Restore W.P.A. Wages

an editorial

WHAT has been happening recently in the W.P.A. in New York should serve as a direct challenge to every labor organization of this city, to every person, in fact, who believes that the relief system should be operated so as to relieve the desperate plight of the unemployed rather than advance the selfish interests of a small clique of insiders at the expense of the great majority of the jobless.

Some weeks ago, we called attention to a series of ruthless wage-cuts inflicted upon many thousands of white-collar workers on W.P.A. projects in this city. Thru a cunning process of "re classifications," "reratings" and direct reductions, wages slashed 10%, 15% and even 25%in some cases. Cuts for \$23.86 a week to \$16.50 were by no means unknown. What it all meant to the victims, it is not hard to imagine -hardly the "security" and "more abundant life" about which they are always talking in Washington.

These brutal wage slashes, bringing the much-boasted "security" level down to \$55.78 a month in some cases, were put thru in the name of economy, in the name of saving the taxpayer's money. Now we discover that this plea was nothing but a shameless fraud! For while the wages of the \$16.50 clerks were being cut to less than \$15, the salaries of certain sections of the supervisory and administrative staff of the New York W.P.A. were being raised by more than the entire earnings of these clerks! Whereas the clerical forces of the W.P.A. have had their pay reduced three times since the beginning of the year, the administrative and supervisory staff have received three raises under the Somervell regime, some of them doubling their former earnings. And these raises have been supplemented by special privileges such as sick leave, vacations, paid holidays, all of which the workers on W.P.A. emphatically do not

This, then, is the set-up: The low-paid workers on W.P.A., those whom the whole work-relief system is presumably intended to serve, have their meager wages slashed in order to make possible salary increases and special privileges for certain sections of the administrative and supervisory

And, in the face of this outrageous swindle, what has the Workers Alliance done, the Workers Alliance which claims to represent the interests of the unemployed? | encounters, instigated by the Stal-Not a move, not a word of real protest—nothing but servile fawning upon the Administration at Washington and shabby apologies for the W.P.A. higher-ups. In this emergency, as in so many others in recent years, the Workers Alliance has proved itself to be not an organization really defending the interests of the unemployed but a veritable "company union" covering up for the W.P.A. authorities!

Fortunately, the labor movement of this city has taken up the cause of the unemployed as its own. Scores of protests from unions have poured down upon Washington. A first result has been an important ruling by Harry Hopkins, W.P.A. head, barring salary increases for higher-paid W.P.A. administrative employees without authorization from Washington. This is something, but far from enough. Allan S. Haywood, New York regional director of the C.I.O. hit the nail right on the head

Workers A

A PAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS

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NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1938.

5c a Copy

C.P. Beaten In Maritime

New York, N. Y.—Final announcement of results of the balloting in the National Maritime Union showed a crushing defeat for the Communist party-controlled leadership in that union headed by Joseph Curran. Five of the nine members of the national council, led by Jerome King who ran against the Communist Party member Jack Lawrenson for Secretary-Treasurer of the union, were elected, thus taking decisive control out of the hands of the Stalinists. Mr. King received 8,417 as against 6,788 for Mr. Lawrenson.

A stormy membership meeting attended by some 2,000 from all divisions of the union ratified the election results despite provocative acts of the Stalinites which would have ended the meeting in a free for all. Defeated Jack Lawrenson could not make himself heard at the meeting as he was howled down by an enraged membership. He later explained he had intended to state that he was not a member of the Communist Party. Jerome King addressed the membership and vigorously repudiated the slander campaign conducted by Joseph Curran to the effect that King was anti-C.I.O, and intended to lead the maritime workers back into the A. F. of L.

Now in control of a clear majority on the National Council, Mr. King announced that two steps are being contemplated to carry out the mandate of the membership in voting to rid the union of Stalinist control. He intends to clear the union of some forty members of the bookkeeping and clerical staff all of whom were handpicked by the Stalinists. These will be replaced with an office staff loyal to the union. In addition Mr. King intends to replace the staff of the official organ, The Pilot, which in the past had been used to slander Mr. King and his associates.

In addition to Mr. King the following opposition candidates were declared elected: Frederick Phillips, secretary of the Atlantic District; George H. Hearn, treasurer of the Atlantic District; Arthur Thomas, chairman Gulf District; Charles Torres, treasurer Gulf District. President Joseph Curran ran unopposed.

The election was marked by numerous physical, sometimes bloody inist administration, in a desperate attempt to stave off defeat.

in his comment on the Hopkins order. Declared Mr. Haywood:

"Mr. Hopkins's action is highly commendable. I think it will stop abuses that have been going on in W.P.A., not only here but elsewhere, for some time. This business of letting local administrators pay preferred salaries to select employees whom they dub 'highly-skilled professionals,' has always been dangerous. I'd like to see Mr. Hopkins carry his order a little farther and restore the pay-cuts ordered recently for W.P.A. security workers. These cuts, inflicted upon people whose salaries were at subsistence levels to begin with, have worked a great deal of hardship."

Restore the W.P.A. wage-cuts! The W.P.A. should be run for the welfare of the unemployed!

U. A. W. Ousts Stalinist Splitters to Save Union

Lovestone Home Is Burglarized By G. P. U.; Documents Missing

New York, N. Y.—The home of Jay Lovestone was broken into and burglarized on July 17, it was revealed this week. Losses consisted of documents, clothing and other personal property. The case was immediately placed in the hands of the police and a number of remarkable angles soon began to develop. The most amazing of these was the use of some of these stolen documents by attorney Maurice Sugar in the suspension trial in the United Automobile Workers Union.

In typical Moscow fashion, attorney Sugar concocted a defense for his Stalinist clients consisting of an amalgam of truths, half-truths, and outright forgeries and fabrications. The question arises-where did Mr. Sugar get what legitimate documents he did use?

It is also clear from the manner in which the burglary was com mitted, details of which we cannot go into at this time, that experts did the job. This is also borne out by the fact that extremely few people knew the location of Lovestone's home, for frequent threats and warnings from G.P.U. sources has made secrecy as to this home location a prime condition for his safety. The additional fact that some of the documents finally showed up in the hands of attorney Sugar and were used in the defense of the Stalinists leaves no doubt whatever that the burglary was carried out by such experts in burglary as the G.P.U. abounds in. In view of all the circumstances in the case it is not at all excluded that had Comrade Lovestone been at home while the burglary was committed more serious consequences might have resulted.

A striking chronological correlation exists between the trial of George Addes and the recently concluded trial, and the date of the robbery. In the case of the first trial, the defense had no case whatever and even no pretense of evidence. The expulsion of Addes took place on July 9th-eighth days before the burglary of Lovestone's home! In the recent case of the four suspended U.A.W. officers Mr. Sugar came forward with the legitimate and forged documents in their defense. This was after July 17th, when the burgary took place. Therefore there is a direct

(Continued on Page 3)

The 'Good Neighbor' Shows His Hand

Hull Note Reflects Real Aims of U.S. Imperialism

By BERTRAM D. WOLFE

(The following article is a translation from the original Spanish in which it was written by Bertram D. Wolfe in Mexico for one of Mexico's leading journals of opinion.-Editor.)

farmers, liberals and progressives Thanks to this systematic demoral of other social groupings to whom imperialism represents a danger of internal reaction and war) and of external pressure on the part of a Mexico determined to resist openly any blow to its independence, and if this resistance were supported by the rest of Latin America, the kindness of the 'good neighbor" would be less fragile. But the governments of Latin America have recently abandoned, with too great readiness, their reservations and skepticism towards the protestations of "good neighborliness." They have praised adopting the fourth of July as a of the virtues in foreign affairs of

legal holiday (as in Cuba)! They have used adulation and flattery where they ought to have employed far different methods.

A Free Hand To Reaction

Much more dangerous, however, THERE is nothing so fragile as has been the attempt of the Amer-the kindness of the powerful ican Stalinites to convince the who boast of being good as an act working class of their own country of grace. If the good conduct were that they ought to support, unconthe result of internal pressure of ditionally and without criticism, the anti-imperialist elements (workers, President of the United States. ization of the independent opposition in the United States, Roosevelt has been able to decree the blockade of Spain while arms are sent freely to Hitler and Mussolini for their Spanish adventure Thanks to these same false tactics. the "kindness" of the "good neighbor" in foreign policy has been determined, more and more, by the caprice and arbitrary will of the President of the United States. A capitalist and imperialist government does not cease being capital ist and imperialist just because the chief executive conducts it subtly Roosevelt without criticism and and intelligently. Does not Roosewithout reserve. They have even velt himself insist that the aim of printed postage stamps celebrating all his policies is to preserve and the United States Constitution and foster the interests of capitalism? other institutions, going so far as This is the reason of the fragility

Three Expelled By Union Board

By GEORGE F. MILES

Detroit, Mich.—The International Executive Board of the United Automobile Workers Union, in session in Detroit last Saturday, concluded the trial of the suspended four international officers by finding them guilty as charged. The Board took a secret vote on the penalties and the result was expulsion from the Board and from membership in the union for Richard Frankensteen, Wyndham Mortimer and Ed Hall. Walter Wells received a three months suspension. George Addes, former secretarytreasurer of the union and one of the five originally suspended was tried separately some weeks ago and was expelled from the union.

It became known that while the vote on the expulsion of Mortimer and Hall followed union alignments with the six supporters of the defendents voting no, such was not the case in the vote on the expulsion of Frankensteen. In the latter case, the alignments were broken when two of the opposition joined forces with Martin administration supporters and only four voted in the negative. This fact has led to considerable speculation as to the two "unity" caucus supporters who voted for expulsion Some believe that Walter Reuther took this occasion to show his real attitude to Frankensteen even while participating on the side of the Stalinists in this recent outbreak which resulted in the suspensions As to the second "unity" man who failed to adhere to Stalinist caucus discipline (Continued on Page 2)

the self-styled "good-neighbor"

The recent note of Secretary of State Cordell Hull obliges us to examine once more the policy followed up to the present, to test standards, to change tactics; and those who have neither been taken in nor surrendered completely to easy and false dreams will have to increase their efforts, strike out with greater confidence in the struggle for their point of view, now altogether justified by events, and extend greatly their field of activity.

If there were any doubts of the foreign policy of the "good neighbor," the recent note of the American government on the agrarian debt, completely dispels them. Let us examine the note and see what it says:

Violation Of Mexican Sovereignty

1. Despite the verbal protestations to the contrary, the new note attempts to dictate internal Mexican policy, thus violating Mexican sovereignty. The rapidity with which a government debt is paid is a question to be determined entirely by that country itself. England owes much money to the American bankers since the World War. It has suspended payment and, for many years, has not said a word about resuming payment. The American government has taken upon itself this debt and has (Continued on Page 6)

(We begin publication in this issue of the Program of Action adopted by the recent convention of the Independent Labor League of America. Other sections of this program will be published in subsequent issues o the Workers Age. The whole will soon appear in pamph-

WE are now almost in sight of the tenth year of the great depression, which has been raging, interrupted by a period of incomplete recovery, since the end of 1929. For five of these years, the New Deal has been in power. Its fundamental aim. like that of preceding administrations, has been to preserve and stabilize the present economic system based on private profit; this it has attempted to do by means of far-reaching reforms within the framework of capitalism thru government intervention and control in wide fields of economic and social life. The new conditions as well as the profound changes that have taken place in the labor movement have raised new and vital problems and have placed old ones in a new light. With the recent turn of the Administration towards an active war policy, the situation confronting labor has become even more serious and its tasks even more complex and difficult. Under such circumstances, it is the duty of the class-conscious sections of the working class to examine these problems carefully and to develop a program of action that will carry the labor movement forward to the achievement of its immediate and ultimate objec-

INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ACTION

TN the ranks of labor, there is widespread and ■ growing recognition of the necessity of active participation in politics as an independent force. The old "non-political" attitude of the A. F. of L. is now definitely discredited. This policy resulted in little more than platform promises and empty concessions, which spelled political impotence for the workers by tying them to the old-line parties of the employing class. More recent experience has also shown that simply relying on the New Deal will get labor nowhere, for, despite concessions it may be ready to make here and there, the New Deal is designed primarily to make the profit-system work and not to advance the interests of labor. Only labor, organized independently, can watch out for its own interests, on the political as well as on the economic field.

Thru Labor's Non-Partisan League, thru the American Labor Party of New York, thru other labor parties and labor tickets set up during elections in a number of important industrial centers, the workers are taking their first significant steps in independent labor politics, but the movement is still dispersed, immature and unevenly developed, burdened with misconceptions born out of decades of dependence upon employing-class politics. For this reason, it sometimes starts off on false trails and commits costly errors, such as the self-defeating attempt to capture political power thru the oldparty primaries. Yet, despite all obstacles, labor is taking big strides forward in the field of political action, deepening its class-consciousness, extending its independence, clarifying its policies and perfecting its tactics with the increasing maturity of the

Independent working-class political action re-

- 1. Full independence from the old parties of the employing class-independent program, independent organization, independent tickets and no entangling alliances.
- 2. A labor party based on trade unions and farmers organizations, cooperating with friendly middle-class elements.
- 3. Support of Labor's Non-Partisan League, with frank, constructive criticism where nec-
- 4. Development of the state and local L.N.P.L. organizations, in cooperation with other groups of similar character, into full-fledged labor parties.
- 5. Consolidation of the labor-party movement into a nation-wide labor party as soon as a firm base is established.

A UNITED AND PROGRESSIVE LABOR MOVEMENT

THE formation of the Committee for Industrial Organization and its initiation of widespread rupters. organizational activities mark the opening of a Board members Kramer and Miley new epoch in the history of American labor. In less from Ohio, on the theory that the than three years, the labor movement has been Stalinists had finally determined to completely transformed. Breaking thru the hopecompletely transformed. Breaking thru the nopeless stagnation and apathy that weighed it down less stagnation and apathy that weighed it down had delivered so little in the actual suspended by President Homer for years, the labor movement has reached out to show- down fight which they had Martin on June 13, 1938, and industries and fields hitherto regarded as immune to unionism. It has added great numbers and with Frankensteen's aid the union strength to the ranks of organized labor. This upsurge of labor has served to stimulate the militancy and self-reliance of millions of workers, unorganized as well as organized, in the A. F. of L. as well as in the C.I.O. Trade-union structure and tradeunion policies have been modified to meet the demands of modern industrial conditions. Today, for the first time in our history, there are hundreds of thousands of workers in the steel, automobile, by them explained that "they the international union as described rubber, oil, textile, electrical-appliance and other feared for their life" at the hands in the constitution of the internamass-production industries, organized into strong of some 150 loyal members of the tional union, and industrial unions recognized by the powerful trusts to safeguard it from irresponsible and corporations of the country. New foundations have been laid for the American trade-union move- Stalinists to impede union actions, guilty of all of the charges made

Owing primarily to the narrow vision and craft prejudices of the dominant elements in the leader- slander those members of the found guilty on the remainder of ship of the A. F. of L., the awakening of the trade-union movement has brought with it a temporary division in the ranks of organized labor. In recent months, the dissension in labor's ranks has grown so aggravated that it has resulted in interunion boycotts, in mutual "raiding" and jurisdictional strikes. This state of division constitutes a tremendous handicap to the labor movement in the fulfillment of its most pressing tasks. In the realm of political action, it has crippled labor's a conspiracy against the election pended for a period of three power at a time when the reactionary forces of big of Murphy, which quickly collapsed, months, said suspension to be withbusiness are gathering for a great offensive. It impedes labor's effectiveness in meeting the challenge of the economic crisis. It tends to alienate public opinion and to create a dangerous atmosphere of hostility towards the labor movement as a whole. Labor needs sound and effective unity.

Labor needs also a progressive spirit in the tradeunion movement. Weaknesses and shortcomings that hamper its effectiveness must be eliminated. Labor cannot tolerate burocratic practises in trade unions or dubious and irregular financial methods. It cannot rely on the "cooperation," "good will" or "reasonableness" of the employers. It can de- Lovestoneite domination Mr. Sugar sequently be stricken from the recpend only on the militancy and organized might came forward with alleged docu-

In order to fulfill its mission of defending the economic interests of the workers, the trade-union (printed elsewhere in this issue in movement must preserve its autonomy and self-|full) Lovestone branded some of direction and jealously guard its independence the published material as forgeries from outside political domination. Its discipline and deliberate distortions and cannot be impaired by outside political loyalties cured thru burglarizing his home. which run counter to union interests. In this con- The well known firm of Davidson nection, one of the most serious problems facing and Mann took steps to inform Mr. the trade-union movement today is the danger of Sugar that he was handling stolen political domination and control coming from the diate return. In the meantime local Stalinites (Communist Party). By their own ac- police authorities have also in tions, these people have shown that they have no ested themselves in this case. interest in the needs and the problems of labor; all they are concerned with is to force their everchanging "party line" upon the unions and to exploit the labor organizations for their own narrow, factional end. Their only principle is the lust and thought up the cry of 150 for power; their only policy is "rule or ruin"!

A united and progressive labor movement re

- 1. Full support of the C.I.O. as the movement representing the future of unionism in this
- 2. Trade-union unity on the basis of industrial unionism and the organization of the unorganized. Unification of the C.I.O., A. F. of L., and the Railway Brotherhoods into one united trade-union organization. Immediate establishment of united action between these of organizations subject to outside organizations in fields where agreement is control.
- 3. Constructive progressivism in the trade unions—militant defense of the economic in- sue of this paper.—Editor.)

U.A.W. Ousts Stalinists

(Continued from Page 1) has been feeling tremendous pres- sion resulting. sure in his own local union against further association with the dis-

Others believe the two to be launched in the mistaken belief that was as good as in their hands. Now that the C.P. has secured what it could from Frankensteen, it is arguer, it is prepared to ditch him.

The four defendants and their attorney, Maurice Sugar, failed to appear at the final session of the Walter N. Wells have refused to union gathered in the headquarters actions of groups mobilized by the Mortimer have each been found as was the case during the opening against them, and of the trial. This is the second time that Mr. Sugar has had occasion to exonorated on two charges and

union whose loyalty brought them the charges, and George F. Addes forth to the defense of their union. is no longer subject to discipline sence of the defendants and their son of his expulsion from the same, attorney is to be found elsewhere. having been previously made, The defendants had submitted no surance issue, charging graft and June 13, 1938, and corruption with characteristic disto put their charges in writing they Richard T. Frankensteen and again shifted theissue, this time to expelled from membership in th

Burglary Charged

In connection with the charge of ments which were immediately challenged by Jay Lovestone. In a statement issued to the press claimed that others had been se-

Faced with the task of appearing before the International Executive Board to make a plea for his clients based on burglary, distortion and forgery, Mr. Sugar welched "goons" who were out to get him. Undisturbed by this action of

terests of the workers (higher wages, shorter hours, etc.), democratic administration of the unions and energetic participation in the

general labor movement. 4. Rejection of political domination and perversion of the unions for partisan, factional ends. Resistance to all attempts to convert the unions into auxiliaries or agencies

(Further sections of this Program of Action will appear in the next is-

the defendants and their attorney be the International Executive Board Tracy Doll, a loyal ally of the proceeded to act upon this case. Stalinists in the past, who recently three expulsions and one suspen-

The resolution adopted by the International Executive Board follows in full.

U.A.W. BOARD RESOLUTION

This international executive board finds that Ed Hall, Wyndham suspended by President Homer

Said Ed Hall, Wyndham Mortimer, Richard T. Frankensteen and Walter N. Wells have wilfully and persistently flouted, disregarded and defied the authority of the International Union, United Automobile Workers of America, since

their suspension, and Said Ed Hall, Wyndham Mortimer, Richard T. Frankensteen and Board meeting. A statement issued abide by the acts and decisions of

"The aforesaid Ed Hall, Richard T. Frankensteen and Wyndham

Said Walter N. Wells has been But the real reason for the ab- by the international union by rea-

That Ed Hall, Richard T. Frandefense whatever except to make kensteen and Wyndham Mortimer counter charges against the admin- be and each is hereby removed from istration as a whole and against in- the office of vice president of the dividual supporters of the union international union, and that Walleadership. Trying first the cry of ter N. Wells be and is hereby susthe Stalinists shifted to the in- out pay and to be retroactive from

That by virtue of the authority regard for fact or truth. When and powers vested in this interna-President Martin called their bluff tional executive board by the interon the insurance issue by means of national constitution of the Interaddresses to the membership and national Union. United Automobile over the radio and challenged them Workers of America, said Ed Hall quickly backed down and once Wyndham Mortimer each is hereby International Union, United Automobile Workers of America;

That the documents filed by the accused on Aug. 3, 1938, and subord as being scurrilous in nature and irrelevant to issues presented by the charges filed.

> "My Life As a Rebel" Angelica Balabanoff

BOOKS!

"Not Guilty"

(Report of the Commis sion of Inquiry into the charges made against Leon Trotsky at the Moscow trials)

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The A.L.P. Election Policy

Estimate of Labor Party Tactics Towards Old Parties

By WILL HERBERG

MORE than once in recent days have we had occasion to criticize certain aspects of the political tactics of the American Labor Party, especially in regard to its relations with the old-line parties. Acts of political "gratitude" to the New Deal-for example, the endorsement of Assemblyman Steingut and other Democrats, for which the A.L.P. gets absolutely nothing in return while it gives up a great deal-do not seem to be such as to promote the parties are at all possible or necesbest interests of the movement. In my opinion, however, the same can- present conditions, I think they not be said about the general policy cannot always be avoided—this of the party for the coming elections, at least to the degree that it ful and most tolerable kind of has so far been made public. In "deal" for the A.L.P. In the first fact. I think that, taking it as a place, it is a measure of political whole, the policy of the A.L.P. for self-defense, a counter-manouver the Fall elections is to a consider- to the Democratic attempt to desable extent an effort at realistic troy the A.L.P. as an effective poliadaption to a difficult and com- tical force. It is not a political plicated situation and may even coalition: it does not involve any turn out to be a help towards really barter of principle, for no pact on tween the two parties as parties; effective independence of action.

A Realistic Policy

I know that this statement will appear somewhat strange to many who judge by first appearances. "What, you approve the 'deal' with the Republicans and call it an advance towards independence"? Doctrinaire radicals and New Deal enthusiasts will naturally hasten to disagree with my conclusion, each from his own standpoint. But I still believe that what I have said about A.L.P. policy in the present situsituation as it really is, will bear didates, real 100% Labor men. In

In the Bronx, where the A.L.P ran a very close second to the Democrats last year and where its or ganized power and influence have expanded considerably since, the party has decided to stand entirely on its own feet, to avoid coalitions and alliances with either old party and to put forward a full slate of ing of Lovestone's home and the local candidates. We can only ap- requirements of the defense of the plaud this decision, which is surely Stalinist disrupters in the U.A.W. based on a realistic estimate of the relation of forces and on a far- thority that on July 10th all the sighted view of the perspectives of defendants, with the exception of the party as it develops towards Mr. Wells, accompanied by their greater independence. And surely everyone must welcome the inthe party is putting forth its own Communist Party to plan the de-

The "Deal" With The Republicans

the race for Congress.

into a limited electoral arrangement burglary are proceeding. with the Republicans, covering certain Assembly, State Senate and sued by Jay Lovestone to the enperhaps Congressional districts. tire press Yet here, too, with full regard to STATEMENT OF LOVESTONE text, as well as fabrications of the workers and, of course, the metal all with red banners and singing the difference in circumstances, I

and die in semi-obscurity.

I believe is a big error.

A Necessary Counter-Manouver

If "compromises" with the old sary for the A.L.P.—and, under seems to me to be the least harm taken for any but its own candidates. Nor is there necessarily involved any idea of "rewarding friends" and "punishing enemies." The Republicans are being supported where there is an electoral agreement not because the A.L.P. fact, as a result of this strategy, the party may well expect to triple

bound. In Manhattan, for example, its own, strictly A.L.P. delegation endorsement of Democratic Con-place of Democrats, perhaps enough an endorsement, by the way, that For the Republicans, a splendid to the A.L.P.; but, for the A.L.P., a matter of little significance, even its information. of indifference.

Breaking The Democratic

Party Fetish Perhaps the most useful ef fect of the this A.L.P.-Republican 'deal" will be to undermine the fetishism of the Democratic party that is one of the most dangerous influences in the labor-party movement. By making such an arrangement with the Republicans, the A.L.P. virtually proclaims that there is no essential difference be program is contemplated with the that they are both equally employ Republicans. The American Labor ing-class parties, one no better Party stands on its own platform, than the other; that agreements with no political concessions in any with either or both are possible direction and with no responsibility strictly on the basis of political expediency and the promotion of labor's interests. The pernicious notion that the A. L. P. is somehow wedded to the Democratic party, that the Democratic party occupies a favored status with labor -a notion deliberately propagated expects them to champion labor's by the Stalinists under the name (Continued on Page 4)

Lovestone Home Raided

(Continued from Page 1) relationship between the burglariz- Board. It is also known on excellent auattorney, Mr. Sugar, met in New York with the secretariat of the candidates generally, especially in fense of the remaining four sus- is not insignificant that the central pended officers. Did that meeting decide on the case as Mr. Sugar finally developed it—documents for- on the entire press of the country In Brooklyn and Manhattan, geries and all? Investigations as in the publication of some genuine self was spiritless and lacked the however, the A.L.P. has entered to this and other phases of the documents and many more outright

The following statement was is-

of the Communist Party of the sound move, rather effectively out- United States, under the direction manouvering the Democrats who of special experts of the Russian had hoped to drive the A.L.P. into a G.P.U., recently burglarized my blind-alley where it would languish home and stole a considerable amount of printed material, per-The essence of the arrangement sonal letters, documents, my passwith the Republicans is an ex- port and other personal property. change of minorities, something Among the personal property taken that, under the French system, is is a gold watch, the case number accomplished by the method of run- and movement number of which off elections. In a number of As- are now known to the police. Clothsembly districts, where the A.L.P. ing, kerchiefs and hats were among ran second or first in 1937, the the other personal items stolen, for A.L.P. candidates will be support- the apparent purpose of creating ed by the Republicans and will thus the impression that it was a simple have an excellent chance of election. case of burglary. On that basis, In return, in certain other districts, immediately notified the police. where the Republicans ran first or was then stunned to discover that second and the A.L.P. far behind, property apparently lifted by an the latter will back the Republican ordinary thief has found its way, candidates-provided they are through the high councils of the "acceptable," that is, provided they Communist Party, to Maurice Suare "progressives" with a "satis- gar, a practising attorney in the the officialdom of the American factory" labor record. Where there city of Detroit, who is defending Communist Party. is no agreement, the A.L.P. will the five suspended officers on trial The conflict in the U.A.W. is the stolen documents, letters and propenter the elections with hands un- before the United Automobile concern of the membership of the erty.

Workers of America Executive

Among the documents stolen is offered in evidence by Mr. Sugar, attorney for the defendants on trial before the U.A.W. Executive Board, I charge Mr. Sugar with being in collusion with B. K. Gebert, Detroit representative of the Central Committee of the Communist Party in using material which he definitely knows to be stolen. It organ of the Communist Party, the Daily Worker, had a one-day jump forgeries.

The documents offered by Mr. Sugar in evidence, and given by him to the press, consist of genuine

I am branding before the entire labor movement of this country the officialdom of the Communist Party as guilty of plain burglary and serving as tools of the G.P.U. ma-

chine in the United States. that for some months I have been States, operating at the behest of ments of other countries.

Stalin "Dissolves" the C.P. of Poland

while there is an agreement covering the Assembly and State Senate, gain a foothold in the State Senate

A CCORDING to a report published in the July 10 issue of tral Committee, had been arrested there does not appear to be any for and perhaps in the House of Re- the Neie Folkszeitung, the War- and many of them shot. Now comes Congress, so that the A.L.P. will presentatives at Washington. Of saw publication of the Jewish so- the dissolution of the party as a probably run a full Congressional course, a few more Republicans cialist Bund of Poland, Moscow has whole! ticket of its own, except for the will be elected to take the just taken action to dissolve the entire Communist Party of Poland gressmen Dickstein and Sirovich- to control the State Legislature. on the ground that it is "completely dominated" by "spies and agents of prize, worth the concessions made the Polish secret police." The Bund "liquidation" of the Polish Commupaper is generally quite reliable in

> Some months ago, it became communist leaders in Moscow, in- the Communist International.

Of course, no one believes the

monstrous charges thrown by Stalin against the Polish communists. It is obvious that the nist Party is part of Stalin's reactionary campaign to wipe out what ever revolutionary, genuinely comknown that virtually all Polish munist elements still remain within

Two Bastille Days

French Labor Movement Ünder Popular Front

By EVE DORF

Paris, France TODAY, July 14, two separate demonstrations were held: the in the Communist Party contingent. government review of the armed forces in the morning, with Daladier and Lebrun officiating, and the parade in the afternoon of the Popular Front Committee (Socialist Party, Communist Party and Radicals, who participated only in name).

Startling Contrast The contrast between the Popu-

cause or to "befriend" the work- of the "Democratic front"-has lar Front parade of 1936 and of ers, but because, thru such an ar- been dealt a heavy blow by the today was startling. In 1936, alrangement, the A.L.P. will be able action of the A.L.P. This is all to most a million workers were out on Spain"; little careful consideration of the mocratic party must be broken the mood of victory and, at the down if the way is to be cleared same time, the tremendous illusions about the People's Front government which permeated the minds of the masses of workers. The crowds were immense in the workers districts. The dense columns of marchers filled the squares in every available space. The streets were lined with throngs, so that it was difficult to see the parade even one perched on chairs and tables a considerable number of letters outside the cafes. This was before the Popular Front policy had had sufficient time to demonstrate its true character, to dissipate the energy of the workers and to sap

their morale and hopes. Today, two years after, not more than 25,000, largely Stalinists and their followers, who were probably under orders to do so, marched in the parade. There were no great crowds of watchers. Those who watched showed little interest and less onthwises. The marching its vigor and fire of 1936.

The chief delegations were C.P. S.P. and the trade unions that are controlled by Stalinists. The bigexcerpts, items lifted out of their gest contingents were civil-service Agents of the Central Committee typical G.P.U. brand and the crudialist Party were small, indicating that the split in the party due to the expulsion of the Pivertists, has very seriously affected the numbers of the S.P. in Paris.

While the Socialist Party, an

In this connection, I am making U.A.W. The membership and its public for the first time the fact bona-fide leadership will settle it themselves. My opinion is that the warned that my life was in danger outcome of this conflict will inat the hands of the G.P.U. agents volve, in a great measure, the fate and their hirelings in this country. of the entire labor movement. The The same international gang that sooner the American labor movehas operated in France, Spain and ment rids itself of this poison of a number of other countries to bur- | Stalinism—character assassination, glarize the homes of Stalin's politi- forgery, burglary, racketeering, cal opponents and to frame them in gangsterism, and murder—the betthe vilest manner, to threaten their ter will it be able to grow and to lives and to kidnap and murder avoid the disasters which this poithem, is at work in the United son has brought to the labor move-

I have engaged a well-known law firm in New York to recover these

openly patriotic organization, did not find it necessary to fly the French flag, the French national banner was prominently displayed

"Peace, Bread and Liberty thru the People's Front" badges were worn by the marchers. The following printed slogans on banners and placards (noticeably lacking in color and brilliance) were repeated innumerable times "For Peace thru the League of Nations"; "For Collective Security"; "No Capitulation to the Aggressor"; "For Complete Application of the Original Program of the Popular Front" Open the French Border to "Arrest the Fascist

Leagues." There was some shouting of slogans and sporadic singing of the International. In the shouted slogans, the contradiction between word and deed of the Stalinists was striking. The government which has closed the Spanish border is supported and kept in power but the Stalinist workers are permitted as a concession to shout: "Open the frontier"! And this was not the only example.

It is of interest to note that, when a private broadcasting company asked of Daladier, who is Minister of War as well as Premier, permission to broadcast the (Continued on Page 5)

1936-1938

1938 Bastille Day celebration:

"How deep the change is was best shown at the labor parade in the East End of the city during the afternoon. Two years ago, it numbered hundreds of thousands was only a skeleton of that im mense display of popular feeling and here was the most curious thing of all, there were no political speeches at the Place de la Nation for this reason, that the leaders of the various Popular Front groups could not agree as to what they were to say. They united to declare their allegiance to the Popular Front but they did not dare to open their mouths to define what they thought its program should

It is hardly necessary to add even a word of comment. This is the iron logic of the Popular Front strategy: disillusionment and demoralization of the working masses; dissipation of their fighting spirit; paralysis of their organizations; widespread discouragement, apathy and indifference; advance of reaction on every front!

WORKERS AGE

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Phone: BRyant 9-0127

August 13, 1938

ROM Fernando de los Rios, Spanish Ambassador at Washington, we have received the following communication:

MR DE LOS RIOS DENIES

"In the number of the Workers Age of July 23, there was published an article entitled, "Who Betrays Spain?", in which was inserted a resume of a letter presumably sent to me by Mr. Indalecio Prieto.

"As this fact is absolutely false, due that Mr, Prieto has not written me such letter, I shall appreciate it very much if you shall comply with my request of making this declaration public."

Mr. de los Rios, of course, knows best whether he received the letter in question or not, and we are therefore glad to publish his statement. The quotations from the Prieto letter appearing in our editorial of July 23 we took from No. 50-51 of L'Espagne Nouvelle, a French magazine standing close to the Spanish C.N.T. We have no reason whatsoever for questioning the integrity of this journal or the authenticity of any document for which it vouches.

Labor and Taxation

THE hint given a few days ago by Roswell Magill, Acting Secretary of the Treasury, that the department was favorably considering a proposal for a reduction in individual income-tax exemptions, should not be allowed to pass by unnoticed. Once enacted into law, this proposal would deal a bad blow to the average worker as well as to every other person in the low-income brackets. By lowering from \$2,500 to \$2,000 for married persons and from \$1,000 to \$800 for single persons, people making as little as \$16 a week would actually be compelled to pay taxes on their meager wages! Talk about "soaking the poor"!

It seems to us that the labor movement has shown altogether too little interest in the question of taxation and has accepted altogether too uncritically the pretensions of the Administration to a "social perspective" in its taxation policy. There is a lot of big talk about "soaking the rich." The Administration has its special show-pieces, such as the undistributed-profits and the capital-gains taxes, which it parades at all opportunities. But, getting right down to it, the country is being financed more or less as it always has been in recent years, mostly by income taxes and indirect taxes of various sorts. The bulk of it, in fact, comes from these indirect taxes taxes, so indirect, in many cases, that people are wholly unaware that they are paying them. There are excise taxes, for example, which are passed along to the consumer after the manufacturer has paid them; in recent years, these levies have extended to an increasing series of articles, including matches and tooth-paste, shaving cream and chewing gum, telephone calls, liquor and tobacco. It is obvious how heavily such taxes fall upon the masses of the people, far more heavily in proportion than upon the higher-income groups. To this must be added the direct wage-tax involved in the present federal social-security system. And now Washington is planning to reach out to the \$16-a-week clerk or factory worker to force a few cents from him as

And yet the Administration plumes itself on its taxation policy, on the strength of which it appeals for support among the workers! It is surely time for labor to sit up and take notice. The glamor of Roosevelt's name should not be allowed cover up a tax system that is manifestly unjust, that weighs heavily upon those sections of the population that are least able to bear it, and that threatens to become even more oppressive and objectionable in the future. Labor must work out its own taxation program, striving to replace indirect and other taxes burdening the masses by levies that really do "soak the rich"!

Socialism and Peace WORLD TODAY

War and Fascism Are the Logic of Capitalism

By R. MASANI

Congress.—Editor.)

cialist faith . . . We are today in impossible. The objective condicounter-revolutionary era and tions are ripe; what is needed is reaction sweeps greater and leadership greater areas of the globe. In ountry after country, even boureois democracy is crumbling and fascism raises its head

liberty. Nothing is socialism that dent bourgeois "democracy." loes not insist on the abolition of private ownership of the instrudifferentiate genuine (Nazis) and other spurious brands.

The Marxist classics undoubtedly furnish us with valuable training n the application of our principles. Nothing is more natural than that we should hark back to the teachings of Mark and Lenin in hammering out our policies, as Lenin called the workers back to Marx nothing can be more disastrous our reason dictates but by what

Socialists and communists in the West have, in a state of panic. (R. Masani is the chairman of the refused to take the offensive and Congress Socialist Party of India, a seek to defend the status-quo of capitalist group in the Indian National capitalist "democracy" against the fascist menace. The situation calls for a revolutionary socialist move-T would be futile to deny that ment, which, instead of defending developments abroad and in this so-called "democracy," will go our country are provoking ever forward to make that social revolugreater questioning of our so-tion without which democracy is

The socialist and communist movements of the West have sought to meet the menace of fascism and war with the slogan Essentially, what do we, revolu- of "peace and democracy . . ." To tionary socialists, whether in India my mind, this has been a mistaken or abroad, stand for? I would pick approach. The middle classes have out the abolition of private pro- certainly got to be approached perty and the evolution of a with tact and won over to our classless society as of the essence side, but I feel that they can be basic conceptions underlying our social revolution to much better creed are those of equality and purpose than under that of deca-

We socialists do stand for peace ments of production, distribution and democracy but neither peace classless society. Nothing can be knows, possible as long as caocialism which is a negation of pitalism exists. Capitalism must equality or liberty. It is necessary inevitably be accompanied by to emphasize this because, in the political inequalities and the last analysis, it is these tests perpetuation of the capitalist state, which is in essence undemosocialism from the bastard "so- cratic . . . "Under capitalism, cialism" of the National-Socialists particularly in its imperialist stage, wars are inevitable," wrote Lenin. "The idea that a so-called 'democratic' peace is possible without a series of revolutions is orofoundly mistaken.

If today we are faced with the failure of the "democracies" to hold their own against the fascist during the dark years of the last socialist movement must pay for war, when the socialist leaders having forgotten the elements of forgot their mission and asked the its own doctrine, for ignoring the workers "to make the world safe fact that "fascism is an evil of for democracy." At the same time, capitalism which can be overcome only by a social revolution ending than to decide issues not by what capitalism itself." What is called for is a revision of our methods so-and-so said in this or that and the assertion of the one clear issue: socialism versus capitalism.

A.L.P. Election Policy

(Continued from Page 3) for independent labor politics in for no other reason." this country.

A.L.P. First And Last!" "Well, what are you, Republicans

terests will be most advanced, and

Republicans is a "cold-blooded political deal," as the New York Times so irritably brands it; but r Democrats, or maybe both at the it is a "deal" probably unavoidable same time?"—so runs the com-mon gibe thrown up to the A.L.P. and facing such a formidable opin view of its varying alliances. But an adequate answer should not be A.L.P.—if it explains its strategy necessary and where our party in- position.

PICNIC AND OUTING

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=Bv Lambda =

London, July 13, 1938.

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN DEVELOPMENTS

ON JULY 21, the Prague government will submit a carefully worked out minority statute to Parliament. The bill concerns itself primarily with local autonomy for communities and districts and goes no farther than that. In all probability, the Henleinfascists will not vote against the bill but will certainly declare it inadequate so as to be able to continue their agitation. The Nazi press has renewed its campaign against Czechoslovakia. England and France are trying to persuade the Czech government to hurry in the settlement of this problem. Rumors have it that Hitler is getting ready for an intensified drive against Czechoslovakia to begin in early August. In view of this menace, both the British and the French governments issued statements which had obviously been agreed upon in advance. Daladier was quite mild in tone, complimenting Hitler on his desire for "peace" and expressing the hope that France would not be put in the posiof socialism. I would say that the rallied under the slogan of the tion where it would have to fulfill its obligations to Czechoslovakia. The British Foreign Office spoke a bit more roughly, threatening to break off all negotitions with Germany unless the Czech question was settled peaceably and refusing to recognize the validity of the Italian pact unless Italy lived up to and exchange and the building of nor democracy is, as every Marxist its responsibilities arising from the London agreement on "non-intervention" in Spain.

The British and French governments divided their parts and, in fact, interchanged their traditional attitudes because the English government felt that the critical situation in Palestine was largely due to Italian and German agitation and that public opinion in England was becoming increasingly hostile to the foreign policy of Chamberlain, more so than the attitude of French public opinion to the foreign policy of Daladier.

TWO SIDELIGHTS ON SPAIN

THE News Chronicle, a liberal newspaper, recent-L ly published a detailed report of General von powers, that is a price the Reichenau on the Spanish civil war. The purpose of the report was to prove that the intervention of German troops in Spain did not lead to a weakening or diversion of the imperialist war aims of Germany, that, in fact, the contrary was true. The report lays particular stress on the fact that the participation of Germany in the Spanish civil war has given it a great deal of valuable experience and has thus put it in an advantageous position as compared with those nations that have not intervened. For example, Germany improved its tanks and airplanes as a result of these practical tests. Many pilots have gained valuable war-flight experience, etc. He emphasizes further the effect of German influence in Spain on the relations between France and its North African colonies and the British connections in the Mediterranean region. General von Reichenau is a Yes, the arrangement with the key man of the Nazis but his position with the leaders of the Reichswehr is not so secure. His report is obviously intended to answer the criticism of the Reichswehr generals against intervention in

The present attitude of the Stalinists on the Spanish question is well illustrated in a recent speech of La Passionaria in which she assails those memdifficult to frame: "We are neither frankly and honestly to its sup- bers of the C.P. who are opposed to the proposed Republicans or Democrats. We are porters—stands to gain in the way amnesty of fascists by the Negrin government. She L.P.ers, first, last and all the of political power and the streng- defends this amnesty on the basis that it will furnish time! We make alliances when thening of its independent political the first step in a compromise with the Franco fascists under the banner of "national unity"! The Stalinists are capitulating to the Franco regime. By promoting counter-revolution at home, they undermined the morale of the fighters at the front; now they are preparing the way for defeat. All this shows conclusively that victory in the Spanish civil was is contingent upon the advance of the revolution in the country as a whole. In other words, the revolutionary policy of the P.O.U.M. was the only policy that could lead to victory.

LITVINOFF ON FOREIGN POLICY

THE Soviet press has published the official text of L the speech on foreign policy delivered by Litvinoff on June 23 in Leningrad.

We quote the exact words in which Litvinoff tried to give the People's Front theory a Marxist base: "Hence, these circles (meaning the British and French ruling classes) prefer to sacrifice their national interests, to give up their governing position in order to preserve their social and class position. ... (Continued on Page 6)

Illinois L.P. on the March

Lake County Labor Council Affiliates

Waukegan School Board.

Further progress of the Labor Party, which is putting a full state ticket before the voters this Fall, the Socialist Party had been persuaded to withdraw its ticket for

Chicago, Ill. Ition on the ballot and its endorse-THE Lake County Central Labor ment to the Illinois Labor Party, L Council meeting at Waukegan, after more than forty years con-Illinois, last week, voted affiliation tinous appearance on the ballot in and support of the Illinois Labor Illinois in state elections.

and rights. The Lake County Cen- seven main headings, including: tral Labor Council has lately in- labor legislation; public works; terested itself in political action in relief and social insurance; public the interest of labor, having last housing and prohibition of evicyear successfully sponsored and tions; taxes according to ability to ing America out of war.

officially opened his state campaign this last week with addresses himself. 1938 in favor of the Labor Party's at Du Pay County picnic of the slate. The socialist organization Workers Alliance and a similiar will not merge and fuse with the event of the Czechoslovak Labor Labor Party, but will cede its posi- Party Clubs at Horalicks Grove.

Two Bastille Days: 1936-38 site of the struggle.

(Continued from Page 3) proceedings of the military review, Paris region. In watching the pabroadcasters were members of the Communist Party; for, if that were so, permission would not be granted. What irony it is that those who in 1936 raised the cry for power to Daladier, are now so cance of the fact that the Pivert openly spurned by Daladier him-

In 1936, Daladier, Blum and Thorez marched at the head of the pate in this funeral march of the People's Front parade. "Up with Daladier," "Power to Daladier," were the slogans. Today, Daladier, in power, officiated at the official government military celebration, was absent from the People's Front parade and had only contempt for ers party, which is now in session. the C.P. and the People's Front!

Decline-And New Hope

The vigor and spirit of the masses packed into the Paris streets in 1936 presented a totally different picture from today's Bastille Day celebration and this contrast portrays in some measure the effects of the Popular Front on the power, on the aspirations and hopes, of the working class. The 5,000,000 workers organized into the trade unions in 1936 have become approximately 3,500,000 today. Communist Party strength has fallen from about 300,000 to 200, 000 in the whole of France, and

from 36,000 to about 24,000 in the Daladier inquired if any of the rade, you could see in it the disappointment, the demoralization and the growing indifference of many active workers to trade-union and political life.

I cannot exaggerate the signifigroup (now the P.S.O.P., or the French Socialist Workers and Peasants Party) did not partici-Popular Front and clearly demonstrated its attitude by its absence. One of the very bright spots in the French labor movement today is the hope centered around the foundation congress of this new work-The French workers can fight and fight militantly. What they need is inspiration and leadership!

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THE CHALLENGE OF HOUS-

ERHAPS no one field presents With its petitions in circulation so starkly the New Deal's The action of the influential A. thruout the state, the Illinois Labor | betrayal of its own ideologists and F. of L. central body of Lake Coun- Party announced completion and 1933 champions as does housing. ty came on the heels of a year publication of its full platform, to- Here there seemed to be a meet marked by two hard-fought strikes, gether with the list of the names ing of the minds between the ecoinvolving severe clashes with poli- and identification of its candidates. nomic royalists and the idealistic tical authorities over union actions | The Labor Party platform has proponents of a New Society. That this was a superficial conjunction of program and purpose is the underlying story of Langdon Post's vivid polemic for federal slum clearance and low-cost housing elected a labor candidate on the pay; aggressive defense of all civil That the New Deal itself, guided rights and democracy; cooperation by President Roosevelt, has turned and collective ownership; and keep- upon such "left wingers" as Post and Tugwell, in its own unaided Frank W. McCulloch, the Labor drive towards conservatism and Party's candidate for U. S. Senator, reaction, is its real thesis, failing of comprehension by Langdon Post

Post is a reformer, in the great tradition of America's social resocially-minded, and apparently granting all its demands and at ican capitalistic "democracy" and aware of the economic basis of clashing viewpoints. Yet, in line maybe the employing class will see powers.' the light-helped thru such works as "The Challenge of Housing."

1933," haunts Post. He dangles the the passage of the Wagner-Steagall specter of proletarian revolution Act offers him no key. The new before his audience (which he as- chairman's statement against houssumes to be upper-middle class and ing, as Post correctly and inupper-class). His most powerful dignantly characterizes it, signifies moral argument for housing runs no new Administration policy. Yet, as follows:

"Let us face the facts squarely. | quirk of LaGuardia's. Revolutions are germinated in the slums. Housing is one of the many his shortcomings, was and is, as workers are organizing and unionways in which to forestall the bit- this book adequately reveals, him- izing, and Ford feels that his only ter lessons which history has in self a challenge to the betrayal of hope in perpetuating his industria store for us if we continue to be housing that is being carried thru empire lies in fascism. blind and stiff-necked. As I see it, at the present moment by the Rooit is a question of housing—or sevelt Administration. Hence his

From this point of view, Post draws a powerful indictment of the slums as originating in the superexploitation of the immigrant, and as perpetuated thru the virtual monopoly of housing facilities. The fact that today such types of housing are no longer profitable, he considers the most powerful attraction (to the big-business interests) of slum clearance and low-cost housing. Of course, this is the real truth of the matter. The employing class as a whole finds it oo expensive to subsidize the slumowners so as to enable this particular element to continue to garner profits. Hence, the national interest in the housing question Post demonstrates further that even the enforcement of the meager regulatory legislation of today would make impossible the profitable continuation of slum condi-

Then Post comes to the dilemma of all labor and liberal believers in the promise of the New Deal. What has happened to the program of slum-clearance and vast low-rent housing? The relationship, or rather antagonism, of housing versus armaments in a capitalist economy, he "overlooks" out of allegiance to Roosevelt. The actual fraud of the Wagner-Steagall Housing Act of 1937, he glibly glosses over, leaving the reader with the fallacious impression that this law really meets the standards which he himself, in the earlier part of the book, makes abundantly clear are the sine-qua-non of housing. Like Hegel, Post develops a critique that is too valid not to be applied even to his own "perfect

His own removal as chairman of the New York Housing Authority

World Today News

(Continued from Page 4) "Of course, this policy is pursued

only by the most reactionary sec-ING by Langdon W. Post. Far- tion of the bourgeoisie, filled with rar and Rinehart, New York. unbounded hatred for the working class. But there are representatives and sections of the bourgeoisie who are of a different opinion, who, without sacrificing their class privileges are primarily concerned with their interests in the state, with their own national culture, and who look upon fascism as short-lived phenomenon. Conflicts on foreign policy are waged mainly by representatives of the pure class interests, on the one hand, sympathy with American ideals and the national, patriotically and institutions." minded elements, representing the views of the petty bourgeoisie, the intelligentsia and the working

class, on the other." The disastrous results of trusting such absurdities even Litvinoff re cognizes when he says:

"All diplomatic activities of the stant fear of incurring its wrath."

grasp the essence of the struggle. the non-intervention pact? Lit- ties other than technical, and they He makes a bow in the direction of vinoff answers: "In the interest of have always been passed up lightly Engels, who pointed out the limita- international solidarity"! "Inter- as crack-pot ideas. But there is no tions of housing reform under cap- national solidarity"—not with the doubt that they fit into the patent. italism, but declares himself "an working class but with the bouroptimist." By that, he means that geois governments of the "western about his high scale of wages, but

remains a mystery to Langdon The ghost of the "Revolution of Post. Its occurrence shortly after for Post, his discharge is merely a

But Langdon Post, despite all removal.

WHERE TO BUY WORKERS AGE

42nd St. near 5th Ave. (in front of Library). Rand School, 7 E. 15th St. Labor Book Shop, 28 E. 12th Street.

IN NEW YORK CITY

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14th St. near 3rd Ave. Ave. and Broadway. 14th St. and University Place. Luncheonette, University Pl. and 12th St.

of the AGE

By ROBERT MACKLIN

HENRY GETS A MEDAL THE New York Post can hardly believe that Henry Ford's acceptance from Adolf Hitler of the Grand Cross of the German Eagle is anything more than an emotional outlet. It feels that such an action invites the American people to believe that Ford is entirely out of

Who was it that said there are none so blind as our American liberals? Whoever he was, he sure knew his onions. For three decades, millions of school children have peen taught that Henry Ford is an American ideal, is an American institution; and Henry has not western powers during the past changed one whit in his brutal exfive years have aimed at preven- ploitation of workers in amassing ting any resistance to the aggres- his fortune. Ford's type of autosive policy of Germany and at cracy is a special product of Amersatisfying its every whim, in con- its transformation into fascism is a natural process. Ford has come out Why did the Soviet Union sign many times with startling novel-Ford has ballyhooed for years that myth is now broken down, and it is a well known fact that a Ford worker is a human wreck after six or seven years of Fordism. Charles Chaplin's characterization, "In Modern Times," is no mere comedy by any means.

Ford's anti-Semitism, his spy system in the plants, his bruta private police force, his enormous arsenals, all point to one thing: Henry Ford has seen the handwriting on the wall. The Ford

Henry Ford is dumb-like a fox!

Laconic Eloquence

A letter came from Iowa. It was from one of our subscribers, an auto worker who was laid off and trekked his way back to his hometown because there was nothing else he could do. He included a simple testimonial on his opinion of the Workers Age. It was brief and to the point and yet, how eloquent! Just this " . . . enclosed find two dollars for the Workers Age." It was this worker's answer to the appeal to our readers to help bring the Workers Age to thousands as yet unacquainted with it. The two dollars were immediately turned into yearly subscriptions for two California auto workers whose names were sent in by a supporter of this paper. Now, there is no doubt that this was a sacrifice on the part of the donor, altho he probably does not consider it so. If every subscriber to the Workers Age would follow suit. the campaign for three thousand new readers would have a speedy and successful conclusion.

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Unions Break With Bridges

Four C.I.O. unions in Los Angeles, the I.L.G.W.U., the U.A.W. the United Rubber Workers, and the United Shoe Workers, have withdrawn from the Stalinist-dominated C.I.O. council of Harry Bridges, and declared their intention of setting up their own bonafide council, the Los Angeles Trade Union Conference.

The unions charged that Bridges had nullified the principles of the C.I.O., thru the following practices:

Administering set-backs to the Pacific Coast C.I.O.; creation of an appointed burocracy; aiding Stalinist domination of the industrial union council thru fraud and votes of "paper" locals; acting as a dictator; aiding Stalinists to capture and disrupt the auto workers local at Long Beach; appointing

(Continued from Page 1)

dared to read England any lectures

on "international law," nor to pro-

pose arbitration on the conditions

or terms of payment. Why this dif-

ference in attitude? Can it be the

closeness of the "good neighbor" to

Mexico? Or the size of the British

2. The United States denies the

Mexican government the right to

expropriate land without compen-

sation. (The note mentions at least

three times, the "universally re-

cognized principle of compensa-

Here the observation must be

made that this "principle" is not

so universally recognized. The

French Revolution confiscated the

large estates of the feudal lords

without any compensation whatso-

ever. The Protestant countries

during the Reformation confiscated

the estates and even the moveable

chattels of the clergy, without com-

pensation. The United States gov-

ernment itself confiscated a great

deal of property of Englishmen or

of Americans loyal to England

during the Revolution of 1776. And.

during and after the Civil War of

1861-1865, it confiscated without

compensation the property in slaves of the landowners of the

South. It also repudiated and pro-

hibited the payment of debts in-

curred by the rebellious states and

by the Confederate government, a

very large sum, indeed, borrowed

from the Southerners and from

foreigners, especially the English.

Finally, the Russian Revolution

confiscated, without any compensa-

tion whatsoever, the property of

In the administrations of Hoover,

'good," the same claims were made

on Russia. But now, Roosevelt has

recognized the Soviet Union with-

out insisting upon compensation

for Americai citizens who had pro-

perties in old Russia. Why is a dif-

ference made in the case of

Mexico? Can it be another

symptom of the closeness of the

"good neighbor"? Or is it the size

of the Red Army? Or was it the

result of the pressure exercised by

the working-class movement of the

United States and by the Commu-

nist Party before the disastrous

both nationals and foreigners.

fleet?

tion.")

Harry Bridges' Record

By THOMAS LAURENCE

(Thomas Laurence is business agent of the Los Angeles Joint Board of the I.L.G.W.U. This report first appeared in the July 1 issue of Justice, official paper of the I.L.G.W.U.— Editor.)

TT is now evident that the appointment of Harry Bridges as the C.I.O. Pacific Coast regional director was a mistake. Factiona-

the rank and file, or the ability of the individual; catering to the factional interests of Stalinism at the expense of the C.I.O. movement; calling a state convention without consultation.

The new Los Angeles Trade Union Conference declared for:

Labor solidarity of employed and Stalinists to executive positions unemployed and all labor organ-without regard to the wishes of izations, including the A. F. of L. unemployed and all labor organ-

Mexico's 'Good Neighbor'

lism in his own Maritime Federation has increased and intensified. Some of the unions are seeking reaffiliation with the A.F. of L.

Slanders Against The I.L.G.W.U.

Bridges, in San Francisco, openly accused the I.L.G.W.U. of sabotaging the C.I.O. How a union, whose president was among the initiators of the C.I.O. movement, and which has donated more than \$400,000 to the cause, would want to sabotage it, is hard to explain.

On the Pacific coast, in the city of Los Angeles, the I.L.G.W.U. gave both aid and direction to the formation of the first C.I.O. unions. It made donations to C.I.O. unions amounting to thousands of dollars and donated the use of its headquarters without charge to every union that asked for it. Bill Busick, as organizer for the I.L.G.W.U. took time from his own duties and gave invaluable aid in forming C.I.O. unions in auto, steel and rubber. He was a leader in the Douglas Aircraft sit-down strike,

is to conceal this difference, to force the Mexican government to forget that it came to power as the result of a revolution and that it has certain revolutionary duties.

Pity The Poor Trusts!

4. There is an amusing touch to the Hull document—unconscious irony, no doubt. We read:

"Just as within our own borders we strive to prevent the exploitation of debtors by powerful creditors, so are we justified in striving to prevent unfair and oppressive treatment of our people in other countries.'

But the big capitalists who invested money in semi-colonial lands are no such "poor debtors"; they are the very powerful creditors. The "poor debtors" who need protection against exploitation and against forced payment by powerful creditors, are precisely countries like Mexico. How funny is the role of the "good neighbor" when he disguises himself as the poor exploited debtor! This unconsciously ironic theory implies the open return to the policy of "dollar diplomacy," to the policy of the State Department forcing payments to investing capitalists in semi-colonial lands. And how arrogant is the expression: "We urge that others follow the policy of fair dealing and fair play." The earlier administrations of the "bad neighbor" and the most open imperialistic policy never used more in-

solent language. Finally, there are certain phrases in the note about the interest of Mexico in being a "good neighbor" as well, from the standpoint of its own future. Since the United States is preparing for another world war, the business of being "good neighbor" implies for cico the danger of being tied to the chariot of its powerful imperialist neighbor.

The anti-imperialist struggle can no longer depend, if it ever could, on adulation and flattery of Roosevelt. This tactic has failed lamentably with the recent note. Nor can those Mexicans who love their independence expect any effective aid—if ever there has been any effective aid from such sources -from elements who do not wish to preserve their independence in relation to Roosevelt and the capitalist government of the United States. Effective aid can be secured only from the independent class action of the workers in the United on the Roosevelt Administration to force it to follow a policy which may somewhat deserve the name of "good neighbor." And Mexico must seek the support of all of

was arrested and stood trial with the strikers.

We have had delegates from the I.L.G.W.U. to the C.I.O. since the days when it consisted of a small organizing committee. We have followed closely every step in its advancement from an organizing committee to a city-wide Industrial Council. We have participated in all of its activities, taken part in every election. We have had members on the first unemployed committee set up by the Council and also members on the legislative committee, and, while we are accused of sabotage, let us remind Brother Bridges that we are one of the few unions in the Los Angeles Industrial Council which are still paying per capita tax, and we have done so consistently since the beginning.

When a mass meeting for the Ford strikers was organized, it was the manager of our Joint Board, Brother Lutsky, who advanced the money for rental of a large auditorium. It was largely thru the efforts of Brother Lutsky that a suitable unemployment program was adopted by the Council. How Bridges can reconcile these acts with his charge of sabotage is hard for us to understand.

It is unwarranted attacks of this nature that destroy the harmony and unity within the ranks of the trade-union movement.

Bridges' Record

Bridges was, in 1934, a militant rank-and-file leader, idolized by the whole Maritime Federation. The tactics of carrying out the line of a political organization with the aim of dominating and controlling the trade-union movement, however, has caused Bridges to stumble and flounder from one blundering position to another.

In the last month, he condemned the Ford strikers for going out on strike when they actually were face complete surrender of everything they had gained. He it was who was booed by the Ford of the meeting that, had he known would never have allowed him to speak. He yanked the charter of the Office Workers Union of San Francisco because the communists had lost control. He gave them Warehousemen's Union. As a poses and ends. result, practically the whole membership of that union rebelled against such burocratic action and joined the A.F. of L.

Pedro when they tried to set up comes a convenient target.

FINE WORK!

AST week, Pres. Green of the A. F. of L. broke into the news with the following actions:

1. Released an attack on the National Labor Relations Board in terms generally used by reactionary manufacturers.

2. Gloated in the defeat of Maury Maverick, outstanding House liberal.

3. Chartered the company union at the Red River Lumber Co., in Westwood, Calif., which had been responsible for vigilante attacks on C.I.O. union members fighting a 171/2 % wage-cut.

A fine record for a "leader of labor"!

an Industrial Council. They now have to travel twenty miles to meetings of the L. A. Industrial Council. There are many C.I.O. unions in the harbor area, and the need to consolidate them led the longshoremen to raise the question of a San Pedro C.I.O. Industrial Council. They have been opposed because of the fear that Communist Party control in the Council would be jeopardized.

Almost every appointment made by Bridges has been either a communist or a communist sympathizer. He has used his own popularity and the prestige of his office to support every satellite organization of the Communist Party.

No man like Harry Bridges should have been appointed as regional director of the C.I.O. The Communist Party has used the advantage received by the appointment of Bridges to drive every union man who did not agree with their line from leadership.

Undermining L.N.P.L.

Labor's Non-Partisan League started six months ago but, due to the packing of the conference forced into that action or had to by the Communist Party for the purpose of turning Labor's Non-Partisan League into a "People's Front," the enthusiasm of hundreds strikers and told by the chairman of trade unionists very favorable to Labor's Non-Partisan League what he was going to say, he was cooled and today its leadership consists, the main, of members of the Communist Party and its sympathizers. To every labor conference come these saviors of labor to capture and divide and over to the jurisdiction of the divert its course to their own pur-

Bridges, of course, is aware of his falling popularity and prestige. This, therefore, necessitates the finding of some villain to account In his own union, Bridges has for the failure. Trotskyism is playopposed the longshoremen of San ed out, so now the I.L.G.W.U. be-

Everybody's All Agog...??

"VERYBODY'S all agog! to say as umpire to see that "justice" and nothing of abuzz!

It's that picnic, of course—that picnic and outing at Tibbetts Brook Park on Sunday, August 21.

And that picnic will go down in history for a baseball game of two world-famous teams—the "Rightist-Terrorists," also known as the "Diversionists," against the "Leftist-Wreckers," also known as the 'Hyphenates."

Motiey and murderous crews, these—so positively murderous that opposing pitchers have been known to cringe and quail in terror and fall on their knees, break down States and from those elements and . . . confess!?!?!?! "Hit and who are able to exercise pressure run," the "squeeze" and "stealing bases," are their stock in trade. The very "diamond" itself is not safe with them around.

> event, none other than Yagoda- seventh floor. Yezhoff has been invited to serve And don't delay—get them now!

'fair-play" are observed!

In addition to this game of the century, there will be rowing, swimming and badminton for the "athaletic" type; for the sissies, chess, checkers and tiddly-winks. For everybody, lots of sky, fleecy clouds, fresh air, green grass, group singing and music. If you lose your lunch-box, don't worry. There will be plenty of refreshments.

How to get there? Take the 241 St.-White Plains I.R.T. train to 238 Street. Then take the bus to the Park.

Who's running it? Who do you think? The New York organization of the Independent Labor League of America, of course.

Where can you get tickets? At And, to make this a real sporting 131 West 33rd Street, on the

tactics of the "Democratic and the Popular Front" set in, when it still pursued independent class tactics?

Lesson Of History

3. The historic truth on the question of expropriation with or without compensation, is very different the note of the "good neighbor." There are expropriations "at retail" recent note of the "good neighbor" Hispanic America.

on the part of conservative governpaid the bankers. But it has not ments in normal times; and there are expropriations "at wholesale" on the part of revolutionary governments, that is, governments which have come to power as a result of a recent revolution. Now, then, the principles "universally recognized" or practised in the second case, differ entirely from the principles "universally recognized" or practised in the first case. Revolutionary law is always foundled on the recognition of the fact that the prevailing property system itself is based on legalized injustice. Therefore, a government which has come to power as a result of revolution is in duty bound not to recognize the principle of compensation. For such compensation does not do away with injustice; it simply changes its form. It would be nothing more than a transformation of the unjust wealth and power of exploitation from the form of real property to the form of bonds or cash. The ruling class ploiting by converting itself into a moneyed class.

secondary need of a conservative roads, harbors, arsenals, irrigation. of a system of property whose very estates in Mexico, slavery in the United States, capital in Russia, such cases confiscation without compensation is the normal thing, Coolidge and Harding, when the and compensation, far from being a neighbor did not pretend to be principle, represents the exception ernment, or as a special tactic of the revolution for the purpose of buying some of its enemies or for what less violent transition when the opposing forces are still too strong for elimination at one blow. Thus, the period of open struggle can be somewhat abbreviated, but the aim remains the confiscation of the property in question. The 'principle" of compensation, as a principle, has no validity here. In short, the "principle" of compensation is a recognized one when we are dealing with expropriation "at retail" within a property system that has not itself been challenged. The principle of expropriation without compensation is a recognized one when we are dealing with expropriation "at wholesale," infrom that which is insisted upon in volving a change in the very property system itself. The aim of the

can thus continue ruling and ex-When it is a question of a government (building, bridges, then compensation is the normal

slum clearance, soil reclamation) thing. But, when it is a question basis has been challenged by the people (as in the case of the large the property of the clergy during the Protestant Reformation), in all of a so-called revolutionary govthe purpose of facilitating a some-