

# Socialist Call

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## INDIAN CONGRESS OPPOSES SENDING TROOPS TO CHINA

HARIPURA, India. — The fifty-fifth annual conference of the Indian National Congress assembled here Feb. 19, to act on policies which will govern the Indian national liberation movement for the next year.

Nearly forty ministers in charge of administration of three fourths of India were reported to be visiting the sessions. The ministers actually participating in the conference were said to control seven of India's eleven provinces.

Four thousand volunteers milled throughout the camp ground, which covers more than two square miles, caring for the needs of the huge throng which is visiting the sessions and viewing many peasant exhibitions.

### NEHRU'S STATEMENT

Jawaharlal Nehru, president of the Congress, stated the position of the colonial masses of India on the Chinese situation with the following statement:

"In the war that is going on in the Far East our sympathies must inevitably be with the people of China and against the aggression of Japan. We must give full expression of this sympathy.

"At the same time we must make it perfectly clear that if the situation develops towards world war, we will be no parties to it.

"The sending of Indian troops to Shanghai without any previous consultation or consent of the Indian people, or their representatives, is not only an affront to India but is matter of the most vital concern to us.

### Attacks Imperialism

"The first question is: is Indian manhood and are Indian resources to be exploited for the protection of British imperialist interests? But the implications of this are vaster and more dangerous, and the second and more vital question arises: is India to be pushed into a war for the sake of, British imperialist interests? That is the question on which the Congress has spoken with emphasis and clarity on many occasions.

"Our position is clear as the day—we will not permit this exploitation of our people and we will be no parties to imperialist war. Therefore it is clear that we must protest against this despatch of Indian troops to Shanghai!"

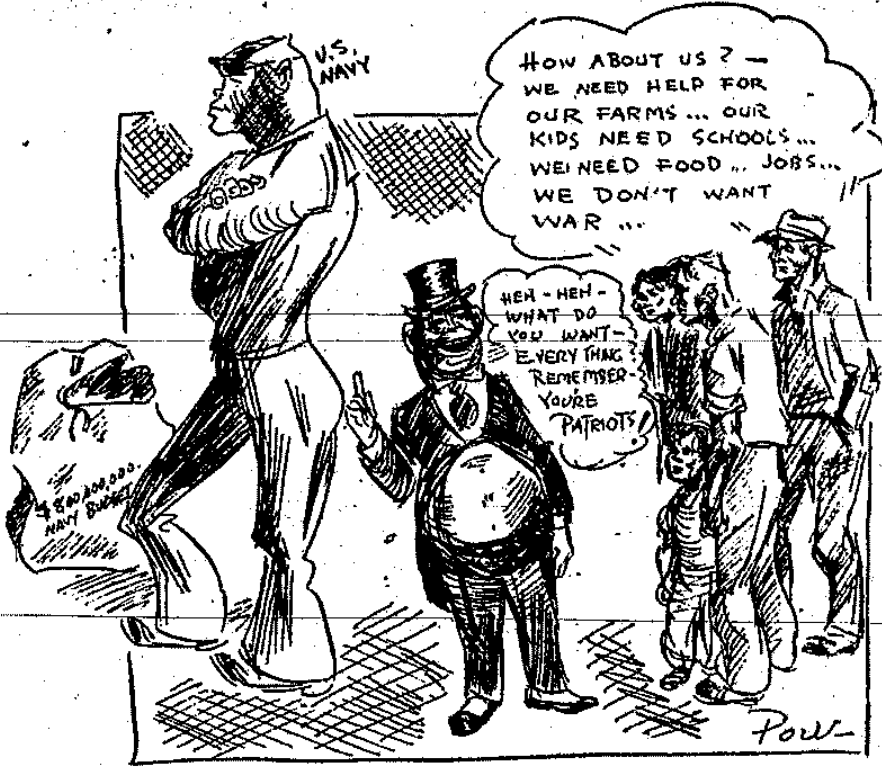
### AUTO WORKERS STRIKE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Members of the Operating Engineers' Union and the Firemen & Oilers' Union (AFL affiliates), employed at the Ford plant here, have walked out on strike in sympathy with the Auto Workers' Union (CIO), it was announced by Baron DeLouis, president of the latter union.

### AFL Workers Strike

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — About 175 workers in ten casket plants are out on strike for union recognition, wage increases, 40-hour week and time and a half for overtime. The strike is conducted by the Casket Makers' Local 1545 of the Carpenters (AFL).

## THE NEWEST DEAL



## WORLD POWERS AID HITLER IN AUSTRIAN COUP

During the past week, as the outcome of a conference in his mountain retreat at Berchtesgaden with Chancellor Schuschnigg of Austria, Adolph Hitler took over effective control of the Austrian government, economy and foreign policy.

The British, French and Italian government have failed to do anything to prevent it. It becomes increasingly apparent that the taking of Austria by the German Nazis was done with the consent and knowledge of these powers.

This is a reversal of the policy, cemented by the Stresa agreement of 1935, that has traditionally been followed by the three powers. In the past it has been understood that Mussolini's interest in Austria, and that of France and Britain was so great as to assure that Germany could not take control of Austria.

### Dolfuss Killed

In 1934 the Nazis attempted a coup d'etat in the course of which the dictator Dolfuss was killed. They were effectively kept from power then by an ominous massing of Italian troops on the border and by the strengthening, with Italian money and arms, of the pro-Italian von Stahrenberg.

German economy is in sore straits. It needs the kind of control in Austria that will be sufficient to force that country to exchange its food products for armaments that it cannot afford and does not need. It needs a lowering of the tariff wall and an extension of its area of free trade, so as to give its business the greatest possibility of survival.

### Nazi Regime Shaky

The first task undertaken by the Nazi regime is the reaching of understandings that will create a customs union of the two countries, integrate Austria into the plan for German economic self sufficiency and arrange for the increased exchange of goods. Thus Hitler hopes to bolster his tottering rule and increase his

prestige and influence in foreign affairs.

Faced by the possibility that Hitler might fall because of increasing unrest within Germany and a strangling economy, the leading capitalist nations of Europe, fascist and democratic alike, had no alternative but to permit him to strengthen himself by his seizure of Austria. The possibility of a triumph of Socialism in Germany is too threatening for them to desert Hitler at this time.

### Powers Aid Hitler

The fact that Chamberlain, Chamberlain and Mussolini are permitting the strengthening of Hitler comes as no surprise to the world's workers. They know that Britain has always actively supported Mussolini, and recently has been openly on the side of Franco and Hitler. Britain and France are aware that to sustain capitalism fascism must often be resorted to. They are not at all backward in their responsibilities to the boss class.

It becomes increasingly evident that the workers can depend on no force to fight fascism (Continued on Page 7)

## Launch Broad Fight Against War Program

NEW YORK CITY—Senator Robert M. LaFollette will address a mass meeting to "Keep America Out of War" in the New York Hippodrome on Sunday afternoon, March 6. Homer Martin, president of the United Automobile Workers of America; Norman Thomas, Socialist leader; Ernest L. Meyer, newspaper columnist; John T. Flynn, economist and writer; Bertram D. Wolfe, writer, and Major General William C. Rivers, Ret., will also speak. Oswald Garrison Villard will preside.

The Keep America Out of War Committee, sponsor of the meeting, this week made public, together with a list of its members, a "call to the citizens of New York" to "keep America out of war." The call warns that "the United States of America drifts rapidly toward war," and places responsibility on the Administration. It charges that the Administration's proposed navy budget is not needed to protect our shores.

"Today the American people do not want war" it says. "But a new Panay incident, the propaganda of profit-seekers and militarists, the wellmeant but mistaken idealism of certain advocates of 'collective security,' and the calculated intention of others to use it to cloak a war alliance will yet, unless we are on our guard, sweep us into war."

### Minimum Program

The Committee's call sets forth "a minimum program" on which its members agreed:

1. "The immediate removal of American ships and Marines from Chinese territory and evacuation of American nationals who, if they stay, stay at their own risk."
2. "No increase in the army and navy."
3. "The amendment of the Constitution, along the lines of the original Ludlow amendment, so as to give to American citizens the democratic right to vote on a declaration of war."
4. "Abandonment of all existing plans for Industrial Mobilization, and defeat of new plans for universal conscription, thus warning militarists that the American people will not tolerate war abroad and war dictatorship at home."
5. "American cooperation for international peace—but no alliance with any nation or group of nations for war, declared, or undeclared, under any name or any pretext."
6. "Concentration on the struggle against injustice, unemployment, bad housing, and poverty at home, and a determination to seek our prosperity through that struggle rather in war trade."

### Unionists Sign Call

Among the signers of the call are such labor leaders as: A. Philip-Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, N. A. Zonarich, president of the Aluminum Workers International, Mark Starr, Max (Continued on Page 2)

## Opposition To War In Japan

TOKIO (Uncensored via NNS)—Some two months ago I reported there was no evidence of even secret opposition to the war. I need to modify that somewhat. The arrest of over 200 alleged Communists proves that. I understand the real offense of most of them was opposition to the war. This was explicitly the case in the resignation of Professor Yanaihara at the Tykoy Imperial University.

Six university professors are under arrest for their anti-war attitude. So far as I know none of them is a Christian pacifist. They all seem to be philosophical pacifists. The public denunciation of pacifism and these arrests in themselves constitute evidence that there is an appreciable amount of it in the country.

So far I have no evidence of official pressure on foreigners, though the police are known to have a list of all the members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation in Japan.

### RACINE WORKERS STRIKE

RACINE, Wis. — Auto workers employed at the Iroquois foundry and the Jacobsen Manufacturing Company struck here last week demanding recognition of the United Automobile Workers' Union.

## HOT SPOT IN EUROPE



# NINETY YEARS AFTER THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

By HERBERT ZAM

Ninety years after Karl Marx and Frederick Engels gave to the international working class what has become to be known popularly as the "working man's bible," this bible, the COMMUNIST MANIFESTO, is still a potent guide to the revolutionary workers in the struggle for the society which Marx and Engels saw as the inevitable successor to capitalism. The Communist Manifesto appeared on the scene just on the eve of a series of mighty struggles which established capitalism as the unchallenged ruler in modern society.

Today we are on the eve of events which may well mark the beginning of the dethronement of capitalism from its 200-year old reign. Ninety years ago, Marx, Engels and their fellow revolutionaries found the issuance of this basic document essential because in the preceding twenty years, capitalists and anti-capitalists, proletarian revolutionists and petty bourgeois revolutionists, Socialists, and philanthropists, utopians and reformers of all types, had become so intermixed that a promising movement for working class emancipation had become hopelessly paralyzed.

## BURIED UTOPIANISM

The Communist Manifesto separated the chaff from the straw. It buried utopian socialism which based its hopes for change upon the good will of capitalist philanthropists. It cut away the influence of petty bourgeois Socialism, which represented, not a movement against capitalism, but a movement to save the middle class from the doom created for it by monopoly capitalism. It smashed the illusions of the reformists that the working class could continue for an unlimited time to improve its lot under capitalism, and that therefore there was something in common between the workers and their exploiters.

It showed that with the victory of national struggles of capitalism, in which the working class had participated energetically, all such struggles ceased being progressive and became reactionary. No longer did the proletariat have an interest in fighting together with its bourgeoisie against a foreign bourgeoisie. Rather, its interests lay in fighting, together with the proletariat of other countries, against its own bourgeoisie. National unity, as early as 1848, and already become a reactionary shackle upon the working class. The Communist Manifesto aimed to break that shackle so as to liberate the proletariat for the struggle for Socialism. "Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains. You have a world to gain!"

## HISTORIC FIGURES

The greatness of the Communist Manifesto, and of its authors as historic figures, is greatly enhanced when one remembers that it was written at a time when capitalism was still developing toward its fullest bloom. It was still a young, healthy, growing, vigorous, social organism. The period of Marx and Engels was a period, not of proletarian, but of bourgeois revolution. Yet they were able to see beyond the bourgeois to the proletarian revolution.

They were able to see and direct their thoughts and action and strategy to the future. They saw the bourgeois revolution in its proper perspective, and did not allow themselves to be overwhelmed by it. They participated in it only in order to complete it and go on toward the proletarian revolution. They looked upon capitalism only as a temporary stopping place, as a period to be utilized for the recruiting and training of the "gravediggers of capitalism" into a revolutionary army for action.

## NOT INFALLIBLE

To say that everything writ-

ten in the Manifesto has come true, that its predictions were infallible, that the course it charted has been followed without deviations, is to endow the authors with superhuman qualities and look upon Socialism as a "revelation" rather than a movement springing out of the needs of the masses and developing in the course of time.

Many of the tenets of Marxian Socialism were developed after the issuance of the Manifesto. Other individuals, besides Marx and Engels, contributed toward the rounding out of the system of scientific Socialism. The Manifesto often looked upon the tendencies of capitalism as finished products, upon direction as goal.

Many subsequent developments of capitalism Marx and Engels could not possibly foretell (for instance, capitalism's great success in exploiting colonial people with only trifling resistance, which made possible the bribing of the "home" proletariat by a higher standard of living and the establishment of a pseudo class peace). So that the expectations of Marx and Engels that the final phase of the bourgeois revolution (Germany) would be followed immediately by a proletarian revolution, did not materialize.

## POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

But even in their mistakes, Marx and Engels made positive achievements. For without the perspective of a proletarian revolution, it would not have been possible to separate the working class from the capitalist class and weld it into an independent force fighting both for its ultimate goal—Socialism—and its immediate objectives—improvement of living conditions.

Without a historic perspective, a Socialist movement is impossible. Only reformism, represented by trade unionism in the economic field, and alliances with "liberal" capitalism on the political field, is possible. But the mistakes contained in the manifesto, including some later corrected by Marx (in the Manifesto, Marx still pictured the proletarian state as a "democratic" that is, parliamentary one; it was not until the Paris Commune that the concept of the "proletarian dictatorship" in the sense of a distinct type of non-capitalist state, was elaborated by Marx) in no way negate the basic correctness of its fundamental theses: the class struggle, the internal contradictions of capitalism, Socialism as the next stage in the development of society, the need for the overthrow of capitalism by the only revolutionary class in modern society—the proletariat.

## STILL APPLICABLE

These ideas remain as correct and as applicable as ever. Indeed, the passage of time has only served to justify and strengthen them—and that, in spite of many organized efforts to revise, if not altogether abandon, the concepts of the Manifesto.

More than once history has found scientific Socialism, or Marxism, under attack. In the very earliest days, the struggle with the utopians and petty bourgeois Socialists was very severe. Then successively, the Socialism of the Manifesto went thru victorious struggles with economism (especially in Germany), with the sects, with anarchism of both types. After the death of Marx and Engels, Socialism came under a very systematic attack from "Marxists" of the Bernstein school in Ger-

many and the coalitionists in France.

## REVISIONISM

Again Marxism emerged victorious, even though some of its most ardent defenders of the time, like Kautsky, later on themselves became revisionists. However, the victory of the ideas of the Manifesto in these struggles was to a large extent a formal one.

In reality, the defence of revolutionary Marxism by the official leadership of German Social Democracy was one of convenience. The German working class was already too imbued with the ideas of Marx for them to risk outright abandonment of them. Marxism was therefore retained as a sort of ceremonial dress—useful at conventions and celebrations. The practice of German Social Democracy was pure petty bourgeois reformism, and this weakened the working class and eventually disarmed it in the struggle against fascism.

So that the capitulation on the eve of the World War, and the collapse before fascism were not sudden, accidental occurrences, but products of the entire previous course of development.

(To be Concluded Next Week)

## Trotsky's Son Dies In France

PARIS, France.—Leon Sedov, 32-year-old son of Leon Trotsky, world known Bolshevik leader, died of intestinal perforations due to peritonitis, Feb. 17.

An ardent supporter of his father, the young Bolshevik leader had been hounded by political opponents because of his zealous activities in behalf of his father's revolutionary ideas.

### An Editor

As editor of a Russian workers' newspaper in Paris, he provoked the hatred of the ruling faction in the Soviet Union who often charged him and his co-workers as being enemies of the Soviet Union.

The Trotsky family has been much persecuted during the years following the Bolshevik leader's exile from Russia. One of Trotsky's daughters committed suicide in Berlin a few years ago. Another son is reported to be in prison in Russia.

## Launch Broad Fight Against War Program

(Continued from Page 1)

Danish and Charles Zimmerman of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Morris Feinberg, manager of the industrial council department of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Sam Wolchak, international president of the Retail Clerks Employees of America, Isador Laderman, international president of the Pocketbook Workers Union, and Charles Hendley, president of Local 5 of the American Federation of Teachers.

More than 200 intellectuals among whom are nationally known writers, civic and social leaders, ministers and workers' political leaders have also signed the call.



KARL MARX

# WORLD NOTES

By JOHN MILL

The annual conference of the "Guild of Youth" of the Independent Labor Party was held not long ago at Derby, England.

The policy of the youth on many vital questions of today was discussed and formulated. Some of the decisions, no doubt, will be of interest to the readers of the CALL.

On the question of Trade Union movement, the "Guild" declared that it realizes its importance to the workers and recognizes that it will play an important part in the transformation to Socialism. Trade Unions today—in England—"do not recognize the class struggle; not until they do so, can they be a real fighting force against capitalism."

On the question of war, the policy of the "Guild" is almost identical with the policy of our YPSL's. It will resist any attempt made by the capitalist class to involve the workers in another war. The belief that the League of Nations is a solution to war is an illusion. Workers must be shown that capitalism is the basic cause of war and that their duty is to join in the fight for Socialism. Defense of the USSR must be done by independent workers' action, but not by their alliance with their respective governments. Opposition to war must be turned into positive action against the ruling class.

### Flay Jap Imperialism

The Sino-Japanese war also was a matter of discussion and the conference declared that the Chinese workers and the peasants must struggle against Chinese capitalism and foreign imperialism at the same time as they are opposing Japanese aggression. The duty of the Japanese workers is to oppose their government, to make the imperialist war impossible, and to establish workers' power.

Finally, the conference characterized fascism as capitalism in its decadent, ruthless form and expressed the opinion that the struggle against fascism is an integral part of the fight against this economic system. Fascism can be defeated only by the overthrow of the capitalist system and its replacement by workers' power.

### Spain's Political Prisoners

Is there any hope that the approximately 3,000 prisoners in Loyalist Spain—members of the P. O. U. M., of Anarchist-Syndicalist and Socialist Trade Unions and other revolutionary Socialists—or those under suspicion of being such—will soon be released?

All of them have been arrested in Spain by the Communist controlled Secret Political Police. Though not all too clearly, the Prime Minister of Spain, Negrin, in a letter to the English Independent Labor Party in reply to its appeal on behalf of the im-

prisoned anti-fascists, promises to make such a step.

"For the moment I can only answer," he writes, "with the affirmation that the government of the Republic is, in fact, governed by intentions which coincide with your wishes and they will very promptly be realized. You may rest assured that the government over which I preside will have the occasion of receiving the applause of its English friends for the spirit, toleration and justice which governs its actions."

The intentions of the Spanish government are probably sincere, but have they strong enough a backbone to withstand the Communist pressure? We have heard such promises several times but the Communists are still the masters of the situation and take revenge on everyone suspected to be an anti-Stalinist.

News has been sent out from Paris that 11 Spanish prisoners have been released and arrived in France. Among them were Louisa Gorkin—the wife of one of the imprisoned P. O. U. M. leaders—and Katia Landau. Is this the first token of fulfillment of Negrin's promise?

### Direct Action

The London Dockers are resorting to direct action, to stop shipping war material for Japan. This tactic of direct action is also spreading amongst some other workers. Also, in Australia the Waterside Workers Federation has officially decided that its members shall not load war materials for Japan.

## Marcus Graham, Editor-Writer Held In Jail

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—Pursuing the fight to free Marcus Graham, editor of the anarchist publication, "Man," from his nineteen-year old persecution by the Department of Immigration, the Southern California branch of the Civil Liberties Union is preparing to appeal Graham's recent conviction for contempt to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

Graham, allegedly a Canadian, has been sentenced by a federal judge in Los Angeles to six months imprisonment for refusing to answer questions as to his birthplace and entry put to him by the Department of Immigration in an attempt to deport him on a warrant issued originally in 1919.

The basis of the warrant is his political views. In effect, the court's ruling imposes a jail sentence for life, since Graham may be re-imprisoned for continued refusal to answer questions upon completion of his present six-month sentence.



# Working Class Philosophy Industrial Unionism

By Joseph M. Coldwell

Howdy, comrades! It is interesting to hear new recruits to the C. I. O. talk about industrial unionism. Sometime I am going to tell you about the pioneers in that movement, but just now the big news is the C. I. O., and how the big boys and the stuffed shirts are lambasting it. I have to laugh at the stale jokes that are told about the C. I. O. and the names it is called; they remind me of my youth.

In the early days of the Socialist Party and the Industrial Workers of the World, the members of both organizations were called all sorts of names. If we mentioned the industrial form of organization at our A. F. of L. union meetings, we were accused of trying to disrupt the A. F. of L. You should have heard some of the old reactionary members tell us youngsters where to get off. And of course when we would tell them to "Vote as you strike, against your boss!" we would be silenced by the chairman and admonished to "keep politics out of the union."

### Not Always Reactionary

Don't get the idea into your head that the A. F. of L. was always reactionary; it was not. Thirty and forty years ago it was the most effective labor organization the workers had, and under its banner many a hard-fought battle was conducted. Some were won, some were lost, but at least the bosses knew the workers had a union. In its day it did perform a useful function. Many products of that time were the results of craftsmen.

In many industries the apprentice system was still in vogue. The horseshoers, the wagon-makers, the cigarmakers, the glass-blowers, the blacksmiths, the custom tailors, the custom shoe worker and the bookbinders are but a few of the occupations where craft unions were necessary in those days.

### The Progress of Tools

Improved hand tools were replacing the crude hand tools of our fathers. I can recall when a man owned his own pegging machine in the shoe industry, and operated it standing up, by foot power. The old Mackay sewing machine, for sewing soles on shoes, was the same type of a machine, often owned by the operator, which he moved from shop to shop when he changed jobs.

The shoe laster carried his own "jack" and kit of tools; there were no lasting machines in those days. The Lasters' Protective union was a real union in the shoe industry. The old L. P. U. and the old Hand Sewers' Assembly of the Knights of Labor were real fighting unions.

### Unions Change

The point I started to make was that unions like everything else are subject to the laws of evolution. They must adapt themselves to the changing conditions in the methods of production and distribution, or perish from the face of the earth. The craft, or trade, unions are not adapted to cope with conditions in modern industry. Space does not permit me to elaborate on this proposition, but must not prevent you from learning something more about industrial unionism, and the C. I. O. in particular.

A very good comrade of mine, Alfred Baker Lewis, State Secretary of the Socialist Party of Massachusetts, has written a small pamphlet on "Why the C. I. O.," which may be bought for ten cents from the literature agent of your Socialist Party local or branch. If he does not carry it on hand, tell him to get a supply from the National Office.

### Study Lewis' Pamphlet

If you will read this little pamphlet, and study the proposition brought up for your consideration, you will be in a bet-

## Fred E. Beal Surrenders At Raleigh, N.C.

Special from Raleigh, N. C.

Fred E. Beal began to serve a 17 to 20-year sentence here February 17, after voluntarily returning to North Carolina. Attorney George E. Roewer, Boston, Mass., prepared legal action in an effort to secure his release.

RALEIGH, N. C.—After a self-imposed exile abroad and dodging authorities in the United States for seven years, Fred E. Beal, leader of the 1929 Gastonia strike, waived extradition in Massachusetts and voluntarily surrendered to the Attorney-General of North Carolina, Feb. 16.

Beal was sentenced along with six fellow workers by a jury at Charlotte, N. C., Sept. 30, 1929, on murder charges which grew out of a pitched battle between police and strikers in the Gastonia strike on June 7, 1929.

### Former Communist

A member of the Communist Party when he led the strike of exploited workers in the South, Beal has been denounced by the Communists as a "traitor" and other fanciful things with which the C. P. usually labels those who withdraw from their party.

Beal returned from Russia a few years ago, disillusioned and bitter towards the Communist Party and the Russian regime. Hounded everywhere in the United States, Beal says he was "penniless, homeless, often hungry and deserted by the Communists whose strike activities I had helped and whose discipline I had obeyed . . ."

### Defense Organized

Attorneys for Beal's defense now are Louis Waldman of New York and George E. Roewer of Boston. A committee consisting of outstanding liberals, writers and radicals has rallied to his defense. Hugo Pollock is acting as secretary of the Non-Partisan Committee for the Defense of Fred E. Beal, Room 619, 19 West 44th Street, New York City.

### END NEWSPAPER STRIKE

SUPERIOR, Wis.—The Superior Evening Telegram signed a two-year contract with the American Newspaper Guild Feb. 21, after a strike of editorial employees which tied up publication for five days.

The contract provides for a guild shop, a wage increase, a 5 day, 40-hour week, and no cut in salaries until March 1, 1939.

ter mood to understand "Why the C. I. O.?" But please read it as carefully as you would read a blueprint. Don't take for granted everything you read or hear.

Remember, you had to learn to say "twice two are four" before you were capable of doing sums in arithmetic, so don't be ashamed to study a pamphlet. After you study it and understand it, buy a supply to sell to your shopmates and to the members of your union. Your union should be just as important to you as the Manufacturers' Association is to your boss. Did you ever stop to think why the boss does not want his hirelings to belong to a union? Or why bosses will pay to have a "company union" formed?

Just null this last paragraph over, it will pay you bigger dividends than playing cards or trying to pick winners at the race tracks.

So long! I'll be with you next week.

## Austro Nazi



Dr. Guido Schmidt, pro-Nazi who is secretary of state for foreign affairs in the new Hitler-dominated Vienna regime. The workers of Austria are bitterly opposed to him and Hitler.

## KENTUCKY ALLIANCE URGES LABOR UNITY

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Passage of the Schwellenbach-Allen resolution, enactment of genuine social insurance, and AFL-CIO unity were demanded by the second annual state convention of the Kentucky Workers Alliance, which met here Friday and Saturday, January 28-29.

The convention also voted to demand transfer of Kentucky from WPA district 3 to district 2, which has a higher basic wage. Frank Daniels of Paintsville, Ky., was elected state president to succeed Giles Cooper, Lexington, and George Hand, Louisville, was chosen to succeed Allen McElfregh of Lexington as secretary-treasurer. Six vice-presidents were also elected, representing various parts of the state.

### BROTHERHOOD

DETROIT.—Brotherhood now means something to the former members of the Ford Brotherhood, Inc., company union at the Fljvver King's plants here. At a recent meeting the members deposed John McDowell as chairman, elected a chairman of their own and then voted to join the United Automobile Workers of America.

## They're Fishing Alright, But . . .



Not for fish . . . About 40 men toiled retrieving a portion of a railroad freight car load of Irish potatoes which were dumped into Palmer slough at Poplar Bluff, Mo., Feb. 6, when they were believed to have been frozen and decayed. Using boats and musel sheel tongs, the men dragged sack after sack filled with potatoes from the cold waters, and took them home. There's plenty of food in the U. S., but not for workers who have no money.

# Jap Invasion Of China Now In 8th Month

## Boss Parties Defeat Child Labor Law

NEW YORK.—That the defeat of the Child Labor Amendment by the New York State Legislature "is but another of many indications that labor can expect little from the Republican or Democratic parties," was the contention of Dr. Harry W. Laidler, executive director of the League for Industrial Democracy and New York State Chairman of the Socialist Party, at a meeting of the Flatbush Cooperative League in the Second Reformed Church, Bedford avenue, near Church avenue, Brooklyn.

Dr. Laidler criticized Governor Lehman for failing to urge the passage of the amendment in his Governor's message to the Legislature, though maintaining in 1937 that "any attempt to control child labor except through an amendment to the Federal Constitution would be unsound and impracticable."

### Betray Declarations

"As long back as 1924, fourteen years ago," declared Comrade Laidler, "both Republican and Democratic state conventions endorsed ratification of this amendment. Yet, despite this endorsement, the bill for the ratification of this amendment died in Committee, at the behest of manufacturing interests and a few Church leaders, year after year.

"And the other day, at the behest of these same interests, 40 Democrats and 67 Republicans voted down this humane measure. Only Assembly members of the American Labor party stood 100 per cent for the amendment. The attitude of the Republican and Democratic machines toward this important reform provides but another proof of the need for a new political alignment. Labor can expect little help in the solution of its problems from the old parties."

The war in China is now in its eighth month, and it is already ten weeks since the fall of Nanking. As it was promised that the "incident" would be closed by Christmas, the government at Tokyo is in sad need of saving its face. A gesture in that direction was made last week by the recall of General Iwane Matsui and the appointment of General Shunroku Hata to command of the Japanese forces in China.

Additional Japanese troops are being rushed to the Lunghai railway sector where the Chinese and Japanese have been in a virtual stalemate for weeks. There are eight distinct sections in the Lunghai front. Two Japanese armies are converging on Su-chow, junction of the Lunghai and the Tientsin-Pukow railways, from the north and two from the south.

Kweitch, west on the Lunghai, is the objective of one army from the north and one from the south. Kaifeng, still further west on the Lunghai, is threatened from the north. And Cheng-chow, at the junction of the Lunghai and the Peiping-Hankow railways is in danger from yet another Japanese column driving from the north.

### Guerrilla Warfare

Chief among the causes of the breakdown in the Japanese advance has been the guerrilla attacks carried on by Chinese workers. Moving east from Shansi into Hopeh province south of Peiping, the mobile units of the Red Army have torn up seventy miles of tracks on the Peiping-Hankow railway, south of Paoting. In addition numerous attacks have been made on isolated Japanese units.

But although the news thus far has been encouraging, the Lunghai corridor may well prove the burial ground of Chiang Kai-Shek and the Kuomintang. If the Japanese can break through at Kweitch or Kaifeng, it is very possible that the 400,000 Chinese troops will be bottled up and forced into wholesale slaughter or surrender. If that happens, resistance to the Japanese will be left in the hands of the workers and isolated guerrilla bands.

## Aluminum Workers File Appeal to Labor Board

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa.—Nick Zonarich, president of the International Aluminum Workers of America (CIO), stated last week that his union would petition the National Labor Relations Board for exclusive bargaining rights for the 26,000 employees of the Aluminum Corporation of America.

He said the proposed agreement demanded a 74 cents an hour minimum wage for men, 63 cents for women, the check-off and a forty-hour week.

The Aluminum Workers' contract with the company expired last November. The union has been working under a temporary monthly agreement which is renewed every month. The new proposal would apply to all 13 of the corporation's plants.

## BUNDLE RATES for the SOCIALIST CALL

Less than 10.....3c each  
10 to 100.....2½c each  
100 to 300.....2c each  
300 to 500.....1½c each  
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# THE SOCIALIST CALL

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231 Saturday, February 26, 1938 Total No. 153.

## Mr. Browder Goes Haywire

The American government will not have to look for "finger-men" to place radicals "on the spot" if the war-makers are successful in getting this country into war. Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party, has given assurances that his organization will "be in the forefront to suppress such extremists" as will not fall into goose-step in the next war "for democracy."

Mr. Browder's comforting words follow:

"If there should arise in America anything similar to the situation in Spain, where the democratic republic, while repulsing the fascist invasion, was stabbed in the back by the uncontrollable extremists, then we, like our brothers of the Spanish Communist Party, would be in the forefront to suppress such extremists who are really agents of Fascism, and render them harmless."

During the last war, Eugene V. Debs was denounced as pro-German; in the next one, his successors will be denounced as pro-fascist, diversionists, wreckers and other greasy terms which are fabricated in Moscow and exported to America's would-be Stalin. The only difference will be that the government will have the aid of the Communist Party in persecuting "the uncontrollable extremists" who won't support imperialist-war, no matter what the slogan.

Those who will continue to insist on the abolition of both capitalism and its wild son, fascism, and will not fight in the family quarrels of the imperialists, will have to make up their minds that Mr. Browder will stand outside the jail-cells and shout that the working class prisoners "are really"—really Mr. Browder?—"agents of fascism." Nor will they be only the ones behind the bars, for even the pacifists are fascists—"Hitler pacifists," Mr. Browder calls them.

But perhaps Mr. Browder is a little too confident. His statement, delivered in a speech to his party's functionaries and now reprinted in pamphlet form, overlooks one item—the workers of the United States who want no war abroad and no militaristic terror at home.

War means the end of freedom. Freedom will be the end of war!

## La Parola del Popolo

This month marks the thirtieth anniversary of La Parola del Popolo, organ of the Italian Federation which is now published under the supervision of the National Action Committee of the Socialist Party.

For thirty years this militant organ of Socialism has expounded the ideas of the class struggle among Italian speaking workers of the United States. Founded by Comrade G. Bertelli on February 17th, 1908, La Parola is definitely bound with the history of the Socialist movement in this country for more than three decades.

It has weathered the crises of the nation as well as the family convulsions which often harassed the Socialist movement, to emerge a persistent champion for the ideals that workers who produce all must one day come to power for the creation of a classless society.

During the war days when the national government suppressed all militant sections of the working class movement, La Parola was not exempted. During that crucial period it found ways to be published, and reached loyal workers in the various parts of the United States with the message of truth against war.

Government espionage couldn't crush it in those days. Adversity and peculiar problems confronting the American-Italian population in America will not crush it now.

We wish La Parola continued success. "Viva La Parola! Viva Bandiera Rosa!"

## The Fred Beal Case

Fred Erwin Beal, former Communist leader of the bitterly fought Gastonia, N. C., strike, has begun to serve a 17 to 20 year sentence in a North Carolina prison. He was convicted in 1929 along with six other Communists for the simple reason that he and his party defied open shop rule and dared to establish a union in the textile industry of the South.

Beal is a victim of the class struggle now as he was in 1929. In an effort to confound the issues involved the Communist Party, not only Beal, has turned renegade to the principles of Communism, and has denounced him with a line that is vindictive to say the least.

The Socialist Party, which opposed Beal and his party in 1929 politically, supported him and his party in 1929 because the issues of the Gastonia case transcended party, factional or political considerations. It was an out-and-out fight of bosses against workers. The Socialist Party, as is always the case, supported the workers.

Today, the Socialist Party, which opposes Beal's ideas even more than before, supports him on the basis of the 1929 issues of civil liberties. Today, when the Socialist Party's position sharply differs with that of the Communist Party it would rally to a man to back any Communist on an issue of civil liberties.

Beal was sentenced in 1929; not because of a crime, but because he was a unionist. On this basis, no other, the SOCIALIST CALL will continue to publicize the Beal case to the end that he may soon be liberated from prison.

## Workers' Forum

Contributions to the SOCIALIST CALL must be accompanied with the name and address of the writer as a matter of good faith, not to be used for publication if the writer prefers that the name be omitted. Short, snappy letters shall receive first consideration.

### FROM HOOK TO THE NEW REPUBLIC

Editors of the New Republic:

In his attack upon Professor John Dewey in the columns of the *New Republic* (1-12-38), Heywood Broun not only exceeded the limits of *Narrenfreiheit* but was guilty of irresponsible misstatement of Professor Dewey's position. Anyone who has examined the context of Professor Dewey's remarks in the *Washington Post*—which Broun admittedly has not done—will see that they bore upon the implications of the Trotsky Commission Report for America.

They were illustrated by a direct reference to the use which the Communist Party and press were making of the Corcoran case in Minneapolis. Professor Dewey did not say that Communist Party members should be barred from the C. I. O. or any other labor union because of their views. He warned against factionalism and against the familiar Moscow tactics of frame-up and slander as deadly to the unity of the labor movement.

In asserting that the Stalinists are striving wholeheartedly for the unity of labor, Heywood Broun shows that it is he who is behind in his homework, not Professor Dewey. Part of the public oath which all members of the Communist Party are required to take is "to drive the Lovestoneites out of the labor movement" and "to drive the Trotskyites out of the labor movement." Since in effect anybody who opposes the Communist Party on important measures is labelled a Trotskyite, this means that every independent thinking union member or leader is slated for railroading as soon as the Stalinists feel strong enough to get away with it.

It requires considerable cheek for Heywood Broun to ask whether Professor Dewey "seriously means to contend that certain workers should be barred from union membership because of their political or economic views." This is precisely the view of the Communist Party as the above cited slogans prove.

Before Heywood Broun undertakes to whitewash the role of the Stalinists in the labor movement, let him explain the following:

1) The attempt of the *Daily Worker* to smear Minneapolis trade unionists of Drivers' Local 544 by practically charging them with complicity in the assassination of Patrick Corcoran, on the ground of their alleged Trotskyist sympathies.

2) The use of phony affidavits by West Coast Stalinists in the C. I. O. to prove that Meyer Lewis, A. F. of L. representative, had hired R. J. Bell to kill Bridges, despite the wire sent them by George Cole, regional director of the C. I. O., warning that Bell was "unreliable and no good."

3) The resolution of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific condemning the *Western Worker* and the Communist Party for libelous assertions of gangsterism against its leaders and authorizing legal action against the *Western Worker*.

4) The resolution of the Central Labor Council of San Francisco condemning the Stalinists for attempted frame-up tactics.

5) The Communist Party campaign against Homer Martin and the "Lovestoneites" in the Auto Workers' Union.

These are only some of the more outstanding incidents. I, for one, am in favor of Broun's suggestion that a neutral group of investigators be called together to consider how the Communist Party works for unity in the labor movement. Things have come to such a pass that it is impossible to expose the nefarious tactics of the Communist

Party without Broun, its unofficial trouble-shooter, crying "red-baiting." If the Stalinists are red, then Roosevelt is a Trotskyist. If Heywood Broun sees fit to join the hue and cry of the Communist Party against Homer Martin, a C. I. O. leader, why is it forbidden to criticize on the basis of authentic evidence the machinations of those Stalinists in the C. I. O. whose first loyalty is to the Communist Party and not to labor?

SIDNEY HOOK,

New York, Jan. 12, 1938.

Editor's Note—I think that means "fool's freedom!"

### A MINER REVIEWS THE CALL

GILLESPIE, Ill.—After reading the CALL for five issues I am writing to give my views of your work in the field of journalism. I want to say that from a workers' standpoint the CALL is a paper which will be well received from the mass of common, ordinary people as a real contribution to Socialist thought and ideals. The CALL is an up-to-date paper, giving us news of current problems, everyday news from the industrial war, and also covers the international scene in real Socialist style.

I have always wanted a paper free from factionalism and full of clear-cut Socialism. It is now proved that workers can put out a paper for workers. The editorial "Miners vs. Browder" was a good piece of work. You did more to expose the Communists and their class collaboration with the capitalist parties and Roosevelt than a hundred speeches.

The press is our best weapon and the most telling in pushing Socialism. Keep up the good work.

—Mike Champion.

EDITOR'S NOTE—Mike is past 65 years old and the daddy of the left wing forces in the Illinois coal fields. CALL readers will remember that Mike presided over the September conference of the United Mine Workers and the Progressives which met at Gillespie. Our readers will be interested to know that Mike is doing his part in getting subs for the CALL.

### BUILD THE PARTY

DES MOINES, Iowa—I have been a member of the Socialist Party for more than 35 years and I have paid my dues since I joined almost continuously.

I have always believed that for me to do effective work for my convictions I had to be a Party member, otherwise my views would only be wasted effort.

I am firm in my belief that there are enough people in Iowa and the U. S. to really build a stronger Socialist movement if they would only join the Party. If all of those who claim to be Socialists would join and be active in the Socialist Party, the situation in this country would be a lot different than it is.

Workers! For your sake and for the sake of the future generation, join the Socialist Party! Look up the Local Secretary of the S. P. and pay your dues regularly.

Iowa has to have a State convention this summer. This can't be done unless the Iowa Socialists communicate with our State Secretary, Gus Patterson, 911 West 5th Street, Waterloo, Iowa.

—Martin Johnson,  
State Chairman,  
630 Walker St.

### COMMENTS ON BURT'S TALK

DAYTON, Ohio—I am sending two subs which we got at the Roy Burt meeting here last week.

Roy's speech was the best I have heard on the world situation and I am only sorry that there were not thousands of workers to hear his speech.

—P. B. M. Garvey.

## SQUIBS

BY GENE LOMAN

### EASY MARK

Rumor has it that Russia has leased a concession at the New York World's Fair which starts in 1939. The U. S. S. R. will set up a shooting gallery, it is said, with moving ducks labeled "revolutionists" for all the nice sportsmen to shoot at. Some are even reporting that the main target, labeled "Socialism," will be held up by the latest CP line. Capitalist playboys will have a lot of fun shooting at that!

WALTER K. LEWIS.

### WHAT TO DO

Profit, Interest and Rent  
Cause a lot of devilment  
Which we must eradicate  
By voting Socialist STRAIGHT!

I. D. M. FADDEN.

### OPEN AND SHUT

Writing in *Canard Enchanté* (Paris), Andre Guerin tells an amusing story about the recent Russian election.

"In spite of the detailed instructions, some amusing contretemps have taken place. For example, in Moscow a voter came to cast his vote carrying an open ballot. He was immediately rebuked: 'Please retire to the voting booth, comrade. After all, it's a secret ballot and nobody should know you are voting for Stalin.'"

### BORG BRIEFS

When all the old Bolsheviks but one are killed off, will Stalin shoot himself?

WILLIAM BORG.

### UNEASY LIES

Our official clipper-outer has picked up an interesting item from Die Neue Weltbühne (Prague):

While his father was Nazi Ambassador to Britain, von Ribbentrop's son attended an English school. One day, having been bested in an argument, young von Ribbentrop declared brusquely that the British press could not be trusted.

"The British newspapers lie," he said.

"And the German?" the teacher asked.

"The German papers cannot lie," said young von Ribbentrop, "because they are under state control."

The CIO gets more IOU's from the bosses for the workers.

CARL PETERSON.

### A NEW LABOR PAPER!

Frank Kwallek, vigorous young teamsters' organizer at Lexington, Kentucky, sends us a copy of his new drivers' paper "The Wheel." A worthy addition to the ranks of the labor press. Fellow worker Kwallek comes to trial under the ridiculous Kentucky statute against banding and confederating this week, but expects to win thru.

## WATCH THE WRAPPER

on your copy of the SOCIALIST CALL. If the number lower left of this notice, or any number less than this notice appears on your wrapper, it means that your subscription has expired. RENEW IMMEDIATELY!

152 EXPIRED! RENEW NOW!



# TERROR IN SPAIN!

By JOHN MCGOVERN

(From a pamphlet published by the Independent Labor Party of Great Britain)

Since the beginning of the Civil War in Spain the I. L. P. and the International Bureau have been anxious that every possible aid should be given to the Spanish workers in their struggle against Franco, and that the full fruits of their early economic conquest should not be lost. During the last eight or nine months there has been growing evidence and uneasiness amongst militants, inside Spain and outside, at what seemed to be a vital departure from the previous policy of workers' control. Various changes in the governing body have taken place. More moderate capitalistic elements have been introduced. The slogan of Workers' Power has been replaced by the magic word "Democracy," and war has been waged on every member of the C. N. T., U. G. T. and P. O. U. M. who has resisted this change.

There has been in consequence a serious weakening of the workers' anti-Fascist Front in Spain. An army of anti-Fascists have been incarcerated in Spanish prisons for periods up to six months. Andres Nin, Kurt Landau and many other comrades are believed to have been murdered while in the hands of the police.

## WORKERS STORM PRISON

The International Bureau and the I. L. P. agreed to send a third delegation (Professor Edlicien Chulay and myself) to Barcelona to interview members of the Government and investigate the charges by visits to prisons. On November 21 we left Paris for Barcelona, arrived on the 25th, and began our work immediately. Our great desire was to strengthen the Workers' Front and win the war against Franco and his capitalist allies.

We had a two-hour interview with Senor Irujo (Minister of Justice) and his personal secretary, who is the Minister's brother. We had a very frank discussion over the question of prisoners and the possibility of an amnesty for all anti-Fascists. Senor Irujo informed us that the question of an amnesty had been considered by the Government, and that every member, with the exception of the Communists, had been wholly in favor of releasing every genuine anti-Fascist prisoner. The Communist members of the Government were violently opposed to the release of any of the prisoners. On November 21 a large army of workers from the C. N. T. and other militant Socialist bodies went to the gates of the Valencia prison and threatened to pull down the prison if the prisoners were not released.

## THE EXCHANGE OF MAURIN

I raised the question of the exchange of Joaquin Maurin, who is now in Saragosa prison (in Franco's territory). I submitted a list of possible persons in Government prisons. Senor Irujo again informed us that the question had been before the Government, and that all but the Communist members were in favor of an attempted exchange. He agreed on behalf of the Government to negotiations by myself with the British Foreign Office with a view to the exchange of Maurin.

He finally assured us of his genuine desire to speed up the machinery, and gave us an official letter to the Director of Prisons to inspect all prisons and interview prisoners. Both the Minister and his brother repudiated the suggestions of the Communists of association between the P. O. U. M. and Franco.

## "A SCENE I WILL NEVER FORGET"

Our first prison visit was to the Carcel Modelo prison, where there are 500 anti-Fascists, 500 Fascists and 500 criminals. The director and doctor gave us complete freedom. We spent two hours interviewing anti-Fascists. We were locked in the prison wing, and freely interviewed members of the P. O. U. M. (Gironella, Adroher, Eurique). Everyone wanted to tell us of the operation of the Russian Cheka, of threats of death, detention and third degree. The anti-Fascists were from Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Holland, Greece and America. Many were wounded and had fought at Madrid.

We saw one remarkable drawing by an Italian prisoner. The scene was an underground cellar with an armed guard at the door. The prisoner was pinned against the wall by two armed guards with rifle and bayonets, and a Cheka officer was pointing a revolver at his heart. There was a large sewer at the side into which, he was informed, his body would be thrown after he had been shot.

We met Senor Fernandez, who had been in prison for over three months. He was the Chief of Police when John McNair and I arrived in Barcelona in November, 1936.

Before we left, the entire army of prisoners sang two C. N. T. songs and the "International," and then gave deafening cheers for C. N. T., F. A. I., P. O. U. M. and I. L. P. delegations. They also hissed the Spanish Cheka. This was a scene that I will never forget.

The director asked us to go quietly. He had never seen the prisoners so moved, and feared a revolt. Here was indeed a tragedy: hundreds of genuine anti-Fascists crowding at the iron bars with clenched fists that were half salutation and half defiance.

(To be concluded next week.)

\*C. N. T.—Syndicalist Trade Union. U. G. T.—Socialist Trade Union. P. O. U. M.—Workers' Party of Marxist Unity (Spanish I. L. P.). F. A. I.—Anarchist organization. Cheka—Communist Secret Police.

# AT THE FRONT

with Norman Thomas

## HITLER'S SUNDAY SPEECH.

Hitler's long-awaited speech unquestionably emphasizes Nazism to the world. It was, however, no worse, but possibly a little better than some had feared.

The really bad news is that the Chamberlain government in Great Britain has become too conciliatory to Mussolini and Hitler for even Anthony Eden to stand.

As far as America is concerned, it ought to be obvious that it is very dangerous wishful thinking to go on talking about our participating in collective security for democracy with a government like Chamberlain's, intent only on preserving the British empire and British upper-class interests.

The greatest danger to democracy, despite the growth of Hitler's strength, lies in capitalist and fascist forces within the so-called democratic nations and they will not be fought by wars between capitalist and nationalist states.

## CRISIS IN AUSTRIA

As I was finishing last week's column came newspaper reports that Austrian Nazis were furious with Hitler for receiving Schussnigg and that Hitler's reception of the Austrian Chancellor—a devout Roman Catholic and foe of Nazism in Austria—was a sign of peaceful intent following his army purge. Hence I said that the reception was interpreted as a peace move.

Soon came the lamentable truth. Schussnigg came, apparently with Mussolini's approval, to surrender to Hitler and the Nazis control of Austrian affairs by putting Nazis in vital places in the Cabinet. Complete union—whatever the Chancellors say—is probably not far away.

It is bad news for our gallant Austrian comrades. They are proscribed under Schussnigg, but he hasn't had the strength to copy Nazi methods. They'll have a harder time fighting Hitler.

It is bad news for Europe because it tends to solidify the Germanic belt through the continent under Nazi control.

It means clearly that Hitler and Germany are tops, not Mussolini and Italy, in the Rome-Berlin "axis" because once Mussolini was ready to fight to keep Hitler out of Vienna. Hitler or Germany will still be tops in any military alliance of Germany, Austria, Hungary and Italy such as it is reported that Mussolini now seeks. But it won't be a very happy or stable alliance.

## DOROTHY THOMPSON'S HYSTERIA

The Austrian news is bad. But not as bad as the hysterical eloquence of Dorothy Thompson makes out. If all Hitler has is "terrible weakness" that won't become strength by uniting to Germany weak little Austria with its strong underground Socialist movement.

Miss Thompson goes on to say "Russia is in ruins." "Stalin," she adds, "screams weakly to the democracies to save him." The Russian totalitarian state has faults and weaknesses, but most emphatically it is not in "ruins". And Stalin's latest "scream" was not to the democracies!

Nor was the German-Austrian agreement "a peace treaty to make the Treaty of Versailles look like one of the great humane documents of the age." On the contrary, what is wrong now is largely a consequence of the Treaties of Versailles, and St. Germain which refused little Austria the right to join a liberal Germany and did not even set up a Danubian economic federation. Later the "democracies" of Europe blocked a trade agreement or customs union between Germany and Austria! Probably even now, except for the Austrian Socialists whom Miss Thompson's "democracies" (England and France) never supported when support would have saved the day, the Austrian people approve the coming "anschluss".

These dismal facts are worth recording because the apparent point of Miss Thompson's argument is that new war can cure what old war has caused; that the powers which made the Treaties of Versailles and St. Germain, with the same capitalist, nationalist viewpoint should at once force their people into another war against Hitler to make the world "safe for democracy" with no better idea of democracy than they have!

More than that, Miss Thompson and others of her school seem to suggest, if they do not say, that the United States should plunge into war, beginning with Japan, or be ready to plunge in; that because a Nazi is Minister of the Interior in Vienna we need in addition to our navy that will cost, an admiral's pay, not \$800,000,000 but \$1,000,000,000, and a bill to conscript us all in a totalitarian war.

No, Miss Thompson. There is a grim struggle on with fascism. It is a struggle which workers, not capitalist governments, must win. And only harm will come by putting America into war.

## WANTED: "FOLKLORE OF WAR".

As I wrote those lines, I wished that some clever person would write a "Folklore of War" or "The Magic of Warmakers." It could be better than Arnold's "Folklore of Capitalism." One reason for war is this magic which plays on our emotions, our fears, our self righteousness and not our reason. Let's quietly ask ourselves and our neighbors a few questions:

Just what is this "democracy" for which the Tory Prime Minister of the British Empire, the General Staff of the French Empire, dictator Stalin and President Roosevelt are to put their peoples into war to save?

Why should a second war for democracy be more successful than the first?

How can the Roosevelt-Vinson naval policy be regarded as peaceful or defensive and how can it be carried out?

Admitting, as Socialists have so often urged, the value of cooperating for peace, admitting that the United States government has lost many opportunities to cooperate for peace, is that a reason for plunging us into a suicide club of war—just to prove our good will?

## STALIN'S APPEAL

Stalin's appeal for the help of the workers of the world was nominally an answer to a young Communist in Russia who asked him whether the final victory of socialism could be considered won in U.S.S.R. In effect he said it has been won in the U.S.S.R. but it is not secure because of danger of capitalist attack, and against this attack we must appeal to the workers of the world as well as strengthen our own army and navy still further. As the Associated Press points out, he did not mention Communism or advocate the overthrow of capitalism in other countries.

What lay behind his statement was probably first of all the necessity once in a while of paying some lip service to the principles of Lenin. More important, however, probably is the unsatisfactory state of Russia's alliance with France. Stalin is probably worried about the prospective failure of his own foreign policy of reliance on bourgeois powers. Hence his new emphasis on help from the workers. Of course in the process of making this statement he had to attack Trotsky.

Meanwhile Browder comes back from Russia still urging unity of all democratic parties, which means that the line has not yet been changed again or that if it has been the news didn't catch up with Brother Browder.

Nevertheless while Stalin's letter really emphasizes once more the fact that the Communists have substituted a holy land, Russia, to be defended by the workers of the world, for the holy cause of the workers throughout the world, even so it's pretty hard to call for world loyalty of the proletariat for Russia and at the same time talk about unity with democratic parties, including the bourgeois, who as Stalin boasts, have been liquidated in Russia. No wonder the liberal New York Post writes a front page editorial: "Stalin Takes Off his Mask." It simply isn't going to be possible forever for Communists at one and the same time to be disciples of Lenin and of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Now that Stalin has appealed to the workers of the world I wonder if they might not appeal to him. Is it necessary for the U.S.S.R. to buy goods made in factories not merely non-union but anti-union? I ask because in an upstate New York town I saw a picture of a lot of oil machinery which Russia was buying from a local factory. "Yes," said my companion, "and I was fired from that factory for union activity."

## THE AGRICULTURAL MEASURE

This complex 35,000 word agricultural law is not easy to judge. In favor of it, or something like it, are such arguments as these: (1) if other groups have governments tariffs, bounties or subsidies, the farmers have a claim for their protection; (2) theoretically an "ever normal" granary is desirable and it does require planning—so does protection of the soil; (3) crop insurance is good, as socialist platforms have proclaimed.

Against the law it is urged (1) that nobody understands it or is sure what it will cost; (2) that it will create an enormous and growing bureaucracy; (3) that controls will be spread to all crops with staggering results; (4) that it will freeze the present agricultural practices and divisions of land in wheat, corn, cotton, tobacco and rice even if newer processes or the use of other land would be superior; (5) that it will raise prices to consumers beyond any benefit to farmers; and finally that it is planning for scarcity, not abundance.

The last point is sound and despite Secretary Wallace's protestations if the law works a country which ideally needs more will raise less. But that's inevitable under capitalism. I'm skeptical of the law.



## CLASS ANGLE

"English History On Broadway"

By Michael C. Arcone

We may thank Gilbert Miller and Ashley Dukes for bringing to Broadway the most exalted drama that this department has witnessed in many years of play-viewing. And we are grateful to Robert Speaight and the London company now appearing in T. S. Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral" for a beauty of phrasing and diction that is too rarely heard on the contemporary stage.

We must admit that we looked forward to this play with some degree of skepticism. We were not familiar with it, having missed an earlier presentation by the Federal Theatre Project and having put off reading the published version. But we were familiar with Eliot.

On the one hand we expected a beautiful and poetic play. Eliot's is one of the most magnificent poetic voices of our time, possessing a magniloquence and wit, a grandeur attained through the transmutation of the tawdry into the universal, an analytic imagination which takes the old men, the intellectual derelicts, the frustrates, the neurasthenic ladies, the middle-aged defeated by their own physical and mental limitations, lifts them from the prosaic and puts them together in relation to larger considerations.

### ELIOT'S DISGUST

On the other hand, familiar with Eliot's disgust with the wasteland of post-war civilization, his inability to find an inspiration in the struggle for a better world, his announced faith in a neo-Anglo-Catholicism, classical literature and political royalism, familiar with the spiritual catharsis which led him to turn his back upon a sick world and turn to the authority of a faith which asks only that one believe, completely and unquestioningly . . . we expected at best a religious drama, at most, an apologia for the role played by Thomas à Becket in the fight between Church and State in the reign of Henry II.

We were very pleasantly surprised. For Eliot, in spite of his own religious convictions, has written a play which is amazingly true to the recorded history of the incident with which it deals, and we feel, psychologically true to the man who was Thomas à Becket.

To understand this play it is necessary to know some of the history of feudal England in the latter half of the 12th century. When Henry II took the throne in 1154 England was in the grip of the Church and the feudal barons. Henry saw that the remedy for the anarchy England had endured for four centuries lay in the establishment of a government-unembarrassed by any privileges of order or class and to him it seemed a reasonable and natural course to trample underfoot both baronage and Church in order to gain the ends of good government. Henry saw the necessity of judicial and administrative reforms in order to realize his ideal of a state not dominated by the Church . . . to further his work he chose his boon companion, Becket, as his Chancellor. In this position Becket was zealous in the interests of the state, he had the respect of the barons and the love of the poor. If any party felt offended, it was the Church.

### FORCED TO FLEE

In 1162 Henry made Becket Archbishop of Canterbury, expecting that this union of the highest spiritual and temporal offices in the person of one man would put an end to all differences between Church and State. But Becket crossed him, resigned the Chancellorship, devoted himself to defending and extending the privileges of the Church quarreling with Henry . . . within two years he was forced to flee to France.

From France Becket enlisted the aid of the Pope and Henry was forced to negotiate until an uneasy truce was patched up in 1170. December 2nd of that year found Becket back in Canterbury, more determined than ever to establish the supremacy of the Church in England. From the incidents between the time of his return and the date of his assassination on December 29th, Eliot has fashioned his play.

In it Eliot has shown no great sympathy for the role that Becket played in English history. Becket is shown for what he was, a megalomaniac, a man drunk with power, who in his own worlds "held the keys of heaven and hell in England." A man who was able to resist all temptation to join one or another of the secular parties fighting the king, who was able to turn a deaf ear to the pleas of the poor who had loved him. A man who visioned his own martyrdom as the surest means of keeping England in the grip of the Church, who was willing to suffer death in order to gain his end.

Henry is supposed to have expressed a desire to be rid of the turbulent priest . . . history is uncertain on this point . . . but Reginald Fitzurse and three other knights crossed from France and forced their way into the Cathedral, killing Becket before the altar.

### DEPARTS FROM HISTORY

At this point Eliot departs from history. In the justification scene the murderers step out of character and explain to the audience the sort of man that Becket was, the necessity to rid England of this barrier to the separation of Church and State, asking that the audience sit as a jury, forget their natural sympathy for the murdered cleric, arguing in legal fashion that the desire for power had so unbalanced Becket's mind that a verdict of "Suicide while of unsound mind," was the only one any jury could render.

The play should have ended at this point. But Eliot could not help injecting his own faith into the story . . . In one final scene one of Becket's priests delivers a stirring sermon full of hope for a Church which has people willing to suffer martyrdom for it.

I wish that Eliot had continued his play with the historical consequences of the murder of Thomas à Becket. Pragmatically the removal of Becket aided the King . . . he was able to go ahead with the legal reforms which finally culminated in the signing of the Magna Charta of 1215-1217. But historically and actually victory rested with the Church . . . the murder of Becket forced Henry to make definite concessions to the Church . . . England remained under the domination of the Church until the Reformation in the 16th Century. The Church was quick to take advantage of the murder of Becket . . . within two years it raised him to sainthood, forced Henry to annul the Constitutions of Clarendon and to restore certain liberties to bishoprics and abbeys. The power of the Church was greatly strengthened but the temporary suspension of the struggle left Henry free to complete his great work of legal reform. One wonders what the course of history would have been had Becket been permitted to live out his life.

It is a great play and one that should be seen. For even in the final sermon there is a validity that is applicable . . . no movement, no ideal can die as long as there are men and women willing to make sacrifices for it.



ELIZABETH MORGAN

## Comrade Morgan Gives Recital Of Labor Songs

By HERMAN SCHNURER

YELLOW SPRINGS, Ohio. — Before an audience consisting largely of Antioch College students and of music connoisseurs from Springfield and from Dayton, O., Elizabeth Morgan gave a recital of labor songs in Kelly Hall, the Antioch auditorium, on Wednesday Feb. 16th.

It was the sort of program to which academic audiences are all too seldom exposed. Based on a wide study of rebel songs from all corners of the world, the recital afforded unusual opportunities for comparisons. Negro and white, Italian, Russian, Yiddish, French, American, Danish, the songs presented an unusual variety of patterns, of rhythms and of words, all designed to produce the same sentiment or attitude.

### Figaro Said

"Everything ends in a song," says Figaro. Here everything begins that way. The songs of the proletariat are a great instrument of combat. The aggressive strains of the Internationale, the grim undertone of Lice in Jail, and that favorite of Lenin's O, Tortured and Broken in Prison, with its mellow, and yet virile accents—songs like that can be powerful preliminaries to directed speech and action.

The weakness of the labor song, as of the patriotic anthem, is that the song and the words do not always hang together. The Marseillaise, a "natural" as a song, in vitality, in emotional range, in sweeping power, is feeble in diction. The translated words of Galli's hymn limp sadly. The enemy there is grandiloquence, rhetoric. Mrs. Morgan's selection of songs showed the frequent superiority of the folk song, the superiority of the plain, the spontaneous, the naive.

The soloist will be remembered by those who attended the Norman Thomas Testimonial Dinner last year. She sang at the Bronx Free Fellowship and has appeared at a number of state party conventions in Ohio. Her delivery is sincere, vigorous and forthright.

### C. I. O. VICTORY

SEATTLE, Wash. (UNS) — The seven-month strike of the American Newspaper Guild against the Seattle Star ended in a smashing union victory as the management signed a contract reinstating the strikers and paying them \$29,500 in back wages.

### MARC BLITZSTEIN'S Play In Music

## "THE CRADLE WILL ROCK"

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41st Street E. Broadway PENN. 6-2530

Eves. at 8—Mat. Wed., Sat. at 3 Seats Selling Thru April

## LINCOLN-WASHINGTON BIRTHDAYS USED FOR MILITARISTIC PLANS

By JOHN NEWTON THURBER  
State Organizer, Socialist Party of California.

LOS ANGELES, Calif.— West coast cities were treated to an intensive wave of militaristic propaganda during the 10 days between Lincoln's birthday and Washington's birthday, giving something of a demonstration of streamlined propaganda methods which will be used by the Roosevelt administration to secure support of its war plans.

National Defense Week was made an official period by proclamation of Mayor Shaw in Los Angeles and by Mayor Rossi in San Francisco, and the whole military set had a most busy time in schools, luncheon clubs and over the radio calling for an increased army and naval establishment "in order to insure peace."

### FDR'S Aims

Roosevelt's statement to the press defining his naval plans set the tone of National Defense Week. FDR declared, according to the United Press, that the U. S. must have a Navy powerful enough to repel possible simultaneous attacks on both coasts. He claimed to quote authorities who hold that the U. S. is insecure with a fleet capable of defending only one coast.

Defense authorities actually realize that the great distances between the U. S. and Asiatic and European powers makes this country actually invulnerable on both coasts with an even smaller fleet than that we now have. Likewise, the U. S. Navy would have to be far stronger than it now is to operate effectively against either Japan or some European nation.

Armies and Navies are not self sufficient bodies. They must keep up a steady contact with their base of supplies and services. Only one military expedition in the past century of major importance has attempted to cut its line of communication and live off of the countryside. A naval expedition cannot do this.

Another rule is that the longer the life cord becomes the more vulnerable it is—the more open to attack. A line of communications and supply extending across the Pacific or across the Atlantic is unthinkable.

### Why?

Yet FDR and his big-navy buddies are eager to launch their even bigger naval expansion program, and the navy crowd is concentrating its strength up and down the West Coast to make

an effort to have such a concentration here that effective Pacific operations can be achieved.

Roosevelt also has in mind that a navy building program at this time will do much to check the progress of his depression, although it is well known that the old fashioned leaf raking program of the WPA puts much more spending power in the hands of the workers than the building of battle-ships.

Attention has again been turned to the status of Hawaii as a part of the Pacific scene. The aspirations of certain interests for Hawaiian statehood were used last week as a cloak for further attention to this strategic island outpost. Airplane concentration has been developing steadily in Hawaii during the past 18 months.

The committee investigating Hawaiian statehood in Washington suggested that the statehood proposition be held in abeyance for a while, because of "the present disturbed condition of international affairs." However

the Joint House and Senate Committee called attention to the strategic importance of Hawaii, saying that it is the ideal western outpost of the national defenses of the U. S.

### War Games

Ninety vessels of the U. S. Fleet held a three days tactical exercise off San Pedro last week, preparatory to embarkation on the major fleet problem in March. The maneuver was led by Admiral Claude C. Bloch, new Commander in Chief, aboard the U. S. S. New Mexico, temporary flagship. The Pennsylvania, regular flagship, has been put into drydock temporarily, for checking before the March fleet problem begins.

While details of the exercises were kept secret, it was reported that the fleet units were being divided into an "attacking" and a "defending" force, with a mock defense of the Southern California coast being staged.

### Northwest

Meanwhile strengthening of defenses in the Northwest was announced from Naval headquarters at San Diego. Before this goes to press it is expected that a squadron of the most powerful type of patrol bombers will be shifted to Sand Point Naval Air Station at Seattle, strategic point commanding entry to the northwestern lumber, grain, and mineral empire.

The squadron will be composed of seven planes, with a personnel of 50 officers and men, and the whole complement will be taken from here to Seattle, 1,400 miles non-stop. The planes will replace older craft in the three squadrons permanently located at Sand Point, where they are charged with defense of the Puget Sound area.

They will be in strategic location for defense of the entrance of the great wheat fields of Eastern Washington, the gold, silver and copper mines of Idaho and the timberlands of the Olympic peninsula. Close at hand too, will be the irrigation and power projects at Bonneville and Grand Coulee.

Beyond—and more strategic in relation to naval military objectives—is the navy's most northerly and westerly air base, Sitka, Alaska. Sitka is only a short flying distance from the Asiatic mainland. The Sand Point base keeps the Sitka base staffed with a full squadron of long range bombers.

These bombing planes are capable of flying 2,000 miles with a heavy load of bombs, a crew of seven men, with defensive armaments, and return. They attain a reported speed up to 165 miles per hour and can operate as an independent unit, far from base, alone, for up to ten days.

### Armory

Opposing concerted interests of commercial, real estate and traction interests, the Navy and Navy Reserve forces in Los Angeles are driving for the erection of a million dollar naval reserve armory in Los Angeles. This week they secured approval by a subcommittee of the common council for the project, to be built with WPA funds. The site assigned was to be used for an exposition planned for 1940. The navalists regarded this as a great victory.

### FIRST ANNUAL Reunion and Dance

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22 E. 15th St., N. Y. City

MARCH 5, 1938

Tickets 85c

Sponsored by

Camp Three  
Arrows

# Building Socialism

## Reports of Party Activity Over the Country

BY ROY E. BURT, NATIONAL SECRETARY

The National Office is checking its mailing list of branches and locals. Each local or branch secretary is asked to invest in a postal card and send in the name and address of the secretary so we can check against our present mailing list. If you are not secretary, will you check with your secretary and see that he reports?

### MISSOURI

Helen Nichols has been elected State Secretary of the Missouri organization to replace Comrade George Duemler who has been serving in that capacity temporarily.

Ward Rodgers, member of the NEC, reports a new awakening on the part of the farmers and workers in southern Missouri. Reports indicate possibilities of real Party building in that section of the state soon.

### OKLAHOMA

From various parts of the state come requests for information concerning the Party. Former party members are beginning to realize the need of a functioning state organization. You can look for some definite things in the way of Party building here soon.

### WISCONSIN

Norman Thomas spoke in Milwaukee, Kenosha and Madison

this week. These meetings were all a part of a vigorous anti-war drive being carried on by the Party in Wisconsin.

### Racine

Local Racine is planning a great meeting to be addressed by Norman Thomas on Friday, February 25th.

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### Erie

The local held a meeting addressed by Comrade Arthur McDowell on Wednesday, February 16th.

### ILLINOIS

#### Cook County

The Italian Federation held a very successful dinner in honor of La Parola on February 17th.

La Parola is now edited under the direction of the NAC and is sure of support from this group of Loyal Socialists.

Local Cook County is active in supporting the debate scheduled for February 26th between Norman Thomas and Paul Douglas of the University of Chicago.

### MARYLAND

#### Baltimore

A general meeting of local Baltimore will be held Thursday evening, Feb. 24, at which time arrangements will be made for electing a campaign manager and treasurer. Nominations of delegates to the National Convention will also come up.



COMING EVENTS

GARY, INDIANA

Socialist Forum presents Meyer Halushka, who will speak on "What's Behind the Lay-Offs?" Workmen's Circle Hall, 117 W. 5th Ave., Feb. 27, at 2:30 p. m.

## Attention Chicago!

The CALL Anniversary Dinner and Dance will be held on Saturday, March 5 at the Workers' Lyceum, 2733 Hirsch Blvd. A fine menu has been prepared and the speeches will be short and sweet. After the banquet, there will be a program of dancing beginning at 9 p. m.

Tickets for both the Banquet and Dance are \$1.00 and tickets for dancing only are 35 cents. Advance ticket sales indicate a good crowd and a good time.

## Carl Johanntges

NEW YORK—Carl Johanntges, a member of the National Committee and recording secretary of the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Society, died Jan. 30, at the age of 67, after long and fruitful service to the cause of the labor movement.

The former business manager of the Volkszeitung and for years a member of the Socialist Party, Johanntges succumbed of complications due to a serious operation.

His activity during the World War, when he held fast to his Socialist convictions and opposed the war, and particularly the tenacity he displayed during the infamous Palmer red raids, will not be forgotten by all those who came in contact with him at that time.

### Shoe Union's New Office

WASHINGTON (UNS) — Headquarters of the United Shoe Workers of America, C. I. O., have been moved to the Edmonds Building, 917 Fifteenth street, N.W., Washington, D. C. The union was formerly located at 683 Atlantic avenue, Boston, Mass.

### WEST BRONX LABOR FORUM

—Every Friday Evening—  
7 W. Burnside Ave.

Feb. 25—Dr. Oscar Tropp

"Facts and Frauds in Medicine"  
Admission 10c

Next Week—Louis Nelson  
"Building a Progressive Labor Movement"

### THE CUBAN MODEL

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108 East 31st Street  
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Rapid and Efficient Service  
Goods Called For and Delivered  
SYD. PEARLMAN  
Manager

## World Powers Aid Hitler In Austrian Coup

(Continued from page 1)

except their own strength and that which they can rally to their support from the middle classes.

### Boycott Fascist Goods!

Workers everywhere are intensifying their boycott actions against Germany. They should go further and refuse to work on any goods meant for Hitler and should refuse to handle or transport them.

Austrian workers, revolutionary Socialists almost to a man, are the best organized underground movement in any of the fascist countries. They are carrying on in the tradition of their glorious armed defense of their liberties in February of 1934. They are expected to continue their Socialist work, even under the more difficult situation of Hitler rule, and will constitute a constant threat to Nazism, as well as an inspiration to the anti-fascist fighters in Germany and throughout the world.

Hitler, abetted by the leading capitalist nations of Europe, has temporarily strengthened himself. But he has also added immeasurably to the opposition that will ultimately destroy him.

### NEW YORK EXECUTIVE

Last week the CALL made an error in reporting the election of the executive committee of the New York local of the Socialist Party. The following are the regularly elected members of the new executive committee:

Jack Altman, Murray Baron, Aaron Levenstein, James Lipsig, Hal Siegel, Samuel Verne, Gus Tyler, Murray Gross, Brendan Sexton, Henry Sobotko, and Samuel H. Friedman.

Alternates: Abraham Abromowitz, Rose Pearlman, Isaac Shatzkin and Sam Weiss.

## BRANCH DIRECTORY

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

### MANHATTAN

VILLAGE BRANCH meets every Wednesday night at 107 MacDougal St. Paul Allen, secretary, 55 Horatio St.

### BRONX

6TH A.D. Meets every Wed. 7 West Burnside Ave. Harold Refsman, Sec'y.

### DETROIT

BRANCH ONE meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., 1110 West Warren.

### CHICAGO

CENTRAL BRANCH, Chicago and Cook county: Open meeting first Thursday of each month; business meeting second Thursday at 549 Randolph St., 4th fl.

CHICAGO WEST SIDE YPSL Circle—Tuesday at 8:30, 3108 Douglas Blvd. Marxism classes, same place Sundays at 11:30 a. m.

### SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco Local SP meets every Wednesday night at 8 p. m. at 1037 Steiner street.

### LABOR UNITY PETITION

"Kenosha Labor," leading labor news weekly of the mid-west and original sponsor of the petition of the "Committee of a Million for Unity" addressed to officials of both A. F. of L. and C.I.O., reported additional success for the petition drive in the state of Wisconsin where the division of labor has been most severe. Local unions are not only endorsing the petition but are sending it to all the unions of their international in the state.

Socialists of New Kensington, Pa., who led in the organization of the new C.I.O. unions in aluminum and electrical goods in their once open shop "Mellon" town have successfully launched the petition.

### INDIANA

Local Gary is running a regular weekly Forum each Sunday afternoon. Roy E. Burt, National Secretary, was the speaker on Sunday, February 20th, speaking on "Is America Headed for War?"

## BROOKLYN! ATTENTION!

The L. I. D. Has Two Important Forums in Your Borough

8 Lectures for \$1—Single Admission 25c

Friday Evening Forum  
Menora Masonic Temple  
50th St. and 14th Ave.

Benjamin Stolberg—Feb. 25  
"Can the New Deal Save America?"

George Hartmann—March 4  
"New Trends in Co-operatives"

Abraham Epstein—March 11  
"Can the Social Security Act Provide Security?"

A. J. Muste—March 18  
Organized Labor and Industrial Democracy"

Louis Hacker—March 25  
"City Workers Look at the Farmer"

Henry Neumann—April 1  
"Change People or Change Institutions?"

Gaetano Salvemini—April 8  
"Democracy vs. Dictatorship?"

For information and tickets  
Hyman Fromowitz  
8223 Bay P'kway, Brooklyn  
Bensonhurst 3-7255

Discussion Forum  
Huron Club  
1700 Eastern Parkway

McAlister Coleman—March 4  
"More Power to You—the Consumer!"

Harry W. Laidler—March 11  
"Independent Labor Politics"

Joel Seidman—March 18  
"Organized Labor and Industrial Democracy"

Abraham Epstein—March 25  
"Can the Social Security Act Provide Security?"

George Hartmann—April 1  
"Avoiding the Next War"

George Slaff—April 8  
"Civilization and Civil Rights in New Jersey"

Leroy Bowman—April 29  
"How Can New York House Its Millions?"

Tony Sender—May 6  
"The Battle Against Fascism"

For information and tickets  
Samuel Tolmach  
1939 Park Place  
Brooklyn

LEAGUE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY  
112 East 19th Street, New York City  
Algonquin 4-5865

MERCURY PRODUCTIONS

"CAESAR" Evenings: March 1, 2, 3, 10  
Matinees: Feb 23, March 2, 10

"SHOEMAKER" Evenings: Feb. 23, 24, 25, 26, 28  
March 4, 5, 7, 8, 9  
Matinees: Feb. 26, March 5, 9

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"ONE OF THE BEST MUSICAL SHOWS OF THE YEAR"—Atkinson, N. Y. Times.

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NEW YORK'S HIT MUSICAL RE  
With ILGWU Players

SEATS NOW SELLING FOR MARCH

LABOR STAGE EVES.: 8:40—Mats., Wed. and Sat., 2:40  
PRICES: EVES., 55c to \$2.75  
39th St. & 6th Ave.—BRyant 9-1463 MATS., 55c to \$2.20

## Where To Dine

IN NEW YORK

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"SHOULD AMERICA FOLLOW A POLICY OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY?"

The Time— THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24 8 P. M.

The Place— CHICAGO, ILL.

**A DEBATE**

Prof. Paul Douglas University of Chicago AFFIRMATIVE

Norman Thomas National Chairman Socialist Party NEGATIVE

Dr. James Yard Chairman

MEDICAL & DENTAL ARTS BUILDING 185 N. Wabash Ave.



# Tenant Farmers Hold Convention At Little Rock

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—The fourth annual convention of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, beginning Feb. 25, and lasting through the 27, H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the union, announced last week. The sessions which begin Friday morning at 10 o'clock will be held at the "Old Community Hall," Center and Third streets near the Medical Arts Building. The first session will be open to the general public with representatives of the press invited to attend all sessions.

The entire three days will be given over to serious consideration of the problems affecting the membership. After the opening session the delegates will divide up into different discussion groups called "Working Divisions."

### Order of Business

These divisions will deal with civil liberties and legal problems, wages and contracts; organizational problems, government policies and programs affecting farm tenancy.

A fourth division will touch on all other division subjects and will deal with the general history, program and plans of the organization. A report will be made to the convention as a whole of the conclusions reached by these groups. These reports will be in the nature of resolutions and if adopted by the convention will constitute the union program for the year 1938.

### Thomas To Speak

Several speakers, specialists in their fields, have been invited to address these various divisions and discuss the problems with the delegates. Among these are H. C. Malcom of the Arkansas Department of Labor and Statistics, H. A. Graham, chairman, Oklahoma Landlord-Tenant Relations Bureau, C. T. Carpenter, Attorney of Marked Tree, Arkansas.

Speakers invited to address the convention as a whole include Governor Carl E. Bailey of Arkansas, Norman Thomas of New York City, Dr. Arthur B. Adams, Dean of the University of Oklahoma and County Judge R. L. Frazier of Woodruff County Arkansas. Judge Frazier has accepted the invitation and is scheduled to speak on the morning of the 25th. Governor Bailey replied that he was unable to attend due to previous engagements. Further announcements will be made as soon as invited guests have had the opportunity to reply.

Mitchell further stated that approximately 150 delegates representing Locals in the states of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri, Tennessee and Mississippi had already received credentials and that over 200 were expected to attend.

## Police Attack WPA Union Organizer

JOPLIN, Mo. — Police used brutal methods in ejecting 150 men and women WPA strikers from WPA headquarters here. Al Friedman of St. Louis, WPA organizer, was manhandled and arrested. He was held with R. C. Wolf, local organizer, on charges of rioting. Friedman was also charged with burglary.

The strikers locked themselves in the WPA headquarters in protest against layoffs and demanding better working conditions. After spending the night in the building, they were ejected by police who battered down the doors.

## CAPITAL'S COLLECTIVE SECURITY FOR LABOR



—Fallock in "United Automobile Worker"

# Hague Rules Jersey City Like Hitler

NEW YORK. — Aron S. Gilmartin, acting secretary of the Workers Defense League, charged today that an American brand of "anschluss," on the order of the recently perpetrated Austro-German model, exists today between Hague-dominated Jersey City and its neighbor Union City.

Intimidation of officials of the Italian-Co-operative Hall in Jersey City to prevent a Hague protest meeting scheduled for Friday night by the Hudson County Committee for Civil and Labor Rights, is another instance proving the extension of Hague's admittedly self-made law outside of his technically legal domain, Mr. Gilmartin declared.

### Hitlerism

"In this pan-Jersey anschluss Mayor Hague takes the part of Hitler and Police Chief Harry Jenkins of Union City serves as his Dr. Seyss-Inquart, newly appointed Nazi minister in the Austrian cabinet in charge of police," Mr. Gilmartin said.

"Only fears of the sort of retaliatory measures with which Jersey City hall operators have been threatened forced the operators of the Italian Co-operative Hall to cancel the meeting. In this situation Mr. Jenkins has very obviously played the part of a Hague puppet.

"Persistent subservience by Union City police to Hague can only result in the complete ban of civil rights that already exists in Jersey City."

### TRUCK DRIVERS WIN

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Merchants Delivery Company must reinstate 14 discharged employees, with back pay for time lost, according to a decision by the National Labor Relations Board. The complaint had been filed by Truck Drivers' Local 41.

## HOMER MARTIN URGES LABOR BUILD CO-OPS

NEW YORK.—"I am for the consumers cooperative movement 100 percent," Homer Martin, president of the United Workers of America, told a representative of the Cooperative League News Service here last week.

Pointing to rising prices which immediately ate up the increased wages won by union organization, Mr. Martin declared that the workers must organize as consumers as well as producers if they are to control prices and actually increase the workers' standard of living.

### Urges Cooperation

"The essential trouble in this country," Mr. Martin said, "is the differential between producer's price and consumer's price. The consumer's price and the producer's price must be brought together. The consumer's cooperative pushes the price to the consumer down and operates with organized labor, which pushes the producers price up to lessen the differential between the wages the worker gets and the price the consumer pays, thus distributing the whole product of industry and business through a greater strata of the population."

### Prices Rob Wages

Citing the experience of the auto workers whose wage increase were stolen by increased prices, Martin declared, "In South Bend, Indiana, the merchants and real estate dealers and other distributors got together and decided exactly how a raise in wages to the workers would be divided among themselves in increased prices—what percentage would go for increased rents, how much to the grocer, how much to the drygoods store owner. By the time they got through, the raise in wages amounted to nothing for the workers.

### Joint Action

"Consumers Cooperatives, working jointly with the labor movement, would control that spread. Producers and consumers' price must be pushed together."

Asked about the relation be-

## Husbands Fired Because Wives Sue Radium Co.

OTTAWA, Ill. — One of the foulest conspiracies uncovered in recent years has been charged here by Attorney Leonard Grossman, counsel for 14 women who are demanding compensation for radium poisoning contracted while working for the Radium Dial Co., former Ottawa concern.

Grossman declared that a blacklist of husbands of the doomed women had been put into effect by local concerns, most of which are carriers of industrial diseases.

Thomas Donahue, husband of one of the doomed women who heard medical experts testify at a state industrial commission hearing that she had but a short while to live as a result of poisoning contracted when she used her lips to point radium-tipped brushes, was recently fired by a glass concern here, Grossman charged, and was unable to obtain work in Ottawa now.

The attorney said many women who had been poisoned while working in the Radium Dial plant, were afraid to sue the company, which has since moved to New York, for fear their husbands would be dismissed.

### Settle Whelan Strike

NEW YORK (UNS)—A seven-week strike against the Whelan Drug Co. was settled by the New York state mediation board, shortly after the state labor relations board had named the United Retail Drug Store Employees Union, C. I. O., as sole collective bargaining agent. Points at issue in the dispute will be arbitrated.

tween farmers and industrial workers, the president of the United Auto Workers declared, "I see in consumers cooperation the common denominator of consumer interest which can be a tremendous factor in bringing together American farmers and labor."

## Veterans' Hospital Wins 8-Hour Shift

DANVILLE, Ill. (UNS) — World War veterans employed in the U. S. Veterans Hospital at Danville, Ill., won a cut in their working hours from 12 to eight through the efforts of Local 87, United Federal Workers.

Labor conditions in veterans' hospitals throughout the country are notoriously bad, according to Irwin F. Eiber, U. F. W. regional organizer, who expressed the hope that the victory at the Danville hospital would spur others on to win shorter hours also.

## THIRD ANNIVERSARY CALL DINNER AND SYMPOSIUM THE PRESS AND WAR

—Speakers Invited—

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Gerry Allard, Socialist Call | Frank Palmer, People's Press                    |
| Freda Kuchwey, Nation        | Ed Levinson, New York Post                      |
| Blaise Bitten, New Republic  | Oswald Garrison Villard                         |
| Alfred Bingham, Common Sense | V. F. Calverton, Modern Monthly                 |
| Ernest Meyer                 | Dorothy Dunbar Bromley, New York World-Telegram |
| McAlister Coleman            | John T. Flynn                                   |
| Max Danish, Justice          | John Chamberlain                                |
| Charles Beard                | James Rorty                                     |
| Quincy Howe                  |   |
| Selden Rodman                |   |

MARCH 20—SUNDAY EVENING  
At Rosoff's, 147 W. 43rd St., New York City

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