

WORKERS AGE

A Paper Defending the Interests of Workers and Farmers

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Saturday, May 11, 1935.

Five Cents

At First GLANCE

By JAY LOVESTONE

ONCE in a blue moon gems can be dug out of a dung heap. With equal frequency words of wisdom and importance can be culled from the drab pages of the Congressional Record.

We hasten to tell our friends that in this sense a treat awaits the industrious, ready to plow the record of the debate in the House on the country's biggest-time naval budget. Here are some of our gleanings: The cost of maintaining a treaty-strength navy exceeds the total expenditures of the Federal government for any year prior to 1904. The annual cost of such a navy—\$555,146,641—is more than Great Britain and Japan together are spending on their navies. In 1932 the Democrats denounced the Republicans for spending 700 million dollars on the army and navy. In 1935 Roosevelt is committed to a program of spending over a billion dollars. These huge appropriations come from a Congress which haggled over lending 60 million dollars to farmers for seed. This is the cost of only one super-dreadnought or a pair of airplane carriers.

Mr. Roosevelt and his better half are reputed to be good letter-writers. Perhaps, either or both, could answer us why it is that Congress votes a half billion for warships with such great dispatch, while it so grudgingly doles out but \$15 a month to those who have become aged and decrepit thru working in the factory or the black pit. While awaiting the reply from the White House fireside, we make haste to underscore our agreement with the Congressman who dropped the following few remarks in the course of the debate on this monster appropriation. "And then we wonder that we are 'sitting on a volcano.' The wonder is that we have not been blown to atoms by an exploited and enraged people."

These are no impure thoughts dignified with the breath of a Representative. Here at last is timely advice from Washington—food for serious thought and deeds.

WE are pleased to strike a "discordant" note or two about developments in Germany. From the despatches of the Berlin correspondents one tends to get the impression that the population as a whole is solidly behind the Hitler-head-choppers in their war plans. This is not the case. We learn from unimpeachable sources that the March 16th proclamation for conscription did not arouse the universal chauvinist acclaim reported officially.

Our comrades who have for years seen the situation in Germany more clearly than any other force tell us: "Real sentiment is quite different. The great mass of workers and middle class people fear a war. The masses have repeatedly experienced periods of panic for fear of a war. . . . Even in the ranks of the Hitler youth—excepting of course the paid functionaries—there is no enthusiasm for war."

Add to this the fact that substantial, tho not spectacular, headway is now being made in building underground trade unions. This is cheerful news from darkest Germany.

RECENTLY Mayor LaGuardia vigorously dramatized before a delegation of twelve Congressmen the efficiency of the New York police department in rendering "protection for the financial district." To the satisfaction of the legislative morons from Washington our flying Mayor demonstrated that he could save Wall Street within three minutes without troops.

The real motives for this great display of police reliability do not concern us at this point. But there is a humorous (though perhaps not so accidental) side to this whole show which is illuminating. Mr. LaGuardia and the Congressmen just "happened" to choose the steps of J. P. Morgan & Co. at Broad and Wall Streets for their headquarters during the performance. From here the emergency call for help was sent, not from the headquarters of any labor union, the steps of any library or hospital.

Thanks Mr. La Guardia. Garlands to you for "inadvertently" staging so fine a performance in behalf of the great quail-shooter J. P. Surely after this demonstration of yours no one can doubt as to who is citizen number one in New York City and in the rest of the country. Government by whom and for whom? Page Morgan and his efficient and solicitous mayor and loyal night-stick wielders.

MILLIONS MARCH ON MAY DAY!

Trade Unions in Good Turnout

CHICAGO, Ill.—About 10,000 workers turned out to celebrate the first of May. The demonstration was under Communist Party auspices.

BOSTON, Mass.—A May Day parade of several hundred workers was set upon by organized groups of American Legion rowdies and a number of demonstrators severely beaten.

PHILA, Pa. — Two demonstrations and parades marked May Day here. Both demonstrations were held in Reyburn Plaza. In the early afternoon there gathered many trade unions and labor organizations. The Communist Party meeting followed. Both meetings totaled approximately 15,000.

ELIZABETH, N. J.—The largest parade seen here in many a May Day was held under the auspices of the Central Labor Union. 2,000 marched in line. The meeting was addressed by trade union leaders.

NEWARK, N. J.—The parade and demonstration initiated by the Essex Trades Council brought out approximately 10,000 workers. No banners of political groups were permitted. Trade union leaders addressed the marchers at Military Park.

PATERSON, N. J.—Silk workers struck solidly on May First, according to Alec Williams, general manager of the union. This was intended as a protest of the workers against the failure of the employers to sign an agreement with the union.

Several thousand workers marched to Hinchliffe Stadium where a mass meeting was held.

Auto Strikes In Danger

TOLEDO, Ohio.—The strike of 3,000 auto workers which in turn caused the strike of 30,000 more workers in other parts of the country is in danger of being disrupted.

The attempt to secure negotiations of the grievances failed because the Chevrolet Company insisted on the strikers returning to work before any negotiations begin. This the strikers flatly refused. Edward F. McGrady of the Department of Labor, a so-called mediator, arrived and put in his two cents on the side of the employers.

In the meanwhile the company got busy and set up an organization dual to the A. F. of L. Under the leadership of one Seiger a small group broke away and calls for return to work. That this group, called Independent Workers Association, has all the earmarks of a company union is proved by such statements as: "No other corporation in the United States is giving its employees a chance to reinvest their earnings in the company. If we kill the goose that laid the golden eggs we are crazy". The same Seiger went on to say that: "The plant was not closed by a strike, but a lockout forced by a small minority of employees belonging to the union". This sounds not only like company union language but even outright company language.

This the workers seem to recognize instinctively since a number of Seiger agents circulating among the strikers and asking for signatures, received a good beating instead.

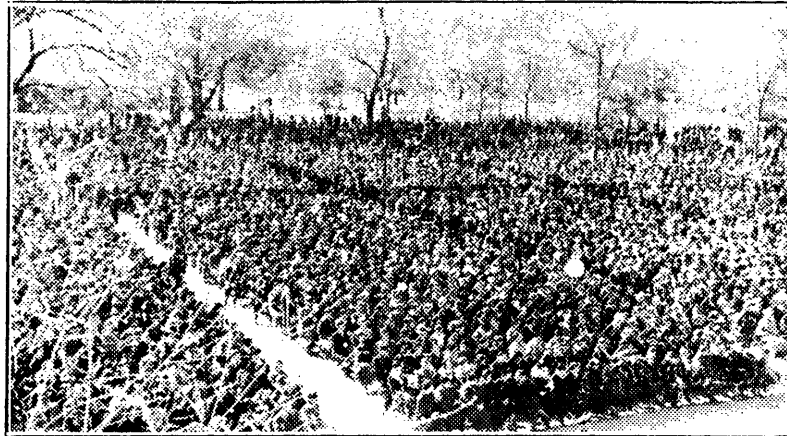
N. M. Whitewashes Minor Kidnappers

GALLUP, N. M.—The kidnaping and beating of Robert Minor and David Levinson has resulted in centering attention on conditions in New Mexico which Minor and Levinson were to investigate incidental to the defense of the 10 framed-up Gallup workers.

The storm of protests which has broken over the heads of the local and state authorities has caused the authorities to cook up a story about Minor and Levinson framing their own kidnaping. This is done with the apparent intention of covering up for the band of vigilantes that engineered the raid.

Congressman Marcantonio of New York has demanded a federal investigation.

AT CENTRAL PARK MALL



Part of the 100,000 workers who marched in the Labor May Day Parade listening to speakers in Central Park.

MAY DAY AROUND THE WORLD

MOSCOW, U.S.S.R. — Hundreds of thousands of workers streamed past the reviewing stand in Red Square expressing their determination to defend their socialist republic.

The march of the Moscow workers was preceded by a most impressive display of the armed forces of Russia. Airplanes, tanks and artillery roared past, followed by 20,000 of the Red Army's picked troops and 20,000 armed workers.

The keynote of the demonstration was to emphasize the danger and nearness of imperialist war and the readiness of the Soviet Union to defend itself against imperialist aggression.

BERLIN, Germany.—The Nazi showmen were disappointed. Failing to hear the expected announcement that wages would be increased thousands of workers went home. The last Nazi speakers faced a rapidly dwindling crowd. This despite the fact that the whole meeting lasted 40 minutes.

In Munich, Bavaria, the Nazi demonstration could not be held since an insufficient number of people had turned out.

PARIS, France.—Government repression kept demonstrators off the streets. Socialists and Communists held indoor meetings. Successful strikes were carried out by the building trades, printers, cabinet makers and taxi-drivers. Strikes also occurred in Marseilles and Lyons. In Bagnolet, suburb of Paris, fighting took place and a number were wounded. One policeman was killed.

VIENNA, Austria.—The attempt to convert May First into a fascist holiday failed. Despite 500 protective arrests, the whole city of Vienna was literally covered with leaflets distributed by Socialists and Communists. Both parties eluded the vigilance of police and troops and held short street meetings which

would melt away by the time police arrived.

LONDON, England.—The parade called by the Labor Party brought out hundreds of thousands of workers. It was a most impressive demonstration.

MADRID, Spain.—The government succeeded, by sheer weight of armed forces, to prevent May Day demonstrations. Police and tanks patrolled all streets. Troops were ready at all strategic points. A policeman and a young worker were killed on the eve of May first.

SOFIA, Bulgaria.—All demonstrations were forbidden. Troops and police everywhere. Street fighting in suburbs of Sofia. Three killed, twelve wounded in Enifa. Troops dispatched. 80 peasants arrested.

WARSAW, Poland.—All Communist meetings and parades were prohibited. Socialist Party received permission for six parades.

TOKYO, Japan.—A total of 6,000 workers demonstrated in two different parades. Demonstrations were also held in Osaka, Nagoya and other cities.

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia.—Workers in a number of factories struck. Large demonstration of Communists broken up by police. Many arrests.

BUCHAREST, Roumania.—Raids and arrests. Factories occupied by large police forces to intimidate workers from striking.

BUDAPEST, Hungary.—Outdoor demonstrations prohibited. Legal Socialist Party held indoor meetings attended by many thousands.

EUROPE TODAY

By August Thalheimer

HITLER PROTESTS RESOLUTION

The German note of protest against the resolution of the League of Nations is very mild in tone compared with the noise made by the Nazi press directly after the Geneva decision. The purpose of these soft tones is to try to split the anti-German front. Hitler-Germany is again seeking a special agreement with France. In this step it was encouraged by the vacillations of Laval in reference to the Eastern Pact. Hitler invited the French fascist leader Scapini to come to Berlin for negotiations. Scapini certainly did not accept this invitation without the consent of Laval.

MORE CLARITY IS NEEDED

An appeal against Hitler-fascism has been issued by ten Communist parties including those of Germany, France, England, Poland, Czechoslovakia, etc. Fascist Germany is charged with being the most bellicose country in Europe. The international working class, the appeal reads, must conduct a sharp fight against Hitler fascism and all those who are in sympathy with and support Germany's aggressive plans and support with all its might the peace policy of the Soviet Union. The working class of all countries is asked to support the German working class in its struggle to overthrow the Hitler dictatorship.

So far so good.
But the appeal has a dangerous omis-

sion. It says nothing whatsoever on the relation of the Communist parties and the working classes to the bourgeois governments of those imperialist countries which are on the side of the Soviet Union against Hitler Germany.

This is a most dangerous omission because it makes it easier for the jingoes of these countries to confuse the minds of the working class and the petty bourgeoisie. The I.C.O. has a very clear position on this question. It is high time that the C.I. also clarify this question in its own ranks.

TROUBLE BREWING IN FRANCE

The united front in France is stagnant; it is slowly dying down. The united front pact continues to exist on paper but in reality the reformists are conducting their activities independent of the united front and they are marking time by proposing senseless moneuvers calling for "organic unity."

The result of the stagnation of the united front is the increase in Fascist activity. The Fascists are arranging daily attacks, demonstrations, punitive expeditions, etc. against the working class. "Populaire" reports that the Fascist leagues are planning a coup d'etat against parliament and the government when parliament reconvenes in May. This date is probably incorrect but it is certain that the fascists are preparing another putsch similar to that of

(Continued on Page 2)

150,000 March In New York

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Probably one of the largest turnouts of workers was seen this May First when approximately 150,000 workers marched thru the streets in two parades. Failing to accept the proposal of the Labor May Day Conference the Communist Party held its own parade and demonstration in Union Square involving some 50,000 workers.

The parade of the Labor May Day conference was unique in that there has never been such great and whole-hearted participation by the trade unions in New York as was to be seen this May Day. Outstanding among these was the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, which brought tens of thousands into the streets. If honorable mention is to be given to any single local union for excellent mobilization undoubtedly it goes to Luigi Antonini, manager of Italian Dressmakers Local 89. A number of other unions who were conspicuous in the line were Local 22, I.L.G.W.U., the Knitgoods Workers Union which practically did not exist one year ago, and the cutters of Local 10. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers showed a good line but was it really necessary to make it a veritable patriotic orgy with every other person carrying an enormous American flag? Or did Hillman's interests in Washington demand it?

Two Parades

We saw both parades and despite the undeniable "color" of the Communist Party parade, we believe that the Labor Parade was far more significant as a working class demonstration.

The Labor Parade consisted almost exclusively of organizations. This cannot be said of the C.P. parade. An all too

(Continued on Page 2)

U.S. Crushes Sakdal Rebels

The people of the Philippines have just learned that they are little brown brothers of the U.S.A. only when they are obedient slaves and that they can have their "independence" provided they don't ask for it now. The peasant rising of the Sakdalis has torn to shreds the benevolent colonial pose of U. S. imperialism. American troops crushed the revolt just as decisively and with no less bloodshed than would be the case of Japan in Korea, France in Algiers or England in India.

The revolt has also shown the real mood of the Philippine people. In this act we see Manuel Quezon, official leader of the independence movement as nothing but a tool of American imperialism. Ramos, the leader of the rebels declared: "We know the American Government in the islands is so strong that revolt against it means virtual suicide. But what can we do? We are tired of nothing but promises."

The revolt is now being used by American jingoes to down and destroy the whole independence movement. Speeches are being made in Congress to the effect that independence means war since some other power would immediately capture the Philippines and use it as a base against us.

Despite the denial of American colonial officials in the Philippines, rumors persist that the revolt was backed by Japan. An attempt might be made to have Benigno Ramos extradited from Tokyo where he now resides.

20,000 Workers in W. C. Garden Rally

New York City.

The Workmens Circle, the largest fraternal organization among the Jewish speaking workers, opened its 35th annual convention in Madison Square Garden. Despite bad weather over 20,000 members and friends of the organization filled the hall to hear the speakers and listen to a rich concert program. Abraham Cahan, editor of the Forward and associate of Henry Lang of Hearst Press fame, received such a hostile demonstration that not a word of what he said could be heard.

The business session of the convention began on Monday. About 1,000 delegates from every part of the country are expected. According to the latest membership figures the organization now includes some 70,000 members.

Relief Bureaus Are Sweatshops

Conditions of Relief Staff Intolerable—Crowding Is Serious Evil

By EDITH McGRATH

The depression has given rise to a new sweatshop industry—the booming business of relief. Working conditions in the relief bureaus are such that no private establishment would be permitted to operate under them.

Crowding Prevalent

It is common to find 65 adults crowded into one room built to hold 40 school children. One or two lavatories for a staff is not exceptional as the Mayor's Committee report on relief testifies. Bookkeepers and ticket writers straining their eyes in the light of a very inadequate type, day in and day out, are seen everywhere. There are still heatless school offices where employees are obliged to sit with hats and coats on and toes frozen all winter and then get docked because they are sick for more than 12 days in the year or come back to work too soon for their health.

New precincts are, it is true, being opened in loft buildings. These are planned for more space but, by the time they are opened—a matter of usually six months to a year from the date they were first planned—the case load any therefore the staff has grown and the space is no longer adequate. Many of these offices are not fireproof; wooden stairways are the sole exits or narrow dark, unlighted stone ones.

No Office Furniture

There is still a dearth of adequate furniture as desks, chairs, etc. The manufacture of the equipment is now a Work Relief project but the system of purchasing lumber and other material is so cluttered with red tape and done on a nickel-biting basis, that it is impossible to keep the output anywhere near the demand. In every bureau, therefore, there are make-shift tables made of rough boards nailed together, tables without space for the investigators, cases or supplies, with 7 or 8 investigators at a table at which 4 persons might conceivably do some adequate work. Backless benches, or benches with backs consisting of one board across the top, wear out the workers physically long before they have started on their stair-climbing rounds.

Self-Service

And who buys the paper, clips, pencils, elastics needed by the investigators? Why the investigators themselves! If one box of 100 clips or one dozen pencils appears in a unit room as a gift from the city it is a matter of rejoicing and each investigator may get 2 clips and a quarter of a pencil. Paper for writing up cases which must be done in long hand before they are typed (if they even get typed, and often they are not) is scarce, and typewriters have never been presented even as a Christmas present.

"Fire The Reds!"

And, to add insult to injury, if the staff is disgruntled and complains they are judged nuisances, agitators, etc. and transferred elsewhere until they can be fired on one pretense or another. The miracle is that the Home Relief Workers continue on the job as efficiently as they do, and the tragedy is that they do not organize more firmly and realize their identity with all workers in the struggle for decent, healthy working conditions.

Europe Today

(Continued from Page 1)

February 6, 1934.

Under these conditions it was the duty of the Communist party to sound the alarm with all its might and to expose the quiet sabotage of the reformists. Unfortunately nothing of the sort was done. Instead the C.P.P. takes a position on the municipal elections which enables the leader of the right wing of the Social Democracy, Froyden, to regard the Communist Party as the aid of the left cartel—the cartel of Social Democrats and bourgeois Radicals which is so often called into action at municipal elections.

DUTCH FASCISTS GAIN GROUND

On April 17 the elections to the provincial parliaments took place. The most outstanding characteristic of these elections was the stormy growth of the Dutch fascists. They gained 39 seats with one stroke not having had any seats previously. Their gain was mainly at the expense of the old bourgeois parties. The Social Democracy lost 2 seats (114 as compared with 116), the revolutionary socialists won 2 (4 as compared with previous 2).

Holland is the European country with the most stable petty bourgeois rule. The Social Democracy is all the more significant. Its economic source is the disastrous effects of the economic crisis in general on the petty bourgeois elements; the agricultural crisis and the crisis in the Dutch colonial economy

C.P.O. FIGHT FOR UNITY ON MAY DAY

A Report On The Actions Of The May Day Labor Conferences

From time to time, the preparations for the gigantic Labor May Day demonstration this year were marked by a tenacious struggle between the forces intent upon making it a broad, genuinely all-inclusive, labor movement and those bent upon converting it into a tail-end of the Socialist Party, or rather of the Old Guard clique in the S. P. That the plans of the Old Guard for the factional strangulation of the movement failed in the end, must be attributed largely to the initiative and determination of the Communist Party which never let up in its consistent fight for the unity and all-inclusiveness of the movement.

S.P. Old Guard Defeated

We have already reported in these columns the highly successful and magnificent first May Day conference (March 28), which they had arbitrarily taken into their own hands and how, at its first meeting of the executive committee, the whole situation was reversed and the proposals of the Communist Party. Following the proposals of the C.P.O. the movement was officially designated the Labor May Day Conference, the executive committee was considerably broadened so as to include all labor political tendencies, fully representing the various groups, etc. etc. Thus the movement got a very good start.

It is important to note that, from that moment, most of the Old Guard elements on the May Day executive remained aloof and did not participate in the proceedings. The official S. P. representatives were mostly Militants, headed by Jack Altman. Only Henry Fruchter, secretary of the committee, and August Claessens represented the right wing of the S.P. James Oneal, for example, who had been elected as member of the very important "advisory committee," refused to attend a single meeting of this sub-committee or of the executive itself. And so it was with the others. But this did not mean that the Old Guard was asleep or that it had reconciled itself to the broad, non-partisan character of the movement. On the contrary, it realized that it could not hope to accomplish anything in an open and above-board manner, it decided to fall back on "pressure" and manipulations behind the scenes.

The results of this "strategy" soon began to show themselves. A number of the official S. P. representatives were either ignored or else modified by the secretary (Henry Fruchter) in an utterly arbitrary manner, acting, as he was forced to admit later on, "upon the advice of certain comrades" (that is, of the Old Guard behind the scenes). As a consequence, the May Day parade, planned and in a variety of petty ways, the attempt was made to give the movement a partisan Socialist color.

Wide Protests Against Right S. P.

The day of reckoning came at the second day of the conference held on Friday evening, April 28. Here vigorous protest was raised against the arbitrary conduct of the secretary, so thoroly contrary to the spirit and decisions of the conference. Representatives of Dress-makers Union Local 22 (Zimmerman), an ex-convict, and Knitgoods Workers Joint Council (Lane), of United Textile Workers (Herman), of the Socialist Party and of the I.W.W., spoke, all condemning the partisan and irresponsible behavior of the secretary. The Old Guard put up no defense at all, aside from the usual excuses and lame excuses. Upon a vote the resolution introduced by Herberg, scoring "such actions in arbitrarily ignoring or modifying official decisions of the executive committee as detrimental to the harmony and unity of the movement," and declaring that they must not be repeated, was carried by a vote of about 70 to 50!

The Unity Question

The most important question at the April 28 conference, however, was the question of unity. The first May Day conference had proposed to invite the C.P.O. proposal to invite the so-called "United Front" (that is, C.P.) conference to join with it provided the C.P. conference dropped the dual unions from affiliation. When, therefore, a delegation from the C.P. conference came to the first May Day conference to propose the unity of the two parades, the committee could not act on the matter and agreed to refer it to the conference on April 26.

Here the question of unity came up early in the proceedings. With very little opposition, Carl Kravitz, representative of the C.P. conference, was given the floor. After his brief remarks, discussion began. There were three distinct motions, representing three distinct viewpoints. The first was made by Zimmerman, to allow the C.P. to join in the Labor May Day parade provided the dual unions, the various "Left" or opposition groups in the unions and the "Father" Divine sect were dropped. The second was made by a C.P. sympathizer and was supported by the Workers Party to accept Herberg's proposal unconditionally, dual unions, "Father" Divine and all. The third was made by some Old Guard Socialist: to reject all proposals for unity, under any circumstances. After vigorous debate, during which it became only too clear with what attitude the C.P. and the unionist regards the C.P. because of its five years of union wrecking, Zimmerman's motion was carried by a vote of about 90 to 60. Thus the conference went on record in principle in favor of one united demonstration on May Day! This victory for the broad, non-partisan character of the movement was made possible by the determined drive of the C.P.O., in cooperation with the Militant Socialists, which won the support of a number of important trade union organizations.

In connection with Zimmerman's motion, which he supported, Jack Altman, the leader of the Militant class, proposed that it be carried out into execution only if it could be obtained by the unanimous support of the executive committee, representative of the leading organizations in the conference. This proposal was carried. Although there was considerable objection to the form of the motion, the C.P.O. cooperating with the Militants and the representatives of big labor organizations, carried the day and all arrangements, including the speakers list, were of a genuinely non-partisan character!

Real United Front Advanced

Thus it was all a stubborn, persistent fight, every step of the way, against the hopelessly narrow sectarianism and partisanship of the Old Guard Socialists. But in spite of all difficulties, the line of working class unity championed by the C.P.O. emerged victorious. For this policy we were able to win broad support from large and influential trade unions; we were able, also, to work effectively in cooperation with the Militant Socialists and other elements. We succeeded in preserving the genuinely non-partisan character of the movement against the desperate attempts of the Old Guard Socialists to destroy it. Above all we found it possible to make some appreciable headway in achieving unity among the various tendencies in the labor movement. The political significance of the adoption of the Zimmerman motion at the April 26 conference should not be overlooked, even though there were no immediate results. For, in taking such action, the conference in effect declared to the whole world that the ranks of the class conscious workers were thus divided on May Day not because the workers shared the anti-Communist mania of the Old Guard Socialists but because the C.P. persisted in maintaining its obstinate, reckless sectarianism, especially on the trade union field. Let the class conscious workers but make a clean and public break with its sectarian past and the fight for unity will have the best prospects of success!

Here are a few of them: "Father Divine is the king of this world." "Father Divine is the lily of the valley." "Father Divine is the light of the world and the bright and shining star." "Father Divine is walking in the land like a mighty man."

"There is no space where Father Divine is not."

"Over 20,000,000 people can't be wrong. Thank you, father."

"God has truly come to earth, Father Divine."

Some Shortcomings
The wind-up of the Labor Parade was very poor indeed. It was a serious blunder for the committee to have agreed to drop all banners at the entrance to the park. It destroyed the really militant spirit. There was no reviewing stand at all, so that the end of the parade was an anti-climax. A hundred thousand workers marched, but when they got into the park they were scattered and hustled by the police. In addition the meeting on the Mall was far too short. There were only 7 speakers (Antonini for the I.L.G.W.U., Weinberg for the Workers Circle, the speaker of the Communist Opposition, Waldman and Thomas for the Socialist Party, and Cannon for the Workers Party) and each spoke about 5 minutes. The result was that when the 3rd contingent—the Amalgamated Clothing Workers—marched into the park the meeting was already over. For at least four hours after the Mall meeting adjourned the parade still kept streaming into the park. These shortcomings should be remembered and avoided next year in order to make our demonstration even more powerful and more imposing than it was this year.

Gas Workers in Relief Appeal

St. Louis Strikers Need Funds To Win Fight—Urge All Unions To Respond

St. Louis, Mo.

The Gas House Workers No. 18799, federal local union, is forced to strike at the LaCade Gas Light Company after every possible means of settling the dispute had failed. Two years ago the Gas House Workers organized themselves into a union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and started to demand collective bargaining with the gas company. The gas company refused to recognize us and tried to force us to join the company union. Despite favorable decisions on collective bargaining by the Regional Labor Board and the National Labor Relations Board, the company refused to recognize the decisions and started firing our men. Under these conditions we were forced to assert our economic strength and go out on strike against the Wall Street controlled Gas Company.

This strike is becoming a fight, not only between the gas company and our union, but between the peasant, agricultural and Commerce of St. Louis and the entire organized labor movement. The gas company hired the A. A. Ahner Industrial Detective Strikebreaking Agency who is being used in the Forest City strike to break the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and whose office has been used by every open shop concern in the middle west, and are now doing their damnest to break our strike. The police are helping them with arrests and frameups daily. Three of our brothers were framed up on dynamic charges and are out on \$5000 bail. During the last two weeks we have been on strike, close to 400 arrests were made.

The courts have given out a sweeping injunction against us. As you know, injunctions are not new in the history of labor battles. The bosses are trying to deny us even the most elementary principle of economic freedom, the right of picket! The right to defend our jobs from dirty scab! We intend to fight this battle to the finish. We know that breaking the injunction will be followed by other strikebreaking agencies. We've got our backs against the wall and we are veterans of numerous labor battles know only too well the crucial situation which we face.

The Central Trades & Labor Unions representing 70,000 workers in this city passed unanimously a resolution supporting the strike but due to the great unemployment in the trades the financial support is limited. The oil agencies refuse to assist our members in the labor movement. Our men are new in the labor movement. Our union has no treasury and the need of financial assistance is very great. But we on strike feel more determined today than we ever did.

We hope you will do everything in your power, as brother to brother, to help us morally and financially to win this strike. After weeks of fighting we are faced with the problem of feeding over four thousand men, women and children. Our task is a big one and we need support of everyone. Will you help us?

Fraternally yours,
Thomas G. Morley,
Gas House Workers Union No. 18799
P. S. Please make checks payable to Gas House Workers Union, No. 18799 and Thomas G. Morley, Secretary, 5260 Alcott Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

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TRADE UNION NOTES

by GEORGE F. MILES

These are troubled times in our labor movement and dissatisfaction can not help but make itself felt even in the high councils of the A. F. of L. It is not surprising therefore that every session of the Executive Council brings to the fore some knotty problem demanding solution. It is equally true that every session brings to life a whole series of alarmist reports of splits and divisions in the A. F. of L.

It will be recalled that the last session of the Council faced the Building Trades dispute, referred to it by the convention of the A. F. of L. The Building Trades Department was split regarding the Bill Green's master-minding. But the split awarded to the A. F. of L. prophesied by some who should know better did not materialize. Both factions have remained within the A. F. of L. Now, that the Executive Council is again in session, the usually well informed Leo Stark reports that the A. F. of L. is about to be split wide open.

Who Is Behind The Split?
We learn from the reports that the knight in shining armor, breathing defiance against the dragon—craft unionism—is none other than John L. Lewis. That Lewis should have utilized the growing movement for industrial unionism to win for himself a seat on the Council, is in itself a damning indictment against the progressive and militant forces in the A. F. of L. But Lewis now adds insult to injury when he steps forward as the defender of the weak and the protector of the abused.

It is the complete destruction of the monarchy and big landed property. (Up to the October revolution they had not been destroyed.) The bourgeois revolution was carried out to completion by us. The entire peasantry and the industrial workers could not come to expression as yet. The soviets embraced the peasants in their entirety. Class differentiation within the peasantry was not yet ripe, and the political parties of the working process reached its development in the summer of 1918. . . . The Left Social-Revolutionists, like every petty bourgeois party, reflected the vacillation of the (peasant) masses and split into two parts during the summer of 1918: one was the democratic revolution and the Czech Legion, with the counter-revolution. W. H. . . . the other section remained on the side of the Bolsheviks (later joining the Communists.)

In other words, the very possibility of the Bolshevik-Left S. R. alliance was based on a special conjuncture of historical events, the merging of the bourgeois-democratic into the proletarian revolution. As soon as the situation had changed, the democratic revolution had been carried out, the block burst asunder! Exactly how this contributes to Hook's argument is hard to see!

Coexistence Not Possible
But there is something in the experiences of the October revolution that Hook willing to see it. In Russia, too, the workers' parties in the field during 1917—the Bolsheviks (right wing), the Menshevik-Internationalists and Trotsky's "inter-sectional" organization. What happened? A few months before the October revolution, the Bolsheviks merged with the Trotsky group, and a little later, with a section of the Menshevik-Internationalists—Martov almost went along! And, still later on, the same thing took place with the proletarian elements in the Left S. R. party. Thus if the Russian experiences prove anything at all, they prove, not the possibility of the stable coexistence of rival workers parties in the soviet government, but rather the irresistible tendency of the really revolutionary elements in all workers parties to merge into the party that has managed to win leadership in the struggle!

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AS TO A MULTI-PARTY DICTATORSHIP "Gott Mit Uns"

Hook Confuses Dictatorship With Bourgeois Democracy Says Will Herberg

With this article Comrade Herberg concludes his comments on Sidney Hook's theories on democracy and dictatorship and on multi-party dictatorship. We are glad to present our views that his preceding articles were exceptionally well received. In the light of this fact we have requested Will Herberg to prepare a reply to the series of questions which we have submitted to him. Herberg's reply is published in this issue. Age for announcement of date of publication of these articles.—Editor.

II. We now come to "the problem of whether more than one political party of the working class is to be permitted to exist after power has been transferred to the working class." "It is well to remember," Hook admonishes us, "that the Bolshevik party led the October revolution in a coalition with the Left Social-Revolutionists who were later suppressed only when they took up arms against the Soviet state." It seems that Hook's only reason for this is that the Bolshevik party led the October revolution in a coalition with the Left Social-Revolutionists who were later suppressed only when they took up arms against the Soviet state.

It is important, too, to note that, contrary to Hook's impression, revolution does not mean the abolition of all the elements of proletarian policy are continuous. Significant differences in the conception of the state and the road to power have their direct implications for the great questions of post-revolutionary policy, for the problems of maintaining power and transforming the socio-economic structure. Everything we have said against the many-party system before the revolution applies with much greater force to the period after!

The most elemental considerations of political common sense, the barest acquaintance with history, are enough to convince anyone that, in real life and not in abstract speculation, a second party under the proletarian dictatorship is bound to become the party of counter-revolution. For what reason for existing in the first place? The revolutionary drive, a process of profound political differentiation sets in within the ranks of the workers parties, resulting in an uncompromising polarization of forces into the camps of revolution and counter-revolution. It is a time of deep fermentation of political splits and realignments, such as characterized the crowded months preceding the October revolution in Russia. The underlying historical tendency of this period, realized in the truly elective form of class political parties, is the unification of all really revolutionary forces in the leading party of the proletariat. Indeed, without some such unification, revolution itself is hardly possible. In such a situation, what can the continued "existence" of a second party do? Even in the class other than the one which leads the revolution, of which Hook speaks, mean if not their open opposition to the revolution? Else why maintain a separate existence? Surely not for mere con-

siderations of organizational "patronism"! Nor obvious for tactical reasons, since the very hegemony that the leading party has won in the revolution is evidence enough of the effectiveness of its strategic course! The only thing serious enough to serve as an obstacle to the unification of all such a time is some irreconcilable difference on fundamental principles—on the road to power, on the conception of the state. But parties which differ on such questions can hardly be expected to form a coalition dictatorship of the proletariat! Or, to put it another way, if they can form a coalition for the seizure of power, then all other differences are relatively trivial and their unification is both possible and necessary and, in the long run, inevitable!

Second Party—Focus Of Reaction
It is important, too, to note that, contrary to Hook's impression, revolution does not mean the abolition of all the elements of proletarian policy are continuous. Significant differences in the conception of the state and the road to power have their direct implications for the great questions of post-revolutionary policy, for the problems of maintaining power and transforming the socio-economic structure. Everything we have said against the many-party system before the revolution applies with much greater force to the period after!

Hook's whole case suffers from its unreality, from its lack of tangible reality. It is an argument, hee-hee-hee-abstract, completely ignoring the concrete realities of the situation, the actual forces at work. For which parties specifically is he so anxious to assure "legal" existence under the soviet dictatorship? He never quite lets us hear. He himself admits that it is "not an unlikely supposition that all parties of the working class after the revolution (what did you do during the revolution?—W. H.) will be voluntarily unified in one organization." Then what becomes of his "second party"? Even on his own showing, it can be only a very exceptional and very temporary phenomenon, leaving the one-party system as the rule anyway! But since Hook insists on the principle, he must take its consequences as well!

Knitgoods Union Founds Sick Fund
Brooklyn, N. Y.
The regular monthly General Membership Meeting of the Joint Council Knitgoods Workers' Union was held on Thursday, April 25th, with more than 2,000 workers present. At this meeting the question of a sick and relief benefit for Union members was discussed and voted upon. It was the second time that this question had been brought before the membership, having been voted at a membership meeting held in January 1935. Since then the three locals, comprising the Joint Council, Local 155, I.L.G.W.U., 155, U.T.W., 2085, U.T.W., at their individual local meetings reconsidered the question, all three locals voted in favor of the sick and relief benefit, thereby making it a point on the order of business for the membership meeting held on April 25th. The vote on the sick and relief measure as proposed by the progressive administration was three to one in favor of instituting a system of sick benefit for the members of the Union. The question on the question was by the small and insignificant "Left Group" whose speakers attempted to defeat the proposal through the use of all sorts of demagogic arguments. Louis Nelson, Manager, speaking for the sick and relief fund read several letters from Union members who were either destitute or sick pleading with the Union to come to their assistance. He pointed out in his talk that until the membership gave authority to the Joint Council to aid these members by voting for the benefit fund, all workers parties to merge into the party that has managed to win leadership in the struggle!

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A THRIVING INDUSTRY
"We know of cases where aliens being brought from Cuba are wrapped in bags to give the appearance of a vegetable cargo. If a Coast Guard cutter stopped such a shipment and dumped the cargo, other aliens are taken to barren inland in the Florida Keys, their teeth knocked out for the gold they contain, and then left to starve."
New York American, Wed. April 10th, 1935.

Union Square Sees United Front From On High With Father Divine

by OBSERVER

Walking north across Union Square on May Day one heard the loud speakers booming over the crowds: "There is now marching past the stand a delegation of workers who defied their reactionary Socialist and union leaders and bravely joined in our demonstration."

"Pushing on to get a glimpse of the 'defiant' unit our way was blocked by the massed white and green lettered banners flanked around the speakers stand. High above everything else their words and slogans stood out: "God", "God", "God and Peace", "Father Divine Is The Lilly Of The Valley", "Father Divine Is God."

"He's God!"
"Next to us there was a woman with a green and white arm band reading a Peace Marshall—17th Assembly District." The slogan on her sash was: "Father Divine Is God."
"We stopped and asked her: 'What does Father Divine do for you?'"
"Everything that's good," was the reply.
"Well, just what that's good? Does he get you jobs?"
"Yes, he gets us jobs, he gives us food, he cures the sick. If you have cancer tumors, bad eyesight, he cures you and he doesn't take a cent."
"Is he a doctor?"
"A doctor, why no, he's God!"
"And how do you do for him when he cures you?"
"You just give him your heart. You stop stealing and lying and cheating like I did. You quit living in the flesh. You just live the life and he brings you salvation."

Ears For The Father Only
We moved to a group of Father Divine's followers further on. "Did Father Divine speak from that stand?" we asked.
"Sure he did", came the answer, "he gave a wonderful message. He said we should have peace and justice."
"What did the other speakers say?"
"There were lots of other speakers. But our Father, he gave the great message of the day."

What Does Father Divine Do For You?
"We asked a particularly alert and earnest member of the group.
"Everything that's good", he replied "he feeds the hungry. He serves 850,000 a day."
"Where does he get the money for that?"
"He always has it when he needs it."
"But where does he get it, from God?"
"Yes, of course, from God."
"Don't you know what happened when our Father was arrested? He was arrested by another member of the group. The judge ordered him searched. They found nothing on him. Then he was fined \$245 and he put his hand into his vest pocket and pulled out a \$500 bill. The judge sent the bill to Washington and they said it was good."

One Happy Family
"Why does the Father march in this parade? Is he a communist?"
"No he doesn't believe in the way they want to get things. But he wants peace like they do. Peace and Justice."
"And how can you get justice when the boss owns the shop and gets the profits while the workers get hardly enough to live on? What does Father Divine say about that and about labor unions?"
"The Father says there is no difference between nationalities, white and black. All are the same so long as they live the life. Labor and capital is the same. It's only that the laborer hasn't enough capital to go into business. The Father will see it that all will have enough. And the capitalist is no different from the laborer because if he loses his money he becomes a laborer again."
"Zimmerman is a misleader of labor", said a nearby voice. We turned to see where it came from but all we could see was the crowd and the banners around the speakers and blazoned with the revolutionary message: "Father Divine Is God."

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May 11, 1935.

MAY DAY, 1935

BECAUSE it is, by nature and tradition, the day of international labor solidarity, May Day necessarily brings to the fore in the plainest possible manner the problem of working class unity. Developments in this field have recently come with such startling rapidity that it would be well worth while to review the situation as it is today in the perspective of the last few years.

TWO, three and four years ago, until last year, in fact, disunity in the ranks of labor on May Day was generally accepted as the "normal" state of affairs. The Communist Party ran its purely Communist "united front" demonstration and the Socialist Party ran its purely Socialist "Socialist and Labor" affair. The chasm between the two was regarded as unbridgeable and the possibility of drawing into the movement masses of the workers who were neither Socialist nor Communist, was not even broached. Those were the days of "social-fascism" in its most virulent form; those were the days when the anti-Communist phobia reigned virtually unchecked in Socialist circles. Under such circumstances, May Day was anything but the day of International labor solidarity; it was a demoralizing demonstration of the bitter divisions that were paralyzing the power of the working class in the face of the common enemy.

One voice and one alone was raised against this intolerable situation; one voice alone rose to challenge this ready acceptance of permanent disunity in principle—the voice of the Communist Opposition. We made working class unity against capitalism and particularly the united front of the Socialist and Communist movements, one of our great guiding lines of policy. May Day after May Day we raised this question, urging with every argument of political reason the necessity of unity. But it was not until 1934 that it finally became possible to make a practical move in that direction. Upon our initiative and under the pressure of representatives of big unions who saw the wisdom of our policy, a Labor May Day Conference was set up in New York on a broad and non-partisan basis and this example was followed in other parts of the country as well. But complete unity was far off as yet and two parades were still on the order of the day.

THIS year, in 1935, we were able to drive a good deal further ahead. The Labor May Day Conference was reestablished and, as far as official decisions could go, the movement was made even more truly non-partisan and all-inclusive. Indeed, at the session of the conference held four days before May Day a resolution sponsored by the C.P.O. was adopted by a large majority endorsing in principle the merging of the Communist parade with the Labor Demonstration! But the time was too short; unity was not to be achieved in New York even this May Day altho no one acquainted with the events as described in another part of this issue, will deny that it was very near indeed!

AT every step of the way, the movement for working class unity was faced with the bitter resistance of the Old Guard Socialists, who, in their views on this question, could hardly be told apart from the most reactionary A. F. of L. officials. At first their opposition was open and unashamed. Then, later on, with an eye to the big labor organizations, the Old Guard leaders modified their line a little, and adopted more indirect tactics and even resorted to very unsavory methods of political trickery. But their underlying aim remained the same throughout—to strangle the May Day movement in the stifling grip of their narrow partisan and factional interests.

THE attitude of the Militant Socialists was, of course, not the same. This year especially the Militants helped a good deal in advancing the cause of unity. But at every point their position remained more than a little uncertain, hesitant, and ambiguous. They scored the attempts of the Old Guard secretary of the Labor Conference to violate its non-partisan character and give it a partisan Socialist label but at the same time their own paper, the Socialist Call (May 4, 1935) permitted itself to flash the headline: "150,000 in Huge New York SOCIALIST May Day Parade." The same uncertainty and vacillation marked their entire policy toward the C.P. May Day Conference and towards the other issues that arose. The unclarity, the lack of decisiveness of the Militants was, to say the least, no asset in the fight to reestablish May Day as the day of genuine proletarian unity.

FOR the official Communist Party May Day 1935 was indeed a far cry from the brash days of the "third period", the days of "seizing the streets" and "driving out the social-fascists". The course of the C.P. in this very difficult situation was an amazing succession of disastrous errors and even more disastrous blunders, driving it still a little further into the blind alley of isolation. Under cover of the well worn phrases of "unity", it went right ahead organizing its own private May Day demonstration, setting up a "united front" conference which was a miserable fiasco from the very start. It completely ignored the first session of the Labor May Day Conference, when there was still time to do something. In a feat of incredible stupidity, it not only permitted the affiliation of dual unions and opposition groups in unions to its conference but actually went out of its way to push them to the fore. And to cap the climax it proudly displayed that dangerous charlatan, "Father" Divine, as the bright star of its "united front", thus disgusting and alienating every decent element of the working class population of this city, white or black.

Then, as May Day approached, the strategists of the C.P. fell into a panic. In payment for their sectarian sins of the past, they were ready to give up everything, their own parade, their own speakers, and who knows what else—everything except the dual unions and "Father" Divine! Entangled in the net of contradictions of its own weaving, the C.P. only succeeded in sinking deeper and deeper into the swamp of sectarianism. How dangerously far it had gone can be seen from its May Day parade, a demonstration of working class unity without trade unions, a demonstration of labor solidarity in which at least one-third of the participants were not workers at all, a demonstration of proletarian militancy in which the largest contingent was that of "Father" Divine!

FOR the Communist Opposition May Day 1935 was a challenge and a duty. Continuing the work of the year before, we concentrated all our efforts at developing a May Day movement broad, non-partisan and genuinely labor in character, a May Day movement with firm roots in the trade unions. In New York, Detroit and elsewhere, we were able to go a long way in this direction in spite of tremendous difficulties, because we succeeded in convincing labor organizations of the correctness of our course. At the same time we strove with all our might to bring about unity in the ranks of labor on May Day, expressed in one united May Day demonstration. Here too, great progress must be registered as a result of our efforts and there might have been more to record had the official C. P. leaders shown a grain of political common sense.

When, next year, such unity is finally achieved—and short of some altogether unexpected turn of events, there is little doubt that it will be achieved!—the Communist Opposition will have the well deserved satisfaction of seeing its long, uphill and at time seemingly hopeless fight, crowned with victory at last. And since May Day is the true reflection of the political and organizational state of the working class, unity on May Day will be the harbinger of that broader and more fundamental unity which alone can drive the American capitalist class from its high seat of power and profit!

Greetings to the
AGE
In its Fight for a Workers World
C.P.O. FRACTION
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Greetings to the
WORKERS AGE
On the international workers
holiday on May First, 1935.
WORKMEN'S CIRCLE
BRANCH 637

LOVESTONE ADDRESSING MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION



Books of the Age

by Bertram D. Wolfe

THADDEUS STEVENS, by Thomas Frederick Woodley, Telegraph Press, Harrisburg, Pa. 664pp.

This 664-page book is a vast and rough-hewn monument to one of the greatest figures in the history of America. It reads like the work of one who is no professional writer, has no specialized skill in the telling of biography, but who has been so devoted to his subject, has so immersed himself in it, and so caught the spirit of the life of its central figure, that it promises to remain the definitive life of the "Great Commoner"; at least until some Marxist biographer undertakes to relate the man more adequately to his background and the class forces that shaped his epoch. When one has read this work, one knows Thad Stevens and appreciates the magnitude of his historical role and that is no small achievement. As Herberg has put it in his *Heritage of the Civil War*, Stevens' "badge of honor is the frantic hate that the slave-owners and their spiritual descendants have heaped upon his memory for generations." A half century after his death one might expect the heat of partisan pro-slavery prejudice to have cooled off sufficiently to permit of a more objective judgement. Yet James Truslow Adams in his *Epic of America* still writes of Stevens as "perhaps the most despicable, malevolent and morally deformed character who has ever risen to power in America." Such "historical judgment" but reveals the philistine hatred of revolutionary consistency. Those who have set their faces against the future can no longer appreciate nor record that which was greatest in our past.

The political career of Thaddeus Stevens begins with that queer uplure of anti-masonry which Stevens joined and led in Pennsylvania, because it seemed to him that the Freemasons were introducing "pull," special privilege and "aristocratic distinctions" into the America in which he hoped for the equality of all men in opportunity and in law. Then he opens a long struggle for free public education in his state, as another measure of democratic significance. As bourgeois champion he fights also for the expansion of the conditions of existence of the still progressive class he represents, and we see him championing the banks against Jackson, demanding a protective tariff, fighting for a railroad to run past his iron mills.

But gradually and inevitably his life comes to focus on the most important, the noblest democratic task of his day; the curbing of the spread, then the abolition, and at last the extirpation of the very roots, of chattel slavery.

He became the lawyer for the defense in fugitive slave cases while Lincoln was still accepting the case of a complaining slave owner. He refused to approve a projected constitution for Pennsylvania which limited voting to whites, while Lincoln was sanctioning such discrimination in Illinois. Lincoln's historic role consisted in keeping hesitantly abreast of and expressing the developing public opinion of the North during the Civil War; Stevens led and made that opinion.

He was 73 years of age when Lee surrendered, but enfeebled, his body racked with pain and disease, wrestling with death, he undertook the greatest battle in his career, the struggle so to "re-model all our institutions as to have freed them from every vestige of human

CHICAGO TURNOUT POOR IN MAY FIRST PARADE

CHICAGO, Ill.—In the face of a cold, wet wind and division in their ranks, the workers of Chicago failed to come out on the streets to celebrate May Day. This in spite of the fact that over half a million people in the city had been cut off from all relief except a minimum of food. The Communist Party rallied perhaps ten thousand (five thousand less than last year) to march into the loop. The Socialist Party, under the thin disguise of a Labor May Day Conference, turned out less than a thousand for a one-mile march on the west side. Practically no trade unions participated in either demonstration.

Dear Comrade Editor

Dear Comrade Editor:

I attended the meeting of the Y.C.L. last Friday, April 26th, at which Hathaway spoke on the situation in the Socialist Party and Y.P.S.L. Having received one of the leaflets given out by your group, I should like to make a couple of comments on the meeting.

Hathaway got into some hot water when a Yipsel raised the questions of dual unions and social-fascism. On dual unions, he simply said, "We were never for dual unionism. When we were expelled from the A. F. of L. we always fought for a return to the A. F. of L. and for trade union unity." At this point the Y.C.L.ers looked a little ashamed at the dishonesty of their leader, and the Yipsels smiled.

However, Hathaway did himself one better on the question of social-fascism. "Do we still hold the theory of social-fascism, and if so why don't we use it?" Sure, we hold to it, he said. It has been proven historically correct—look at Severing, look at Lang (who is not being called social-fascist), look at the whole history of social-democracy. And why is it not being used today? "The Socialist Parties, including their leadership, reacted to the events in Germany and Austria, and the leftward movement of their members forced the leaders to use more radical phrases to hide their reactionary deeds, thus ceasing to be social-fascists!"

I think the YCLers present, from what they said after the meeting, pretty well recognized that this was once the very essence of social-fascism, in fact its most dangerous brand, left-social-fascism!

Comradely yours,

N. S. L.

NEW ARRESTS IN GERMANY

During the last few days the Secret Police (GESTAPO) in Germany made new mass arrests among the ranks of the anti-fascist workers effecting all illegally operating parties and tendencies. Tortures are on the order of the day. Several of the arrested have already been murdered.

The attention of the American workers must be called to these facts. Protests against the increased fascist terror in Germany must be heard. American workers must show their solidarity for the victims of the anti-fascist terror.

Greetings to "Workers Age"

Anderman Meyer
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Altman Abe
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Bell
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Heisler K.
Heit A.
Hollenberg Ralph
Halpern E.
K. C.
Kasmir C.
Kimmel Hyman
Koevy M.
Merrit C. H.
Man Max
Mizlin Fannie
May I.

Morgenstein Pauline
Oguz
Paine
Pichenick Mike
Pilchick M.
Silverman Jennie
Silverman Celia
Simonson Becky
Stelnick Nathan
Shapiro Emma
Solomon
Strong
Schwartz
Tischler Charles
Titiefsky
Urban Alice
Ushelevsky I.
Weisberg A.
Zweibon Freeda
Zeeman Charles
Zaroff

DOLL AND TOYWORKERS

Andusnio Tony
Barris Sarah
Diaz Julius
Di Martina S.

Ebert Sam
Lagoda Meyer
Schwartz Morris
Sterberg Eugene
Susskivitz Samuel

MAY FIRST GREETINGS TO WORKERS AGE

From Locals 101, 105, 110 and 115

THE FURRIERS JOINT COUNCIL OF NEW YORK

The International Fur Workers Union of U. S. and Canada
affiliated with the A. F. of L.

THE ECONOMIC WEEK

In confirmation of our prediction of the future trend of the business index is the following statement of Eugene Grace: "I see nothing to indicate any vital improvement in the (steel) industry in the next few months. When the government expends its \$4,500,000,000, as planned, it will be reflected in the steel trade, for such a sum cannot be spent without us getting our share."

The American Federation of Labor reports that "the employment gain in March and April of this year was so slight as to be of little consequence in putting the unemployed to work."

No better comment on the NYC investigation of the unemployment relief situation can be made than the following from the London Economist, "... it leaves, as yet has left, untouched the main questions before the public mind namely, the magnitude of distress presumably necessitating public relief, the adequacy of current appropriations, and the basis of distribution relative to need. . . ."

A great hue and cry has been raised by the business interests over the government appropriations on the PWA projects. The claim is made that a disproportionate amount is being given to labor. In reality, according to "Labor Information," the proportions are working the other way. Their figures indicate that out of every dollar spent in PWA projects, since July, 1933 and up to December, 1934, 35% went to labor and 65% went for materials.

—ECONOMIST