

WORKERS AGE

A PAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS

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Five Cents

At First GLANCE

By JAY LOVESTONE

Hyenas Of Capitalism

IN his forthcoming book on the NRA, "The Blue Eagle From Egg to Earth", General Hugh S. (Strikebreaker) Johnson pretends to be humble and appears to be modest. This swashbuckler of the New Deal laments that: "If we saw a squirrel starving to death in a knothole in his nut-filled hollow tree, we wouldn't believe it. And yet here are 125 million people, granaries full, factories shut, but with millions of workers idle and hungry and shabby and afraid of the future and of everything and everybody about them, and money galore in the banks and depositories. It just doesn't make sense." Marvelous discovery for a New Dealer! Obviously, in the sphere of social organization, the ordinary squirrel is more intelligent than the nuts parading as economic experts and professors in our universities and Brain Trusts. This author and executor of the conscription law in the last war to make the world safe for Stock Exchange democracy cries that all of this "doesn't make sense." So, what? Well, the General thus groans in his effort at enlightenment: "Any political system has failed when people can no longer live under it by their own efforts." Is it possible that the General is so much in the dark that he mistakes a bush for a bear? We don't believe it. Political systems are reflexes of and organically bound up with economic systems. But about this, Johnson doesn't say a word. The economic system, capitalism, begets its own political system—certain forms of state power—to maintain and perpetuate the privileges of the ruling class, the private owners of the means of production and exchange socially used. Aent this unchallenged historic truth the strike-breaking General says not a word. Blame it all on Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover and their Party of the Elephant! Profound reasoning! Certainly beneath the capacity of the squirrel! Little respect as we have for the Johnsons and their ilk, we have a hunch they know more and better. They are tireless apologists and persistently militant defenders of the profit system. In the guise of sheep they perform the tasks of the hyenas of the capitalist system. These are the most dangerous enemies of labor.

Let Bad Enough Alone

THANKS to the Brookings Institute, we have more dope to confirm our analysis of the forces of decay gnawing at the vitals of the American social and economic order—capitalism. One-tenth of one percent of the families in the U.S. have an income greater than 42% of all the families. Then, 21% of our families are getting but 4 1/2% of the total national income. Finally, seventy-one out of every hundred American families are getting along on incomes less than the average. In this direction the trend has been moving for some time—towards a greater centralization of operation and higher concentration of control and ownership. Roosevelt's policies have only emphasized and speeded up this trend. All the highly paid "students of social problems" should ponder these figures. Dry as they are and threadbare as they may appear to the average communist soapboxer, they can shed considerable light to these students as to why it is that the "consuming power" of the great mass of workers and farmers and urban middle class folk is "congealed in icebergs . . . and in the dead leaves of the worthless securities . . . and our fatuous foreign loans." However, that would be asking too much from such "students"! What would then happen to Roosevelt's new basic industry—the thickly entangled net of "fact-finding" and study commissions? Besides, why undermine the old pulp and ink and printing industries. Why invite the worst? Let bad enough alone.

Aggravating Remedies

UNIFORMLY all "recognized" observers are quite optimistic in their outlook for the economic situation in the coming months. Not being among the "recognized", we dare strike a jarring note to this Pollyanna chorus. The new high record of four and a half billion dollars of bank reserves in the U. S. is a source of infection and not invigoration for the economic system both at home and abroad. Bank deposits zooming upward last year, in the biggest gain in the history of American banking, only emphasize the fundamental weakness of the whole capitalist edifice. The big problem of the biggest banks now is "earnings"—where to invest money at a handsome profit when the gap between

Answer the Challenge!

The sharp clash between the government and labor in the automobile industry is an event of tremendous significance. In fact, it may well mark a decisive turning point in the attitude of labor to the NRA, thus opening a new chapter in the history of unionism in recent times.

The very manner in which the President renewed the automobile code shows plainly that he intended the act as an affront and challenge to organized labor. He was well aware of the frightful conditions prevailing in this industry, the pride of modern capitalism, as revealed in the sensational report of the NRA division of research and planning. He was well aware of the mounting discontent of the auto workers and their protest against the auto code with its notorious "merit clause". He was well aware of the bitter opposition of labor to the openly pro-company Wolman automobile labor board, established under an arrangement explicitly recognizing the company union as a legitimate agency of collective bargaining. The action of the A. F. of L. in withdrawing from this board and in refusing to participate in the farcical "elections" conducted by it, were not lost upon him. He was well aware of the surely very modest request of the A. F. of L. for a public hearing on the auto code and the setting up of a "neutral" auto board under Public Resolution 44. And yet, in spite of all this, in spite of the adverse vote of the NIRB and the NLRB, he decided to renew the auto code and to continue the Wolman board—and did this in a way that would demonstratively exhibit his contempt for the opinion of the A. F. of L., refusing even to listen to the pleas of its leaders! So that nobody might possibly miss the significance of his act, he made sure to inform the workers, thru his letter to Mr. Ogburn, that the President, had arbitrary authority in the whole matter and would proceed to exercise it as he pleased! The A. F. of L. immediately declared its defiance, proclaiming: "We protest against this code. We will not accept, not recognize it, not yield to it." And so things stand!

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF LABOR UNIONS

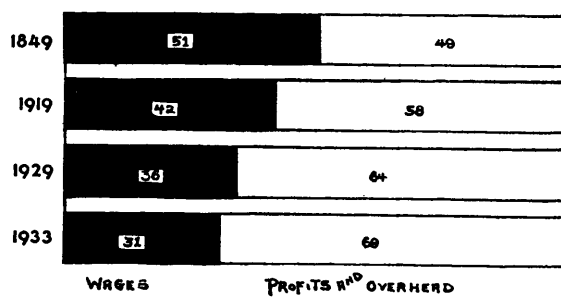
It would be a grave error to look upon this breach between the government and the A. F. of L. as limited to the automobile industry or even as brought about by factors peculiar to it. Long ago, at the very time that Socialist party spokesmen were hailing the NRA as a "step to socialism" and Communist party spokesmen were asserting that the A. F. of L. had become a "part of the government apparatus", we pointed out that a head-on collision between organized labor and the government was inevitable, was inherent in the situation itself. The underlying aim of the New Deal in the field of labor, we pointed out a few months after the recovery act was adopted (Workers Age, October 1, 1933), was to put over the system of "NRA unionism," government controlled "unions" completely deprived of their independent

productive capacities and consumption possibilities continues to widen. Most ominous in our opinion is the reversed trend in international capital dealings. At a time when Wall Street should be exporting capital in bumper fashion, the U. S. is importing capital. Apparently, the foreign bourgeoisie are not over-optimistic about their own countries as investment prospects and lack confidence in their national currencies. The billion and a quarter of gold pumped into the Wall Street vaults this year from overseas banks will plague the pumpers and the pumped disastrously very much sooner than the darkest pessimists believe. It is precisely such "remedies" that aggravate old and breed new ailments.

War Clouds In Far East

THE war clouds over the Pacific are getting heavier and blacker with each mile of Chinese territory grabbed by Japanese imperialism. The Nipponese invasion of Chahar province is not merely an immediate blow at Chinese national independence. It is a well-calculated part of a long-prepared plan by the Japanese imperialist plunderers in their preparations for war against the Soviet Union. From the point of view of military strategy, in a strictly aggressive and offensive war, the latest Tokio move is more vital than brilliant. It is a blow at Soviet Mongolia and a flagrant provocation to the Soviet Union. A significant sidelight of this entire unsavory and tragic situation in the Far East is the complete non-resistance of Chiang-Kai-Shek to these Japanese attacks. But there is no need of calling upon some oracle to enhance our knowledge as to the why and wherefore of this traitor's conduct. Back in 1927 this "Generalissimo" drew fifteen million dollars from the international bankers to double cross the Chinese people and to betray their national revolutionary liberation movement. Just now we can't state the exact sum Chiang-Kai-Shek got from the Japanese robbers for being busy fighting the Chinese peasantry in the Soviet areas while not even lifting a finger to halt the foreign invader. Worse than that. This leader of the Nanking clique has been working overtime drowning in blood all anti-Japanese manifestations. Fortunately for the Chinese people, the U.S.S.R. is its neighbor. The graveyard of Japanese aggression will be prepared with the active and decisive aid of the Socialist Republic.

OUR SHRINKING SHARE



tack upon the A. F. of L. itself and thus to open collision with organized labor.

A "FASCIST" SET-UP

How this inevitable logic has operated in the automobile industry is described in a penetrating article by Louis Stark in The New York Times of February 3, 1935. With the advent of the Wolman board set-up, declares Mr. Stark, "there is now in existence for the first time in the United States—in embryo at least—what is felt by labor leaders to be a counterpart of the officially fostered and controlled government trade unions of Germany, Italy, Austria . . ." He speaks also of the possibility that "the completion of these rules (of the Wolman board) will usher in a sort of 'Fascist' labor organization virtually deprived of the ability to strike . . ." No wonder that President Green has openly spoken of "Fascism" in connection with the recent actions of the administration!

TASKS OF LABOR

In view of this whole situation, what are the most immediate tasks of labor?

1. The A. F. of L. has already pledged resistance to the automobile code and the Wolman board. This pledge must not remain mere words. It must be implemented by a determined organization drive and by the preparation of general strike action in the industry as soon as possible. In a certain sense, the fate of the whole labor movement may be said to hinge on what is going to happen in the auto industry in the near future. The A. F. of L. leadership must not fail in this crisis as it failed when the auto code was adopted and, later on, when the Wolman board was set up!

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The Spanish Revolution

The Catalonian Revolt

This is the second of five articles on the Spanish revolution, written by one of the outstanding participants and organizers of the revolution. In the next issue we will print the third article which deals with the effective and bitter resistance of the working class of the Asturias, especially the miners, in contrast to the weak-kneed and vacillating policy of the Catalonian bourgeois autonomists.—Editor.

By JUAN ANTONIO

The formation of the Lerroux government with the participation of the fascist elements produced a violent reaction among the workers in Catalonia as well as among the petty-bourgeoisie which led the movement for autonomy.

The Lerroux-Gil Robles cabinet struck both at the workers movement and at Catalonian autonomy. The aims of reaction showed themselves with great clarity: to suppress the working class as well as the petty-bourgeois government of the Catalonian "Generalitat."

Approaching Struggles

The first days of the month, in Barcelona as well as in all of Catalonia, were marked by intense excitement. One felt the approach of serious struggles.

Catalonia offered very favorable conditions for revolutionary action. In effect, the workingclass movement, the peasants and the petty-bourgeoisie with the government of the Generalitat, were all bound by the same objective. The workers and the peasantry, put into action and aided by the government, were a force of great strength.

The armed police was under the direction of the Generalitat (the government of Catalonia). The petty-bourgeoisie also had an armed organization. The Catalonian Youth, 10,000 in Barcelona, and many thousands in the rest of the province, had been equipped with guns, pistols, bombs and even with machine guns.

As for the government of Madrid, it had in Barcelona only some 3000 soldiers. The relation of forces could not be more favorable for the workingclass movement and for the petty-bourgeoisie.

The Catalonian Insurrection

But the petty-bourgeoisie of the Generalitat, although well aware that the Lerroux-Gil Robles government was its mortal enemy, had a dreadful fear of the working class.

It foresaw that the triumph of the revolution in Spain would mean the victory of the working class and the government of Catalonia would inevitably pass into the hands of the workers.

The Companys-Dencas government always refused the organization of a revolutionary committee into which representatives of workers would enter. The Generalitat having arms and munitions, refused to arm the workers. Companys-Dencas-Badia were willing for the workers to let loose the general strike throughout Catalonia but opposed their active participation in the insurrectionary movement.

The General Strike

On Friday, October 5th, the general strike burst through all of Catalonia. From the outset it was a movement of unbelievable energy. The large towns, the cities as well as the villages were mobilized for a complete stoppage. In the afternoon, trains stopped running completely.

Barcelona offered an impressive spectacle. Thousands upon thousands of workers jammed the streets. The atmosphere was charged with electricity.

On Saturday, the 6th, the strike was further strengthened. The anarchists who had refused to join the revolutionary movement were thrust into it by the popular wave. The hour of a violent clash was approaching. The workers in gigantic demonstrations were demanding the proclamation of the Catalai Republic.

Catalan Republic Proclaimed

The "Generalitat" (the Government of Catalonia) hesitated. It found itself caught between two fires and did not know which was the more dangerous. The news from the rest of Spain added fuel to the fire. In Asturias the working class had risen. In Madrid, Valencia, Bilbao, the general strike was complete.

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AUTO UNIONS PLAN NRA STRIKE ACTION

Henderson Report Exposes Speed Up And Skyrocketing Profits In "Depression"

The extension of the Automobile Code and the Presidential whitewash of the Wolman Board continues to be the issue agitating the mass of the auto workers. Sentiment for strike action is gaining ground, as is shown by the widespread support for the Murray Body strikers and the decisions of the Detroit City Council of all A. F. L. auto unions. After agreeing on minimum scales, the 30-hour week, recognition of the union, outlawing of company unions and other demands, the city council proceeded to set in motion a drive to prepare the workers for a general strike. Discussions on the general strike are proceeding in the locals; organizing committees in all locals are being set up; a demand was made upon the Executive Council of the A. F. L. for financial assistance to prepare for the strike and a call was issued for more organizers to help build the organization. In these developments the members of the Auto Workers Progressive Club are playing an important part.

Roosevelt Steps In

In the meanwhile the battle of words still rages in Washington. The carefully thought out strategy of centering all A. F. L. fire on Richberg and Wolman, has been shot to pieces by the President. In the midst of the enraged sputtering of Green and the colorful invective of Lewis, Roosevelt stepped forward to tell the labor leaders that he takes full responsibility for the developments in the auto situation. Furthermore, he informed the American Federation of Labor that the functioning of the Wolman Board is none of their business; that he is the sole judge over the functioning of these boards and is quite satisfied with the operation of the Wolman Board.

The letter of Roosevelt served to add insult to injury as far as the auto workers were concerned. It tended to steel their conviction that they must depend only upon their own economic strength and not upon the agent of Wall Street in the White House.

Upon our labor leaders the Roosevelt letter seems to have had a deadening effect. All the fountains of indignant oratory suddenly ran dry. Behind the scenes, however, there is feverish activity. The gigantic legislative lobbies of the A. F. L. are veritable bee-hives.

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SENATE REBELS ON PWA SLAVE WAGE

Administration Turns Heat On Senate Committee Which Rejects \$50 Month Scale

The cracks that began to appear in the cylinders of the New Deal steamroller with the defeat of the world court spread a little further last week when the Senate Appropriations committee reared up on its hind legs and decided that public works should pay the prevailing rate of wages.

The Roosevelt proposal had specified an average wage of fifty dollars a month. This scabby proposal had been bitterly denounced by the American Federation of Labor which won at least a temporary victory in the Appropriations committee decision.

The importance of this especial point in the Roosevelt plans for a Utopian America—at fifty dollars a month—may be judged from the speed with which the heat was turned on to the recalcitrant Senators. Within twenty-four hours Senator McAdoo announced that he would move to reconsider and it is likely that the New Dealers will bring enough political pressure to swing the committee into line.

Nevertheless even the temporary adoption of the amendment to pay the prevailing rate is of importance, first, because it breaks down the myth of the invulnerability of the Rooseveltian Democratic machine, secondly, because it focusses attention on this particularly vicious section of the new public works bill. The A. F. of L. was quick to declare that the rate of wages prescribed by the Federal government would become a prevailing rate on private work as well and to resist actively this attempt at blasting the worker's standards. Now whether Roosevelt wins or loses this round labor in America can gain an object lesson in the purposes of his administration and catch a glimpse of the sort of nation he envisions behind the smooth phrases of his fireside chats.

FAITH IN JAPAN AS PROTECTOR OF DARKER RACES IS ILLUSORY

Nipponese Imperialism Equals Western Brutalities To Subject Peoples

By CLARENCE JENKINS

With the shifting of the future world economic conflicts from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the drastic trade competition between capitalist powers is becoming more acute and the danger of war more apparent.

Japan, situated in a strategic position in the Far East and suffering from the virulent ills of capitalism, seeks to stabilize her regime by underselling her Western imperialist rivals in eastern markets and thereby gain a monopoly over Far Eastern trade. Her greatest ambition is to establish a "Monroe Doctrine" in the Far East and close the doors of Eastern markets to Western imperialism.

Japan seeks to hide her imperialist ambition behind the magnanimous gestures of heralding herself as the champion of the darker races of the Far East.

Romantic Negro nationalists and reformist leaders are pointing to the triumph of Japan in Asia as the great hope of African liberation and the ultimate liberation of the viciously oppressed Negro masses in the U.S.A.

Much ado is made about Japan's lack of imperialistic brutality (which is luxuriously indulged in by western imperialists) and her cheap commodities in Asiatic markets as the greatest proof of her genuine friendship toward the darker race.

This myth tends to intensify the feeling of race separatism and antipathy toward the American working class among a large section of the exploited and oppressed Negro masses. At the

present stage of American economic decline, it is criminal folly for Negro leaders to sow such seeds of illusion among the Negro working masses.

In regard to Japan's lack of imperialistic brutality a cursory review of her relations with darker races is quite timely and illuminating.

When Admiral Perry entered Japan in 1854 he found the country deeply rooted in feudal serfdom. Japan reluctantly opened her doors to Western ideas. Her rise as an imperialistic nation has been meteoric. As paradoxical as it may seem, Japan's success as an imperialist power can be traced primarily to her subjugation of darker races and her blood relatives.

Japan celebrated her entry into the imperialist arena by a war against China in 1894. She emerged with Formosa and Korea as the fruit of victory, in 1895. In 1900 the starving Chinese peasants joined the Chinese bourgeoisie in an heroic effort to drive out the imperialist bandits. Japan played a leading and conspicuous part in brutally drowning the rebellion in blood.

Japan's quarrel over the loot taken from China culminated in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904. These two wars established Japan's position in the Far East as a world power to be seriously considered.

Under Japanese domination, the Korean, Chinese and Formosan people have suffered a brutalizing persecution that can be favorably compared with the heinous brutality of Germany, Belgium and England in Africa. Since the Japanese occupation of Formosa, the aborigines have been denied all civil rights and more than 50,000 have been brutally put to death by the Japanese. The Koreans have fared miserably under Japanese domination. They revolted in 1919, the Formosans in 1920 and again

in 1930. The Japanese used every conceivable instrument of torture to put down these rebellions. The Ainu people, of whom the Japanese are the direct descendants, furnish one of the saddest stories in the history of human exploitation. At the approach of a Japanese officer, the Ainu was forced to bow his head in the dust. Refusal meant decapitation on the spot and refusals were frequent. The Japanese regard these people as dogs and have almost exterminated them.

The phantasy about Japan's desire to unite China, as a strong and independent nation, is a mere attempt to condone Japanese aggression in China. Japan realizes well that a strong China would be her greatest menace. These darker races entertain no fatuous illusions about Japan's friendship.

The Japanese working class is girding itself for a showdown with its own ruling caste. The strike of the tenant farmers and the growth of illegal societies in the schools and universities presages the coming struggles. Japan is sitting on a social volcano. The intense hatred and spirit of rebellion among her fifty million colonial slaves is her chief menace.

The liberation of the oppressed Negro masses is inextricably bound up with the liberation of the American working class, of which the Negro is an integral part. The over-emphasis of race and the lack of class consciousness is the greatest curse of the oppressed and exploited working class.

The inability to interpret contemporary economic developments, the lack of courage and inability to clarify the Negro's economic problems, the failure to lead the Negro masses in the proper direction, the same old pusillanimous obedience to the capitalist overlord and the smug indifference to the plight of the masses, condemn the present leadership among the Negroes as incompetent and bankrupt.

The only hope of the Negro masses lies in a common struggle with the oppressed white workers for the liberation of the enslaved masses all over the world.

DETROIT PREPARES STRIKE PLANS

(Continued from Page 1)

wires are being pulled and dozens of face-saving devices are being concocted. From the standpoint of the auto workers the results of this activity will be as barren and fruitless as they have been in dozens of other such cases.

Henderson Report Embarrassing

The report of the Henderson Commission broke at a rather embarrassing moment for Roosevelt, Richberg and Wolman. In the light of the findings of this Commission the much publicized achievements of Roosevelt in the Auto Code extension and its "gains for labor", appear hollow and inconsequential. The Commission is shocked at the degree of concentration of control which is throttling not only the workers but also the distributors. At a time when every Brain Truster glibly prattles about re-employment, the Commission reveals that the auto manufacturers have not been idle since the crisis broke in 1929. There has occurred a tremendous technological advance and numerous labor-saving (unemployment-increasing) devices have been installed thus closing the door to reemployment for thousands of auto workers. The Commission finds the auto factories honey-combed with spies and stool-pigeons. In the light of these facts "free and unrestricted" plant elections and the right to organize become a farce. The whole system of production is set at a pace such as the Commission itself finds it hard to believe that a human being can endure. "Workers contend", says the report, "that at the present time they cannot go to the toilet and cannot even get a drink of water". It is such beastly conditions that make the industrially "useful" life end at less than 40. In contrast to the findings that the "workers in almost all instances had an inadequate total income" the Commission is amazed at the sky-rocketing profits even during these "lean" years.

The "rather dark picture" in the Henderson Report is the picture of a twentieth century edition of a feudal empire. Here lies the source of the burning and bitter resentment against the Roosevelts and Richmans and Wolmans—it is the resentment of the modern chattel slaves against the modern feudal lords and their White House agents.

Official Washington Uneasy

In the face of these developments official Washington is uneasy. Secretary of Labor Perkins states she was not even consulted on the extension of the Auto Code—apparently grooming herself for the role of peace-maker. Vague rumors float over Washington that the Code may even be reopened.

Why these rumors now? Surely they

were not caused by either the wrath of Lewis or the chagrin of Green. Behind these rumors lies the fear that the auto workers will themselves do a little fighting against the oppression of the automobile empire—the fear of a general strike. If the automobile workers fall prey once against to the guile of the administration they will have lost the best chance for an effective blow in their own interest. Nothing must be permitted to stop the developing movement for a general strike.

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MICH. SP CONVENES RPC RANKS HOLD

Brain Trust Of Militants On Hand Against Left Wing; Shy At Labor Party

Copying the methods of the Old Guard of New York the Militants successfully steamrollered the Michigan Socialist Party convention held in Detroit on Jan. 26 and 27.

The National Office sent in its shock troops, Roy Burt, Paul Porter and Amicus Most. Despite this imposing phalanx the left wing in the Revolutionary Policy Committee showed a surprising strength and solidarity.

Porter's chief contribution to the proceedings was a discussion of a new form of his old love the "Commonwealth Plan", this time to be introduced in Congress as a bill to provide for "an American standard of living", a \$2000 minimum for all, etc. He had no hope of such a bill passing but felt it was a valuable propaganda agent.

The RPC delegates pointed out the futility of trying to rally the workers around such a Utopian scheme, warning of the danger of sidetracking Socialism in the blind alleys of Epicureanism, the Townsend plan, etc. They stressed the importance of building a working class movement around trade union work, winning workers for immediate demands.

The timidity of the Militant position was sharply shown on the debate over the expulsion of five RPC members from the Buffalo local. The RPC bloc in the Michigan convention demanded a clear cut condemnation of such bureaucratic stifling of party opinion but the Militants (who had promised support) shied away and adopted a meaningless resolution on the right of all opinions to free expression providing they did not break party discipline.

A similar vagueness was shown on a Labor Party resolution introduced hastily to kill an RPC motion which called for positive Socialist action and a positive Socialist program on the Labor Party question. The Militant counter-resolution declared that probably there would be a Labor Party and probably Socialists ought to do something about it but now was not such a good time to decide anything definite.

In the elections for the State Executive Committee eight Militants of widely differing views and one RPC member were chosen. Although the RPC was outvoted it managed to stand out very clearly on principled points and to maintain its solidarity and clarity. This made it unique in the convention which was generally characterized by confusion, lack of ideas and opportunism. If this is the best course a Socialist meeting can steer with three outstanding leaders holding the guiding reins the bankruptcy of the party is an obvious fact which earnest revolutionaries must recognize.

ANSWER THE CHALLENGE!

(Continued from Page 1)

2. Now is the time for a thoro revision of organized labor's policy in regard to the NRA. Who will now dare speak of the NRA as the "great charter" of labor? Who is today so blind as not to see that the NRA functions as an aid and auxiliary of the organized employers in the most important industries, as the champion of the open shop and the protector of the company union? "Labor," Matthew Woll declared some months ago, "has rather been disorganized than organized under the NRA." On every side, unionism is fighting a life-and-death struggle with the NRA. And yet the A. F. of L. leadership is still content to mumble the old phrases and talk of the NRA as of some happy mechanism whereby the interests of labor and capital are harmonized and their collaboration assured. It is about time that organized labor recognized the impossibility of such harmony and such collaboration in principle as it is forced to recognize it in practise. It is about time that the A. F. of L. brought its attitudes to the NRA in line with the hard realities of the situation. In a word, it is about time that the trade union movement put an end to all pretence of "collaboration" with the NRA, just as the automobile unions have done with the Wolman board, withdraw its representatives from NRA bodies where such are still to be found and decide to treat with these NRA bodies as employer organizations, along class struggle lines. The NRA makes no bones about declaring itself definitely anti-A. F. of L. In the interests of mere self-defense, the A. F. of L. must rally its forces against the NRA!

3. The legend of the pro-labor attitude of the New Deal administration is now hopelessly blasted. What is labor to do today on the political field? Which "friends" is it to "reward", in the good old "non-partisan" manner? To pretend that Roosevelt is still "friendly" to labor at heart but is being misled by evil advisors in degrading folly; it is a mere echo of the old servile dogma: "The King can do no wrong!" It is now as clear as daylight that labor has nothing to expect from either of the two

parties of big capital, as little from the New Deal Democrats as from the Hoover Republicans! The only way in which organized labor can protect its rights, save itself from extinction in many cases, is by declaring its political independence, by breaking with the two parties of the bosses, by having its own political party—a Labor party. Now is the time for the trade unions and all labor organizations to federate themselves into an independent Labor party, into a party of, by and for labor!

COMPENSATION

Insurance Firms Gyp Injured

(Continued from Page 3)

Bill Will Not Pass

It was to cover up these scandalous abuses that the recent bill was introduced in the legislature. But even this mild attempt to somewhat lessen the abuses met with strenuous opposition on the part of the insurance companies who would lose a big income if the bill were to be passed. The result is that the bill was not passed and will not pass. The abuses will go on as they did. The worker will continue to be robbed of his right to compensation, by means of doctors, investigators, etc.

Workers Not Yet Aroused

Characteristic of the whole matter is that the workers and their representatives, the unions, have not yet awakened to this problem. Altho the question should interest mainly the workers and their representatives, yet it is left to capitalist politicians. It should be the duty of the workers and their unions to fight both against the abuses in the administration of workmen's compensation as well as for the change of the entire law, which is entirely inadequate.

One of the tasks of a labor party would be to sponsor and fight for such legislation. But before a labor party is established it is the duty of the progressive union to create proper apparatus for the protection of the workers' rights at the hearings and for the sponsoring of adequate legislation.

DEBATE

"WHICH PROGRAM FOR AMERICAN LABOR"

JAY LOVESTONE
for the
Communist Party Opposition

A. J. MUSTE
for the
Workers Party

HEYWOOD BROWN
Chairman

SUNDAY 2.30 P. M.
FEBRUARY 17, 1935

at the

Irving Plaza Hall

15th St. & Irving Place, N. Y. C.

ADMISSION 35¢

SECURE TICKETS FROM COMMUNIST OPPOSITION, 51 West 14th Street