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Five Cents

At First GLANCE

By JAY LOVESTONE

WE have no use for the old Latin proverb providing for only good being spoken of the dead. Hence we will not waste a word or a syllable of praise or regret and will dissociate ourselves from the Communist Party organizer in New Orleans and Norman Thomas who so promptly mourned the death of the Louisiana "Kingfish." With the death of Huey Long there was laid low the most powerful symbol and instrument of in cipient American fascism. The assassination of the individual Long, while mo-mentarily slowing down the development of this ultra-reactionary movement, will not destroy its roots or source of nourishment. It will solve no social or economic problem, altho it certainly will muddy still more the already filthy political waters in this country.

Had Long recovered he would have been an infinitely more effective and dangerous demagogue than he ever was In the 1936 elections Long would have posed and would have been looked upon by millions as a hero. As such, he could have dealt serious blows to F. D. R.'s reelection campaign. "Big Boss" Farley can now really talk of "Roosevelt luck." And the decrepit and obtuse Republican general staff will obviously have an even harder time of it in the 1936 presidential

In the blaze of Dr. Weiss' death-dealing gun one very ugly feature of American capitalist politics comes to light before the entire world. This is the widespread resort to individual terrorism, to assassination as a decisive political argument. American history gives the lie to Roosevelt's boast that "the spirit of violence is un-American." The story of United States politics is replete with assassinations. The attack on Long was not happenstance. Such types of political discussions and solutions are organic to employing class rule and are a frequent expression of "rugged individualism." Page the roster of presidents, governors, and mayors murdered in the course of years by assassins owing loyalty to the same class—the exploiters —and not by revolutionists who abhor and reject individual terrorist acts and assassinations as weapons of liberation or as means of solving even the simplest social or economic problem.

FOR some time it has been evident that the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. has sold out-lock, stock, and barrel—to the Democratic Party machine for the 1936 elections. Hence, we are compelled to consider as crude Roosevelt re-election propaganda the A. F. of L.'s latest economic estimate forecasting an upswing which will give us a 5-year peak in fall trade.

It is not improbable—for a number of reasons-that the next few months will produce some favorable trade statistics. Yet, only those entirely devoid of honesty or understanding would or could agree with the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. that "the present upswing is the healthiest thus far." This estimate is a travesty on truth. It overlooks entirely the feverish government pump-priming, the continued piling up of capital unused and unusable thru private initiative. President Green obviously doesn't begin to comprehend the sinister economic import of the continued, almost stabilized, army of no-occupation totalling eleven millions. In short, Green's prophecy is colored by his promise and pledge to help keep Roosevelt in the White House. Statistically, it is rooted only in the trend of bank clearings, stock and hand prices, dividend payments, and brokers' loans since Roosevelt bellowed into the national microphone harsh but empty words against the "moneychangers" on his inauguration day. Ineven while waiting for their "breathing spell" the kingpins of big finance and heavy industry haven't done so badly at all.

But the Executive Council's report makes especially appropriate our pointing out of a fundamental and all-significant phase of the economic conditions ed vice-president from New York, told and trends at hand. When the 1935 in- the lady that she had her chance to exdustrial statistics will be examined objectively, it will be found that production seriously exceeded demand and that and the others who agreed with her rethis excess—unless absorbed by war will be enough to slow down production in the coming year. We would be surprised if this decline of factory output also from the union. would not set in even before this year has the tendency for increased produclabor supply become marked. Barring the union. The places vacated are left international factors, the economic trend open. Mr. Hendley and Mr. Davis, the will be towards a set-back and decline latter is secretary-treasurer of the Amerand not higher peaks as Roosevelt's ican Federation of Teachers, are serving

Shoe Convention For Merger

Unseat New York Delegates; Motion To Recall Officers Is Badly Defeated

BOSTON, Mass.—The Biennal Con-ention of the United Shoe & Leather Workers Union ended its deliberations Sunday, Sept. 15th, as over 130 delegates listened to greetings and reports on the progress of amalgamating the in-dependent shoe unions in addresses delivered by John D. Nolan, President of the Shoe Workers' Protective Union, and John Murphy, President of the Brotherhood of Shoe and Allied Craftsmen.

The dominant current in the convention was the intense desire of the majority of the delegates to accept the recommendations of General Organizer I. Zim-merman for the strengthening of the Union, so as to hasten the impending amalgamation. Anything that showed itself to be detrimental to this progress was sent reeling to crushing defeat. This explains the crushing defeat which routed the New York delegation, which was refused seats. By a vote of 87 to 60 the New York delegation was refused seats. Not only their failure to remit thousands of dollars in per capita tax prompted this action, but once and for all time the union rid itself of the perpetual-motion machines of disruption, which had obstructed speedy conclusion of amalgamation.

General Organizer, I. Zimmerman, in his report to the Convention, mercilessly exposed the sources of inter-district strife which had led to wage reductions and urged the centralization of the organization: establishment of an Advisory Council and plan for the central direction of all agreements. "We cannot remain hermits in the labor movement. The success of amalgamating the independent unions is progress toward one union in the industry. After this forthcoming amalgamation, we must go on to the formation of one national union together with the Boot & Shoe, which

will be part of the A. F. of L." he urged.
All recall plots against the G.E.B.
were crushed. So badly whipped were
the New Yorkers that they submitted a
paper promising obedience to union rules
and regulations in the future.

Teachers Score **Splitting Tactics**

NEW YORK, N. Y .- A mass meeting of 1,000 members of the Teachers Union listened to addresses by Reinhold Niebuhr of Union Theological Seminary, Mr. Fichandler, principal of James Monroe High School, Ben Davidson of the Progressive Group and Celia Lewis of the Rank and File group and adopted, almost unanimously, a resolution protest-ing against the splitting tactics of the Lefkowitz-Linville group in the union and pledged to stand by the decisions of the Cleveland convention of the American Federation of Teachers. Mr. Fich

andler presided at the meeting.

Mr. Niebuhr said that he had been rather dubious about the work of the radicals in the Teachers Union but was convinced now that it is not they who are at fault in the present crisis in the union. Mr. Fichandler spoke of the great need of keeping the ranks of the union united and urged that all factions find some basis on which to get together again. Miss Lewis spoke, in some detail, on the developments at the convention of the union and Mr. Davidson considered the larger aspects of the crisis in the union. He pointed out that the protest against Green's interference in the inner life of the union approximates similar action by other organizations such as the auto workers. spoke highly of the work of Lefkowitz in the early years of the Teachers Union but insisted that the responsibility for the present crisis rests upon Lefkowitz and Linville.

After the vote on the resolution had een taken a supporter of the Lefkowitz-Linville administration arose and insisted on an explanation of her negative vote. Mr. Hendley, a recently electplain in the Executive Board of the Teachers Union that very day. But she fused to listen to reason and resigned from the Executive Board of the union and of the 15 that did so 12 resigned

The resignations from the Executive is over. Particularly in recent months Board have sharpened the crisis but it appears as if the United Committee is tion being accompanied by a decreasing in no hurry to call for new elections in A. F. of L. campaigners would have us as the contact with the American Federation of Teachers.

LOUIS NELSON



Reelected Manager of Joint Council Knitgoods Workers Union

PROGRESSIVES SWEEP KNITGOODS ELECTION

Nelson Reelected Manager With 82% Of The Votes; Entire Progressive Slate For Officers Of The Three Locals Elected With Big Majorities

The progressive administration of the Joint Council of Knitgoods Workers conducted in a most democratic manner. Union was reelected by overwhelming This was admitted even by the opposimajorities in the general elections held by Locals 155 I.L.G.W.U. and 155 and 2085 U.T.W.A. on Thursday, September 12th 1935, in which 2,734 members voted. All of the progressive candidates for Manager and Business Agents of the Joint Council, for Local Chairmen and Executive Boards, and Local candidates for the Union's Sick and Relief Com-mittee, were elected by huge majorities. The progressive candidate for Manager Louis Nelson, was reelected by a vote totalling 1,881, amounting to 82 per cent of the valid ballots cast for that office. Morris Ezer, the opposition candidate for Manager, received 447 votes or about 18 per cent of the vote. The victory of the progressives was complete in each

tion to the elected administration. Election Objection Committee placed representatives of the tendencies on all of the election committees, watchers, etc.

Though our Union is only two years old and the mills in which our members are employed are scattered throughout Brooklyn, New York, and New Jersey, necessitating much travelling to the polling places, the workers manifested their interest in the elections by the number of votes cast. As soon as the results became officially known, Louis Nelson, the reelected Manager of the Joint Council, issued the following statement in the name of the progressive administration: Statement of Louis Nelson

In the name of the administration of the Joint Council Knitgoods Workers Union I want to express profound gratification at the outcome of the Union elections just held. The number of workers participating in the elections is a definite manifestation of the active interest of the knitgoods workers in the affairs of our Union. This interest will stand us in good stead in the struggles ahead. The overwhelming majorities received by all of the progressive candidates are an eloquent sign that the knitgoods workers emphatically approve the past record of the progressive administration as well as their program for the future, and that they are determined to entrust the leadership of our Union in the hands of the progressive administration which has stood them in such good stead in the past. We take very seriously the responsibility placed upon us by the members of the Joint Council and shall devote all of our energy and endeavor to the carrying on of the struggle for the improvement of conditions for the knitgoods workers. It will now be our main effort to mobilize the knitgoods workers for a fight for the organization of the unorganized sections of the knitgoods industry and to prepare for an effective and victorious fight for a new agreement when the present one expires. It will be our task to mobilize the knitgoods workers to march forward to a victorious 1936 General Strike. The demonstration of confidence of the membership will strengthen our determination and fire our enthusiasm in leading the knitgoods workers of our Union along the road of militant struggle.

The voting and election arrangements went through in perfect order, thanks to the admirable tact and patience of the chairman of the Election and Objection Committee, Brother Louis Levinson.

The reelected progressive administra-tion of our Union, fully aware of the heavy responsibility falling upon it, pledges to do everything in its power to further unify our ranks and to join us in the working-class solidarity that is so imperative for victory in our struggles.

Coal Strike Postponed Again

For the fifth time in succession John L. Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers, has called off the threatened strike of the soft coal miners. The miners are now operating without an agreement, the old one having expired Monday morning.

Many weeks have been spent in negotiations with the mine owners for higher scale and cuts in working time but the operators have remained adamant. When it became clear that no agreement could be reached before the contract expired, the government intervened thru the person of Edward F. Mc-Grady. He proposed to both parties that the old agreement be extended another two weeks and any wage scale decided upon shall be retroactive for these two weeks. Even this proposal was flatly rejected by the arrogant and bloated coal barons. Once again Lewis compromised by postponing the strike for

It must be stated that previous four postponements have gone a long way to create the impression of weakness on the part of the union and the operators are taking full advantage.

Dress Industry at Standstill As Workers Demonstrate

Madison Square Garden Jammed And Thousands Blocked to a shorter work week, to higher minimum wages, to unemployment insurance, Surrounding Streets In Answer To Joint Board Call For Mobilization For New Agreement

Sixty-five thousand members of the WIN—WHAT WE WIN WE EN-loint Board of Dressmakers Union FORCE". jammed Madison Square Garden and streets around it on Wednesday afternoon, September 11th, in celebration of the great victory of 1933 and as a mo-bilization and a demonstration of form was bedecked with flowers of greetstrength for the coming struggle in 1936.

Inside the hall were large banners carrying the slogans: "100,000 STRONG, EVERYONE A FIGHTER", "WE WILL CIVILIZE THE JOBBERS YET," "WE CELEBRATE 1933,—WE PREPARE FOR 1936", "WHEN WE STRIKE WE

Japan Plans Further Raids

Hardly has Japan succeeded in swallowing Manchukuo than it is already casting its eye on other sections of China and it is well known that where the eve of Japanese imperialism falls there its army begins to march.

In a recent statement by Major Gen Rensuke Isogai, military attache of the Japanese Embassy in China, he frankly unfolded Japan's aims in the direction of taking over most of China. Discussing the recent victories of the Soviet provinces he declared that Japan was now willing to undertake military action against the Soviet areas which threaten the existence of Manchukuo as a Japan

ese vassal. Never in the history of capitalist diplomacy has there been seen such cynical frankness as in the statement of "There are other organizations Isogai. in China" said this Japanese militarist, "and even individuals maybe, who must necessarily be exterminated before it is possible to meet the problem of Communism." This is being interpreted as a direct threat to nationalist forces in China which have bitterly resented Chiang Kai-shek's policy of compromise with Japan.

It is with these statements that Japan announces to the whole world that it is contemplating further raids into China and that this is to be undertaken under the excuse that the government of Chiang Kai-shek is endangering Japanese interests by his unwillingness to destroy the Communist movement and

In front of the hall there was a tre-mendous red flag carrying a chain of four links, representing the four locals form was bedecked with flowers of greet-ngs from groups of workers in the shops. Telegrams of greetings were re ceived from six hundred groups of workers, shops, and labor organizations. After the singing of the Dressmakers Victory Song and the International,

Philip Kapp introduced Charles S. Zim merman, Manager of Local 22, who was chairman of the meeting, who was re eived with great applause. "This moilization", said Zimmerman," "is only

Shipping Clerks beginning to show the manufacturers hat we are ready to go to battle to When we had the last mass hem. neeting, many people wondered whether it was the union that would get conditions for the workers or the NRA. We said that it was the dressmakers on the picket line that could win conditions, and we maintained that it was only the dressmakers union that would be able to enforce those conditions, and no one else. It is the long arm of the union, of the organized might of the dressmakers, that will get the chiselers wherever they are to be found."

Zimmerman characterized the meeting as a "dress rehearsal for our coming struggle." He ended with a challenge to the bosses: "Yes, let the employers know that our army is mighty, our army is disciplined, our army is ready."

Among the speakers were Samuel Perlmutter, Manager of Local 10, Max Cohen, Manager of Local 60, and Luigi Antonini, Manager of Local 89. Julius Hochman, Manager of the Joint Board, outlined the main points in the coming struggles: 30 hour week limitation of contractors, settling of prices on the jobbers' premises, and the unit system of price settlement. This program, point by point, was greeted with tremendous enthusiasm by the audience.

David Dubinsky, President of the I.L G.W.U., scored those who had proposed full reliance on NRA to the exclusion of the need for strengthening the trade unions. The results he said has proven that the union is the only guarantee that the workers have.

Win Demands

NEW YORK, N. Y .- Twelve thousand garment shipping clerks returned to work after a militant two weeks strike in which the whole garment industry was in turmoil due to the sympathetic walkout of 25,000 dressmakers. The strike settlement secured for the shipping clerks a number of important concessions altho they were unable to win recognition of the union.

The settlement provides for the reinstatement of all strikers without discrimination, calls for a \$15 minimum for a 44 hour week. Payment for overtime is stipulated altho more than ten hours of overtime any one week is prohibited. A buro was set up to take any future disputes that may arise.

Strike leaders paid the highest tribute to the I.L.G.W.U. for its unstinting support and reports indicated that negotiotions for affiliations to the I.L.G.W.U. were in progress. That the I.L.G.W.U. is favorably inclined to such affiliation became clear from the remarks of President Dubinsky who addressed 25,000 dressmakers in Madison Square Garden last Wednesday.

The strike settlement provides the Shipping Clerk's union with an excellent base for the extension and strengthening of the union and for the further improvement of the conditions of the garment

the Comintern is to be correlated with

Page 3

THE CLASS STRUGGLE VS. THE PEOPLE'S FRONT

THE SOCIALIST CONGRESS

Humanite, organ of the CPF, had the following to say on the discus

the Congress at Muehlhausen: 1. On the question of organizing proletarian self-defense corps, Andre Marty defended the position of Paul Faure, in Humanite of June 10, and spoke against the Trotskyites whose pro posals he characterized as "anarchistic and adventurist." He ignored the posi tion of the left wing (Zyromski and Pivert) whose position had nothing whatsoever to do with Trotskyite adventurism and was essentially sound.

The procedure of the Trotskyites, ar gues Marty, "enables Paul Faure to cour terpose mass action as against the activities of this adventurist group. He is correct in doing so." The leadership of the CPF thus strengthens the right wing of the SP in its resistance against the organization of proletarian mass defense organizations.

2. According to Humanite of June 1st Leon Blum has "developed considerably since his "rather sharp condemnation o Stalin's communique." The difference however, between the position of Leon Blum and that of the CPF, on nationa defense, is that "we are against national defense in any case, and we vote agains war credits, in line with the decision o our Political Buro." This is, of course only half the story—only one part of the position of the CPF.

have demonstrated above that these later cabinet crises. They represent a vague Humanite comments on the speech o

Leon Blum at the Congress as follows: "On the whole, Blum's entire speed shows the power, the effect and the growing strength of our Party to whom ne gives due credit by emphasizing that our Party took the initiative in fighting reaction within the last few weeks." 4. On the majority resolution on "the road to power" Humanite observes (June 12th) The view of the majority the "defensive position of Otto Baue and the Austro-Marxists which resulted in the seizure of power by Schuschnigg

The resolution introduced by Zyrom ski call forth the following comment "It represents a justification of the principles of the C.I. in life. . . . Zyromski has shown the impossibility of a legal AGAINST LAVAL.

One looks in vain for a criticism 5. Finally, the CP greets the resolution | Humanite. The letter says in part: of Vincent Auriol and approves of its principles. The reservations are of a secondary nature. Ferdinand Fontenay comments on the resolution in Humanite

"The program is to agitate for rallying center of people, the organizational methods which are to realize the purposes of the program, are subject to discussion as are various other

Among the industries represented

the most part, they had been drawn close

to the Communist Party (Opposition)

very recently. Twelve students had been

in the organization less than six months;

eight, less than one year; and nine, less than two years. For comrades in the or-

ganization such a short time, they show-

d a very high level of development

Many of them came from cities where

the organization has been in existence less than a year, as in the case of Bal-

timore, Buffalo, Lansing, and St. Louis.

The school tried to avoid a very heavy

curriculum, but at the same time tried

to give the students the maximum possible in a short time. The regular courses

were Fundamental of Communism. Trade

Unionism, Marxian Economics, Revolu-

tionary Traditions in American History,

Marxism-Leninism, History of American

Upholstery, Electrical, and

30 Students Complete Course

The People's Front Endangers Development of Class Struggle

sections of the document we are examining. The important thing is that this resolution fully endorses the People's Front for which our party is

Andre Marty declares in Humanite

clear when one recalls that only a few leagues. weeks ago the S.P. refused to accept

tion of the slogan of the Peoples Front war. the working class." Frachon in the same issue of Humanite the various groupings."

the CP maintains that it is not a question of support of a left government in parliament but only of support of "such vere contains the main points which parliament but only of support of "such vere contains the main points which be would preserve peace on the right legislation, etc. The character and purpose of the emergency decrees are known too he promised to prevent future deverybody. We are only too glad that the ideas sugparliament out only of support of such measures proposed by the government as will benefit the working class." We have demonstrated above that these later explanations do not correspond to the factors as well as in Tracket to prevent future descriptions of monstrations and punitive expeditions of the fascists. He even promised to issue a statement to that effect before the emergency decrees were issued, did not do so and thus proved, which is the factors and punitive expeditions of the fascists. He even promised to prevent future descriptions of the promised to prevent future descriptions. The Radicals, who were able to overthrow the government in contractions and punitive expeditions of the fascists. He even promised to issue a province of the fascists of the emergency decrees were issued, did not do so and thus proved, real attitude of the CPF during the Marty's there is not a word of criticism

> Front which cannot exclude any honest anti-fascist. It is easy to PEOPLES FRONT understand therefore that Communists SUBMITS TO LAVAL are applauding the rapid and decisive advances of the splendid tactics which they themselves initiated."

Cachin also fails to criticize the

V. CONTROVERSIAL POINTS ON

JULY 14th AND DRIVE

seizure of power by Socialists. . . That Immediately after the SP congress the solve and disarm the fascist leagues, in is the most important fact about the leadership of the CP addressed an open the Chamber. His explanation of the letter to the leadership of the SP, en- attitude of the government was vague

> cognizance of the resolution of Auriol. congress of the Radical Socialist Par- and the Organization of Study Circles. ty at Nantes and Lyon as well as Field reports were given to the student during the period of the recent cabinet body by students from Chicago, Balticrises sufficiently show our earnest more, Montreal, Canada, and Detroit desire to unite all elements of the analyzing the labor movement there.

oseph Brandon and others.

during elections, and participation in the pre-convention discussion and other In National Training School activities of the CPO.

At the end of the se

was had with the students on the curtraining school we hold. The students suggested that more of the material presented to them by the teachers be put the students when the students were active in trade unions and other working class organizations.

The cities represented at the school were New York, Paterson, Baltimore, Boston, Lansing, St. Louis, Buffalo, Ft. Wayne, Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, Chicago, Detroit, Cincinnati, Washing-ton, D. C. and Louisville, Kentucky.

A number of individual lectures were the straining school we hold. The students back dues under the excuse that otherwise they will not be admitted to the students back dues under the excuse that otherwise they will not be admitted to the students back dues under the excuse that otherwise they will not be admitted to the students back dues under the excuse that otherwise they will not be admitted to the students back dues under the excuse that otherwise they will not be admitted to the suggested that more of the material presented to them by the teachers be put to them by the

WORKERS AGE THEATRE BENEFIT

LABOR THEATRE PRESENTS TWO NEW PLAYS

SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 28

BROOKLYN LITTLE THEATRE

126 ST. FELIX PLACE, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Prices: 35c, 55c, 83c and \$1.10

Secure your tickets from C.P.O. members or call at

51 West 14th Street

TAKE MY STAND

By E. England

hausen has taken a position similar to Rocque continues to make speeches The letter suggests the following con- the parliamentary - democratic regime

A. The CP and SP fractions in the small in-between groups to send a joint could not be otherwise. delegation to Laval with the following "And finally, as Comrade Frachon demands: a) Concrete measures against furthermore decided upon certain meassays the most important decision of the excesses of the leader of the Croix ures which could be invoked in case of the Socialist congress was surely the de Feu, Colonel de La Rocque. b) Dis-emergency in order to reconvene par

B. Joint participation and approach to tion in parliament would have enabled our proposal for united action for im- all anti-fascist organizations for the pur- them to do so, was to overthrow the mediate demands of the workers and pose of "rallying the masses for peace government which refused to employ the establishment of trade union and freedom" on July 14th, the national serious measures against the fascists,

of Auriol's resolution. In fact, this would nean denying their own brain child. of Auriol's resolution more than meets as was the case with the "law for the decrees willy-nilly. our efforts in broadening the Peoples protection of the republic" in Germany.

Actually, this attempt had no results whatsoever, unless, one were to take into consideration the fact that this action strengthened the illusions and hopes that a bourgeois government would take over the task of dissolving the fascist organizations or at least facilitate the task of the working class in doing so.

Laval by threatening to immediately adjourn parliament, successfully prevented the discussion of any proposal to disthe weaknesses of the left wing position. lished in the June 15th issue of significance. Regardless of this declaration the demonstrations and expeditions "We are indeed very glad to take of fascist leagues continue all over

French people including those who light the Radical Socialist Party. Cluding Julius Hochman, Mark Starr

Among the extra-curricular activity

At the end of the school, a discussion

Consequently, we are indeed glad to | France unmolested by the authorities know that the Congress at Muchl- just as previously, and Colonel de La which he announces "the destruction of

within a few weeks." This attempt on the part of the Chamber are to ask the Radicals and the Peoples Front was clearly a failure and

The Chamber fractions of the "left" resolution introduced by Vincent cussion on the report of the committee liament. Before parliament was adjourn-Auriol calling for immediate action investigating the events of February 6th. ed, they set up a joint Supervision Com The significance of this becomes c) Disarming and dissolution of fascist mittee. What the left fractions should have done and didn't do, tho their posito really disarm and dissolve them. The "In short, the preservation of the C. Big demonstrations celebrating the Radical Socialist fraction, was undoubtpact, the development of revolution-ary theory in the SP, the official adop-July 27th and the outbreak of the world Their actual conduct shows what little interest they had in carrying thru the are great achievements in our strug. D. "Immediate studying of the question demand for disarming and dissolving the gle for the defense of the interests of the working class."

of the organization of a 'real peoples Fascist leagues. More than that. The defense' which will include the forces of Chamber was adjourned so that the government of Laval could issue emergency tated: "The resolution of the SP con- The delegation was chosen and ap- decrees for further deflation, for further ress contains the main points which peared before Laval. He declared that reduction of salaries, wages, and social It must be kept in mind, however, that thru their actual practice, that they were

> These maneuvers by the Radical Socialist Party are nothing new. Neither does it surprise us that the SP fraction passes over them in silence. The nev actor in the situation is that the CP i objectively covering up these maneuve

thru its "Peoples Front" policy. UNITED FRONT FOR NATIONAL HOLIDAY

The second activity of the People Front was the demonstration on July 14th, the national holiday of the bourgeois republic. The Radical party, with Herriot as the leader, agreed to the Radical Party has endorsed the emerplans. It seemed for a while that this gency decree policy of Laval! As a matissue would lead to serious controversies, ter of fact, economic and social demands nay, even to a split in the Radical Social- have disappeared in the Peoples Front! titled "Forward to a Peoples Front" pub- and uncertain and without any practical list Party. But things took a different At a joint meeting addressed by Dalaturn. Herriot approved the demonstra- dier, Leon Blum and Thorez in District tion at the session of the executive com- V of Paris the "minimum program" inmittee of the Radical Socialist Party. cluded in its economic demands a demand He merely asked that the Radical So- for the nationalization of the Bank of The declarations of our Party at the of America, Field Organization Work, He stated that the republican regime distribution of taxes. Empty, meaningwas the most positive regime and came less phrases!

"The parties of the extreme left (including the right of free thought).

The homage which is being paid to the Republic on July 14th in the District of the Bastille is most welcome. It is interesting to note that the Republic is at times challenged by those who profit most by it and defended by those who suffer most from it." But the introduction to this statement

a plea for deflation: "The most urgent financial and the most urgent political necessity at present is in my opinion the restoration of public finance. YOU CAN-NOT FIGHT CREDITORS WHOM YOU NEED EVERY DAY, EVERY HOUR. The best service that can be rendered the republic in order to guarantee full freedom of its decisions and fate is the balancing of the

Thus Herriot's policy leads directly to emergency decree tactics pursued Laval. The Buro of the Radical Parunanimously passed a motion endoring the general statements of Herriot. n other words, they approved the emergency decrees and the confession of Herriot that you cannot fight against the 'creditors"-big capital. Thorez wrote the following in an ar-

ticle on the session of the Buro of the

Radical Party: "But we firmly believe that it is both necessary and possible for the Communist and Socialist workers to reach an understanding with the radical and democratic peasants, artisans and intellectuals for joint action. In order to disrupt the Peoples Front the reactionaries and fascists are counting on a split in the ranks of the Radical Socialist Party. We Communists hope that the Radical Socialist Party as a whole will participate

in the Peoples Front." The fact that Thorez chooses to ignore the fact that Herriot and other Radical Marcel Cachin states in Humanite of function and other republic aimed at all "pro-military" leagues as such which in practice will be used by the French cord that the unanimous acceptance of Auriel's resolution more than meets. Humanite is triumphant:

> "The important thing for us is the defense of the threatened rights, the dissolution and disarmament of fascist leagues and the search for economic and financial measures which will be n the interests of the working masses in order to support such defense. . . . Therefore, we must organize committees of the People's Front everywhere even in the most remote villages.' (Humanite, July 4th-Vaillant- Cou-

ialist Party preserve its independence. France, state control of trusts, etc., just

The official slogans issued by the "National Organization Committee" for have realized that republican freedom July 14th, the only slogans permissible is the prerequisite for all other rights in the demonstration unanimously adopt-(Continued on Page 4)

was a visit to the Joint Board of Dress-makers Union, a visit to the fur market Knitgoods Union Repudiates **Industrial Union Claims**

Claims by the Independent Knitgoods Workers Industrial Union that its mem-5 to 28, was most successful in curriculum and in student body. It showed the excellent material in the organization of the Communist Party (Opposition) and its sympathizers on a national scale, and it laid the basis for the extension of its

A number of individual lectures were that they had received a theoretical basis "Industrial" Union leadership, the Joint dual union to exist independently of the arranged on specific industries and on for continuing to study and to develop Council has rigidly adhered to this policy American Federation of Labor have special subjects. The trade union lectures by themselves, and for going back to included Dress, Shoe, Textile, Knitgoods, their cities, to their organizations and negotiations with the leaders of the dual raised by the leadership of the "Indus-Teaching.

Teachers, Auto, and Furriers. The integrations and proposed their cities, to their organizations and proposed their cities, to their cities, to their organizations and proposed their cities, to their cities, to their cities, to their cities, to their organizations and proposed their c ntent on delaying the unity of knitgoods workers, is resorting to unprincipled and impermissible actions. Members of the "Industrial" Union report that their leaders are insisting that the members of the defunct union pay all dues up to date before they are permitted to join the Joint Council Knitgoods Workers

> The Joint Council condemns this pracice of the "Industrial" Union leadership and calls upon their members to cease paying dues in the dual union. The Union members are eligible to membership in the Joint Council regardless of he status of their "Industrial" Union books, and that they should resume paying dues only after admittance into the

THE RISE AND FALL OF DUAL UNIONISM BY WILL HERBERG What Has Happened to the Sectarian Course of the Comintern?

This article forms the first of two articles by Will Herberg describing the rise, decay and collabse of the sectarian course of the Communist International in the trade union wide radicalization," the conservative the fifth congress of the R.I.L.U. (1931) was how the A. F. of L. unions were

branded as "excesses" and repudiated based and thru which it was justified. of scapegoat and evasion. But, in the DESTROY THE A. F. OF L. very same breath, the policies of which | 5. The revolutionary necessity of tunist and sectarian, yielding in its timidity and yet destructive in its reckof the T.U.U.L.," announced Mingulin, INDEPENDENT LEADERSHIP timidity and yet destructive in its reckless irresponsibility, frequently compromising towards reaction but always
bitterly hostile towards the progressives.

The official Communist trade union
course is in complete chaos; the old sectarian line, shattered beyond hope of
tarian line, shattered beyond hope of
the T.U.U.L." announced Minguili,
the American "Expert" of the moment in
the American "Expert" of the within special properties of the shatter of
the decisions of the Stras repair, is being replaced by an in- able support of American capitalism." the R.I.L.U. (1931), is of fundamental disintegration of the ultra-left course, on coherent, self-contradictory improvisa-tion, combining remnants of the old ul-capacity as head of the R.I.L.U., enun-ment in the practical activity of destroy-precisely at the moment that it was

logical end-product in the disintegration of the ultra-leftist course that reared the workers from them, that we want to strike-breaking and scabbery!

PROBLEM OF MECHANICAL its head so proudly in the great days of break up and destroy the trade union ap- 8. Impermissibility of building opposithe "third period" (1929-1932). Only paratus—of that there cannot be the tion movements or of doing any work tem of political leadership in the Comsible to grasp what is happening today.

SECTARIAN PREMISE ON TRADE UNION FIELD

The sectarian trade union course, in its classical purity, formed a self-contained and self-consistent system, unchallengeably logical once you admitted its (thoroly false) fundamental principles. What were these principles?

1. The mystical idealization of the unorganized workers as more advanced and class-conscious than the organized. Lozovsky's official pronouncement of this startling principle made at the tenth plenum (1929) soon became a sacrosanct dogma in official C.I. circles.

2. As a consequence, the outright denial of the essential role of the trade unions as economic organizations, even the sharpened struggle of the Fascist cedure reminiscent of the inflation period That the Church and Stahlhelm op of the Red unions, for that matter. This government and Party against the thoroly anti-Marxian semi-anarchist Catholic and Protestant churches, against the open inflation sooner or later in which the petty bourgeoisie or the disorientation was first enunciated by Lozovsky in the R.I.L.U. Magazine of rebellious students and professors and value as they did after the war. These December 1928 and was repeated assiduagainst the illegal labor movement, individual phenomena indicate the conments of the anti-fascist forces and that ously thereafter for a number of years. The theory was evolved that economic Nazi regime, of the sharpening of inner perity based overwhelmingly on the These elements are now in the foreously thereafter for a number of years. The theory was evolved that economic struggles must be led by "fighting leaderships" independent of and distinct from the trade unions. "The election of the strike committee from below, by the whole mass of the workers concerned," Lozovsky explained, "that is the slogan ... What about the union? Is it to be given a seat on the strike committee or not? From the example of the Lodz strike one sees how dangerous it is to allow the representatives of the reformaliation on a strike committee."

speaks of a thorogoing collapse of the possibility of interprint based overwhelmingly on the armament industry. These contradictions are becoming ever sharper and manifest themselves in more and more varied forms. The general contradiction exist ing here is that Nazi Germany is based on the forms. The general contradiction exist ing here is that Nazi Germany is based on the given a seat on the strike committee or not? From the example of the Lodz strike one sees how dangerous it is to allow the representatives of the reformaliations are becoming ever sharper and manifest themselves in more and more varied forms. The general contradiction exist themselves in more and more varied forms. The general contradiction exist ing here is that Nazi Germany is based on the forms. The general contradiction exist in more and more varied forms. The general contradiction exist in more and more varied forms. The general contradiction exist in more and more varied forms. They do not attack the regime as such; they merely fight for certain, partial aims.

The Church opposition is based on the church opposition is based on the church of the provided aims. They do not attack the regime as such; they merely fight for certain, as such; the case of the overthrow of the Nazi

The reformist union is to be kept off the Germany is more of a legend than ever. storing up of finished products for purof bourgeois state power and capitalist CONDITIONS OF The reformist union is to be kept on the Germany is more of a legend than ever strike committee altogether—but even Nevertheless, it is important to analyze poses of war and a corresponding ever-economy. It does not attack fascism in PROLETARIAN STRUGGLE the Red union is to content itself with the relation of individual forces within growing amount of fixed capital invested a direct political sense; and when it does merely a place on the strike committee; the opposition and the causes which have in these supplies. its claim to lead economic struggles and to represent the workers on the economic struggles and the present sharpening of the exclusively the heavy industrialists and expect the conflict to deepen and to lead the exclusively the heavy industrialists and expect the conflict to deepen and to lead the exclusively the heavy industrialists and expect the conflict to deepen and to lead the exclusively the heavy industrialists and expect the conflict to deepen and to lead the exclusively the heavy industrialists and expect the conflict to deepen and to lead the exclusively the heavy industrialists and expect the exclusively the heavy industrialists.

GIUSTI'S

the fight between the old Prussian reactionaries, the Junkers and the top buro-SPAGHETTI INN 49 WEST 16th STREET NEW YORK CITY

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tra-leftism with reckless outbreaks of the new opportunism.

But there is method in this madness.

The present policy of the C.P. is the leader of the case of the new opportunism.

But there is method in this madness.

The present policy of the C.P. is the leader of the tathlet, which is the formula that has since become ing the old unions and setting up the reaching its dizzy heights of prestige rival Red sects. In practice, of course, and authority in official Communist time the practical activity of destroy-precisely at the moment that it was reaching its dizzy heights of prestige rival Red sects. In practice, of course, and authority in official Communist time the practical activity of destroy-precisely at the moment that it was reaching its dizzy heights of prestige rival Red sects. In practice, of course, and authority in official Communist time the practical activity of destroy-precisely at the moment that it was reaching its dizzy heights of prestige rival Red sects. In practice, of course, and authority in official Communist time the practical activity of destroy-precisely at the moment that it was reaching its dizzy heights of prestige rival Red sects. In practice, of course, and authority in official Communist time the practical activity of destroy-precisely at the moment that it was

6. The establishment of dual Red that would imply that the old unions are Parties in the capitalist countries may unions, united in a dual Red trade union genuine unions and subject to reform. be traced, in the final analysis, to some ed early in 1930 as the echo of the center—in this country, the Trade Union "The needle trades workers," the of-significant turn in the course of the Unity League. "Our line," proclaimed ficial declaration of the Industrial Union C.P.S.U., of which it is the automatic re-Foster in The Communist of October, issued on June 5, 1930, warned, "must flection, mechanically transferred from ried thru with the familiar machinery of 1930, "is to build independent revolu- also beware of the Lovestoneites who the Soviet Party outside. And so it has scapegoats ("overzealous young Comtionary unions and to combine them into advocate the organization of left wing been with trade union tactics. Just as munists") and the evasion of responsibila new national trade union center." And oppositions in the company unions (that the original swing to ultra-leftism in

The official Nazi press is furiously are rising, government bonds are fal-

protesting against the reports of the ling. The capitalist class has begun to NATURE OF

By AUGUST THALHEIMER

is looked upon as a sort of reserve force petty bourgeoisie.

or the Reichswehr used by the latter in REICHSWEHR

field and analyzing the theory and practice of the trade union work of the official C.P. will unions, and the A. F. of L. in particular, were doomed to inevitable disintegratical extractions and the A. F. of L. in particular, were doomed to inevitable disintegratical extractions associated with the spasmodic but none-then referred to.—W.H.). The company were domed to inevitable disintegratical extractions associated with the spasmodic but none-then referred to.—W.H.). The company when it laid it down that: "A stubborn strugthener of the particular, were domed to inevitable disintegration towards the right that has characterized Soviet were doomed to inevitable disintegrait laid it down that: A support strugday.

* * *

Cack controversy on this question, as to
whether the A. F. of L. would be wiped

The trade union policy of the Commuwhether the A. F. of L. would be wiped

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The trade union policy of t nist Party, as it emerges from the 7th out altogether (Zack) or whether it class struggle and to transfer them, in make use of the company unions in the congress of the Communist Internation- would remain a "mere skeleton" support- compact groups, to the corresponding workers struggles, are enemies of the in the Comintern for the last decade al, is in a state of indescribable confusion. The practical manifestations of into the Red unions (Foster), is well at its significant to note that, from the such left wing oppositions soon did begin the old sectarian course, once so confi- known. Indeed, this perspective was pre- very beginning, these Red unions were to make their appearance everywhere, it dently hailed, everywhere, are now cisely the one on which the T.U.U.L. was openly treated as mere auxiliaries of the became necessary to account for them

Communist Party, politically and organ- and so we are told in the same statement izationally subject to it. The first pro-gram of the T.U.U.L., it should be re-the company unions are especially membered, included the proletarian dic-staged . . . in order to create false ilthese "excesses" are but the natural out- smashing the old unions, (a) by disrup- tatorship, while its affiliated organiza- lusions amongst the workers that they growth, are passionately defended as ting their internal organization and distions consistently took part in all C.P. can reform the company unions and eternal truths. And out of all this there cipline as well as (b) by splitting them arises a practise that is at once opporand bringing over the largest possible branches.

| Campaigns, for all the world like party raise them to weapons of struggle. Such was the official Communist Such was the official Communist Party trade union course in the early days of the "third period." The most brazen

standstill, (textile industry, etc.) Stocks SS and to "keep it busy."

on the background of the developments of the last seven years is it at all pos- February, 1932).

Only background of the developments slightest doubt" (R.I.L.U. Magazine, at all in the old unions in those fields munist International, every major turn where dual Red Unions exist, because in the general line of the Communist

Who Are Hitler's Enemies?

the turn to the left in Soviet policy in 1928, so have the various stages in the break-down of the sectarian course been clear grasp of what has been happening The crumbling of the classical sectarianism of the "third period" began and continued under the impact of the rresistible march of events, on the one hand, and the devastating criticism of

the Communist Opposition, on the other. No matter how aloof the Communist Parties may have pretended to be in their self-contained sectarianism, they could not remain completely immune to the pressure of events outside. The bonds onnecting the Parties with the masse had been weak enough, even in the best lays, except for one or two real mass Parties, and when these began to be proken and the dry-rot of sectarianism o spread like a devastating plague, a reaction in some form or other necessarily had to set in. The independent criticism of the Communist Opposition, criticism not merely of words but above all of deeds, became a powerful stimulus in this process. As soon, therefore, as the rightward shift in Soviet policy created the necessary favorable background, some sort of loosening of the stifling yoke of ultra-leftism was well-

TO CRUMBLE

nigh inevitable. And it came! In view of the utterly abnormal sys

The first sign in this direction appearity ("dizzy with success"). The reflecion in the Comintern made itself instantly felt. In Czechoslovakia, France and elsewhere, sections of the C.P. lead ership were removed as a "left danger and slight shifts in policy were initiated. Work in the old trade unions, hitherto banned, suddenly became permissible again and the "neglect" of work in this field was bemoaned in a spirit of vicarious "self-criticism." It is only necessary to recall the famous New York conerence of the T.U.U.L., held at this time, and Johstone's grudgingly "selfcritical" speeches at its sessions. The rumbling had begun!

* Here it is not at all a question of the correctness of the turn in the Soviet Union

But it is important to recognize exact

The working class is waging its

to represent the workers on the economic field is brusquely disallowed!

3. The branding of the "old" unions (that is, all unions except those controlled by the C.P.) as Fascist or socialled by the C.P.) as Fascist or socialled by the Stablisher of the social controlled is brusquely disallowed!

| Contradictions and the perspective of this conflict to deepen and to lead the top layer of Nazi functionaries. The to a complete break. This conflict will attacks of the petty bourgeoisie in its the only true thorogoing force. The to a complete break. This conflict will attacks of the petty bourgeoisie in its only to break out anew and to result in new compromises. The leading Catholic Nazi Party and the working class in istic manner, Lozovsky was wont to refer to these unions as "schools of capitalism." In this country, it became an article of faith that the A. F. of L. was outright Fascist organization" (seventh convention of the C.P. of the U.S., 1930) and the A. F. of L. unions, "company unions."

4. The theory that, in the "third period" of the "deep-going and nation-period" of the "

a decisive struggle against the Nazis The Reichswehr cannot rule directly THREAT

Add to this, sharpened contradiction from the top layers of the ruling class and in the ranks of the Naisi pressure of the National Socialist Party.

This question remains unanswered if on a saumes that the factors which which the factors which which which the factors which motivate these conflict into motion, save for the poproms on the Jews which is obviously a manned these of the Naisi proportion that the National Socialist Party.

The

it can certainly not be expected to wag struggles, however, are not yet directly related. They are scattered. The immediate task at present is to solidify Add to this, sharpened contradiction a country like Germany. It would need a them thru the formation of illegal

boom but industries not connected with

* Sturmabteilung and Schutzstaffel—armed organthe manufacture of armaments are at a reaction of the Nazi Party.

Protestant churches are faced by the spectre of the proletarian revolution in own class aims.

WORKERS

· AGE

Orean of the National Committee Communist Party U.S.A. (Opposition) 51 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y. Phone: GRamercy 5-8903





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Saturday, September 21, 1935.

C. P. Talks Labor Party **But Supports Republicans**

1935 contains the following significant Republican ticket!

"PASSAIC, N. J., Sept. 8 .-- At a Labor Party Friday night, the executive board of the Labor Party announced that it will not run any canvotes and do away with the friction that would have been created if Mr. Vigorito would have run against his brother Paul, who is also a member of the Dyers Union, and other candidates would have been nominated against the other Labor Party men. The Communist Party announced that it will not put up any slate in this election and is endorsing the Labor Party candidates

To make the matter perfectly clear it is only necessary to add two pieces of information: first, that the Labor Party in question is under the control of the C.P., and, secondly, that Paul Vigorito, in whose favor the Labor Party can-

(Continued from Page 3)

was again on the order of the day but

attempt was made to disguise the fact

that the undermining, disruption and

destruction of the old unions for the benefit of the rival Red sects, was still

the guiding aim of Communist Party in

the trade unions. "Revolutionary work-

Daily Worker of August 19, 1930, "must

carry on their activities within the A. F.

of L. for the building of the revolutionary trade unions." "The work of our organized groups in the reformist unions,"

Foster informed the party a few months

later (The Communist, October, 1930)

upon getting these trade union workers under the ideological leadership of the

T.U.U.L. and, as soon as practicable,

should be remembered that Lozovsky's "shouting from the housetops" about

smashing the reformist unions came at

ultra-leftism. Nor indeed could any

cases. It is only necessary to indicate

here-that the sectarian course did not

go to pieces suddenly and all at once,

in a contradictory manner from the very

Once C.P. groups had been establish

"rank and file" groups, a strategical

ed in the old unions, usually called "left'

in order to provide them with elbow-

form of "mixed" committees) with the

Red unions in the field, even tho, or

rather just because, this meant disloyalty

and sometimes serious damage to the or-

This stage was reflected in the original

structure of the T.U.U.L., which com-bined dual unions and opposition groups

in the same bodies. But very soon, a change took place. The "left" groups

began calling upon the old unions to

enter into "united fronts" with the Red

unions in economic struggles and strikes.

Of course, here too the object was the

same—to destroy the power and prestige

ganizations of which they were members

into mass affiliation with it."

the beginning of 1932.

outset of its career.

THE PERIOD OF

UNITED FRONT

ran an official declaration in the

work with what end and purpose?

THE RISE AND FALL

The Daily Worker of September 9, didate is withdrawing, is running on the

Such is the rapid "progress" the ofpeople's front" in America.

And now, finally we have the virtual liquidation of the Labor Party policy from the right—the withdrawal of Labor Party candidates in favor of the Republican candidates on the ground that the latter are "labor" men, members of unions! Thus the C.P. finds itself advocating in practice the old and dis-credited Gompers-Green "non-partisan" policy of "reward your friends and

Such are the fruits of the new op-

ficial Communist movement is making mass meeting of the Passaic Council from crass sectarianism to outright opportunism! At first, in the gaudy days of the "third period" the very idea of the Labor Party was banned as an "indidates against the so-called labor candidates running in this year's elections. This included the withdrawal of tions. This included the withdrawal of the came the first "new turn" and Charles Vigorito for Mayor... The Labor Party feels that by taking this stand it will be able to solidify labor's ty neither "revolutionary" nor "reformist," a Labor Party without labor. This was followed very rapidly by a new gospel of the Labor Party, as the

OF DUAL UNIONISM of the company union ideology) against the A. F. of L., was a

ly how far the turn did actually go at this early date. Work in the old unions on the economic field, to degrade them to the status of being merely one of many organizations on the same level. But however that may be, the manouver implied the surrender of one of the most cherished dogmas of the "third period," the conception of the old unions as Fascist organizations or company unions. For it is surely to be presumed that so revolutionary an organization as the T.U.U.L. would never have urged a united front with a company union! It is not difficult to realize how devastating was the blow thus dealt to the whole ultra-left system which was essentially built on the dogma thus repudiated.

of the A. F. of L. unions as the author-

"is subordinated to the building of the revolutionary unions. It is orientated FEDERATION OF LABOR

After this point was reached, developments came thick and fast. It became no longer necessary for "left" groups or even dual unions to be formally affiliated (emphasis in original). with the T.U.U.L., altho, of course, they remained just as effectively under the control of the C.P. The old morale and self-confidence of the "third period" sectarianism were irrevocably gone. No to give a detailed analysis of every twist longer did it march forward proudly and turn accompanying the decay of with banners flying; it was now reduced to slinking along under camouflage, stereotyped scheme be devised to fit all hoping against hope that its wrecking activities would not be recognized for a few characteristic features to bring what they were. Before long the deshome the main point I am trying to make perate plight of the T.U.U.L. forced itself into recognition and a way out simply had to be found. It was at this that it had always borne within itself the time (1933) that, as a phase of the revival of unionism, a considerable number of "independent" (non-A. F. of L.) seeds of its own destruction, developing unions began to make their appearance in various parts of the country. In most cases, of course, their "independence" was a sign of their immaturity and utter backwardness but in them the C.P. thought it saw its salvation, some way of salvaging the wreckage of dual unionline began to be worked out for them ism. And so that inglorious adventure of the "Independent Federation of Labor" was launched, characteristically room in which to manouver to promote enough in alliance with the Musteites their destructive aims. At first, the "left" who never seemed to know one day what groups, under the theory of "independent the next would bring. The absurd conleadership," would cooperate (in the

"SLOGAN RETAINED BUT . . ."

form whatever in this country.

The "Independent Federation of Labor,"

ference at Cleveland (August 1933) con-

stituted at one and the same time the

burial services over the decomposing

corpse of the T.U.U.L., the consumma-

tion of the (very temporary) alliance be-

tween the C.P. and the C.P.L.A. and the

public debut of the new "Independent

character of the gathering and its deliberations showed how little vitality

there was left to dual unionism in any

The farcical

Federation of Labor."

Books of the Age

By Bertram D. Wolfe

THE INTELLIGENTSIA OF GREAT 1932 conference-mark well the date!-BRITAIN, by Dmitri Mirsky. Gollancz. London. 237pp. 6s.

This work is a series of essays by Mirsky written in Russian to acquaint the Soviet Union with the present state of the British intelligentsia, and subsequently translated into English.

The book contains many clever, even brilliant generalizations on British thought and its leading spokesmen, the Fabians, Shaw, Wells, Chesterton, Keynes, Russell, the Bloomsbury group, the liberal churchmen, Eddington, Jeans, etc. But most of the discussions are flashy, fragmentary and arbitrary, take too much for granted and make no serious attempt to convince the unconvinced English-speaking reader.

Ex-prince Mirsky who began to doubt his counter-revolutionary position dur-ing the British General Strike of 1926 and was "confirmed in Communism by the events of 1929" (from his autobiographical note) is tremendously scornful of all those intellectuals who did not begin to move left till 1931 and 32. At most of them he snaps the epithet of "social fascist" (how quickly books begin to age that were written on the basis of the party line of 1929 to 35!) and mistakes their reluctance and theoretical confusion for cleverly thought out, diabolically cunning plots to mislead the masses. The book terminates in an anti-climax, a chapter entitled "The Intelligentsia and Communism," which devotes itself primarily to the task of annihilating Middleton Murry-like using a trip hammer to crack a peanut! The only other intellectuals treated in the chapter are John Strachey, who is praised, and A. L. Rowse who, according to Mirsky, is interested in leading "young people the labour party way towards fascism." A few months later, the British Communist Party under the leadership of the Communist International decides to lead the entire British working class thru "the labour party way" towards Communism! A sorry trick to play on Mirsky! Of course, the I.L.P. is "left social fascist" which Mirsky "proves" by only one "telling" shot, namely, "It was only at its!

projected as an unprincipled combination

of the extreme left (the T.U.U.L. unions) and the extreme right (the "indepen-

dent" unions, some of them still show

born. The stormy resurgence of the A

F. of L. left no hope whatever for it. In a sickly way, it dragged on in the columns of the Daily Worker and

Freiheit but, by the end of 1934, Jack

Stachel was ready to declare in a report

to the political buro of the central com-

mittee of the C.P. that "altho we retain

the slogan (of the "Independent Federa-

tion of Labor"), we cannot use it im-

mediately" (The Communist, November

1934). In other words, it was put away

in cold storage for utilization under

It is of significance to note that, in this very report, Stachel still upheld

with a great show of vigor the basic

ideology of dual unionism, with special emphasis on the policy of "independent

leadership"—but now justified by ridicul-

fact. Some delay was occasioned here

and there by face-saving manouvers ("conferences," "terms," etc.) on the

part of the Red unions but these were

merely the last spasms before ignomini-

ous death. With the dissolution of the

dual furriers and knitgoods unions, the

dismal and disgraceful period of out-

right dual unionism, stretching from 1928 to 1935, may be said to have reached its

Of course, the T.U.U.L. too had to go

into discard. This ill-fated organization,

born amidst such fanfare in the heat of

the "third period" in 1929, received its

official burial in the most inglorious

manner only a few months ago, giving

way to a ghost-like monstrosity called the "Joint Unity Committee of Indepen-

dent Trade Unions of Greater New York

and Vicinity." But no one takes this

miserable receiver of a few bankrupt

concerns seriously today, least of all the

and fall of the sectarian trade union

course naturally refers to American

developments at every point. But a

similar sketch, substantially identical in

content the certainly different in form,

would emerge from the events in Ger-

Communist Party!

more auspicious circumstances!

LIQUIDATION OF

RED UNIONS

end.

that it recognized Marxism as its official doctrine." Thus does Mirsky greet a belated, confused, leftward movement with a blow on the head!

The best thing in the book is a quotation from Engels concerning the Fabians It is worth reprinting: "An ambitious group here in London who have under standing enough to realize the inevita-bility of the social revolution, but who could not possibly entrust this gigantic task to the rough proletariat alone and are therefore kind enough to set themselves at its head. Fear of the revolu tion is their fundamental principle."

The parts of Mirsky's book that are written in the spirit of that quotation, are well worth reading. The rest of the work is to be chalked up as one more piece of wreckage due to the sectarian line adopted by the Comintern at the moment when Prince Mirsky was going over to Communism.

CHILDREN OF MEXICO. By Richards and Landazuri, San Francisco, Harr Wagner Publishing Co., 1935. 323pp.

This is a book about Mexico intended as a "reader" for American children. It is written very simply and covers the most important historical and geograph ical facts about our southern neighbor. Several chapters are devoted to the customs and traditions of the Aztec Indians who ruled Mexico before the Spanish conquest. A few scattered paragraphs berate, very gently to be sure, the for eigner who comes to exploit the Mexicans, and scolds the Americans for hav ing robbed Mexico of so much territory and for having made war upon it.

The book is profusely illustrated with photographs of Aztec civilization, beautiful modern scenes of Mexico and re productions of two of Diego Rivera's frescoes-one depicting the search of a miner as he comes up from below and the other, the rural schools of Mexico.

E.G.W.

CLASS STRUGGLE vs. PEOPLE'S FRONT

(Continued from Page 2)

ed were not much better. Here are some "For democratic rights, for the disarming and dissolution of fascist leagues; wrest the control of the state from the economic feudal lords; for the organization of peace and for simultaneous, progressive and controlled dis-armament; bread for all; restore the fruit of his labor to the peasant; work for youth; for the destruction of all Bastilles; youth wants work, peace and freedom!"

CLASS STRUGGLE OR PEOPLE'S FRONT

One might object that the slogans are not as decisive a factor as the opportunity of penetrating the Radical Socialist masses. But the formulation of slogans is precisely the means which are to bring Communism to the masses "The which march behind the Radical Socialist ous appeals to trade union unity! "The which march behind the Radical Socialist fight for class trade union unity," it was party. The advantage of such an alliance organization of the economic struggle over the heads of the leaders—what we term, INDEPENDENT LEADERS and advantage of such an alliance organization of the economic struggle does not prevent them from endorsing the emergency decrees. does prevent Communists and Socialists from attacking with the necessary vigor and sharpness the policy of issuing emergency decrees.

With the shelving of the "Independent Federation of Labor," the systematic liquidation of the Red unions began. Hesitating retreat, covered with bluff and The perspectives for the Peoples Front (1997). bombast, gave way to complete rout, are quite clear. If the "Peoples Front" One after the other, the dual organiza- is to be preserved the CP will be forced tions were officially dissolved, after most to give up any real mass fight against of them had already ceased to exist in the emergency decrees. The consequence will be the complete discrediting of the parties forming the Peoples Front and "democratic rights" in the eyes of the working class. The other alternative is for the CPF aggressively to fight for a gle between Socialists in the same union. mass struggle against the decrees. That strength among the masses who have been taught to believe that a militant alliance against fascism has been formed and who now see the bubble burst. This will not tend to encourage them to start the fight on a new basis. The disappointment of the masses will aid the fascists, and valuable time shall have been lost in which a genuine, militant alliance between the working class and the petty bourgeoisie could have been

(To be concluded in next issue of Workers Age)

This bare outline sketch of the decline ultra-left line did not arise spontaneous ly but was forced upon the various parties by the Stalinist leadership of the Comintern, so were the various steps in its disintegration not taken spontaneously but always upon the advice and consent and almost always upon the initimany (up to the triumph of Hitler) or ative, of the Communist International Great Britain or France or Czecho- The decay of sectarianism, like its rise slovakia in the same period. For it is and expansion, is an international phenoimportant to recognize that, just as the menon!

TRADE UNION **NOTES**

MECHANICAL REPETITION

The Daily Worker of September 7 announces the opening of the convention of the United Shoe Workers Union and then goes on to say:

"At the same time delegates to the convention have indicated their determination to institute a 'house-cleaning' of the union leadership, headed by the Lovestoneite, I. Zimmerman, which has resulted in disruption within the union and is an indequate answer being given to the wage-cutting drive of the employers." And the Daily Worker of September 9

announces the liquidation of the Independent Knitgoods Workers Industrial Union (The Daily Worker prefers to call it merger) and goes on to say:

"At the same time the Rank and

File Group pointed out that it was necessary to carry on a fight to wrest the control of the union from the hands of the Lovestoneite 'progressive' group, whose policy of giving concessions to the bosses has resulted in the failure to enforce the thirty-five hour week."

So writes the Communist Party after a period of six years of union smashing which made it an outcast in the eyes of every trade unionist, so writes the Com-munist Party after the numerous "victory" banquets marking the collapse and liquidation of its dual industrial unions, so writes the Communist Party which, according to the Seventh Comintern Congress, is supposed to have learned something from its disastrous errors of the past.

It is safe to say that as long as their vision is factionally blinded to the point where their main task becomes the destruction of these constructive and mili-tant forces, just so long will they fail to impress anyone with the seriousness of their change of heart on the trade union

REDRESS OF GRIEVANCE

The press reports that the Federal Trade Commission intervened to prevent the A. F. of L. Committee for Unemployment Insurance (a C.P. auxiliary) from using the name of "A. F. of L. Rank and File Federationist." This action was taken upon request of the American Federation of Labor.

Needless to say, the A. F. of L. took these steps in order to dramatize the opposition of the Executive Council to the policies of that Committee which became, after the liquidation of the TUUL, the sole medium for coordinating the trade union work of the C.P. in the A. F. of L. One need hardly take seriously the claim that the closeness of the name to that of the A. F. of L. publication (American Federationist) was the cause of confusion and loss of business.

As for the C.P., the masquerading as an A. F. of L. body was very essential when it was most isolated from the A. F. of L. thru its own policies. When and if they really become a significant force in the A. F. of L. there will be no cause to resort to such questionable methods.

PEACE IN THE SOCIALIST PARTY

You may have heard that a peace pact was signed between the "Old Guard" and the "Militants" some time ago and naive Socialists actually kidded themselves about the supposed unity which the S.P. was now to enjoy. Came the struggle in Teachers Union to prove that at the very moment when socialists take a militant stand against burocracy and for progressive unionism, at that moment party unity is destroyed.

On the one hand we have Linville, president of the New York teachers, assisted and supported by the New Leader and on the other side you have, among other progressive forces, such Socialists as Maynard Krueger and Hendley who made a praiseworthy fight for progressive unionism, even in the face of the opposition of William Green.

It is a peculiar kind of political unity which permits the sharpest kind of strug-It is a peculiar type of unity which perwill mean the end of the Peoples Front mits one Socialist paper (New Leader) to support the union smashing policies sive unionism.

CORRECTION

In discussing the Chicago Labor Pary this column created two incorrect impressions. First, that Olander of the Illinois Federation of Labor and Fitz-patrick of the Chicago Federation of Labor had endorsed the Labor Party and second, that the Labor Party was organized by the Chicago Federation of Labor.

G. F. MILES

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