africa.

Everywhere there were beautiful buildings, smooth, paved streets, the cool tinkling of fountains beneath graceful palm trees, bright lights, good food, and wine and liquor—for the boss class.

Dungy, dilapidated hovels, narrow, poorly paved streets, dirt, hunger and want—for the workers.

Good wages, comfortable homes, pleasures, and recreation for the exploiters.

Eight to ten francs (32c to 40c) a day for the workers when they could find work.

At the International Bank in Tangier a French gentleman proudly explained that "Morocco is prosperous. Morocco is feeling the world economic slump probably less than any other section of the world."

In the same town, an Arab, found sleeping upon the bare cement wharf said in broken English: "Thousands of natives are too poor to own, or to rent a house and to them, the most ground or a slightly harder but drier stone must be both bed and blanket."

In Tunis—beautifully paved, palm shaded streets, wonderful buildings, modern plate-glass windowed stores, every convenience or luxury of civilization—thru the comparatively small French section of the city; then—a great wall, and back of that Arab town. No palm tree there. Nothing of the beautiful or the luxurious there.

Narrow, unsanitary streets, squatting merchants who call their wares from early morning until late at night, workers, children, beggars, the sick and the well, all jammed up together in misery.

On the "street of the prostitutes" (scarcely six feet wide). It was night. On both sides of the narrow street were doors, their doors standing wide open. Rooms lighted up by the yellow flame of lamps or candles inside the room. In each doorway was a girl soliciting her trade.



MAKING BOLSHEVIKS, by Samuel N. Harper. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1931.

This book just misses scoring a bull's eye! The author is as well-informed about the Soviet Union as it is possible for an American to be. He is deeply interested in the profound historical transformation taking place today in the U.S.S.R. He approaches the problems involved with considerable sympathy and insight. He writes with power and clarity. Yet the book somehow misses fire. You feel its shortcomings very acutely even if sometimes you cannot put your finger on it at the moment.

The volume consists of "six lectures" given under the auspices of the University College, of the University of Chicago, in the autumn of 1930 after a visit to Soviet Russia during the spring and summer. To these lectures are appended an introduction and a conclusion.

Each lecture is devoted to an analysis and description of one of the outstanding types of Soviet cadres: the Communist Party worker, the Young Communist, the Shock Brigade Worker, the Collectivist Peasant, the Soviet Cultural-Worker, and the Redarmyist. The analysis is fairly acute and the description is accurate, if sketchy. A good idea of current social and economic developments in the U.S.S.R. may be obtained from Professor Harper's interesting pen-pictures.

What, then, is the basic shortcoming of these lectures? It is Professor Harper's complete failure to see below the surface of the phenomena he is analyzing or describing, his concentration on the obvious and the superficial. The blame for this fault cannot be attached to Professor Harper personally; it is an inevitable consequence of the writer's thorough bourgeois outlook, which makes it impossible for him, with the best will in the world, to penetrate the surface and bring out the essential significance of the phenomenon under examination. He writes of the Soviet Union as a being from another planet, which in a very real sense he is.

—X.Y.Z.

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, by Jerome Davis. The Century Social Science Series. The Century Co., New York, 1930.

This book is a valuable collection of documents and material illustrating the history and ideological position of the so-called "contemporary social movements," i.e., Socialism, Communism, Fascism, "Laborism," etc., etc. It is really the first book of its kind and should be very useful to students of the modern world.

Jerome Davis's editorial work is competent within the limits of competence of a bourgeois sociologist, for whom the real laws of motion of society are a book sealed with seven seals.

X.Y.Z.

There is no other work for French girls here. We had to eat. Get back? How can we go back? We signed a contract to pay our own return fare but that amount of money it is not possible to get. Contract? We call it the suicide contract because, after a year or so of this girl is done, she's of no more value here. She can't go back so.

"We're all the daughters of working people. Ordinary people like you and your family—working people. Why don't they do something? Why don't they give us a chance to live? Why don't they—Oh! Go away! Go away!"

Tears running down her cheeks she slammed the door in my face, and I went back—back thru the palm lined streets, past the well dressed, prosperous happy people who thronged about cafes and theatres back to my ship where I gave long consideration to the noble, uplifting scheme of capitalist government that could or would permit the things I had learned of in the "street of the prostitutes."

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Hoover At Valley Forge

This is how Hoover's Decoration Day speech at Valley Forge would look if we inserted the thoughts and deeds that stand behind the empty words.

"Our test is to meet this challenge (capitalism decays, Communism is rising) . . . It is the same test of steadfastness of will (no government relief), of clarity of thought (nothing can be done by legislation), of resolution of character (the farm relief bills—they shall not pass), of fixity of purpose (big business shall always rule), of loyalty to ideals (millions for tariff, not one cent for the unemployed) and of unshaken conviction that they will prevail (Hoover in 1932).

"Here Washington and his little band of hungry and almost naked patriots kept alive the spark of liberty in the lowest hours of the revolution. (Here I and my little band of pork-barrel-judging exploiters seek to stamp out the spark of revolution in the blackest hours of capitalist reaction.) They conserved their strength (we conserve our dividends), they husbanded their resources (we husband other people's), they seized the opportunity (we seize everything) which led on to victory (a record-breaking campaign fund for 1932).

"The American people are going thru another Valley Forge at this time (great revolutionists are beginning to challenge the capitalist system). You have each one of your special cause of anxiety So, too, have I. (Can I be re-elected in 1932?)

"For the energies of private initiative (to put out the scorching fires of starvation and discontent, responsible of the water of casual charity), and a high degree of individual freedom (to exploit and pillage without let or hindrance) of our American (capitalist) system, we are offered an alluring substitute in the specious claim that everybody collectively owns each of us individually a living (a place of the grand old system where everybody collectively owns a few of us individually more than we know what to do with).

"We are still fighting this war of independence (Hamilton Fish and I will succeed where Lord North and King George failed). . . . We, too, are writing a new chapter in American history. (Title: The Collapse of Capitalism). Valley Forge is our American synonym for the trial of human character thru privation and suffering (we must not let it move us, we must be firm to the end). If those few thousand men endured that long winter of privation and suffering (maybe we can get the millions to endure the same) what right have we to be of little faith? (Anyhow, we shall have had a good time while it lasted).

God grant that we may prove worthy of George Washington and his men of Valley Forge. (And at least one more decade of capitalism and four more years for Hoover in 1932).

It's A Dog's Life

Igloo, the fox terrier of Admiral Byrd, after living in a beautiful home with an excellent diet, died under care of a physician and a trained nurse and was buried in a silver-lined coffin under a bouquet of roses. A dog belonging to a rich master gets better treatment than a worker belonging to a rich boss.

Hot Dog!

We read about a man who named his dog "Coolidge" because when attacked it did not choose to run. We call ours "Hoover" because he's such a great help to the unemployed.

The Hoover Plan

Dr. J. M. Matthews of the Babson Institute predicts that things will be back to the 1918 level by 1943. In the meanwhile for the unemployed under the Hoover plan it's "Live horse till the grass grows."

'S A Shame!

Mighty mean of Litvinov! Every time capitalist Europe is beginning to develop unity on something like an anti-Soviet boycott, the Russians go and throw a monkey wrench in the machinery. Looks as if the Russians don't want such unity!

"The warships in the river are a handsome sight. But wouldn't you think the government could find a better place to park them than right in front of International House." —New York Times.

The Battle of the Pacifists

James W. Gerard, Pacifist, to John Haynes Holmes, Pacifist, at a pacifist meeting:

"I'm sorry you people have not confidence enough in this country to believe it can have an armed force yet not use it aggressively."

So are we all sorry. And, by the newspaper accounts, the conference must have been a great success.

A Noble Steed

Premier Mussolini was thrown last week off the back of the horse he was riding. What the Italian people need is more horse-sense.

He'd Better Hurry

By the time King Carol makes up his mind whether Queen Helen or Magda Lupescu is to be the royal bedfellow, Roumania will be a republic.

Fordizing Criminal Syndicalism

In preparation for the revival of the Michigan cases, the state has passed a law denying individual trials to those indicted under the criminal syndicalism act. Mass trials, mass jailings and speed-up convictions are in line with other forms of mass production in the home state of the auto industry.

An Inevitable Question: Why doesn't the Freiheit publish the latest R.I.L.U. resolution?

Is the Freiheit against the R.I.L.U.? or is the R.I.L.U. against the Freiheit?

—B. D. W.