

Socialist Call

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**MEANING
OF THE
AUTO
STRIKE**

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'SIT-DOWN MADE LEGAL BY WORKERS'—THOMAS

Jobless Hit Back at FDR Relief Cuts

By BRENDAN SEXTON

The campaign to defeat the Roosevelt administration in its efforts to liquidate WPA is on. Answering blow with blow, the Workers Alliance has initiated a series of sit-in and sit-down actions, picket lines and job strikes which are sweeping the country. The undiminished militancy which the project workers are displaying—even after being involved in a series of nation-wide action which kept them on the go all last month—indicates the administration is in for a "hot time" during the coming weeks.

The fuse was touched off last week by a nine-day strike which closed down all of the major projects in Berks County, Pennsylvania, and involved more than 2,000 workers in a sit-in at the offices of the administration in that area.

Terror Against Jobless

Despite the extreme terror to which these workers were subjected and in face of the local Democratic machine, they were successful in winning union recognition, and in drastically limiting the authority of the project foremen and supervisors.

Administrative order No. 44, under which workers are docked for time lost, had worked out with particular hardship in this territory because the foremen had been vested with autocratic powers which enabled them to knock workers off any time they saw fit and keep them off the projects for as long as they pleased. The fact that these men were having their pay cut almost in half by these actions was the driving reason for the strike call.

The men whose wages were being beaten down by this practice felt themselves, in some cases, forced to permit other members of their families to take jobs at the struck Berkshire Hosiery Mills, in order to augment their greatly reduced incomes.

Significantly enough, the foremen and supervisors in this strike-ridden area were given powers which they have in almost no other section of the country. The limitation of those powers

(Continued on Page Seven)

They Licked GM



A hallelujah chorus of auto strikers in celebration of their union victory.

Youth to Converge on Capital for a New Act

Assembling in the nation's capital, representatives of young workers, students and unemployed youth, will present their demands for the passage of the American Youth Act.

Starting on Friday, February 19th, when registration and committee meetings will be held, the American Youth Congress, sponsors of the demonstration, expect that at least two thousand young men and women will converge on Washington, coming by auto, train, bus, and hitch-hiking.

On Saturday, the schedule for the delegates includes a march down Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House, demonstrating to the legislators the strength of the support for the AYA, and a speech by President Roosevelt from the White House. Although the presidential reception indicates the recognition by the administration of the organized strength behind the AYA and the tremendous problem faced by unemployed and needy youth, Roosevelt is not ex-

pected to put through his Congress any more than a re-enactment of the provisions of the present NYA.

Demand Youth Aid

Open hearings will be held featuring the testimony of youth representatives demanding passage of the American Youth Act. The bill, supported by many large unions, student organizations, and settlement house and church youth groups, is being introduced into this session of Congress. Chief provisions of the act that distinguish it from the National Youth Administration, Roosevelt instituted relief agency, are its provision of union standards, its inclusion of all needy youth in the program of aid, and its provision for democratic control and

(Continued on Page Twelve)

FLASH!

Civil liberty is on the guillotine in Anderson, Indiana. Workers of America must voice their protest!

As we go to press, a telephone message from Frank Trager, National Labor Secretary of the Socialist Party, informs us of a vicious assault upon workers' rights in the Hoosier State.

City officials, the governor and the police are trying to force Victor Reuther, militant rank-and-file auto leader, out of the state.

Seventeen union men are being held incommunicado. Four men wounded.

Union men are expecting a new attack from General Motors men.

The union has started habeas corpus proceedings.

Anderson Law Hides GM Terror

By B. J. WIDICK

ANDERSON, Ind. — After General Motors thugs decoyed a carload of union men into a trap and a ruthless would-be killer mowed down nine of them in a blast of gunfire, martial law was declared and troops marched into town to complete the job of union-busting which the vigilantes had failed to do.

This is the meaning of what happened here and it explains the flagrant violation of every civil liberty by the 1,000 guardsmen under the direction of Governor Townsend.

Killers Untouched

The wounded men and eight others who escaped the gunfire are being held incommunicado while the killer walks the streets safely and brags, "If I had a machine gun I'd kill all those union men." Guardsmen even cut off the passage of hot food to the prisoners.

Soldiers broke up a press conference held in union headquarters over our protest that this constituted suppression of truth and was openly aiding the reactionary daily newspaper here.

(Continued on Page Six)

CAMP THREE ARROWS
Have you heard of it?

Hails Auto Workers on GM Victory

By HY FISH

FLINT, Mich. — The Flint workers sat down for General Motors but they stood up for Norman Thomas.

Giving him a rising ovation, the Flint auto workers cheered Thomas lustily throughout his speech.

"Our battle, your battle," he said, "is not only against General Motors; it is against the whole system of private ownership. One day the workers will not sit in a plant to force a corporation to negotiate for higher wages. One day we will sit in plants and run them for ourselves."

Busy Day In Flint

Thomas had a busy day in Flint, on Lincoln's Birthday, February 12. Before addressing thousands of auto workers in the Pengelly Building, he spoke at a luncheon of the Optimist Club at the Hotel Dresden, where he attacked the accepted concept of property rights.

"Who has more rights in the General Motors Plants—workers who have devoted their time, skill and lives or those who invested a few hundred dollars?" he asked the businessmen.

"All except union lawyers say that sit-in strikes are illegal. Well,

(Continued on Page Twelve)

**Every Reader Must Respond Now
The CALL Must Raise \$10,000**

Anglo-French Plan For Neutrality in Spain Is Renewed

By GUS TYLER

With the fall of Malaga, Madrid cut off from supplies, the Iberian Peninsula filled with tens of thousands of German and Italian troops, Portugal endlessly pouring new supplies and men into the armies of Franco, France and Great Britain renew plans for non-intervention.

February 20 is proposed as the date for halting the flow of volunteers into Spain.

Although one month ago, Germany and Italy refused, today it seems likely that they will accept. During the last weeks, the Fascist powers have been generously pouring their men into the Spanish battlefields. Now—feeling good and ready—they are ready to be "gentlemen" and keep "hands off Spain."

How Portugal will be controlled still is not known!

France

The enforcement clause, which goes into operation March 6, at present provides for the patrolling of Spanish waters. Without the cooperation of Portugal, which can send aid by land, even this nearly post mortem rescue is farcical.

According to informed sources, the latest non-intervention move is based upon an understanding on the part of England and France to permit the victory of France. P. J. Philip reports in the New York Times:

"French leaders admitted tonight that the effort to obtain or impose a non-intervention policy on Spain had failed and that it was about to be abandoned. Foreign Minister Yvon Delbos made today a full report of the situation to the Cabinet, and although it is officially asserted France will continue to try to secure the establishment of effective control, it is privately admitted the whole scheme is no longer practicable."

No Specific Action

Premier Leon Blum denied that France had faith in "non-intervention." He answered the charge that France was ready to give up Spain to Franco with a speech which, in comparison with his other addresses, was quite radical. He proposed no specific action, however!

In an attempt to break through the wall of "democratic" boycott which surrounds Spain, the UGT, Spanish Trade Union Center, has issued a "call to a conference to be held in London, inviting all working class organizations and anti-Fascist parties of the world."

The vaguely worded call to "workers," and to "democratic forces," and to "anti-Fascist parties," and to "peace loving people," demands action, and not innocuous resolutions." No date is yet set!

No Overthrow

The desperate plight of the Spanish Loyalists, as well as their hope that they can still win the support of the "democratic" bourgeois "anti-Fascist" parties, has caused the Spanish government spokesman to take steps and place themselves on record in opposition to a fight for the overthrow of capitalism in Spain and in favor of the establishment of democratic capitalist system.

This tendency is giving rise to sharp friction in the workers' ranks.

Last week, the CALL announced a reported outlawing of the Party of Marxist Unity in Spain and of attacks upon Anarchist leaders by the UGT. Although both these reports are substantiated by the Anarchist press and by letters received from Anita Brenner, authority on Spanish events, the capitalist press has maintained a

silence as sudden as its startling report.

Official Reports

The background of the argument is contained in official reports issued by the Generalidad de Catalunya. The official news agency of the Catalan Government carried a report in its international releases, one month ago, on a resolution of the CNT, Anarchist trade union center, in which the CNT appeals to the UGT, trade union center controlled largely by Communists in Catalonia, to cease forceful disarmament and physical attacks upon Anarchists. The statement appeals for unity!

The Government forces insist, however, that a unified army must take the place of the present private armies of the various working class parties. Premier Caballero demanded, threateningly, this week:

"Discipline is the most vital factor. The government does not want to have to enforce discipline, but, if necessary, it will for the common welfare.

"More important than any party ideology is the necessity to win the war and save Spain."

Both the POUM and the Anarchists, while ready to cooperate in a joint military campaign, refuse to surrender their separate commands. They fear that the government will merely build up a military backbone for a new capitalist regime.

Old or New Order

Although up to the present, the governments of Valencia and Catalonia spoke of conducting a war for a "new social order" and for "the social revolution" and for "the end of capitalism," more recent declarations, especially those to the international press, bear out the claim of the more revolutionary forces that the governments are making it their objective to defeat Franco in order to reestablish Spanish capitalism on a democratic basis.

The Madrid Defense junta sent a delegation to Caballero this week demanding as a specific point "Cessation in all sectors of the system of dual command and delivery to the junta of all arms held by workers' organizations."

Should this be carried through, it would mark the end of the workers' militias, which in the days of July and August were the backbone of the defense and, in Catalonia, of a workers' state.

The resistance of the "left" ele-

Spanish Amazon



A charming, but effective, soldier. Fighting in the ranks of the anti-Fascists in the Spanish Civil War. Her name is Antonia Escudero, cited for bravery in the battle of Montana Barracks.

Debs Brigade Support Gains in Country

Support for the Debs Column of Americans to join the International Brigade fighting Fascism in Spain continues to pour into the offices of the Friends of the Debs Column, throughout the country, as newspapers report Americans landing in Europe to fight in the ranks of the Spanish workers.

From Chicago, it is reported, comes aid from the Connolly Club. This organization of Irish Revolutionaries is running a Saint Patrick's Day affair to raise money for the Debs Column.

In the same city, Angelica Balabanoff, world famous woman revolutionist, will address huge audiences in the Spanish and Mexican quarters, to rally support.

On March 6, a send-off affair for the first Chicago sector of the Debs Column will be held at the Cafe Idrott, 3206 N. Wilton.

A meeting in the South Side, Catholic section of Chicago, netted several hundred dollars, after an address by Norman Thomas.

The liberty loving spirit of old New England lives again in the activities of the Lynn Local and other locals of the Socialist Party who are campaigning for the Debs Column. A meeting of the Lynn local netted \$125.00. They promise more.

From the mining regions of Gillespie, Illinois, William M. Fulton,

ments to the disbandment of the separate armies and their refusal to go to the front with what they call deliberately inadequate equipment have brought sharp friction.

Secretary of the Local Socialist Party and also of Local No. 1 of the Progressive Miners of America, sends his contribution. He reports that his union has sent \$1,400 to fight Fascism in Spain.

300 Philly Groups Back Brigade

By MICKEY HARRIS

PHILADELPHIA.—Motivated by a sincere desire for unity of all forces fighting on the side of the Spanish working class, the Provisional Committee for the Defense of Spanish Democracy unanimously voted at its last meeting to endorse the Debs Column.

Organizations represented on the Provisional Committee, include among its 300 affiliated organizations the Communist Party, International Workers Order, Friends of the Soviet Union, American League Against War and Fascism, and a group of Spanish organizations known as the Spanish People's Front Against Fascism.

The action was taken in response to a request of the Philadelphia Socialist Party, one of the participating organizations, that the Provisional Committee endorse the Debs Column and earmark part of its funds for the purposes of the Friends of the Debs Column.

All speakers on the motion, who represented the above mentioned organizations, expressed unqualified support and approval of the initiative of the Socialist Party in first proposing and supporting the Debs Column.

This is the first time that the Communist Party or any of its affiliated organizations have endorsed the Debs Column. During the discussion following the Socialist Party's proposal representatives of the Communist Party, the International Workers Order, and the American League Against War and Fascism had nothing but praise for the Debs Column. Not one word was said against the project.

The attitude of the affiliated groups was well expressed by a member of the City Committee of the Communist Party, its highest ranking body, who stated that although he felt that finances

Nine Unions Meet for CIO Drive in East

A blunt threat to break any and every sit-down strike was made by Governor Hoffman of New Jersey this week. This attempt to bully the workers by brandishing the military and police force of the state was the governor's reply to the declaration of the Committee for Industrial Organization that it would organize the workers of New Jersey.

"Labor has no more right to take a factory than a band of gangsters has to take possession of a bank," said this governor who describe himself as one with "sympathy for labor, organized or unorganized."

Leo Krzycki, field organizer for the CIO, replied: "Our machinery is set and we are determined to carry the message of industrial unionism into all unorganized fields. We will not stop for any threats."

NEWARK, N. J.—The CIO invasion of New Jersey and the East has begun.

Launching a fight for labor control, about 25 supporters of the Committee for Industrial Organization met here Monday to lay the groundwork for an organizational drive that may be the biggest in New Jersey labor history.

Within two months the CIO is expected to have at least 25 full-time workers at work in the largest industries here, according to Julius Emspack, advance agent for the drive. The drive for members, he said, would not be concentrated on any one industry as were the mobilizations in the auto and steel plants.

"There is such a conglomeration of industries here," he pointed out, "that it would be impossible to choose any one. As far as organization goes, this is practically virgin territory. Our plan is to organize the unorganized in mass production industries."

As rapidly as new locals are formed and chartered by their internationals, Emspack said, they will seek to seat delegates in the AFL central labor bodies.

Nine Unions Attend

Nine CIO unions were represented at the opening session. They were: The coke and gas division of the United Mine Workers; United Electrical and Radio Workers; United Rubber Workers; United Automobile Workers of America; Federation of Oil and Refinery Workers; Steel Workers Organization Committee; Shipyard Workers; Suitcase, Bag and Portfolio Workers, and the United Textile Workers.

Large industries where unionization will be attempted, Emspack added, include Koppers' Coke; Standard Oil of Bayonne and Linden; Tidewater Oil Co.; Westinghouse, RCA, General Electric, Weston Electrical Instrument Co.; the Ford plant in Edgewater, Overman Cushion Tire Co., and the U.S. Rubber Co.

could not be made available until complete unity of the two groups was established, the Debs Column was a worthwhile endeavor worthy of the wholehearted support of all working class groups.

Spanish Militia Here



This is a delegation of Spanish Militiamen touring Mexico to aid Spain. They are representative of all the parties fighting against Franco: 5 from the UGT (trade unions); 4 from the CNT (Anarchist trade unions); 2 from the Left Catala; 2 from POUM (Party of Marxist Unity); 2 from United Socialist Party of Catalonia; 4 non-politicals.

WATCH THE WRAPPER

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101 EXPIRED! RENEW NOW!

Blackstone Asks Program to End Tenant Slavery

WASHINGTON.—Vigorous dissent to the report of the President's Special Committee on Farm Tenancy was declared here by W. L. Blackstone, sharecropper member of the Committee, in a minority report filed with the White House.

Blackstone, a member of the executive committee of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, dissented particularly from the perspective of the committee saying that "social efforts at relieving present conditions must be based primarily on a program, not merely of alleviating tenancy, but of ending it. So long as one man works the soil of another, no matter how well intentioned both parties may be, there will be a conflict of interest in the attempt of each to assure himself of a greater share in the rewards of labor applied to the soil.



W. L. Blackstone

The publication of the Committee's report proved an exciting prelude to National Sharecroppers' Week, March 1-7, when a nationwide campaign will get under way to awake America to the plight of the "disinherited of the South." The official document brought out in detailed fashion the life of the modern slaves in cotton—men and women and children who experience suffering and poverty unknown in the slums of the great cities.

No Solution
Blackstone, in his dissenting report, declared his agreement with the Committee's analysis of the problem but declared that its proposed solution would not achieve the desired results. He enlarged his objections on four major points:

(1) Objecting to placing the federal agency for resettlement under the Department of Agriculture rather than the formation of a separate, independent government department, he attacked the Department of Agriculture as "devoted to the concerns of the present land-owning class" and declared it was "dominated by the views and opinions of large operators who look with suspicion upon present proposals for the liquidation of tenancy." If resettlement activities are organized within the Department of Agriculture, he declared, "the whole program in the Cotton Belt will fail."

Work For Others
(2) Painting an analogy between tenant farmers and landless farm workers and the industrial workers—both of whom must work with tools possessed by others. "That he stands in the same relation to his landlord as the industrial worker occupies with reference to his employer," Blackstone commented, "has been recognized by the tenant who is now using the same technique as the industrial worker to protect his interests. He is forming union organizations like the Southern Tenant Farmers Union and is asserting a community of interest in precisely the same form as his city brother."

Because of this similarity, Blackstone demanded that a special bureau be set up in the Department of Labor to be concerned with landlord-tenant relationships, rather than continuing this work under the Department of Agriculture.

(3) He further urged the modification of the establishment of local boards of arbitration to

Sharecroppers In New York

New York will celebrate National Sharecroppers' Week March 1-7 with a series of meetings, dances and other affairs throughout the city.

The center of the celebrations will be the Labor Stage theatre at 106 West 39th Street, where the National Sharecroppers' Week have taken over the entire week's performances of John Wexley's vivid play, "Steel" for the benefit of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union.

Each performance of "Steel" will feature a short speech by one of the leaders of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union as well as union songs by John Handcock, sharecropper poet and minstrel. An exhibit of sharecropper photographs will be shown in the theatre lobby.

Tickets at 35c, 55c, and 83c can be obtained at the box office, the Call Bookstore or from the committee for National Sharecroppers' Week, 112 East 19th Street, ALgonquing 4-0946.

Organizations desiring speakers on National Sharecroppers Week can obtain them by writing Sidney Hertzberg, committee secretary, at the above address.

include on the boards tenants and croppers.

(4) Blackstone emphasized that the final solution of the tenancy problem lay in the development of cooperative activity among the tenants themselves. He attacked the "small homestead" philosophy as an "economic anachronism, foredoomed to failure. It is readily accepted by the present landlords because they know it to be relatively ineffective and consequently harmless from their point of view. When it fails, they will resume ownership of the land once more.

Scratch Surface
"The propositions set forth in the Committee's report to help tenants achieve the status of owner-operators only scratch the surface. The overwhelming proportion of our farm tenant population will thus be left untouched. Further, we cannot escape the operation of these forces that are inevitable in the competition of small-scale farmers with large-scale enterprises. It was not the carelessness of American farmers nor their incompetence nor their lack of business acumen that reduced them to their present state. It was the relentless march of economic factors, more powerful than the small farmer, that swept him into his condition of landlessness.

"Lifting a few men into farm ownership leaves the problem of tenancy essentially untouched. In the midst of a well-organized, economically profitable, large-scale agricultural system, or as in the South the plantation system, it will be impossible for the small farm to compete."

How Long?



For over a century, progressive laws in the U.S. have been killed by the Supreme Court, of which Charles Evans Hughes (above) is chief justice. How long shall the rule of the Nine Old Men be tolerated?

Celebration In Flint As Strikers Win

By FANIA SONKIN

FLINT, Mich. — "This is more people and more noise than we had here on Armistice Day," shouted a man into my ear just before the sit-inners evacuated from Fisher plant No. 1.

Thousands of people were jammed around the entrance and along South Saginaw street for blocks around the plant. Hundreds of cars brought traffic to a standstill.

They had come to hail the sit-downers who were about to end their forty-fourth day in the plant. They came to celebrate the happy occasion and to show their solidarity with their fellow-workers.

Wives craned their necks to catch a glimpse of their husbands. Children looked forward eagerly to seeing their fathers again. Smiling girls impatiently looked for their sweethearts. And the men inside were just as anxious to see their loved ones.

Smile of Victory
The immense crowd had gathered at a half hour's notice. They were all wearing the happy smile of victory.

Out marched the boys of Fisher No. 1. Deafening shouts and cheers greeted those who helped make the first battle victorious. Led by Bud Simmons, their chairman, and international officers of the United Automobile Workers of America and the Committee for Industrial Organization, they passed the gates and turned to parade past the administration building.

Heading the strikers was their own majordomo, followed by their own band and the squad of men who vowed not to shave until General Motors would sign on the dotted line.

"Flint" Effigy
Some of the men carried an effigy of Boysen, head of the Flint Alliance or more commonly known as the "Flint Alliance." Passing the river they stopped. Someone blew taps. The men solemnly removed their hats and held them above their hearts, bowed their heads and dumped the body of Boysen into the river. Shouting and singing "Solidarity Forever," they marched on.

Behind the Fisher No. 1 boys was the colorful Women's Emergency Brigade, headed by Genora Johnson, their captain. Wearing their uniform of red tams and red and white armbands, they marched behind their men, just as they had done on the picket

Auto Agreement Inroad of Union On Company Rule

By MARY W. HILLYER

From two o'clock in the morning of February 11 until well on into the morning of Lincoln's Birthday Flint workers were dancing in the streets, celebrating their victory with delirious joy in meetings, speeches, songs, parades, bands and cheers!

Rumor had finally become reality through the tenacity and solidarity of the automobile sit-down strikers in Flint and other General Motors centers. General Motors, which had spent almost half a million dollars in two years on espionage and Pinkerton spies, General Motors which fired every union man it could unearth, General Motors which had vowed with the du Ponts, the Mellons and the Morgans that it would never, never recognize the collective bargaining right of its employees, on February 11 signed an agreement with the United Automobile Workers of America and the Committee for Industrial Organization.

The agreement provides:
The corporation hereby recognizes the union as the collective bargaining agency for those employees who are members of the Union. It will not interfere with the right of its workers to join the Union and it will allow them to wear Union buttons.
The corporation and the

line. A contingent of the Detroit Emergency Brigade augmented the parade.

The procession marched on to Chevrolet No. 4 and Fisher No. 2 to witness and cheer the evacuation of these plants.

Johnson Leads
Led by youthful Kermit Johnson, strike committee chairman, the men of Chevrolet No. 4 triumphantly marched down the steps to join their fellow-workers on the outside. On they marched the short distance to Fisher No. 2 and reached the plant just as the men were walking out in orderly fashion.

Gathering around the union sound truck on Chevrolet avenue, now known as "Bulls Run," the crowd demonstrated that they had not lost any of their enthusiasm. The cheering and shouting and singing were louder than ever. Night had already fallen and in the light of white flares they heard rousing speeches from Leo Krzycki, John Brophy, Bud Simmons, Kermit Johnson, Red Mundale, Roy Reuther, Bob Travis and others. The rallying cry was that "the fight had just begun."

Song and Cheers
The celebration could not be complete without a visit to the Pengelly Building, union headquarters. Jamming the auditorium and the street the crowd cheered more speeches and sang more songs.

There was much rejoicing in hundreds of homes in Flint as families were reunited. The men had fought and won a great battle.

Yes, it was like Armistice Day. Only this time the workers were not fighting for their masters; they were fighting their own battle against their masters. They were fighting for economic democracy—collective bargaining.

Hardly had the ink dried on the agreement when word was heard that General Motors was still trying to intimidate the workers. "We're ready to march right back in again and stay," is the answer of these class warriors.

One battle is won. The war is still to be fought and won.

CAMP THREE ARROWS
A cooperative colony

Union agree to commence collective bargaining negotiations on all points on February 16. These points include speed up, wages, hours, etc.

The Union agrees to terminate the strike in all plants and to evacuate the plants.

The corporation agrees to dismiss all injunction proceedings against the Union, its officers and members.

The corporation agrees to resume work in all plants as rapidly as possible and to rehire all workers without discrimination concerning their strike activities.

Pending negotiations the Union agrees to call no strikes.

This agreement covers 17 General Motors plants in Atlanta, Kansas City, Cleveland, Janesville, Wisconsin, Norwood, Ohio, St. Louis, Flint, Toledo, Detroit and Anderson, Indiana.

Supplementary Letter
A letter from General Motors to Governor Murphy and signed by Mr. Knudsen supplements the signed agreement. It states that in the above 17 plants no Union other than the United Automobile Workers of America will be recognized for a period of six months without "first submitting to you the facts of the situation and gaining from you the sanction of any such contemplated procedure as being justified by law, equity or justice towards the group of employees so represented."

It is possible that Governor Murphy may again find himself in the spotlight if General Motors attempts to revivify the Flint Alliance or some other company union. But if one may judge the future by the present there will be no opportunity to organize any bosses' union in the General Motors plants. The prevailing sentiment for the union and industrial democracy is so strong that new offices are being opened to take care of the long line of men and women who stand in line with their dollars in their hands waiting to join the Union and pay their initiation fee.

Vallant Fight
It was a vallant fight waged by the sit-downers and their sisters and brothers on the picket line. And equally brilliant was the display of statesmanship across the conference table in Detroit by the union officers and John L. Lewis. The largest automobile corporation in America has had to bend its stubborn knees to the demands of the workers for democracy in industry.

The union will not be caught asleep and the Union will not put its faith in signed agreements. It remembers how General Motors has used its stool pigeons. It remembers how it has been double crossed by the corporation, it still smarts from the tear gas. It still hears the shriek of the bullets, it remembers the vigilantes and the Flint Alliance. The union is on the march.

Hundreds of members of the Union were ready to go to Detroit on Saturday for the victory parade but when they heard of the vigilante terror in Anderson the cars all headed for the battlefront instead of the parade. A union with that kind of membership will have organized all of the General Motors workers long before the six month period is over.

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Vol. II Saturday, February 20, 1937 No. 101

THE MEANING OF THE AUTO STRIKE

The General Motors strike was a test of strength. And from this test, one positive conclusion arises: the auto bosses can no longer be the unchallenged dictators over auto workers.

For "auto bosses," read "the bosses of America's basic industries."

The militancy of the auto workers shook the "internal empire" of America's finance capital, extending its tentacles over oil, steel, aluminum, rubber, chemicals, ammunitions and dozens of minor industries.

The General Motors strike was just a skirmish, a prelude to battles ahead. *The big bosses of America are on the run.*

THE PEACE TERMS

The actual terms of the settlement are important. But placed next to the basic fact, the militant challenge to finance capital's formerly complacent dictatorship, the agreement itself is of secondary size.

William Green's sniping remarks about the failure of the strike are just the futile carplings of a more futile malcontent!

It is true that no closed shop agreement was won as a result of this first clash with the auto bosses. But one must not forget that in the best organized branches of the garment industry a period of more than a decade of struggle was necessary before the industry was "closed shop." Various compromise forms—preferential shops, recognition of union rights, etc.—existed generally for the industry almost up to the World War. The "closed shop" was the culmination of these partial victories.

The extent of the union's victory in General Motors can best be measured by placing Al Sloan's labor-hating declarations against unionism, published a month ago, next to his present readiness to recognize the union as "the collective bargaining agency for those employees of the corporation who are members of the union." Sloan's agreement not to discriminate against the union members means that the United Auto Workers of America have a firm hold in the auto shops.

The General Motors strike was an organization strike. And as such it was completely successful.

THE WAGE INCREASES

General Motors has announced a wage increase. So has Chrysler. And so has Packard. And so will others.

Nobody has to be told that it is no accident that these corporations should have grown so soft of heart just at this time. If their hearts are soft right now, it is because the powerful club wielded by the sit-down strikers pounded their hardened hearts into mushy pulp.

The wage increases may not appear in the formal agreement. Ironically, the wage increases will even extend to workers in factories which were not struck at all, such as Chrysler. Yet, whether the wage increases are formally in the agreement or not, whether they apply to workers in "struck" factories alone or not, the increases are the direct result of the strike—and of the militancy expressed in the strikes.

HOW TO FIGHT

The General Motors men have given the workers of like industries not only an idea of what can be done; but also—*how to do it!* We do not mean by this, merely, the advantages of industrial as opposed to craft unionism. We mean the power of direct and militant action.

The auto workers knew what they wanted—and they went after it. In the auto fields, the stay-in strike proved the most effective method of militant action. There can be no doubt any longer, after the victory of the auto workers, that the stay-in method will be applied to other industries as well. There is no rule that declares the stay-in way to be the only way. But the sit-down will be a basic instrument of class combat in America, probably supplemented by other and new methods of militant action.

The flare up in Anderson, Indiana, proves two things: the Michigan auto workers know that the battle has just begun, they are looking for new arenas upon which to continue the fight; second, the militant method marches on!

THE ROAD AHEAD

The present clash of auto workers and bosses occurred on the industrial, not the political, level. The liberalism of Governor Murphy of Michigan obscured for the moment the class character of the state. The almost sudden settlement, coming at the most crucial moment, did not compel decisive action from the state. Yet, the problem of the state in relation to these militant strike movements dare not be overlooked.

The National Guard stationed around the plant factories were a constant threat to increased militancy. True, the threat did not have to be carried through; but there it was, nevertheless.

The clashes with local police went on incessantly. The climax to these local frictions with the forces of law and order was the delegation of dictatorial power to the Governor of Michigan by the State of Michigan.

The settlement came first as a result of the militant action of the workers against the sit-downs. The reality of the situation was that the workers were the only force that could have won the strike.

PASS WORKERS' RIGHTS AMENDMENT



Pacifists In A Revolution

To the Editor:

"Socialist pacifists are uncompromising partisans of the class struggle," affirm Comrades Huggan, Dancs and Muste in their jointly signed letter in the CALL of February 13.

Quite true, all who are class conscious will say, but can the afore-mentioned comrades, considering their attitude regarding the present struggle in Spain, justly claim to be considered as such? The writer (and he has a hunch he is not alone) is gravely in doubt.

The writer is also a pacifist, but—with reservations. He likewise abhors the shedding of blood, even of animals, if it can possibly be avoided. But, we ask our peace loving Comrades, H. D. and M., can same be avoided in Spain at present?

Can one reason with homicidal maniacs or Fascist "robots"?

Said comrades fondly meditate on what could (or should) have been done. "If more land had been given to the peasants and Morocco freed; if the army

would have been sharply reduced, and the workers movements strengthened by unification." These are things of the past, dear comrades. They are "gone with the wind" and let us hope that we will profit by the experience, but because of the aforementioned blunders (commented on by Tyler in the CALL of January 23) must we fold our arms and do nothing while our Spanish comrades are being beaten to the earth?

The important question, "What now?" and the answer is simple, "Help them in every conceivable way." Their struggle is our struggle, just as our struggle is their struggle. What stand, one is inclined to ask, would Comrades H. D. and M. take if we in the U.S.A. should, by chance, legitimately acquire the reins of government (as is likely) and an attempt made by the opposition to thwart us by force of arms?

As for the "local reactionaries" using "the same laws" to send "arms and men to Spain," Comrades H. D. and M., should know

that those boys are always, without fail, a good few laps ahead of the "meek and lowly." They do not need prompting.

In reply to said comrades doubts (expressed at the close of their letter) as to the sanity of a party which, having raised \$25,000 for a national election campaign "proposes to collect \$50,000 to send 500 men to Spain," does not a life and death struggle for the basic elements of democracy—and more—call for greater efforts, however important a national election may be?

ABRAHAM BRONFMAN, Brooklyn, N. Y.

New Jersey WAA Backs Workers' Spain and CIO

TRENTON, N. J.—Resolutions supporting the fight "of our working class brothers in Spain against Fascism and for the workers' Spain" and calling for a referendum on endorsement of the CIO were passed by the New Jersey Workers Alliance at their convention here last week. Support of Labor's Non-Partisan League and a People's Front policy were defeated.

A Hunger March to Trenton was decided on as the next state-wide activity of the Alliance as well as agitation to return relief to State and Federal control of a cash basis.

John Spain, known for his leadership of the Trenton Strike, was re-elected State Chairman. In Essex E.H. Kaempff and I. Kosonberg, Socialists and A. Mack were elected to the State Executive Board. Other Socialists elected included Clara Moody of Camden County and Capperon of Mercer County. Three Young Socialists were elected to the SEB youth committee: Milt Arons, Hy the of the Secretary Pat H.

was not contested by official forces. What would have happened in the event that the settlement did not come at the eleventh hour? Not even the liberalism of a Governor Murphy could have saved the workers from local civil war!

The establishment of martial law in Indiana, the Home of Hoosier Hitlerism, is perhaps an accurate declaration of what would have happened in Michigan had the hand of the state been forced.

The term "liberalism" is a sort of measure of how long it will take the capitalist politicians to use the forces of the state against the workers. The liberals need more provocation; the reactionaries need less provocation. But with the increasing militancy of the workers, both liberals and reactionaries can not be trusted with the instruments of state power in their hands.

Auto workers, as well as other workers, are growing more keenly aware of this fact. Their experiences add to their initial distrust of the capitalist politicians. Workers who still have faith in the liberal capitalists and their agents, such good union men, will never distinguish themselves with the passage of time and the coming of new examples.

The economic struggles of the workers must be transformed into a political struggle. This is the road ahead. Militant and progressive workers must pave the way.

WORLD SOCIALISM

By Herbert Zam

THE defeat of Pehr Evind Svinhufvud in his efforts at re-election to the Presidency of the Finnish Republic undoubtedly marks the end of a period of reaction in that country. He was first elected in 1931 as the candidate of the Fascist Lapua movement, although he ran as a Conservative. The first few years of his regime were years of bitter reaction. Workers organizations were suppressed, civil liberties were curtailed to the vanishing point and economic conditions in the country became very bad.

But because the Lapua movement was unable to obtain any influence outside the peasantry, because the labor movement remained unshaken in spite of the suppressive measures, Svinhufvud did not succeed in setting up a "totalitarian" state. He was even compelled to curb the extremist activities of his original sponsors, the Lapuans.

In the recent elections to the Diet and in the Provinces, the government suffered a severe defeat. The Socialist Party emerged as the strongest party. A demand arose for the inclusion of liberal elements, including Socialists, in the cabinet, but Svinhufvud would hear none of it. He insisted on his "non-party" cabinet, with Fascist trends. This made him very popular among the capitalists, who raised a fund for one million Finnish marks for his campaign within a few days. But this also intensified the struggle in the presidential elections, which had in the past been looked upon as unimportant by the masses.

The result was a vote almost 25 per cent greater than that cast in 1931. The vote by parties follows:

| | 1931 | 1937 | % gain |
|---------------|---------|----------------|--------|
| Svinhufvud | 255,000 | 423,000 | 62 |
| Liberals | 160,000 | 151,000 (loss) | 9.6 |
| Peasant Party | 168,000 | 184,000 | 10 |
| Socialists | 253,000 | 340,000 | 35 |

But in Finland the president is not elected by direct vote. The voters elect electors, who in turn meet and elect the president, who must obtain a majority of the electoral vote. The distribution of the electors is:

| | 1931 | 1937 | % gain |
|---------------|------|-----------|--------|
| Svinhufvud | 89 | 110 | 24 |
| Liberals | 52 | 38 (loss) | 25 |
| Peasant Party | 69 | 56 (loss) | 20 |
| Socialists | 90 | 96 | 7 |

The figures show that the popular vote is not reflected in the electoral vote. The Socialists, whose popular vote increased by 35 per cent over 1931, only made a gain of somewhat less than 7 per cent in the electoral vote. The Conservatives also did not gain in proportion to their popular increase, but there is no such disproportion in their vote as in the Socialist vote. To a certain extent, the disproportion between popular and electoral vote is due to the fact that the number of electors is limited, regardless of the size of the vote cast. But largely it is due to the nature of the election itself, as in other countries.

Socialists Voted for Kallio

In the electoral college, the Socialists, on the first ballot, voted for the Liberal candidate, Kaarlo Juho Stahlberg, who was one vote short of the necessary majority. The Peasant Party refused to give up their candidate. On the second ballot, therefore, the Socialists voted for Kyosti Kallio, of the Peasant Party, who was elected with 177 votes. Svinhufvud received 104 and Stahlberg 19.

It must not be supposed that this election marks the end of the Fascist danger in Finland. In the first place, the vote for the reactionary candidate is considerably larger than in 1931. In fact, the conservative gain was far greater than that of any other party. The Fascist movement still remains a powerful force with great potential dangers to the working class.

In the second place, the selection of Kallio as president, with the help of Socialist votes, is a step the wisdom of which is open to criticism. Kallio found it possible to serve as Premier in the government set up by Svinhufvud. In 1931 Svinhufvud was elected with the help of Peasant Party votes. In the first period of the Svinhufvud presidency, his policies were completely supported by the Peasant Party, and only recently, because the Peasant Party wants better relations with the Soviet Union to promote the trade interests of a section of the peasantry, has a rift appeared between these two parties. It is therefore not at all certain that the election of Kallio to the presidency will prove a bulwark against Fascism. The Finnish proletariat must stand on guard and prepared for action.

Victims of Fascism



A workers' family in Madrid. Their home shot to splinters by Fascist bombing planes.

6,500 Hear Burt Ask Fair Trial for Trotsky

By SAMUEL ROMER

The demand for an impartial commission of inquiry to determine the truth or untruth of the sensational charge that Leon Trotsky conspired with German Fascist agents to overthrow the Soviet Union was endorsed last week by Roy Burt of Chicago, National secretary of the Socialist Party of the United States.

Burt, speaking before more than 6,500 people at a mass meeting in New York Hippodrome sponsored by the American Committee for the Defense of Trotsky, declared that American Socialists were "tremendously concerned" about recent events in the Soviet Union. "We stand or fall together," he said. "There is no hope or future for the workers of the world unless all suspicion of frame-up, all doubt of justice is divorced from the attitude of the Soviet Union."

Trotsky Not Heard

The principal address at the meeting was to have been given by Trotsky speaking from Mexico City by long-distance telephone. But when Committee officials announced that due either to a cut wire or to technical imperfections it was unable to produce a clear wire, Trotsky's hour-long prepared speech was read by Max Schachtman, the exile's American representative.

In this speech, Trotsky heatedly denied the charges and declared himself ready to appear before an impartial international commission of inquiry. If he were found guilty by this commission, he declared, "I pledge in advance to place myself voluntarily in the hands of the executioners of the GPU."

Burt paid high tribute to "the major victory won by the Soviet Union in the economic realm." But he said that "economic security can have no meaning without freedom of liberty. It is of the highest importance that the principles of democracy and the rights of minority groups be protected in any society builded by workers."

"American Socialists look to the Soviet Union as a clear demonstration of the ability of workers to end exploitation and to emancipate ourselves. But today a new attack on the part of reaction has evidenced itself. It declares that the

working class lacks the capacity to rule itself.

"Great credence has been attached to that attack by the tragic Moscow trials. The Soviet Union, in its duty to the workers who support it, must prove the sufficiency of its evidence beyond question if this reactionary attack is to be stopped."

Balabanoff Speaks

Another speaker at the meeting was Angelica Balabanoff, internationally known Socialist and the first secretary of the Communist International. She categorically announced her disagreement with Trotsky's political theories but declared that, in the tradition of the Socialist movement, she would speak and fight "against oppression of minorities and the freedom of opinion and of expression."

Although rumors were prevalent that Communist partisans would attempt to disrupt the meeting, the vast audience was extraordinarily well-behaved. It sat quietly through a wearisome hour of waiting while technicians were trying to get clear telephone connections with Mexico City.

Thomas Speaks On Trials in Chicago

CHICAGO— Nearly one thousand people jammed the Drill Hall of the Capitol Building to hear Norman Thomas and Albert Goldman discuss the position of the international labor and Socialist movement on the recent Moscow Trials. Frank McCulloch was chairman. The meeting was sponsored by the Chicago local of the Socialist Party.

Rebel Arts to Produce Spanish Civil War Play

The first major theatrical performance of the New York Rebel Arts Drama Group will take place early in March. The play was written by Michael Blankfort, author of "Crime" and co-author of "Battle Hymn." This exciting anti-Fascist play, which will be produced the first time on any stage by Rebel Arts, deals with the siege of the Alcazar during the present Spanish civil war.

A mid-town theatre has been engaged. The announcement of the performance dates and the thea-

SIT-DOWN VICTORY

By McAlister Coleman

WHO WON the auto strike? The New York Times is proud of the fact that it prints no comic strips. But with its Monday reviews of Sunday sermons and its editorial comment on labor matters it provides sufficient unconscious humor to keep its readers amused. Last week it editorialized to the effect that the General Motors agreement was a "defeat" for John L. Lewis and the CIO.

If the Detroit agreement was a defeat for industrial unionism, no one in Detroit or Flint or the other automotive centers seems to realize it. That must be a secret that is being kept by Times editorial writers. They argue that because Lewis did not win all his demands on the first shot out of the box, his goose is cooked.

Here we have, once more, a fine example of the nonsense that supposedly informed men can write when they are confronted with a situation that is beyond their economic ken. The Times, in spite of the realistic reporting from the front done by the capable Louis Stark, insisted on regarding the strike as a sort of catch-as-catch-can between John L. Lewis and Alfred Sloan. With such naive economics everything is reduced to terms of personalities. On one side you have the "belligerent" labor leader, on the other the grim-mouthed industrialist. Print their pictures glaring at each other, then later shaking hands, and you have cleaned up the strike situation.

School for The Times

Some philanthropist ought to start a school up on West 43 Street, New York City, where the Times is edited and explain the facts of life in the labor world to the bemused old gents. One of the first things to make clear would be that strikes are not baseball games where the winning score is posted on a board. From there you would go on to explain that leaders don't win or lose strikes. They are won or lost by the rank and file. John L. Lewis could have belligerated all over the lot and not gone to first base if he had not had behind him a militant, determined and labor conscious rank and file.

The auto strike was won by the sit-downers and such front-line fighters as Powers Haggood, the Ruether brothers and Genora Johnson. It was a signal victory for industrial unionism. It did a lot more than give the organized workers their first toe-hold in automobiles. It showed labor everywhere what can be done when the rank and file decides to go to town. It provided a new technique for the organization of steel and the other unorganized mass industries. It exposed the weakness and hypocrisy of the AFL. It made the CIO the labor movement of America. If that's a "defeat," let's hope we have a lot more of them.

All But the Moral

Life for cat-lovers like your Uncle Mac is always complicated. We told you about our elegant Persian kitten named Xerxes from the cat-stable of Dr. Jaynes at Princeton, N. J. Well, Xerxes, despite her aristocratic appearance (it turned out that she was a she, and we can't think of any lady Persians for whom to name her), is a bit deficient in certain of her household duties. You know what I mean. So the other day we heard of a plain alley-cat named Miss Sally whose speciality is teaching other cats manners. Hailing appropriately enough from the neighborhood of Teachers College, she is farmed out to set good examples to her feline pupils.

We sent for Miss Sally and told her about Xerxes' little faults and she started right in on her job.

We regret to state that Miss Sally has not imbibed the fundamental principles of progressive education. She is an old-fashioned teacher who does not spare the claws. In fact no sooner had she arrived that she descended on the astonished Xerxes with such ferocity that we feared our aristo-cat would have a nervous break-down. All day long Xerxes sat in a gloom beneath the inaccessible shades of the book-case, the while Miss Sally muttered and spat just beyond. Using our lately acquired psychiatric lore, we foresaw the onset of schizophrenia on the part of our beloved Persian.

What a sweet mess that would be, to have a kitten going around the house with a split personality, thinking one moment she was a Bengal tiger and the next that she was a mouse! What would analysis do in a case like this? What would Pavlov do? What would Freud?

We did what we usually do in times of crisis, that is, flee the scene. When we returned, we were greatly relieved to discover that the crude, old-fashioned, proletarian methods of Miss Sally had won the day. Xerxes was trotting docilely behind the triumphant tail of Miss Sally and I am happy to report that her behavior is all that you would expect from a thoroughbred Persian.

There's a Socialist moral somewhere in all this, but I haven't the space to develop it.

About Socialist-Communist Unity

By The National Executive Committee, Socialist Party, U.S.A.

In recent weeks the Communist Party has resumed its practice of making vicious and falsified attacks upon the Socialist Party and some of its members. These attacks are accompanied by hollow-sounding appeals for unity.

Because unity of all progressive forces in the labor movement is so important at this period and because a united working class in the face of war and fascism is of such prime importance, the Socialist Party must condemn the splitting tactics and attacks of the Communist Party.

If the Socialist Party and the labor movement are to forget those days when the Communists forcibly broke up Socialist meetings and systematically split trade unions, the Communists must immediately cease their attacks and their discrimination against certain Socialists in mass work.

But despite the serious obstacle erected by the tactics of the Communists, the Socialist Party will not allow this circumstance to prevent a discussion of our common problems and common tasks.

COMMUNISTS JOIN REACTIONARIES

The Communists take great pains to condemn our role in the election, but the Communists joined with the bourbon South, the sponsors of imperialism in the Pacific for support of Roosevelt. Such cheers for Roosevelt are not justified in the light of the onslaught upon relief for farmers and workers, the appointment of the reactionary Mr. Davies as ambassador to the Soviet Union, or by the Administration's discriminatory policy against Spain.

An increasing wave of militancy among the American workers is evident. The present battle of the WPA workers against the administration is a symbol of the struggles ahead. But surely these struggles will be most effective if the workers have no illusions about the "progressivism" of Roosevelt. The struggles will only be successful if the workers understand that "reaction" has not been defeated, and that capitalist "reaction" is going ahead and will go ahead under New Deal auspices. Only the Socialist Party conducted a campaign intended to prepare the workers for Rooseveltian betrayals.

In trade unions and in locals of the WPA workers, Socialists had to swim against the stream when they warned workers not to back Roosevelt. Thanks to the Communist Party, the liberals, and regular Democrats, these locals often supported Roosevelt "because he would, at least, continue the WPA." Socialists were outvoted. But our work was not in vain. Our words left their impress, they aroused doubts; our comrades were not fooled and when Roosevelt betrayed, the day after election, the unemployed and unionists were not without an answer.

The election results have much to teach; but we must learn without prejudice and sectarian purpose!

WE HAIL ANY COOPERATION

Needless to say, we are glad to see Communists express a desire to cooperate for the formation of a labor party. This represents a long step forward for the Communist Party which, until a little while ago, maintained that the slogan of a labor or farmer-labor party was a social-fascist concept.

From the time that Earl Browder, at the Washington Social

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, U. S. A., in reply to a statement of the Communist Party of America, has stated its position on joint action and united front between the two working class parties. The statement, which is confined to a discussion of specific questions, is addressed not only to the Communist Party but to all the members and friends of the Socialist Party as well.

Insurance conference, announced that the Communist Party was now for a labor party, we have looked forward to cooperation for and inside of such a party.

Originally, Communists proposed a "rank and file" labor party, "from below." Now they seem to be working for any kind of a "labor party," no matter what discredited politicians of old parties may control it, just so long as it is called "labor party."

Obviously, the Socialist Party can not join in every one of these adventurist enterprises in "labor party" excursions. We most certainly do not agree on agitational slogans for a labor party such as the Communists raise. We consider preachments about a labor party being a people's front and removing the dangers of war and fascism, to be wrong, misleading, and dangerous. A labor party would mark a new level of political class consciousness and united action on the political field by the working class. But it would not, in so doing, insure the establishment of peace or democracy or plenty.

The concept of the messianic mission of a labor party can only lead to the ultimate liquidation of a revolutionary party.

WILL WORK FOR LABOR PARTY

Hence, while we both favor a labor party, and will therefore often find ourselves working side by side for common purposes, we must withhold any formal program of unity on this task until we decide what is meant by a labor party, whether we shall be agitating for the same or for opposite things under a common slogan, and whether we will agree not to push a labor party in opposition to a revolutionary party but will advance it merely as a stepping stone toward developing revolutionary consciousness of the workers and farmers. The CP has changed often enough and quickly enough on this question to do so again and perhaps very soon. Should we find ourselves in agreement, we are sure that our common purposes will find common expression through joint action.

Meanwhile, until there be such agreement, we shall consider cooperation of all working class groups in forming a labor party on the basis of the specific situations in separate states and localities.

We greet the decision of the Communist Party to fight against the splitting tactics of the present bureaucrat-ventriloquist executive committee of the American Federation

of Labor, and to fight for a united and militant AFL built on industrial unionism. The Socialist forces in the trade union movement are "working with might and main, in cooperation with all progressive forces, for a militant and united American labor movement on the basis of industrial unionism."

WILL AVOID BLOCS WITH BUREAUCRATS

Socialists will fight for unity and industrial unionism, without, however, forming solid blocs with bureaucrats and untrustworthy elements to do it. (We have in mind, specifically, unions where Communists have joined hands with gangster and racketeer elements, defending them and keeping them in office, just because they mumble phrases about "industrial unionism.")

On the question of fighting war, we are, at present, at world's ends! The Socialist Party reiterates with every breath that it will not support any war the United States government will undertake.

"Not a man, not a penny for war!" This is our slogan.

The Communists put forth different slogans.

The CP program of foreign policy for the United States is daily appearing in its worst aspects. The program for "collective security" means in practice that the United States shall make an allegiance with England and France for the mutual protection of their imperialist interests against the equally imperialist aims of Germany, Italy, and Japan. We believe that, in this, the CP, will be able to gain greater success by an appeal for programmatic unity addressed to the House of Morgan than to the Socialist Party.

WAR QUESTION MOST IMPORTANT

We are strongly of the opinion that the war question may, in the next months perhaps, throw every other social question into the shade. In a sense, we feel lonesome in our unrelenting revolutionary opposition to an imperialistic war of America. We want allies. We call to the Communists, to all workers, to all lovers of a peaceful world to cooperate with us. But there can be no cooperation except as it begins with one promise: no support to capitalist war.

The Socialist Party is a democratically-controlled organization of the working class, whose policies are determined by the will of its members and whose decisions are binding upon all its membership.

In this respect, it is true, we differ from the Communist Party. We do not conduct merely formal post-mortem discussions by expelling all those who disagree with the existing party leadership, in order to assure the right kind of a majority.

It is this democratic discipline of the Socialist Party which has enabled it to give realistic evaluation to new developments and new ideas. Since we do not believe in the infallibility of leaders, we are compelled to arrive at our policies by permitting a wide divergence of opinion and freest discussion within the party by our rank and file.

This is a basic feature which distinguishes the Socialist Party from the Communist Party.

THE SNOWS OF YESTERDAY

Needless to say, our democracy is not so broad as to include counter-revolutionaries. But how can we take the talk of "counter-revolutionary" seriously. Yesterday, according to the Communist Party, we were all

When Dad "Stay-Ins"



The striking fathers at Flint, Michigan, had a chance to see the kids. Thanks to the broken panes and to the youngsters ability to do "one story" work.

Anderson, Ind., Law Covers General Motors Lynch Gang

(Continued from Page One) which has helped create the lynch spirit and has approved of the vigilantes terrorism.

Vigilantes Failed

General Motors was forced to pull these moves because every act of its vigilantes had failed dismally and the auto workers held their ground with greater force and determination every day.

The hypocrisy of the agreement signed by General Motors stands clearly exposed by its methods in this town. Capitalism openly uses its ally, the armed forces of the states—to do its bidding against the rising tide of the exploited proletariat.

Since Anderson was a hot-bed of the Klu-Klux Klan, it wasn't long before the General Motors strike was called that vigilantes began their campaign of brute force to smash the union which shut-down the Guide Lamp plant.

The police said they would protect the workers, but vigilantes took union organizers and workers and beat them up.

"Lawlessness"

The next day the newspapers would carry stories about the "lawlessness" of "outside agitators."

Police laughed while vigilantes smashed the union headquarters. It is significant that only union men have been beaten up. Not a single vigilante. The record is clear.

When the strike settlement was announced, we called a mass meeting to explain the terms of agreement, and took steps to

keep the union headquarters protected.

No sooner was the meeting half-filled when armed and well-directed vigilantes blocked the door and send hundreds of workers home under threats of violence. Another vigilante group marched to union headquarters but they left when we announced, "the first guy that steps into the door gets a shot-gun full of lead."

"Lynch Reuther"

The vigilantes had one program. "We want Vic Reuther! Lynch the union leaders!" They failed because our ranks held firm.

News of the threats against the union leaders spread throughout the middle-west so incensed workers they began motoring to Anderson. Realizing that their game was up, the vigilantes passed rumors throughout the town about the union which heightened the tension. Then they beat up a union man and word was received at the union headquarters where the event took place.

Trap

Of course, a trap awaited the union men. No sooner did they alight from an automobile than a blast of gun-fire met them. The daily press, carrying out its role of covering the actions of the vigilantes, announced that a "mob of union thugs" was repulsed.

The mayor called for the guardsmen and they came quickly. The vigilantes had succeeded in their move. Martial law was in effect and they were protected from any kind of action.

ter-revolutionaries." The Russian Social-Democrats still are such. Otto Bauer, who fought on the Austrian barricades, is an enemy of the Soviet Union, because he criticizes Stalin.

But, the Communists claim that against the Trotskyites they have court proofs. But we do not forget that just exactly the same sort of court proofs were framed against other Socialist comrades. And when we call these things to the attention of the Communists, they dare not answer, but begin to shout, quite libelously, that we are enemies of the Soviet Union.

In the Socialist Party of the United States we have a test for a man's Socialist convictions: his actions.

Our Socialist rank and file look to the firing line to test their convictions and their will to aspire to leadership. Those who are today standing on the fence and cast about for their wings with the women, have any leading the banners of the new front, the west side who are working to bring down the

WPA fellow-workers; those who are organizing the exploited steel and auto workers; those who carry forward the militant line of the Socialist Party in the mass struggles of the workers, not only by talk but by action; who join conscientiously with all Socialists in these tasks; these people are NOT COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES.

If there be any "counter-revolutionaries" in our party, they would quickly expose themselves when, together with all other members of the Socialist Party, they are in the field of action.

CAPITALISM MAIN FOE

Our main struggle is against the capitalist foe. Never can we form a united front on behalf of our capitalist class ally for the extermination of some group used for an organized struggle within the ranks of the working class. On the last struggle front, only the workers united in a common front can bring down the

Norman Thomas' Radio Address: 'What Next For Sharecroppers?'

The following is an extract of a radio address delivered by Norman Thomas over the Columbia Broadcasting Network, February 10:

It is a sign of real progress that I can speak on the subject: "What Next for the Sharecroppers?" instead of having to explain as I did every time I spoke on the subject three or four years ago: "Who are the Sharecroppers?"

In the last few months the Roosevelt Administration has discovered them and has admitted, tacitly or openly, that which it denied when I first proclaimed it. Sharecroppers form so important a part of the great problem of tenant farmers that they cannot be ignored, and I have every reason to believe that the President's Commission which is studying the problem of farm tenancy will deal frankly with some, at least, of the peculiar problems of sharecroppers.

Militancy Brought Results
For this situation, no liberalism or general goodwill on the part of the public or of an administration, which still leans so heavily upon men like Senator Robinson of Arkansas, is primarily responsible, but rather the magnificent work done by some of the most exploited of Americans, white and colored, in the organization of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union. That organization has its own hard row to hoe, its own difficulties to face. It is still confined in membership mostly to Arkansas and the region around Memphis and certain districts in Oklahoma.

But it is safe to say that if there had been no STFU there would have been no conviction of Town Marshal Peacher of Earle, Arkansas, for what is virtually the practice of slavery, and the country would be unaware of the brutality and lawlessness upon which the plantation system rests.

Human Degeneration
Rural America, in its issue for January, 1937, prints an article by Erskine Caldwell entitled "Tenant Farmer." It is conservative to say that his story reveals a depth of human misery and human degradation in twentieth century America which equals the famous accounts of the way peasants lived on great feudal estates in France and elsewhere prior to the French Revolution.

Mr. Caldwell, partly in the light of the effect of the way AAA was carried out, correctly saw that what was next for the sharecropper was even deeper misery and degradation as a unit in the army of the unemployed, or as a casual field worker at 25 to 50 cents a day—when he worked, or as a tenant who had to pay cash whether or not he and his family starved. Mr. Caldwell's horrifying stories of actual conditions are perhaps a little worse than some of the stories Howard Kester tells in his little book, "Revolt Among the Sharecroppers", which deals with conditions in the rich lands of the Mississippi Valley.

Government Tells Story
What these writers say, and what I have been saying in the last few years concerning conditions, is substantially confirmed by the government's own study entitled: "Landlord and Tenant on the Cotton Plantation." For instance, I quote:

"In 1934, the average net income per family of the wage lands, croppers, share tenants, and renters on plantations in the 11 areas surveyed was only \$309, or \$73 per capita. "The average net income per family of wage laborers was \$136 for the year, varying from \$213 in the Arkansas River area to \$70 in the Interior Plain area. The average annual net income per capita in this group ranged from \$52 to \$92. Sharecroppers in this survey, who made up more than half the total number of families,

averaged \$312 per family, or \$71 per capita. Their average net income per capita and per family was highest in the Atlantic Coast Plain area and lowest in the Lower Delta. In the latter area, the croppers' average net income amounted to \$38 per person, or slightly more than 10 cents per day. Other share tenants had an average net income of \$417 per family, or \$92 per capita, the highest of any occupational group."

These cold figures interpreted in terms of life mean that the men who raise cotton cannot clothe themselves or their children decently; that they live on "three M's—meal, molasses and white meat"—very inferior bacon—a diet which nourishes pellagra, not men; that they live in leaky one-room cabins under conditions which invite immorality. Most of them, white and colored, cannot vote and all of them, but more particularly the colored, have no rights that the planters have to respect. A man named Peacher was, to be sure, finally convicted but isn't in jail while a poor Negro named Ball is in jail for seven years merely for trying to protect a friend from mob attack when a meeting for sharecroppers was broken up.

Night Riders
I have seen a cabin with more than thirty bullet holes in it fired by night riders. To this day Frank Weems, one of the strike leaders who last spring was beaten down and carried away by a mob of planters and bosses, has not been accounted for. This in free America!

Sharecroppers buy on credit at the planters' commissary at 10 to 20 percent advance on the dollar. As a result of this and the system generally thousands of them live in perpetual debt which means perpetual serfdom.

What next for these people? Certainly there is no solution which continues a plantation system, for that system embodies the most abominable features of feudalism and capitalism. Nevertheless logic compels us to go farther. With or without the plantation system cotton will continue to be a poverty crop as long as consumers who need far more can only afford on the average of a little over 9 pounds of finished cotton goods for all household and domestic purposes.

There is no solution for any major problem of the workers as producers and consumers until we can begin to put our engineers to work to plan for abundance for all those in city and country who now live under the profit system in poverty and misery.

Immediate Demands
However, it is certain that capitalist America is not going to the roots of the problem in any hurry. Meanwhile men, women and children must be helped to live under better conditions with fuller right to organize in their own behalf. Hence as immediate demands we suggest:

1. First and foremost the guarantee of civil and political rights long denied to these Americans.
2. The federal government as well as the state governments must end the business of entrusting relief and other measures avowedly for the benefit of sharecroppers and wage workers to the administration

of local committees completely under the control of the planter class.

3. There should be set up in the federal Department of Labor a bureau to handle wage and contract relations between planters and laborers or sharecroppers with a view to the protection of tenant rights now flouted with impunity. State machinery to the same end should also be set up.

4. State and federal legislation should be enacted to protect the tenant farmer, the sharecropper and the field laborer against the extortionate contract and credit system now in general use.

5. Federal legislation ostensibly for the benefit of farmers should be for the benefit of the working farmers rather than the great landowners.

In suggesting this type of governmental action I am proposing no substitute for the abolition of the plantation system. This is essential. Taxation of rental value of land might be invoked to help end it. I am not condemning every kind of effort,

under proper conditions and restrictions, to make farm owners out of tenants. But I am insisting on the limitations inherent on this process in the United States of America in the year 1937.

Collectives Necessary
We are not dealing with the agricultural problems of Denmark or Ireland in the last century. For plantation and corporation owned farms in general the proper alternative is the collective in which workers are trained to become cooperators in managing it.

But you among my listeners who are not ready to accept my sweeping attack on the plantation system and more fundamentally on the capitalist system, have, if anything, a greater responsibility than I to see to it that a kind of agricultural exploitation of human beings which makes life in parts of America worse than life in some peasant communities of Europe and Asia should at once be ended.

Join with us in National Sharecroppers Week! Help support the Southern Tenant Farmers Union.

Jobless Strike Back at FDR For Relief Cutting Policy

(Continued from Page One)
was a victory not only for the Alliance but for the hosiery workers and the labor movement as a whole.

Victory Ends Scabbing
The open recruiting of strike breakers and special deputies on the projects must cease now. The Alliance, by its victory, has placed itself in a position to put an end to this practise, which was general before the project strike broke.

Much of the credit for this notable victory must go to the young Tarmo Hannula, local secretary of the Alliance, and National Executive member of the Young People's Socialist League. He and other Socialists played an important role in the winning of the strike.

Following closely on the heels of the workers in Berks County, the Seattle Workers Alliance has called a county wide project strike against recent orders of the administration which reduced their salaries anywhere from \$10 to \$20 per month.

2000 Answer Call
More than 2,000 workers have already answered the strike call and it is expected that an equal number will respond during the next few days. The Central Labor Union of Seattle had endorsed the strike and is cooperating with the Alliance in making it successful. Here similar conditions exist as in Berks County Administrative order No. 44 is again a focal point for the strikers.

Helena, Montana, is another scene of action. There the workers are staging a sit-down at the office of the administration in protest against cuts in the program in that territory.

New York Sit-Ins
During the past week in New York more than ten sit-ins at the District Offices of the Relief Bureau have been staged, and 100 auto-organemen employed in the Park Department have walked out on strike.

These sit-in mentioned who have been tenured and their hours reduced and the pay decreased. They were employed and

refused to leave until enough reserves were called out to put two cops on each striker and forcibly eject them. They have voted to continue their strike in spite of this and, as this is written, they are entering the office of their project labor officer, along with about 100 other demoted mechanics, where they have announced they will remain until they are returned to their jobs in which political favorites of the Parks Commissioner, Mr. Moses, have been placed.

As a result of the resurgent militancy of the workers in New York, the police and courts have returned to their old practice of dealing summarily with the unemployed. In spite of the Mayor's pledges that sit-in strikers would not be molested if they did not destroy property, his police ejected the sit-in strikers at the parks garage, and arrested Henry Borke, Alliance organizer, who was leading the men, and Andrew McKevitt, rank and file strike leader.

Five Jailed
The relief protestants at the various bureaus have met with extreme brutality, notably in the case of Local 27 of the Alliance, five members of which have been sent to jail for terms varying from 30 to 60 days.

The five of them, three of whom are members of the Socialist Party, were railroaded to jail. There was no question of their having destroyed property, but merely of having called the administrator "uncomplimentary names." One, George Barrett, has only recently completed a term of 30 days in the city workhouse, where he was sent after having been found guilty on a similar charge. Now he is serving 60 days. The others: Buck Ewing, Meyer Weinstein, Jack Hutchinson, and David Lee, constitute almost the entire leadership of the local.

The Alliance has called for a demonstration at this relief bureau, of all locals in Manhattan to demand their immediate release, and the recognition of the local's grievance committee for which these workers were demonstrating when they were arrested.

Call Association Elects Board

The annual meeting of the Socialist Call Publishing Association elected seventeen members of the Board of Directors from the metropolitan area Saturday afternoon, February 15. They are: Brendan Sexton, Jack Altman, Max Nelson, Murray Baron, Murray Gross, Bruno Fischer, Justus Ebert, Gus Tyler, Amicus Most, Sam Romer, Hal Siegel, Herbert Zam, Lazar Becker, Joseph Glass, Carl Kichandler, James Lipsig, John Ford.

The new Board of Directors at its first meeting will nominate eighteen additional comrades from out of town, who will be elected at the next meeting of the Association.

The editorial policy was overwhelmingly approved by the membership.

Hal Siegel, Secretary

Exide Victory Gained After 41-Day Sit-Down

PHILADELPHIA. After a 41-day sit-down strike, 1,800 workers marched triumphantly out of the Philadelphia plants of the Electric Storage Battery Company (Exide), having achieved pay increases, a pledge of no discrimination and the promise to negotiate other grievances.

Victory was a foregone conclusion after the auto settlement at Flint, for it was agreed this Exide strike had become "attached" to the General Motors tie-up, and that management was waiting to see what terms the United Automobile Workers of America would get.

BRANCH DIRECTORY

RATES: 3 lines, 25c, 5 cents per additional line. Minimum 1 month. Deadline: Monday at 2 P.M.

MANHATTAN
LOWER EAST SIDE. Meets every Wed. 31 Second Ave. Ruth Fischer, Sec'y, 40 Monroe St.

Chelsea Br. Meets every Wed. Grand Opera House, 23 St., and 8 Ave. Council Rm. Rhoda Pearson, Sec'y, 333 W. 10 St.

YORKVILLE. Meets every Thurs. night. Open meetings at Imperial Lyceum, 56th St. and 3rd Ave. Business meeting 1359 1st Ave. Mary Bowers Red, Sec'y.

POLISH BR. (Oddzial Potega). Meets 1st and 3rd Friday each month. 25 St. Marks Pl. (Bet. 2nd and 3rd Aves.). F. Polek, Sec'y.

BRONX
2ND A.D. Meets second and fourth Wednesdays, at 1401 Jerome Ave. Sophie E. Nelson, secretary.

8TH A.D. Meets every Wed. 7 West Burnside Ave. (near Jerome) Rm. 26. Robert Bloom, Sec'y.

AMALGAMATED, Upper 8th A.D. Meets every Wed., at 9:00 P. M. at home of Comrade Maximon, 80 Van Cortland Pk. So. Apt. 7-F-22.

BROOKLYN
DOWNTOWN KINGS. Regular meetings every Thursday at 8 P. M., 42 Smith Street. A. Walsh, Sec'y, 140 Warren Street. Clifford Clark, Treas.

BORO PARK BRANCH, 4914 New Utrecht Ave. Meets every Wednesday evening at 8:00 P. M. Edith Feferholtz, Sec'y.

LONG ISLAND
SUNNYSIDE. Meets 2nd & 4th Wed. at 3908 48th St. Sunnyside, L. I. Emily Oxhandler, Secretary.

DETROIT
BRANCH ONE Meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., People's House, 3946 Trumbull. Tel: Terrace 2-8512.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
MEETS every Tues. 8 P. M. 1693A So. Jefferson Ave. Bus. meeting 1st Tues. Class in Socialism 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tues. Labor Forum every Sunday 8 P. M.

New York's Largest Clothing Chain Issues a Fair Warning

UP GOES

THE PRICE

**CLOTH VALUES
ALREADY
UP 25%**

Only Short Time Left to Buy Crawford Clothes at

CRAWFORD CLOTHES GREATER VALUE TODAY THAN ANY TIME IN HISTORY!

Our price must go up. The only thing that permits us to sell Crawford Clothes today at \$18.75 is a huge purchase of woolens we made many months back. Most clothing firms have already been forced to announce increases in price, and we will soon have to do likewise. So the smart man is stocking up on clothes at Crawford for TWO reasons. First, because the price is way below market today. And secondly, because the market is constantly going up. Since improvement is fundamental with Crawford our clothes today are better than they ever were. If money saved means anything to you, visit your nearest Crawford store today or tomorrow and beat the price rise.

\$18⁷⁵

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For
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BUY NOW AND BEAT THE PRICE RISE!

MANHATTAN
1514 Broadway cor. 45th St.
20 Cortlandt St. near Broadway
★826 Broadway cor. 12th St.
★841 Broadway cor. 13th St.
100 5th Ave. cor. 15th St.
1282 Broadway cor. 33rd St.
462 7th Ave. cor. 35th St.
208 W. 42nd St. near 7th Ave.
949 8th Ave. cor. 37th St.
168 E. 59th St. cor. 3rd Ave.

152 E. 86th St. near 3rd Ave.
203 W. 125th St. near 7th Ave.
115 W. 125th St., bet. Lenox and 7th Ave.
1419 St. Nicholas Ave. cor. 181st St.
1391 St. Nicholas Ave.
★98 Delancey St. cor. Ludlow St.
★185 Canal St. cor. Mott St.

BROOKLYN
90 Flatbush Ave., near Schemerhorn St.
467 Fulton St. cor. Lawrence St.
★1512 Pitkin Ave. near Barrett St.

★1622 Pitkin Ave. cor. Hopkinson Ave.
★1700 Pitkin Ave. near Rockaway Ave.
★26 Manhattan Ave. near Varet St.
★266 Broadway cor. Havemeyer St.
1000 Flatbush Ave., near Albarmarle Rd.
4502 131st Ave. cor. 45th St.

RIDGEWOOD
56-27 Myrtle Ave. cor. Catalpa St.

JAMAICA
165-24 Jamaica Ave. cor. Merrick Rd.
168-05 Jamaica Ave.

ASTORIA
30-56 Stainway St.

BRONX
526 Willis Ave. near 149th St.
10 E. Fordham Rd. near Jerome Ave.
330 E. Fordham Rd. cor. Elm Place
378 E. Fordham Rd., near Webster Ave.

WHITE PLAINS
62 Main St. cor. S Lexington Ave.

STAMFORD, CONN.
44 Park Row

NEWARK
94 Market St. cor. Washington St.

JERSEY CITY
4 Journal Square

UNION CITY
317 Central Ave. cor. Griffith St.

PHILADELPHIA
720 Bergenline Ave. cor. 36th St.
1225 Market St. 38 S. 69th St.

BOSTON
595 Washington St. cor. Avery St.

**NEW YORK'S
LARGEST
CLOTHING
CHAIN**

* Stores marked by star are open Sunday

ALL CRAWFORD STORES OPEN EVENINGS

25,000 in Flint Read CALL—Did You Help?

By THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Last week's CALL was crammed full with news of the Auto Strike. Through the efforts of the Socialist Party of Michigan, we were able to get 25,000 special copies of the CALL to the striking auto workers just as they won their victory. 21,000 CALLS were put into the hands of Flint auto workers last week-end, while Norman Thomas was in Flint.

The CALL wants to be the sort of a paper which is relied on for doing this kind of an organizing job for the party. We wish that we had the resources which would allow us to do this every week of such an important strike. But it takes money to get out the regular CALL and more money for special runs.

Our comrades in Flint and the other Michigan towns are enthusiastic about the job we did last week. One party organizer in Flint writes: "The auto strike supplement was a grand job and everybody is pleased with it. We distributed about 15,000 Saturday and the rest are being distributed Sunday by some of the comrades. The supplement will do a great deal in building the Party in Flint."

One check donated at the Call Association on Saturday not only is the biggest part of this week's donations, but it puts New York City definitely on its way toward making a good showing on its quota. The comrade, David Clendennin, wrote out a check for \$200 to the CALL on Saturday. Two other comrades have each donated \$100 each in weeks past.

The CALL Drive made a substantial advance this week, but it wasn't the response which we must have. Everyone was hoping that we would at least reach the \$1,000 mark on the barometer this week. If our rate of increase had kept up, we would have. The CALL Drive has to go on. It has to succeed. The CALL has to raise this money to stay in the field. If you are in favor of the CALL, register your approval by sending in every cent you can spare!

We are getting reports of branches in many places holding parties and other special affairs for the CALL Drive. Every branch must do this. And as soon as money is raised for the CALL Drive, see that it is sent in.

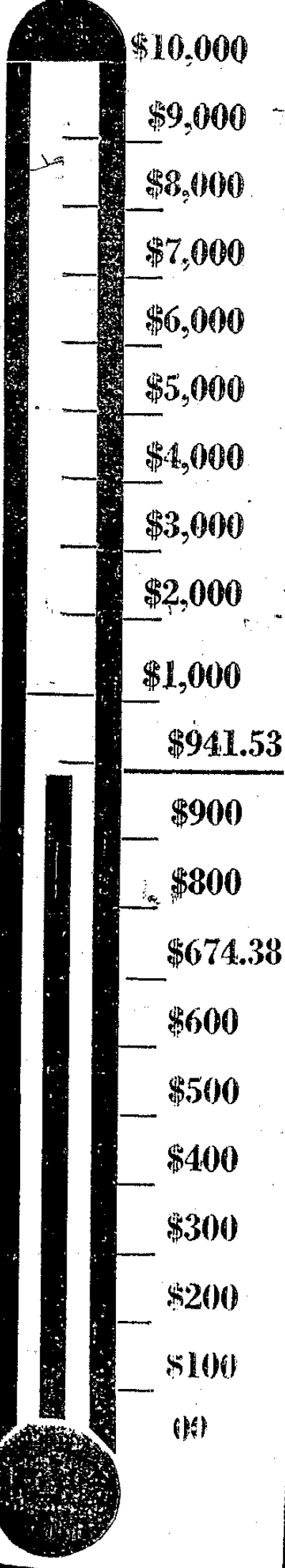
Statistics this week: Previously reported, \$674.38; Received this week, \$265.11; Total thus far, \$941.53; Must be raised in this Drive, \$10,000.

Standing of states and districts at the end of the fourth week:

| State or City | Quota | Subscribed | Per Cent |
|--------------------------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Boston | \$300.00 | 148.00 | 46 |
| California | 150.00 | 37.00 | 24.6 |
| Oregon | 50.00 | 22.00 | 22 |
| New Mexico | 30.00 | 6.00 | 20 |
| Illinois (outside) | | | |
| Chicago | 300.00 | 58.50 | 19.5 |
| Pittsburgh | 200.00 | 39.00 | 19.5 |
| New York City | 2600.00 | 461.68 | 17.7 |
| New Hampshire | 35.00 | 4.00 | 11.4 |
| Florida | 40.00 | 4.50 | 11.2 |
| Indiana | 100.00 | 10.00 | 10 |
| New Jersey | 400.00 | 36.81 | 9.2 |
| Texas | 30.00 | 2.50 | 8.3 |
| Kansas | 50.00 | 3.50 | 7 |
| Idaho | 30.00 | 2.00 | 6.6 |
| New York state | 400.00 | 23.50 | 5.8 |
| Cleveland | 150.00 | 8.50 | 5.6 |
| Pennsylvania (outside cities) | 300.00 | 16.25 | 5.4 |
| Connecticut | 600.00 | 27.04 | 4.5 |
| Kentucky | 50.00 | 2.00 | 4 |
| Ohio (outside) | | | |
| Cleveland | 150.00 | 7.75 | 3.8 |
| North Carolina | 20.00 | 7.5 | 3.7 |
| Tennessee | 30.00 | 1.00 | 3.3 |
| West Virginia | 35.00 | 1.00 | 2.8 |
| Maryland | 100.00 | 2.50 | 2.5 |
| Oklahoma | 40.00 | 1.00 | 2.5 |
| Missouri | 250.00 | 5.50 | 2.2 |
| Massachusetts (outside Boston) | 400.00 | 8.50 | 2.1 |
| Detroit | 150.00 | 3.00 | 1.3 |
| Wisconsin | 800.00 | 11.00 | 1.3 |
| Chicago | 400.00 | 5.00 | 1.25 |
| Iowa | 50.00 | 50 | 1 |
| District of Columbia | 125.00 | 1.00 | .8 |
| Michigan (outside) | | | |
| Detroit | 150.00 | 2.00 | 1.3 |
| Washington | 50.00 | 2.00 | 4 |
| Philadelphia | 400.00 | 2.00 | .5 |
| Reading | 200.00 | 2.00 | 1 |

What is most striking is the fact that the rate which has been set for the western states is being met in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Milwaukee, and St. Paul. This has not been the case in the past.

\$10,000 For The CALL



Socialists Plan Paper, School, Staff in South

A new financing system, based upon taxation according to income, has been established by the Southern Conference of the Socialist Party to enable the creation of a permanent central headquarters.

The Southern Headquarters will establish a training school for organizers and will place at their disposal sound trucks, leaflets, and pamphlets.

A regional paper, with special concentration upon Southern issues, is contemplated by the sectional body.

A full-time staff, to coordinate and initiate activities, will be employed.

These new organizational steps are the result of a rising Socialist sentiment in the South, the success of the Socialist Party in its mass work, and the growing centralization and coordination of Socialist Party activities throughout the country.

GUILD GROWS
SOUTH BEND, Ind. (FP).— In a sudden burst of activity the American Newspaper Guild has signed up 42 of South Bend's 43 newspapermen.

WORKERS DEFENSE LEAGUE

A New York City membership meeting of all members of the Workers Defense League will take place Monday afternoon, 4 P.M. at the home of Mary Fox, 61 Morton Street.

The organization of the New York City branch will take place and plans for future activity will be made.

Genora Johnson Speaker At Chicago Party Rally

CHICAGO — Chicago Socialists have called a public mass meeting for Ashland Auditorium (Carmen's Hall at Ashland and Van Buren) this Friday evening, February 19, to hear Genora Johnson, leader of the Flint Michigan Women's Emergency Brigade of the Auto Workers Union. B. J. Widdick, editor of the Rubber Workers Journal, Vincent Dunn of the Minneapolis Teamsters Union and Frank Trager, labor secretary of the Socialist Party, speak on the issues raised for workers by the CIO drive and the development of the sit-down strike.

This will be the first public platform appearance of Genora Johnson, militant young Socialist auto worker outside of auto workers union circles where she has risen

to notice as a result of her brilliant and devoted work in organization and leading of the Women's Emergency Brigade which rendered important service during the height of the auto strike.

GET YOUR DEBS STAMPS!

VILLAGE BRANCH AND MATTEOTTI LEAGUE

Mid-Winter Dance

AT
107 MacDOUGAL ST.

Saturday, Feb. 20th at 8:30

DON WILSONS BAND

Tickets 40c

DANCE and ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday - 20 - February

Lower East Side Branch
Socialist Party

31 SECOND AVENUE

HOT DOGS! DRINKS!
SWING BAND!

Adm: 25c

DISCUSSION

"The Arab-Zionist Problem"

From the Zionist Viewpoint:
MR. ITTAMAR BEN AVI

From the Arabian Viewpoint:
MR. H. I. KATIBAH

Sunday, Feb. 21, at 8:30 P.M.

The New History Society
CARAVAN HALL, 110 E. 59th St.
(East of Park Ave.)

FREE ADMISSION ALL WELCOME

LUDWIG LORE

"The Struggle In and Around Spain"

VANGUARD FORUM
22 West 17th St.

FRI., FEB. 19—8:30 p.m. Adm. 15c

MUSICALES

followed by Studio Party every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Two hour program of masterpieces. Refreshments, dancing, fun, frolic. 20 cents lets you in.

LEAGUE OF MUSIC LOVERS
11 West 18th St., N.Y.C.

MUSIC THROUGH THE AGES

Fifteen Concerts of Masterpieces, Ancient and Modern

Wednesdays at 8:30 P.M., Beg. Feb. 17

\$1.50 Entire Series, \$1.00 8 Concerts

League of Music Lovers
11 West 18th Street New York City

REGISTER NOW

GALA AFFAIR

Benefit

DEBS COLUMN

Party and Dance—Refreshments

237 South 4th St.
4 and 14 A. D. KINGS

35c Sat. Feb. 27

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

BROOKLYN

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JOHN P. CARSTENS, 517 Conoy Island Ave., Brooklyn, Uncluttered slip covers, furniture repaired, refinished. IN 2-0345

MANHATTAN

SODA FOUNTAIN

DEBEST DRINKS 27 Union Sq. (next to the Plaza) Soda fountain, Orange & Pineapple drinks, Cigars, cigarettes, candy.

OPTICIAN

HERBERT RUSH
15 West 45th Street, N. Y. C.
Murray Hill 6-2785

ROOMMATE WANTED

GIRL Comrade to share 3 room apartment \$12 monthly. 601 West 120th St. Bklyn. after 6 P.M.

ROOM WANTED

WANTED

LOST

PROGRESSIVE FOOD WORKERS

FIRST ANNUAL BALL

SATURDAY NIGHT, FEBRUARY 20, 1937

at PALM GARDEN, 312 W. 52nd Street

CZARDAS - POLKA - RUMBA - SWING

10% Will be Donated to the Spanish Workers Heroic Fight Against Fascism

TICKETS 50 CENTS PER PERSON

BROADWAY'S STARS ARE OUT!

for the

BENEFIT OF THE SEAMEN

COL. J. C. FLIPPEN
Master of Ceremonies
JIMMY DURANTE
HOLLYWOOD REVUE
BENNY GOODMAN
THE PARADISE
Entertainers
REX INGRAM
TAMARA
ROBERT HALLIDAY
WALTER ABEL

BOB HOPE
CLUB VARIETY
HARLEM UPROAR CLUB
SHAM JONES
RUBINOFF and His Band
LEON & EDDIE'S
Entertainers
CAB CALLOWAY
and His Band
HORRAH MINNEVITCH
and His Harmonica Escorts
WILL GEER

MECCA TEMPLE

133 WEST 55th STREET

Sunday Evening, 8:30 P.M.

FEB. 21st

Auspices: District Committee of I.S.U. of America and Maritime Workers Benefit Committee. Tickets 55c to \$1.65

CITIZENS COMMITTEE, 277 West 22nd Street—Lehungs, 43rd and B'way, Tysons, 46th St. and B'way, McBride, Paramount Bldg.

E T A O I N S H R D L U

serves no purpose in this ad except to remind you that this Saturday evening February 20th is reserved for a socialist call house party tendered by the 22nd and 4th branch kings at jack barbush's at 325 west fourth street in greenwich village where will be drinks and refreshments and music and dancing for an admission of only 50 cents and all proceeds will go to the socialist call . . . E T A O I N S H R D L U

serves no purpose in this ad except to remind you that this Saturday evening February 20th is reserved for a socialist call house party tendered by the 22nd and 4th branch kings at jack barbush's at 325 west fourth street in greenwich village where will be drinks and refreshments and music and dancing for an admission of only 50 cents and all proceeds will go to the socialist call . . . E T A O I N S H R D L U

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With The Party

COLORADO

The State Executive Committee has accepted the quota of \$50 assigned for the CALL Drive and laid plans for meeting it.

A legislative committee composed of J. Austin Beasley and I.W. Holland which will work with the Publicity Committee, Carlo Whitehead and Jean Rudd, has been named to work under direction of the Denver Quorum, in protesting to the legislature. A campaign against the 3 per cent cake tax bill, which has just been proposed, is being inaugurated.

CONNECTICUT

Making his last appearance in this state before his trip to Europe, Norman Thomas will speak at the Commercial High School, New Haven, Sat., Feb. 20, at 8 P.M. On the same program Girolamo Valenti, editor of La Stampa Libera, will discuss conditions in Europe in both English and Italian.

KANSAS

Every branch in the state is actively pushing the Debs Stamp drive.

The quarterly meeting of the SEC, normally held in March, will be postponed until after the national convention.

The following have been nominated for delegates to the national convention: Beloff, Hager and Whiteside. Kansas is entitled to two delegates. There will be one alternate elected.

MARYLAND

The new YPSL circle in Baltimore is sending a delegation to Washington on the Youth Pilgrimage which will take place Feb. 19-22.

Local Baltimore held a housewarming party at its new headquarters, 103-105 No. Eutaw St. A capacity crowd attended. Greetings were received from prominent labor leaders. John Herling, of the Socialist Press Bureau in Washington, gave a talk. Plans are being made to raise funds for the Debs Column.

MASSACHUSETTS

Through the activity of Socialists in the Newton carpenters union, the union voted unanimously against the proposed change in their constitution outlawing dissenters and critics of the administration.

Max Shachtman, George Novack, Richard Babb Whitten and John Newton Thurber were speakers at a meeting for the Defense of Leon Trotsky held Fri., Feb. 12, in Old South Meeting House, Boston. 500 people were present, and several joined the Socialist Party, and the Ypsels at the end of the meeting. The meeting was under auspices of the New England section of the American Committee for the Defense of Trotsky.

MICHIGAN

A Jewish Branch, Detroit, held a social on Sun., Feb. 14, for the benefit of the CALL and the Socialist Shtime, official organ of the Jewish Socialists.

NEW YORK

Rebel Arts social has been postponed from this Saturday to Feb. 27. Sharecropper Aid Party at the home of Esther Hoffman, 1667 Grand Ave., Feb. 23. Auspices, 2 A.D., Bronx.

Party and Dance for the Debs Column by the 4-14 A.D., Brooklyn, Feb. 27, at 237 S. 4th St.

Socialist cooperators will meet at Rebel Arts, 35 E. 19th St., Fri., Feb. 19, at 8 P.M.

The 22nd A.D. branch, Brooklyn, announces the opening of its new headquarters at 839 Blake Ave. near Schenck Ave.

Social by 8 A.D., Bronx, Feb. 20 at branch headquarters, 7 West Burnside Ave., Rm. 26.

Bruno Fischer, managing editor of the CALL, will speak on Proletarian Literature Feb. 24 at the Astoria Branch, 3303 30 Ave., Astoria, Queens. Dance Feb. 20 by Village Branch and Mattoot League at 107 MacDugal St. Next day, at same place, Samuel H. Friedman will speak on Labor Songs in America at the Village Forum, same address.

Mass meeting on "Why All Anti-Fascists Should Support the Debs Column" will be held Fri., Feb. 26 at the Boro Park Casino, 39th St. and 14 Ave., Brooklyn, under the auspices of the Boro Park branch and the YPSL. Speakers: Ludwig Lore, Carlo Tresca, Isidore Laderman, James Burnham, Hal Stegel, and Hyman Fromowitz, chairman.

Opening of new headquarters at 267 Schenectady Ave. near Eastern P'way will be celebrated by the 18 A.D., Branch 1, Brooklyn, Sat., Feb. 20. There will be a three-piece band.

Consolation Party for those who are not going on the student Washington Pilgrimage will be given by Hunter College Circle, YPSL, Feb. 20 at 160 W. 72nd St., Apt. 4A.

OHIO

The West Side Branch, Cleveland

has secured a new meeting place and renewing its activity in what was once a center of the Cleveland Socialist movement.

The 13th Ward Czecho-Slovak branch, Cleveland, recently met and elected new officers. Steps are being taken to include the members of this branch in the Sustaining Fund plan of the local, and to assign them a part of the quota of signatures for the coming municipal campaign.

The Labor Committee of the Cleveland Local has been active in working with the Fisher Bodies strikers. Leaflets were distributed at most of the mass meetings of the strikers, and a large bundle of CALLS distributed each week. 1500 copies of the Auto Strike Supplement published by the CALL last week were distributed as the end of the strike was announced, coupled with a mimeographed statement prepared by the committee.

PENNSYLVANIA

Parkside branch, Philadelphia, is conducting a membership and CALL sub drive. The branch meets every Wed. evening at 4201 1/2 Montana Ave.

New Kensington local is cooperating with a united front committee, known as the Allegheny Valley Labor Red Cross Committee, which is raising

funds and gathering supplies for the Spanish Loyalists.

TENNESSEE

The State Executive Committee met in Chattanooga Feb. 14. Franz Danler was elected delegate to the National Convention and George Lambert alternate delegate. The committee instructed its delegate to work at the convention for the establishment of emphasis on mass organization work, to seek "Democratic discipline" in the Party, and to recommend and vote for a proposal to actively work for a Farmer-Labor Party in the future.

The findings of the Southern conference in regard to a field secretary for the South and his headquarters were endorsed and means of actively aiding in the establishment of such headquarters were discussed.

Jack Fies of Nashville was elected to the SEC to replace Howard Hufaker who had moved to California. Dr. R. Amberson was elected chairman of the Committee.

Plans for holding the next State Convention on April 24 and 25 in Memphis were made, and the state secretary was given assurances that the various locals and members-at-large would cooperate with him in putting over both the Debs Stamp Drive and the CALL fund drive.

N. Y. Red Card Meeting On Labor Party Friday

Roy E. Burt, national secretary of the Party, will be one of the speakers at the pre-convention membership meeting to be held this Friday, February 19, in New York City.

The meeting was postponed from last Monday. It will take place at Stuyvesant Casino, Second Avenue and 9th Street. Admission will be by Party or YPSL card only.

The meeting will be confined to labor party problems. Other speakers, besides Burt, will be Murray Baron, James Burnham and August Tyler.

Two other pre-convention dis-

ussion meetings will be held. On Monday, March 1, Party Organization will be discussed, and on Monday, March 8 the meeting will be given to Trade Union Policy.

BASKETBALL FOR SPAIN

Three basketball games for the benefit of Spanish loyalists will be played at the Hippodrome in New York, 43rd St. and 6th Ave., this Friday evening. Outstanding professional stars will participate in the feature game.



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STAGE SOCIALIST CALL and SCREEN

REVOLUTION IS THEME OF NEW GUILD PLAY

Critic Sorry For Royalty in 'The Masque of Kings'

THE MASQUE OF KINGS, by Maxwell Anderson, with Henry Hull. Staged by Philip Moeller. Produced by Theatre Guild, at the Shubert Theatre, 44th St., W. of Broadway, New York.

By McALISTER COLEMAN

Broadway is brightening. After a series of false starts, balking at the jumps and falling sloppily into the water, the season got into full stride as late as last week. Then we saw three good shows in succession. We also saw two others. But three out of five is an amazingly good average for this season.

The three were "King Richard II," enthusiastically reviewed in this column last week, "The Masque of Kings" and "Yes, My Darling Daughter."

The one-man, mass production playwrighting industry that goes by the name of Maxwell Anderson turned out "The Masque of Kings." Here the versatile Anderson again broods over man's fate but with far more dramatic effect than he achieved in "The Wingless Victory." He gives us the conflict between Franz Joseph of Austria and his "liberal" son, the Crown Prince Rudolph, a conflict that ended with the pistol shots in the hunting-lodge at Mayerling.

In Anderson's version, Rudolph starts out to make a revolution against the cruelties of Joseph's regime, but liberal-like cannot see it through. Even the young Baroness Marie Vetsera, his mistress, has, it seems, been sent by Joseph to spy on him. There are other rats all around him and finally he throws up the desperate venture in disgust. The suicides of the Prince and his Baroness bring down the last curtain on a thrilling evening.

Henry Hull as the Crown Prince, Dudley Digges magnificent as the intransigent old Emperor, the actress known only as Margo, and Pauline Frederick make the Theatre Guild's fourth production of the year at The Shubert Theatre on West 44th Street a memorable event in theatre history. We throw high our critical hat in honor of Mr. Anderson's ranging mind and sympathetic imagination. He can even make us feel sorry for royalty. And that's no small order.

'Yes, My Darling Daughter' Supplies Intelligent Laughter

Every old Greenwich Village war-horse who sniffed the battle in the May Days before the war, must get to The Playhouse on West Forty-eighth Street, where "Yes, My Darling Daughter" is showing. Mark Reed wrote this fine comedy, and though he lets us down at the end, he supplies an evening full of intelligent laughter.

A radical writing woman, played with great gusto by Lucille Watson, (who, by the way, didn't have a chance in her part in "Prelude to Exile") settles down to bourgeois comfort with a banker husband in New Canaan. Unfortunately she has a daughter who has done some researching into her mother's Village past and decides that she in her turn will try a little of the freedom so eloquently agitated by mama and her old Masse's friends. That starts things, and with a vengeance. Shall mother be true to her old red colors or run with

Rex Is Back



REX INGRAM, back on roadway again, this time in the Theatre Union's first production of the season "Marching Song" by John Howard Lawson. At the Bayes Theatre.

Grace Moore Due At Radio City

Grace Moore will return to the screen of the Radio City Music Hall when her newest musical romance, "When You're in Love," has its premiere Thursday, February 18, at the Rockefeller Center playhouse. "When You're in Love" will follow the current showing of Irving Berlin's "On The Avenue."

Both written and directed by Robert Riskin, the author of the popular comedies, "It Happened One Night" and "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," the film marks Mr. Riskin's entrance into the ranks of directors.

The Metropolitan Opera diva will appear in spectacles created for her by Leon Leonidoff, producer of the Music Hall's stage shows, who traveled to Hollywood to stage all of the musical numbers.

Essay Test On Until Feb. 25

The closing date of the Film-arte contest for 100 word critical essays on "The Eternal Mask," Swiss psychological film now in its sixth week, has been extended to February 25th in order to allow wider participation. A first prize of \$50 will be awarded, as well as 10 season passes for the ten honorable mentioned essays.

the New Canaan bankers?

We warn you right now that if you happen to be a parent of this new generation, you'll have plenty of qualms during the evening. But we also warn you not to skip one of the most amusing shows of the season.

O'Neill Missing In 'Fulton of Oak Falls'

There was a great to-do among theatre veterans about the return of "the brand old house of Cohan and Harris to Broadway in "Fulton of Oak Falls," by Parker Fen-nelly. Unfortunately Mr. Cohan's attempt to revive the sentimental mood of "Ah, Wilderness" goes flat. For one thing he didn't have an O'Neill script to work on. And his engaging presence isn't enough to keep the strong scent of lilacs from half smothering the audiences at the Morosco Theatre on West 45th Street.

ILGWU Actors Excellent In Wexley's 'Steel'

STEEL, a play in three acts by John Wexley. Directed by Mark Schweid, settings by S. Syrjala, with I.L.G.U. players, presented by Labor Stage. Louis Schaffer, General Manager.

Here is a direct and forceful play on a subject of vital interest to American labor. It is neither subtle nor arty. The workers are good and the bosses are bad and if you don't like it you can go see "Tide Rising." The tide will probably rise without you.

Actors Can Join Equity

It is played by a cast of members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union who seem to have joined the wrong union; they are really good enough to be in Actors Equity. If, occasionally, one of the steel workers sounds as if he knew his way around Second Avenue, you not only won't mind it, you'll like it. It will be a relief from the stage proletarians with the cultured voices and accents of drama schools.

The sponsors of National Share-croppers Week have taken over "Steel" for the entire week of March 1st to 6th at Labor Stage, 104-6 West 39th St. N.Y.C. for the benefit of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union. See it then.

Opera Tickets Given Free to Music Lovers By Maestro Salmaggi

Alfredo Salmaggi, Director of the New York Hippodrome Opera Company, announces that 1500 free tickets will be given to serious music students for three forthcoming performances at the Hippodrome of February 22nd and 23rd. The operas to be presented are "Madame Butterfly" on Washington's Birthday (matinee), the double bill of "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci" the same evening, and "La Boheme" on the evening of Tuesday, February 23rd. Five hundred free tickets will be allotted for each performance.

Requests for tickets should be addressed to the Hippodrome Opera Company, Room 603, R.K.O. Bldg., Radio City, N. Y., and will be acted upon in order of receipt, two tickets assigned to each.

Comedy Hit Has Extra Matinee February 22nd

There will be three matinees next week for "Yes, My Darling Daughter," the comedy hit featuring Lucille Watson, Peggy Conklin, and Violet Heming at the Playhouse. A special holiday matinee will be given on Monday, February 22nd, in addition to the two regular matinees on Wednesday and Saturday.

WE ARE FROM 'KRONSTADT'

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French Cad in British Film Eclipses Jessie Matthews

HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE, a GB production with Jessie Matthews, Louis Borell, Robert Fleming and Whitney Bourne. Directed by Sonnie Haic. At the Roxy.

A despicable cad turns up in "Head Over Heels In Love" to deal an annihilating blow to our cinematic nationalism. We thought the most finished four-flushers in flickers, gentlemen like Claude Rains, Monroe Owsley and Ivan Lebedeff, were pursuing their pusillanimous professions in Hollywood with an able demonstration of the superior viciousness of American cads. Here is a French cad in a British movie who steals the play from the picture's star, Jessie Matthews. His name is Louis Borell and he keeps breaking Jessie Matthews' heart with a Gallician finesse that reduces our native cinemaskunks to a status of childish ineffectuality. If you harbor an affectionate spot in your heart, as we do, for these reptilian gents, here is a performance you cannot afford to miss.

As entertainment, "Head Over Heels in Love" is a harmless indulgence graced with a good proportion of hummable songs and

the vaguely lukewarm personality of Miss Matthews. She has been seen to much better advantage in the past and she has enjoyed greater opportunities to display her magic toes and lovely figure. She has been provided with a good-awful story that suggests a paucity of intelligent writers over there. No sooner are we treated to Miss Matthews voice than up rears the deadly head of English humor.

Gordon and Revel have written some engaging songs and lyrics, most notable of which are the title song, "May I Have the Next Romance With You," and "Looking Around Corners." We have already commented upon Miss Matthews' innocuous "cuteness" and the highly enjoyable work of Louis Borell, who is destined for Hollywood if "Representative" Dickstein doesn't succeed in excluding foreign talent from our shores.

M. K. W.

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AT THE FRONT



By **NORMAN THOMAS**

AUTO VICTORY

The biggest news for us is, of course, the automobile workers' victory. And it is a victory. You should see and talk to the Flint workers if you have any doubt. One of the greatest corporations in America has recognized this new industrial union. It did it under circumstances that go a long way to legitimize the sit-down strike and further to abridge our legal notions of absolute property rights.

For this victory there is glory enough for all: the CIO and its leaders; the Automobile Workers' leaders; but most of all a magnificent rank-and-file. I am proud of the way Socialists played their part. Governor Murphy deserves credit. So far he has done as well as any governor under a capitalist system can be expected to do. But the credit does not go to his Party. Judge Gadola, I think, is a Democrat. Certainly the state and local officials involved in the disgraceful Anderson, Indiana, situation are Democrats.

ANTI-UNION VIOLENCE IN ANDERSON.

What happened at Anderson is proof, if any were needed, that the automobile struggle is only begun. The workers have won a battle against General Motors, but not the war. General Motors has not capitulated. It will fight every step of the way and, as at Anderson, it will directly incite or encourage vigilantes, pro-corporation officials, local newspapers, gullible workers (and maybe the AFL craft unions!) to fight for it.

I must trust the editor to give news from Anderson for which I haven't space. I was in Anderson the first night of martial law and talked to leaders on both sides and officials from the governor down. Violence against the union was as usual and unpunished. The

Three Arrows Camp Socialist Cooperative

Camp Three Arrows, the Socialist cooperative colony, has already developed into a full-fledged organization.

Title to the 120 acre tract of land, with frontage on a 50 acre private lake, at Shrub Oak, New York, eight miles out of Peekskill was taken Monday.

A camp office has been opened for the convenience of members and prospective members who desire information or wish to arrange for a trip to survey the land—112 East 19 Street, New York, Room 302, Alq. 4-2638.

Officers Elected

Immediately after incorporation and at the last membership meeting the following officers and directors were elected: Benjamin H. Wolf, President, Robert Hirsch, Vice-President, Sol Perrin, Treasurer, and Clara Lowin, Secretary.

The various committees have been functioning for several months and at present have definite proposals and plans for the development of the camp and colony. For instance, the House Committee is now completing plans to open the 12-room house on the premises for immediate accommodation of members and guests.

Membership entitles one to the use of a site upon which a private dwelling may be erected. 45 sites have already been subscribed for, membership will be limited to the use of about 100 sites.

siege of the union meeting on Thursday night and on Friday union men from Toledo and Flint night the shooting which drew to help their comrades both occurred after the signing of the settlement. Union men were the victims, not the aggressors.

Martial law may have prevented a small civil war. But, despite definite assurances to me from the governor and the colonel in command to the contrary, it looks as if in important features it would hurt the union. The union should insist that General Motors call off its local fighters as proof of good faith before negotiations continue. Even Mayor Baldwin of Anderson admits General Motors could restore peace.

One fine thing at Flint is the intention of the auto workers to finish the job. The bus men who in a sense started the strike wave at Flint are still out. And the 100 per cent organized workers in the Standard Cotton factory (not a GM plant) are still in! These sit-down strikers struck against intolerable conditions.

I went through the factory and saw copies of payroll and time sheets when I spoke to the strikers. No adequate ventilation, unprotected gears and wheels, 72 hour week, wages 30 to 60 cents an hour! The factory makes cushions and when operating the air is filled with dust. You should hear the strikers sing the ballads that tell their story!

NATIONAL SHARE-CROPPERS WEEK

From partial newspaper summaries, I judge that the President's Commission on Farm Tenancy has made a pretty fair report which has included a section on civil liberties in the cotton country. Things have come a long way since one had to explain in every speech who and what a sharecropper is and the Administration denied most of our charges concerning their ruthless exploitation.

And for that credit belongs not to the Administration, of which Joe Robinson is still a major prop, but to the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union. Remember that when you help to celebrate National Share Croppers Week March 1 to 7—Get suggestions from the Workers Defense League, 112 East 19 Street, New York City.

"NEUTRALITY" AIDS FRANCO

It would be a good thing if some of the excitement about the President's proposal for putting six new judges on the Supreme Court bench could be turned toward the problem of neutrality legislation which is also before Congress. Nothing that the President proposes about the Court, whatever its inadequacy, threatens us with Fascism.

The direct encouragement, which Congress possibly well-meant but terribly mistaken Spanish embargo, gave to Spanish Fascist rebels not only hurts the loyalist cause but increases the chance of world war and of world Fascism. Of choices, none of which was without evil, our government chose much the worst when it changed the rules in the middle of the game to the aid of Franco. He has expressed his appreciation!

We who believe that mandatory neutrality and an embargo on war material while neither a perfect nor an infallible road to peace, the best general rule to lay down in international war should make it clear that it should not be applied against a friendly government engaged in a desper-

ate struggle for the workers against a peculiarly barbarous and reactionary Fascism. In general I favor the Nye-Clark-Vandenberg-Bone neutrality proposals, but not on terms that would continue this absolute embargo against a Spanish government fighting for life against Fascist rebellion.

BAD NEWS FROM SPAIN

The news from Spain is very bad. And for that there are three reasons: (1) The open aid which Mussolini and Hitler gave Franco without which his forces would not have taken Malaga; (2) tragic disunion in the loyalist forces of which the attempt, apparently Communist inspired, not to use but to destroy the POUM and the CNT is proof; and (3) the hypocritical British farce of non-intervention.

Perhaps this last will be counteracted by France after Blum's vigorous speech last Sunday. But the British Foreign Office, having reached an agreement with Mussolini, and having received from Franco a pledge to protect British mining rights, cares nothing for the rights of democracy or the Spanish workers. That shows how little we can trust this theory of our alliance of "democracies"—like Britain—against Fascism.

The shame of it is the contemptible role of the British Labor Party as virtual stooge of the Tories in its Spanish policy. Not war but peace would have resulted had Britain from the beginning accorded the Spanish government the rights of a recognized nation against armed rebellion.

But the workers fight on! Their cause is the cause of our peace.

GREAT FUTURE FOR PARTY

I am definitely encouraged about our Party as a result of this trip. The National Office is doing fine work under difficulties, financial and otherwise. (Have You Bought

Your Debs Stamps?) Its cooperation in Flint was excellent.

The one essential is to remember that we are Socialists with a far larger and more important area of agreement than disagreement. We are not, and must not become, a league of wrangling factions. We do agree in general with the NEC program. We know that Socialism, not bourgeois democracy, is our hope against Fascism or reaction. We believe in work in mass organization and ought to be seeking the best way to make it effective. We believe in a democratic structure of our party and the preservation of the right of criticism and discussion within the party and certainly within any Socialist government.

This belief and our faith in civil liberty are, and have been, reasons why we are not Communists and they, not uncritical acceptance of Trotsky as against Stalin, underlie our interest in finding the truth concerning the charges against Trotsky, charges which affect the whole working class struggle.

In this spirit we can and should plan hopefully for our important convention. Our great contribution to unity will be made by emphasis on the things which unite us with each other and with the workers. We can't be a vanguard party unless we ourselves are trusted in effective comradeship and maintain a vital relation to the masses in their struggle. A vanguard isn't a vanguard if it is isolated from what is, or must be built into, the main army.

WHAT KIND OF DEMOCRACY?

Now, says the Associated Press, Mussolini is talking about the democracy of Fascism. Hitler did it in his Reichstag speech. That makes it unanimous—and meaningless. Everybody is for democracy, but what kind of democracy? That's the real question.

Workers Made Sit-Down Legal, Says Thomas in Auto Address

(Continued from Page One) you were in 41 days and General Motors signed on the dotted line. Didn't they? I guess that makes it legal enough," he told the strikers later. "The concept of property rights change with usage. Years ago it was considered an abridgement of property rights to have any kind of strike. You workers changed that concept and now you are establishing new precedents."

After being shown through the Standard Cotton Products factory by a committee of sit-in strikers, Thomas addressed an outdoor demonstration in front of the plant.

Inhuman Conditions

"Cotton workers are exploited from the plantation to the finished product," he said. He described the inhuman conditions under which sharecroppers in the South work and live. He berated the owners of the Standard Products Co. for paying wages of 30 cents an hour and working their employees from 60 to 82 hours a week.

"I've seen any number of factories," he said, "but this is one of the worst. I saw no proper ventilating system. The men tell me that when the plant is going full blast they can't see who is working across from them because of the clouds of lint. Mind you, these workers have to breathe this air 10 to 12 hours a day."

"I saw rotating gears and belts with no safe guards on them. In winter they tell me it is cold and

in summer it is so hot that tar drips down into the factory from the roof.

"These men have been sitting in for 45 days and all they're asking is a minimum of 50 cents an hour. The employers drew \$61,000 in wages last year. This is Lincoln's birthday. He helped emancipate the slaves, but the job isn't finished yet."

After briefly addressing the striking bus drivers and maintenance men, he was the guest of honor at an informal dinner given him by the Socialist Party of Flint.

Perfect Day

Before leaving the city he said, "Now the auto workers must get more solidly behind the bus drivers and the Standard Cotton Workers. We must be one for all and all for one."

"This has been a perfect day," he concluded. "The only thing needed to top it off would be for me to pick up the evening paper and read that the Spanish workers had forced back the Fascist rebels."

HOLD FORECLOSURES

WASHINGTON, (AP) — Foreclosure proceedings against 160,000 of the 1,021,800 homes on which the Home Owners' Loan Corporation has made loans will probably be instituted between now and July 1, 1938. testimony before a House subcommittee committee disclosed.

Youth Marches On Washington For a New Act

(Continued from Page One)

administration. The NYA has been the target of much criticism, especially from unionists, because of its inadequacy and its lowering of standards and replacement of regular employees.

Also on the program for Saturday is a meeting at which Senators and Congressmen who are supporting the bill will speak along with youth leaders. Delegates will visit their congressmen to notify them that their petition and letters were meant in dead earnest, and that the pressure for passage of the NYA will continue with even greater momentum in the months ahead.

Many Unemployed

Many of the delegates will have taken part in the march on Washington held by the Workers' Alliance several weeks ago. Reiterating their demands, they will be able to lend a note of realism to the demands of the less experienced young people who on this occasion will be making their first sally into the field of legislation. As many of the young men in the WAA reported to their local youth groups, the relief pittances and lowering of standards that have been more evident since the elections will increase as long as the youth, along with workers and unemployed generally do not organize independently of the capitalist parties to gain their demands.

Ben Fischer, national secretary of the Young People's Socialist League, said, in relation to the Pilgrimage:

"We could believe the soft words and kind humanitarianism of the President and his henchmen only if we expected them to carry out their promises. We have seen the Democratic humanitarianism expressed in the war budget. We can expect the same treatment of our demands for passage of the NYA. Young Socialists don't expect the NYA to be passed by this or any other Democratic or Republican congress—we state what is a minimum standard of aid for youth today. If this congress will not meet our needs, we will put no faith in its members or their parties. It is only as the young workers and students who come here and send these delegates organize in the party that is working for a social order where there will be no lost generation that we can solve our problems."

Militant Victimized

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—Unemployed organizations and the Workers Defense League are fighting the relief authorities in this county on the issue of Frank Ross of St. Louis Park, who has been sentenced to 90 days in the workhouse on charges of non-support despite his wife's testimony that he has been willing to provide for the family. It is claimed that Ross is the victim of an attempt to terrorize relief clients.

RECITAL FOR BRIGADE

Support for the Murgueta V. Debs Column of Spain will be extended at a concert sponsored by the Rebel Arts Chorus at Newark on Monday evening, March 1, at the Music Room, Newark, N. J. Y. M. H. A.