

### Roosevelt's Stand In Coal Crisis Draws Lewis Blast

President's Ultimatum Endangers Welfare Of Miners; Kentucky Governor Threatens Use of Strike-breaking National Guard

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Three major developments featured the coal crisis this week:

1. An open break between John L. Lewis, C.I.O. chairman, and President Roosevelt became imminent following a sharp public attack by Lewis on the administration's policy in the

2. Roosevelt's ultimatum to the coal operators and the officials of the United Mine Workers of America to open the mines following a White House conference jeopardized the welfare of the 485,000 strikers.

3. Democratic Governor Chandler of Kentucky announced his intention of using National Guardsmen to break the strike in Harlan County by furnishing armed protection to scabs.

The coal operators and the meeting to determine prices. A U.M.W.A. committee were in signed contract beforehand virtually continuous session | might exclude this possibility. in New York City following has been to prolong all negotithese developments.

Accuses Roosevelt In making public a letter he sent to John R. Steelman, federal conciliator in the coal negotiations. Lewis bluntly charged that the Roosevelt administration was directly responsible for the open shop

Roosevelt administration failure to support the union's original proposal that the expired agreement be extended and that the industry be kept in operation pending negotiations, 'caused many operators to beto disembowel the United Mine

ministration for the resulting had to suppress demands for taged the idea of a "March on deadlock and the consequent action by its members. In one Washington." fuel shortage confronting the such maneuver, about two march might grow to proporcountry was also placed by

cept responsibility for its own tion of a "March on Washing- the W.P.A. cuts, President administrative blunder," Lewis ton. emphasized in the letter.

"Supine" Attitude gime had given any relief to democracy!

union's original proposal to motions of holding a march is pending settlement of the is- posed it, the President was en- Washington. sues took on a new turn with gaged in a sham battle with strong a word, for one learns commission was going to set economy bloc about just how casual reference in the Daily coal prices within the next two much should be cut from the Worker. We can say in ad-

while the coal commission was Roosevelt.

### The New Deal's Casualty List

Here is the New Deal's casualty list:

Between election day and Jan. 1939-310,000 slashed from the relief rolls. Be-tween Jan. 1, 1939 and April l, an additional 40,000 "allens" stashed.

On March 14. Roosevelt fold Congress that besides these, 859,000 people certified as eligible for W.P.A. would not be considered. Total: 1,200,000 thrown into the gutter.

In the same speech Roosevelt said that the further slash carried through by Congress would "affect 5.000,000 people" --- i.e., including those aiready thrown off relief.

Then: 1st week in April, 200,000 cut. 200,000 more in the 1st week of May. 200,000 more scheduled for the 1st week of June. 400,000 more

for the 1st week of July. Grand total--(not counting approximately 2,000,000 thrown out of work by business activity decrease of 15% since last November and some 400,000 youth eligible for jobs since November) -2,000,000 knocked off the rolls by the New Deal in little over six months.

If Roosevelt's basis for esmating is used, the number of people affected including the families of those directly out off, therefore runs closer to 10,000,000 then to 5,000.

### Workers Alliance Suppresses drive against the miners' Lewis pointed out that the Action Demands of Members

As W.A.A. and unemployed against the pink slip and reliefout wave, they find that they have to fight not only the relieflieve that they had carte slashers, but also a companyblanche from the government union outfit, the so-called addition to all previous cuts, a 'Workers Alliance of Amer-

The coal operators' strategy

ations until the U.M.W.A.

signed a contract that would

not include either wage and

hour demands and also exclude

the union or closed shop. They

(Continued on Page 3)

Like many company unions. Blame on the Roosevelt ad- the leaders of this one have "Your department must ac- of the membership on the ques- directed at the instigator of

What happened to the refer-The failure of the Roosevelt locals vote on it? What was commenting once on Rooseadministration and its Demo- the final vote?—we are certain velt's April 27 message! Neitrial states to allow miners whelmingly in favor. Not a or as the Communist Party, either unemployment insurance word out of the W.A.A. lead- have they said a word about his or relief was exposed by Lew- ers! They have simply dumped W.P.A. budget for the coming is. He termed the Roosevelt at the whole business overboard. year! Agents of the boss-prestitude as "supine" and "lack- The membership voted? Never ident, that's what they are. Not vania with a Republican re- call on us to die in a war for up throughout the country, will

Why these scoundrels have and relief. importance of the decided not to go through the work under the old contract clear enough. When they prothe announcement that the coal the Democratic - Republican of it publicly only through a final W.P.A. appropriation for vance that this "Congress," if The U.M.W.A. would be in a the curent fiscal year; it was good position to ask for higher possible to pretend that all the way, will whine about the

But since then events have workers seek to organize moved quickly, Roosevelt himself has taken the leadership in cutting W.P.A. rolls. His April 27 message proposed, in one-third slash for the year begipning July 1. Whereupon the Workers Alliance quietly sabomonths ago, the W.A.A. lead- tions uncontrollable by the ers announced a referendum W.A.A. leaders, and might be Roosevelt.

These masters of the W.A.A. endum? How did the W.A.A. have achieved the feat of not cratic party machine in indus- that if held it would be over- ther as the W.A.A. leadership adaisical," and he specifically mind. That's their idea of de- their W.A.A., but the scores of pointed out that only Pennsyl- mocracy-these people who new W.P.A. unions springing lead the fight for W.P.A. jobs

The latest maneuver of the W.A.A. is to call a "Right to Work Congress" on May 27 in "Call" is too the Stalinist leaders have their wages and better conditions cutting was not coming from Tories but not say one word

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## FIGHT THE RELIEF CUTS!

### F.D.R. and the 60 Families Understand US Mayors Only the Language of Class Action!

We address these words to the unemployed.

We ask, fellow-workers and comrades: do you understand what is happening in this country? Do you realize that, under the combined leadership of Roosevelt and the Congress, there is now taking place THE SHARPEST AND MOST BRUTAL ATTACK ON THE UNEM-PLOYED—ON YOURSELVES AND YOUR FAMI-LIES-SINCE THE GREAT CRISIS BEGAN IN

Does this sound like an exaggeration? It is easy enough to prove it beyond doubt.

On election day last November the W.P.A. rolls stood at 3,350,000. This figure was itself completely inadequate to provide jobs. There were around twelve million unemployed at the time, not counting workers on part-time.

#### Cuts Begin Day after Election

The average wage on W.P.A. was \$55 per month. This figure is less than half what the government experts declare is necessary for a minimum standard of health and

But, shamefully low as were the number of jobs and average wage in November, they were prosperity compared to the situation today, and boom times compared to what will be the case three months from now-unless you do something about it.

The day after the elections were safely out of the way, the cuts on W.P.A. started. With Congress not in session, Roosevelt slashed 310,000 off the rolls between election day and the first of this year.

Between January 1 and April 1, 40,000 alien workers were dropped, bringing the number on W.P.A. down to 3,000,000.

During the first week of April 200,000 more got their pink slips. Another 200,000 the first week of this month, with at least as many scheduled for June. By the end of the first week of June, W.P.A. rolls will be down to a maximum of 2,400,000.

### Unemployment Increases

According to the relief budget which Roosevelt has presented to Congress, this will be cut to 2,000,000 in July.

In eight months: from 3,350,000 to 2,000,000, a drop of more than 40%! 1,350,000 men, with their families totalling well over 5,000,000 people!

To these 5,000,000 people, a wage of \$55 a month would be riches. Some of them, including many of the aliens, are simply being left to starve. The others, at best, are being transferred to a home relief which is hardly better

During these same months, the total of unemployed in the country has not decreased, but on the contrary has gone up by the hundreds of thousands. Industrial production is running about 15% behind the November rate, and 300,000 or 400,000 youth have in this period reached what is ironically called "employable age."

### What to Do About It?

We want to ask you, fellow-workers: what are you going to do about this attack on the health and very lives of yourselves and your families?

Are you going to sit back and take it like slaves and cowards? Are you going to watch, and do nothing, while your wives and children go hungry, while they get sick and you have no money to call a doctor, while all of you get evicted, thrown literally on the street?

This attack is not going to stop because of any prayers or hopes on your part. It will continue, and get more vicious month by month. Not merely will more hundreds of thousands be dropped from W.P.A.; the average wage of those who remain will be lowered, and home relief will be driven down toward the vanishing point.

The attack has succeeded up to now for one and only one reason: because you, the unemployed who are the victims, have not fought back.

The attack will stop and the trend will be reversed when, and only when, you really begin fighting.

### Roosevelt Acts for Sixty Families

You have not been fighting because you have trusted what you have been told by John L. Lewis and his associates, by Earl Browder and his party and his Workers' Alliance. You have believed them when they told you that Roosevelt was your President and leader and would help you out of your difficulties.

This is a direct, flat lie.

Roosevelt is not your President, but the President of the banks and the Sixty Families. He began this attack on you, began it in November on his own sole responsibility, and cut 310,000 before Congress even met. It is he, not Congress, who has proposed to cut the rolls to 2,000,000 in July. He and Congress sometimes have minor

differences about the speed and methods to be used in carrying on the attack: that is all.

#### Why Not Use the War Money?

Lewis and Browder and the Workers' Alliance support Roosevelt and his policies and his war. That is why they do not and cannot and will not ask you to fight back militantly against his attack on you. They appear once in a while before a Congressional committee, or suggest that you write postcards to Congressmen. But Congress and the President naturally pay not the slightest attention to such pitiful gestures.

Your money, fellow-workers, comes from the Federal government, Roosevelt's government. That is the boss against whom you have got to fight. You will have to make up your minds to that, no matter what Lewis and Browder tell you, or give up in advance.

Is there any money available for the unemployed?

Think a minute: The present Congress has already voted two billion dollars for Roosevelt's war machine. Plenty of money for guns and bullets! Why not take that money and use it for the unemployed?

#### We Have Got to Fight!

The Sixty Families alone have fifteen or twenty billion dollars of wealth in their strong boxes! Fifteen or twenty billion! Compare that with what sixty families in your neighborhood have got salted away. Do you agree that it right and just and sensible that Sixty Families should have ten times the money that Roosevelt proposes for thirteen million unemployed? Couldn't the Sixty Families manage to get by on a few less billion? Why not take some of those billions and use them to give jobs at decent wages to every man who is out of work?

But you've got to fight. Not with postcards and lobbying in Washington, but with militant mass demonstrations in the streets, with strikes and picketings on the projects, with death watches and hunger marches.

This is the only sort of language that Roosevelt and Congress and the Sixty Families who direct them can understand.

What are you waiting for? There is no time to be lost! Reaction is advancing in this country with the speed of airplanes. If we don't begin fighting soon, we will wake up one fine day to war and concentration camps, and never know what hit us.

Demand a job for every worker!

Thirty-thirty! A thirty dollar minimum weekly wage and thirty hour maximum week throughout industry, W.P.A. and public works!

A twenty billion dollar public works and housing pro-

Expropriate the Sixty Families! Use their billions to give jobs to the workers!

All war funds to the unemployed!

### "Death Watch" Casts Shadow Over Flint W.P.A. Offices

Washington "Worried" as Union Continues 24-Hour Viail in Defense of 900 Families

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
FLINT, Mich., May 6—The "Death Watch" initiated by the Unemployed and W.P.A. Workers Union, affiliated with the C.I.O., has cast a haunting shadow over the Flint welfare offices across the street, while resentment and anger grows only "slightly better" than in among union men and women at the harsh and inhuman treat- 1933-a damning indictment of ment given to the 900 families cut off relief last week.

Today, as a family of thirteen was thrown out on the streets by the sheriff, they moved into the park neighboring the them store his furniture and man.

So disturbed was Washington at the reports of the "watch" that with amazing speed they arranged to send more than 200,000 pounds of surplus commodities to be distributed to the needy. So deathly afraid are the Federal authorities that the "death watch" will continue to grow and crystallize working class anger at W.P.A. and relief slashes, that they ruled that the commodities may be distributed to all in need regardless of relief cer. tification.

And the "death watch" has only begun. Friday morning Charles Adams, his wife, and children were evicted from from their home. The authorities immediately told him to let

welfare office ,and joined the move into "the community others who have maintained a center"-a concentration camp clared, to argue that if business 24-hour vigil for the past five for evicted unemployed, where Consternation spread they are herded together, refrom Flint to Lansing, the state gardless of sex or health, and capitol, to Washington official- where the unfortunate families dom, and back to Flint again, are treated worse than cattle.

Adams refused. The General Drivers Union Local 332 donated a truck and helped Adams deliver his furniture to the Park where the "death watch" is located. Two tents. in which the Adams family now live, stand as a constant repreach and a living condem nation of Flint relief condi tions. At a mass meeting last Fri-

W.P.A. Workers Union voted at decent standards.

After the meeting in the (Continued on Page 2)

### **Admit Relief Cuts Disastrous**

Avoid Reference to FDR's Responsibility -Need Increases

(Special to the Socialist Appeal) WASHINGTON, May 9 -Results of discontinuing W.P.A. or cutting it - as Roosevelt has proposed --would be "tragic . . . too terrible to contemplate," the. United States Conference of Mayors stated, in closing its case today before the members of the House Appropriations Committee investigation of W.P.A.

The mayors who appeared at the hearings represented some of the largest cities in the nation, including New York, Chicago, Cleveland and Milwaukee. They were unanimous in opposing the cuts and insisting that the relief program must be expanded.

When questioned about how funds shall be provided, however, the mayors got tonguetied, not a single one daring to cross the interests of the capitalist class and demand that the staggering sums filched from the unemployed to build the war machine be returned to the relief program.

### New Deal Henchman

Their whole presentation studiously avoided reference to the fact that the W.P.A. cuts are geared to President Roosevelt's April 27 relief message. proposing a one-third slash for the year beginning July 1. La Guardia, leader of the mayoralty group, the "Socialist" Hoan of Milwaukee, etc .- all are henchmen of the Roosevelt "New Deal."

The mayors limited their whole case to two points: (1) the W.P.A. is of great benefit in providing employment and carrying out constructive work of "great benefit to the nation" and (2) hinting at the danger to the capitalist regime of the United States through the likelihood that those thrown off relief rolls would turn to the road of revolution to fight starvation.

Mayor LaGuardia, frequently pounding the table to emnasize his points, declared that the W.P.A. had "done a good job," and that its discontinuance would have "tragic and disastrous" results.

The unemployment situation in New York, he declared was the New Deal policies which were to end forever the hunger and misery of the "forgotten"

It was erroneous, he depicked up, relief costs could be eliminated. Business recovery, he said, would have to first absorb those on relief and the employables on the rolls before the W.P.A. could be liquidated. Although all statistics show that business activity has declined, Roosevelt attempted to justify his latest slash of relief funds by declaring that industry would absorb those thrown on the streets.

### Hours Too Long

LaGuardia did hot advocate a sliding scale of hours and day night, the Unemployed and wages to solve the problem of unemployment, but he did adunanimously to carry on a mit that working hours as a "dealth watch" until all 900 whole in the nation must be families are put back on relief reduced in order to make room for at least 3,000,000 persons.

Mayor Kelly of Chicago re-Buick C.I.O. hall, the members ported that one out of every marched down the street sing- five persons in Chicago was

(Continued on Page 2)

### POWERS CONTINUE MANEUVERS FOR WAR ALLIANCES

### In the Labor Unions

By B. J. WIDICK

Too many reports have been coming from Washington, D. C. in the last two months of a growing estrangement be- Constitution were opened Wed- Reich. tween John L. Lewis, C.I.O. nesday by a subcommittee of chairman, and President the Senate judiciary commit-Roosevelt to ignore any longer. tee.

Certainly, the Lewis letter After the first day's session. blaming the Roosevelt admin- it is already clear that the istration for the impasse in the hearings will be no substitute proposal that the Russians coal strike can hardly make re- for the full debate in Congress lations between them friend- which has been demanded for Rumania in the event that Brit-

failure of the Roosevelt admin- Roosevelt and the Democratic have extended to those counistration to support legislation and Republican leaders of tries. guaranteeing union rates and Congress have thus far succonditions, on all government ceeded in preventing. armament orders, as we pointthe Socialist Appeal.

in Washington that he was sus. corded in opposition, while the picious of Roosevelt's crusader remaining subcommitteeman, policy in foreign affairs. Off Borah, is on the fence, the record he suggested to some reporters that he was an isolationist. At least his state- ceived little coverage in the ments hinted strongly in that press. The New York Times

made this very significant typical. statement, referring to the fact ers. "The implications of this now reads: situation are obvious when one

recently elected Republican ad- possessions, or by any nonministration, has ruled that the American nation against any strikers are entitled to unemployment insurance checks!

Union Sacred Since Lewis can scarcely be classified as a dull politician, his attitude must be judged as reflecting to a large extent the feelings of his followers, es-

pacially the miners. To the miners, one thing is sacred. That is the union. Unionism is part and parcel of their lives. All events and people are judged primarily by their effect on the union.

personal popularity among the ceptions given Congress under workers, it has been diminish- which the people need not be ing, and the empty stomachs consulted, are sufficient for alof the miners will promote this most any conceivable situation.

growing tendency. Lewis' followers are beginning come a symbol of anti-war to realize that a policy of tail- sentiment and hence an object pedding noisily their flithy the scene. ending the Roosevelt administration means continued re- the Roosevelt administration. treat and weakening of the

heard from a man who has hearings. been associating with Lewis for twenty years that he was thinking of switching his party should favor this proposal, bealliance again. It should be re- cause it could only restrain a membered that Lewis was a President who is committed to Republican for most of his life. possible participation in for-And he considers the Southern eign war, as Mr. Roosevelt has Democrats and the Hagues as repeatedly said he is not," said the most dangerous opponents LaFollette.

strength in the labor movement weaken or strengthen any centers around industrial areas group in Europe must do so which are heavily isolationist, upon the ground that we are to furnishes a clue to his position implement our foreign policy on foreign policy. The "unrea- by active military support sonableness" of the Army and with an expeditionary force on Navy departments on the arm- foreign soil. aments orders must also have cooled Lewis' ardor for sup- challenge the good faith of porting Roosevelt in a holy war every statement which has against fascism.

Important Trend

The political implications of tion. In short, it cannot be this new trend in the policies of claimed that this measure af-Lewis-who is the decisive sub- fects in any way the struggle jective factor in determining for power abroad, unless it is C.I.O. programs - are far- at the same time admitted reaching and should be care- that military measures on forfully borne in mind.

His blast at Roosevelt runs directly counter to the basic policy of his Stalinist allies Senator from Wisconsin is too who played down this angle of polite to utter them — the the coal strike in the Daily Roosevelt administration's op-Worker. His private opinions position to the amendment on foreign policy, while not ba- flows from Roosevelt's plans sically different, do likewise, to wage a war of conquest on A more favorable setting for foreign soil.

Labor Party agitation has been created as a result of his criti- for vote in the House of Reprecism of Roosevelt and the sentatives on January 10, 1938 Democratic Party. It would be no easy job to switch the work- whether or not it would be ers from one bankrupt party brought on the floor for deto another bankrupt party.

for the coolness between Lewis jority against opening debate. and Roosevelt is the wielding He secured it, but only by eleof what Louis Stark, New York ven votes, and thanks to the Times labor reporter, called war-hysteria created by the the "big stick" by Roosevelt sinking of the American gunon the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. boat Panay in the Yangtze, to patch up a labor peace. The tion of all labor disputes, we Democratic-Republican united velt administration did well in were informed.

### ON LUDLOW REFERENDUM

War Monaers Alian Forces to Scotch Congress Discussion

By FELIX MORROW

Hearings on the Ludlow war

The subcommittee in charge ed out in a previous column of of the hearings is hostile to the amendment; Chairman Hatch Then Lewis let it be known and Senator Miller being re-

"Not Fit to Print"

The first day's hearings remade it the tail to another In his letter against the story, the Herald Tribune ig-Roosevelt administration pol-nored it altogether as did the icy in the coal strike, Lewis Daily Worker, and these were

The present text of the pro that Kentucky, West Virginia, posed amendment itself emetc., were withholding unem- bodies a new series of concesployment benefits to the sirik- sions to the war-makers. It

"Except in case of attack by considers the political control armed forces, actual or immein the four states in question." diately threatened, upon the Only Pennsylvania, with a United States or its territorial tional crisis to exist in conformance with this article, shall by concurrent resolution refer the question to the people.

"Congress shall by law provide for the enforcement of this section."

Still Anti-War Symbol

The scope, actual and capa-While Roosevelt has great ble of construction, of the ex-

Under the impact of events proposed amendment has behostility and suppress

Why this is so was indirectly stated by Senator LaFollette. Over two months ago we who was the first witness at the

War Plans Implied

"The present Administration

"Any one who raises the is-The fact that most of Lewis' sue that this proposal will

> "To take this position is to been made, so far as I know. by any responsible person speaking for the Administra-

In Plain English In other words-since the

eign soil are in contemplation.'

When the measure came up mot for passage but for bate!-Roosevelt himself took Postscript: Another reason charge of mobilizing a ma-

front on foreign policy.

All attempts to secure pub-"big stick" happened to be a lic discussion in Congress since Mr. Druso and his family have threat of compulsory arbitra- then have been crushed by the known starvation. The Roose-

NEW HEARINGS Russia Bids for Powers' Support ---Japan Veers from Berlin Axis

> demanded a full alliance with last Friday. France and Great Britain as the price of its collaboration in he war front against Adolf

The alternative, unmentioned but tacitly understood by all concerned, would be Russian

An official Tass communique, editorial in Izvestia, the Soviet Government organ, announced Soviet rejection of the British come to the aid of Poland and two years by labor and liberal ain and France go to war as a Lewis was chagrined by the groups, but which President result of the guarantees they

> "One-Sided" Plan Soviet Union itself unguaran-

French forces were already in the Tokyo militarists. he field. This in turn the Russians rejected as a useless pledge and demanded instead was the name given by Gera full-fledged alliance. This, so many, Italy, and Japan, to far, the British have been un- their understanding that they willing to accept. An arrange- would collaborate in a common ment was made for the French drive against Russia. During and British foreign ministers to the last few months while negomeet with Vladimir Potemkin, tiations proceeded for the con-

current crisis set in, the Soviet May 22, to see if a deal can yet ance, Japan hedged. It hedged government this week publicly be made. Here matters stood because it did not want to risk Not Much Good

Actually what good would such an alliance be to Russia? Can the Russlans seriously believe that the British and French will send any effective referendum amendment to the cooperation with the Nazi aid to the Soviets in case of a S.R.? In his famous "chestnut later expanded into a lengthy pulling" speech last March Stalin said that the Western powers would like nothing better than to get Germany and Russia at each other's throats and in this, at lest, he was outte right. It would still be the case, alliance or no alliance.

There can be no question that

the German-Soviet soundings are continuing and have already had one extremely sig-This plan, the Soviet public nificant result: Japan has alstatements averred, left the ready veered from its "anti-Comintern" axis partners. Japteed against attack and, in ef. an's fundamental imperialist fect, really left the Russians strategy is based upon an evenholding the bag, because in re- tual clash with Russia. Its conality only the Russians could dinental drive, its invasion of extend effective aid to the China, is regarded as part of Poles and Rumanians if the lat- the broader plan for the inva-Poles and Rumanians if the later the broader plan for the inva-er were attacked by Germany. Sion of the Soviet maritime Are Senienced to Neville Chamberlain hasten. provinces, for with the Rused in a Commons speech to sians established across the promise the Russians that they narrow strip of the Japan sea. would not be obliged to extend the Japanese empire remains such aid unless British and forever unsafe, in the view of

Japan in Tough Spot The "anti-Comintern pact" the Soviet Vice-Commissar of version of that pact from a se-

### American nation against any country in the Western Hemisphere, the people shall have the sole power by national referendum to declare war or to engage in warfare overseas. Congress, when it deems a na-

By BEN FEINER

of the "Social Justice" in the ets who were marching peacemost provocative manner by fully up and down in front of a the Coughlinites is causing nu- store. A Jewish woman took the merous incidents and near-riots part of the pickets and gave in various parts of the city, the hoodlums a piece of her Most of these go unreported in mind. One of the gang struck the daily press.

last Saturday night at Flatbush and Church Avenues. This is a But even in this form, the busy shopping district especially so on a Saturday night, that permits such outrages on The Coughlinites came down the busiest streets came upon on by sheet and shouting anti-Semitic slogans. In order to make the woman and the man who

> Action Brought Action for this Jobless Worker

Three weeks ago tragedy came to the Druso familytragedy in the form of a pink

slip from the W.P.A. office. Mr. Druso had been strainends meet while he worked as meeting in Madison Square a laborer on the W.P.A. His to manage in their slum tene- are unfolding a very aggresment in Astoria.

When Mr. Druso was thrown Roosevelt administration deno money to support his famipaid to the landlord. Relief Denied

toria relief office. They discovered that the man was, a long time ago, a taxi driver. He still possessed his hack license. For that reason the Druso family was denied relief. The man was told to look for a job as a taxi driver.

But no taxi drivers were being hired. No food was being given to the family of four. The relief authorities turned a deaf ear to the starving man. But night after night he was forced to return home without a penny to buy food.

The man was desperate. He and his family were very hungry. They went to the Astoria Local of the Unemployed and Project Workers Union, with 'heir story. The same day the union sent its grievance committee to the relief bureau. Today Mr. Druso's application for relief has been received again. The fact that he once was a hack driver will no longer prevent him from getting relief. In the meantime cutting the budget.

possible they started jeering NEW YORK CITY-The sale and insulting a couple of pickher in the face. One outraged One such near-riot occurred passerby smashed into the hoodlum.

At this point the police of our most "liberal" administration The cop naturally arrested

themselves as obnoxious as defended her and in order to show his "impartiality" took the fascist into custody. The man was charged with assault and bail fixed at five bundred dollars.

The trial will take place Thursday morning at the Magistrate's Court at Snyder and Flatbush Avenues.

This is a typical example of what is going on throughout ing beyond endurance to make the city. Ever since the Nazi Garden the fascists have grown wife and two children needed very bold. Assured of protecfood and a home and his tion by the administration they sive agitation. The resistance is only sporadic and unorganoff his W.P.A. job because the ized. However, considering the do-nothing policy of the trade cided to cut the budget, he had union leaders, the ostrich-like attitude of sticking your face ly. There was nothing to eat in the sand of the Jewish leadin the house. Rent had to be ers, and the very "sane" program of ignoring the fascists that the Stalinists are advocat-Mr. Druso applied to the As- | ing the resistance is surprisingly strong. We must help organize a counter-offensive against the fascist rabble on the streets. The broad masses will support it as they did the anti-Nazi demonstration.

Let us organize the anti-fascist struggle!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHERE OTHERS FAIL. WE SUCCEED! We offer, where 'The Modern Punch' by the Original Red Puppeteers, the side-splitting "Punch Joins 13. after the convention at and grand prizes, dancing and a bilarious time for all.

CONVENTION DANCE, Satur day, May 13, at the Down town Workers Center, 61 E. 7 Street, N. Y. C.

> At Your Service THE APPEAL POSTER SHOP

For the first time since the Foreign Affairs, at Geneva on cret into an open military allibeing brought into a frontal clash with all the Western powers. In the end it refused to enter the open alliance, and there can be no question that the German-Soviet flirtation was one of the principal reasons for

this decision.

The army organ in Tokyo, Kokumin Shimbun, which for months was the most ardent partisan of Japan's entry into a public alliance, abruptly last "eek shifted its ground and angrily declared that Japan could "get along without" Germany and Italy in its "fight against communism." At the same time the Japanese tried to check the Anglo-Soviet negotiations by warning the British that an alliance between Britain and Russia might force Japan after all to plunge definitely into the German-Italian

### Passport Forgers Two-Year Terms

By NAT LEVINE

NEW YORK.—Ossip Garber, Aaron Sharfin and Edward Blatt, whom a jury convicted last week of a criminal conspiracy to forge American passports, were each sentenced to two years in prison on Tuesday, May 9, by Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard.

Chief U. S. Attorney, John T. Cahill, in pressing for a maximum sentence, declared that the three men were "associates of an agent of a foreign State," referring to Adolph Arnold Rubens, under whom the three convicted men func-

Rubens Was "Ewald"

Krivitsky, in an interview with tion for war. the Baltimore Sun. May 5, described Rubens as a G.P.U.

Rubens and his wife in Novem-I in Washington on the ground colonial days. that the couple "might well be Trotskyists."

to accept the proffered aid of tended the forums. The pro-American Embassy officials ject employed thousands of inimmediately after she was ar- structors. rested in Moscow indicated hat she was cooperating with the G.P.U. to link both her and trator, in pronouncing obituary her husband to a "Trotskyist

plot" against Stalin. Embassy Myth Exploded The apprehension of Ru- forums." ben's American accomplices by United States agents inves-Trotskyists. In addition to ings. Krivitsky's identification of Rubens as a G.P.U. agent, here is the knowledge that each of the convicted men was associated in various capacities with the American Communist Party.

The prosecution avoided indicating the Stalinist connections of the convicted men during the trial. It is believed that this procedure was dictated by the State Department. The guarded allusion made by Caothers failed, a sequel to hill to a "foreign state" was of 650,000 get ing aid in some 'he first reference to these conform. He added that it was rections made by the U.S. Attorney. The stand of the city of Chicago to take care of the Army!" Saturday, May State Department is dictated by a solicitude for the Stalin 163 Norfolk St. Games, door clique, which is regarded as a future possible ally in the coming war for "democracy."

> Russian Builetin: The la-Ask for Sylvia Caldwell.

Get Your APPEAL At the Newsstand relief."

### SITUATION ON **COAST HIRING**

### Order by Maritime Commission Ignoring Union Raises Issue

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
WADMINGTON. — The Maritime Commission announced May 10 that it intended to ignore union hiring halls on the West Coast in manning four ships of its recently-organized Pacific Northwest Oriental

Chairman E. S. Land of the commission deliberately refused to accede to the request of the Sailors Union of the nine are already reading the have to concentrate their ef-Pacific and other maritime unions that the commission follow the standard West Coast policy of hiring sea-going crafts through union halls. Recently, the Sailors Union

of the Pacific membership took a strike vote and threatened to shut down the entire West Coast unless this government move to introduce fink halls and to bust the union hiring halls was stopped. The announcement of the

maritime commission, which is in direct contradiction to a promise made in a letter of Harry Hopkins, secretary of commerce, to Harry Lundeberg, S.U.P. secretary-treasurer, brings the situation to an acute stage. Hopkins told Lundeberg that

the Bureau of Inspection. which is under his jurisdiction as Secretary of Commerce, would do its hiring through union halls, and close its East Coast halls.

#### W.P.A. Abandons Widely Heralded Adult Education

(By a Staff Writer) NEW YORK CITY, May 9,-Hailed three years ago as a force for the preservation of Rubens, now imprisoned in democracy, the adult educa-Moscow, was identified by tion forums have been aban-Walter G. Krivitsky, former doned by the W.P.A, in this head of the Soviet Military In- city as part of Roosevelt's protelligence in Western Europe, gram to cut relief and smash as a Russian secret agent who every democratic institution in served under him at Moscow, the United States in prepara-

Set up in 1935, the forums were held in schools, neighboragent of Latvian birth named hood clubs, union halls and churches with the idea of stim That the Rubens ring was ulating discussion of all points being used by the G.P.U. to of view on controversial subframe the revolutionary move. Jects. It was characterized by ers of the French P.S.O.P., and role of the Congressional ment was indicated when the the Roosevelt administration at Marceau Pivert and Daniel Monopoly Investigating Comstaged arrest in Moscow of that time as a restoration of Guerin is published. The course mittee. ber 1937 was justified and ex- lic in civic affairs which char- ing class party, which French May issue include the followplained by the Soviet Embassy acterized the town meetings in Fourth Internationalists recent- ing:

Thousands Attended The refusal of Mrs. Rubens than 200,000 New Yorkers at on future developments of the Gregory Zinoviev's magnificent

Said the cynical Colonel Somervell, local W.P.A. adminisof the project: "Soap boxes are

tify the cost of maintaining He announced at the same ime the educational and recre- events and problems of the The books are "The Black Jactigating passport frauds threw ational projects sponsored by day. a monkey wrench into the the W.P.A. in conjunction with O.P.U.'s plan for a show trial the Board of Education would at which Rubens would "con- be reduced drastically and that fess" to a "plot" against the further layoffs are certain be development of Stalinism is Irish question and socialized Kremlin. The striking revela- fore the new school year starts tions by Krivitsky of Ruben's in September. In 1938 the Paris in his article, "The Inter- most attractive, readable and real identity now explodes the W.P.A. spent \$27,275.295 on national of Universal Chauvin- significant issues of The New myth that he, his wife or any Board of Education enter- ism." of the convicted men were in prises, including the construcany way associated with the tion and repair of school build-

## RELIEF CUTS DISASTROUS

absolutely impossible for the any who were thrown off the rolls if further relief slashes were carried out. Further taxes, he said, could not be added to those already imposed. He TO THE READERS of the too failed to call for the turning of the monstrous war funds test issue of the Russian over to the relief of the unem-Bulletin, No. 75-76, arrived ployed, yet he expressed his and can be gotten at 116 fear of what might happen University Pl., 2nd floor, should Roosevelt's program go through when he declared: "It is not a question of how we can afford relief, but of how can we afford not to provide

(Continued from Page 1)

SUGGESTIONS FROM THE BRANCHES:

cases I have started out with Paul Fielding of Akron, O. as low as 10c and worked my way up to the dollar bill over ing out this system and we are a period of a few weeks. This anxious to hear what results has been particularly successful in my shop. There are approximately ninety workers pecially for those branches that employed normally; of these Appeal twice a week. I am confident that in the course of the next few months at least 50% of the shop will be getting the Appeal through the mails.

"There is no reason why this experience cannot be duplicated all over the country. Comrades must be impressed with the extreme value of our paper for agitation among the workers. One sub to the Appeal will make more Tretskyites than 1,000 haphazard taik-fests!"-

Bob O. of Los Angeles. We agree 100% with the above remarks and especially call their attention to those of be very useful in visiting those our friends and comrades who former subscribers who have work in shops with other work- failed to renew their subscripers. Bob has shown that this tions. More on this later. works in practice by having sent in 10 subs himself in the past two months! From Akron, Ohlo we receive

be following suggestion, via England:

from an English comrade last be the means of doing this: week suggests this method of canvassing the Appeal. Take a block of houses and canvass them with the paper for four issues. Do the block thoroughly each time and take down the number of the apartment where the occupant bought a copy. At the end of four weeks you will have four separate lists of people who have bought he paper from one to four

times. Then make up a list of all those who have bought the "I should like to forward a paper any one of the four sub-getters. Umes. These people may be Many times it is difficult for a considered as readers. Then asworker to part with a dollar sign one particular person who bill all at once. We find that is to deliver and sell them the many good prospects are lost paper regularly each time it because of this. Over half of comes out. Thus, you know the subs I have obtained (and who will buy the paper and who this comrade is one of our ace is not interested. In this way sub-gettersi) were secured on you can get into personal conthe installment policy. In some tact with many workers." --

The Akron branch is carryit will bring. It sounds like an extremely effective plan, esare small in size and which forts.

#### SPECIAL COMBINATION OFFER:

The special combination offer of the New International. Socialist Appeal and "Fascism and Big Business" should give every branch and comrade an opportunity to gather in plenty of new subscriptions.

Next week we are launching a special drive to get renewals for the Appeal. In combination with this drive we now have this special offer which should

Here's the sub list for the past week which represents the lowest point we've reached for a long time. We've got to pick up and the campaign for sub "A letter which I received renewals we are launching can

						******			
CALIFORNIA				,					. 8
New York City	7.								. 5
Chicago									. 3
Ohio									. 2
Minneapolis									. 2
St. Louis		,							. 1
Foreign									. 1
St. Paul									. 1
Newark									. 1
Connecticut	- 4					•	ĺ	•	· 1
			•	٠.	•	•	•	•	
Total:									25

### MAY NEW INTERNATIONAL OUT

national importance vie for at- popular column. 'ention in a brilliant May num- from Left to Right" concerns ber of The New International. itself with some of the absurdi-The correspondence between ties of recent White House and Leon Trotsky, Fourth Interna- New Deal statements and acts, donalist leader, and the lead- plus a continuation of the work direct participation of the pub: of this important French work-

ly joined, is amply reviewed in | The concluding articles by this exchange of letters, and Jerry Pytlak on "The Econom-Between 1935 and 1937 more undoubtedly will have an effect ics of Cotton Farming," and P.S.O.P. The collapse of Roosevelt's and Aggressive. 'New Deal" and its replace-

ment by what is now fittingly described as the "War Deal." is subjected to the keen scalpels of the editors. "The Editoo cheap in New York to jus- tor's Comments" have long been regarded as among the James Rorty are reviewed by most thorough of Marxist reviews and interpretations of the Luttinger and Felix Morrow.

Stallnist Role

of the reactionary, chauvinist izes." Correspondence on the contributed by Jacques Detil of medicine conclude one of the

Issues of international and | Dwight Macdonald's very

Additional features of the

series on "Wars - Defensive

A paper by "Alpha" entitled, "Learn to Work in the Stalinist Manner.'

Book Reviews

Recent books by C. L. R. James, Lewis Mumford and George E. Novack, Dr. Paul obins" and "A History of Negro Revolt": "Men Must Act" and One of the finest exposures "American Medicine Mobil-International.

### Fascism and Big Business The New International Socialist Appeal

An Unusual Combination Offer! (until June 15th)

In Combination

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By Dwight Macdonald—

## SPARKS IN THE NEWS For Slum Landlord

### Hard Times at the Library

A headline in today's paper reads: "LACK OF FUNDS COMPELS LIBRARY TO CUR-TAIL USE OF READING ROOMS." Free li braries and free schools have long been among the proudest boasts of bourgeois democracy. These concessions were won by the masses in the heyday of capitalism, when the ruling class could afford them. But the shadows are closing in on this kind of "democracy." In the last few months the processes of free education have broken down in an alarming way here and there throughout the country-a highly significant trend of which I shall have something to say in another place. And now comes the announcement that the special reference rooms of the New York Public Library - American history, art, music. science, periodicals, newspapers, etc. - will close at six every night (instead of ten) and will not be open at all on Sundays (instead of being open from one to ten p.m.). An average of 1500 persons use these rooms on week nights, and from 3000 to 4000 on Sundays. Most of these are probably workers, who can come in only in their off hours. For them, the "public" library has become inaccessible.

This is, of course, by no means the first such retrenchment. Year after year, as the depression has worn on, the library has been buying fewer books, cutting down on salaries, curtailing its services to the reading public. And more economies will have to be practiced before long, according to the president of the board of trustees, Frank L. Polk, of the great corporation law firm: Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Gardner and Reed. The difficulty, according to Mr. Polk, is that the library's budget is unbalanced. And how much is needed to restore the balance-and also the essential services just cut out? Some huge sum, doubtless, or our enlightened and progressive city administration would never have allowed the library to be thus crippled! Well, believe it or not, the sum needed is exactly \$190,000. I daresay Mr. Polk makes at least that much all by himself in one year's practice of corporation law.

#### Herr Professor LaGuardia

In the column right next to the announcement of the public library's difficulties, there is a long story headed: "MAYOR AND AIDES TO TEACH AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY." The title of the course which the Mayor and his aides are to give is, "Government and Administration of New York City." I suggest that in the first lecture, the leaders of the LaGuardia administration-which is probably as "ad-

vanced" and "liberal" a big city government as you will find in this country at the moment -explain why it seems to them wiser to spend \$40,000,000 on a new bridge from Manhattan to Brooklyn than \$190,000 to keep the city's chief library open at night; why it is more important to spend tens of millions on an East Side Express Highway, to allow people in pleasure cars to get downtown ten minutes quicker, than to spend \$190,000 to allow workers to use the library after the day's work is over: why Mr. Moses gets his tens of millions for fancy luxury projects like Jones Beach and Mr. Whalen gets his subsidy for the highpriced and useless World of Tomorrow, while \$190,000 is considered too much to pay to maintain vital services at the city's main public hibitive, and contains virtually

#### Our Four-Billion-Dollar-Baby

I must confess I had some sneaking doubts about this American democracy we are all lem. to die for in the next war when I read two recent news items. Almost on the same day, the expenditure of \$300,000,000 the Social Security Board revealed that the for housing. The solons at AIaverage earnings in 1937 of the 30.166,000 wage bany have pared this down to earners on its rolls came to just \$890; while the Ways & Means Committee of the House published the salaries of some 50,000 of these wage-earners who had received \$15,000 or more each in 1937. It is a long step from \$890 to the \$1,298,000 which went to Mr. Mayer of the films, or the \$500,000 which went to Mr. Hearst of the newspapers, or the \$419,000 ture date. The measure calls which went to President Watson of Interna- for a 40-year, instead of a 60tional Business Machines Corp., or the \$381,000 year amortization period, which President Hill received from the American Tobacco Co.

But then I reflected on a third governmental report which has just appeared, and I realized that all of us, rich and poor alike, share the common ownership of a magnificent property worth currently about \$4,000,000,000. This report is the Naval Expense Account for the fiscal year 1938, a matter of eighty-six pages completely reactionary and of figures. The man-in-he-street, struggling victous nature of President to feed his family on \$890 a year, often fails Roosevelt's proposed further to realize he is co-owner of four billion dollars slash of W.P.A. rolls was reworth of gues and torpedoes and armor plate, vealed still more glaringly by including \$420,0:0,000 worth of heavy and light a nation-wide survey detailing cruisers, \$275,000,000 worth of destroyers, the benefits of W.P.A. which \$328,000 worth of "flags and bunting," and was handed today to the Presi-\$33 worth of livestock. It is a comforting dent by a group of government thought. I figure that each and every one of officials and individuals closely the 1\_0,000,000 inhabitants of this great democ- linked with them. racy owns Just \$32.50 worth of the abovenamed commodities. If no one minds, I'll ducted in 48 states and sumtake mine in cash, please.

MEN AND WOMEN OF LABOR =

### OUT OF THE PAST

By EMANUEL GARRETT

### THOMAS MUENZER

(1497-Decapitated, May 27, 1525) Turbulence, ferment, rebellion-thus was the sixteenth century born. New systems, and new ideas grappled with the foundations of old. Capitalism, a lusty infant, spread its arms and crowded the princes and lords who ruled by feudal right of land ownership, and

The merchant class, the townsmen, grew wealthier, tapped the resources of the known and settled world, spread the tentacles of trade, and challenged the authority of feudal might. In England, where serious upheavals had already taken place, their economic power was clearly established; political power they had yet to seize. In Germany they were first beginning to feel their importance, to grow properous.

And as they extended their activities, slowly remolding the basis of social organization, the downtrodden serfs, the newly important artisans, and the newly created plebians who formed a reservoir of unskilled labor became

The merchants who sought to undermine the traditional authority of feudal lord and church (itself the richest and most powerful of the feudal landowners) were echoed in the mighty thunderbolt that Martin Luther hurled at traditional doctrine, and the established church, Luther took religion out of the hands of a few lords (priests), made it the property of the masses, presented the bible in native German instead of unintelligible Latin. (Religion, the church, completely dominated the thought of the day; social upheaval therefore couched itself in religious terms, sought justification there, etc.)

#### Goes Beyond Protestant Reformation

Thomas Muenzer was among those who avidly took possession of Luther's views. A bright young theologian, Luther had even helped him secure a pastorate. An eloquent preacher, he attacked the monks bitterly. Luther had however only cracked the shell of society. Muenzer was soon far ahead of him; shell and all had to go. Lu her who had inspired him, now repelled him. For Muenzer had become a man of action and revolution who ranged himself on the side of the oppressed masses against the rulers, the possessors, and the easy living reformers (like Luther "that easy living flesh of Wittenberg").

His small, swarthy figure became a popular sight among the plebians and peasants who listened to his harangues against princes and middle-of-the-way reformers. Way shead of his day which lacked the material prerequisites for the execution of his views. Muenzer preached the community of goods, the "Inner Light." in effect the right of each man to hold his own views. Some of his ideas, daring for his time, became democratic commonplaces three centuries later.

Several times he settled as preacher in various German cities; as often he was chased out by the fat-bellies and the worried townsfolk who were willing to go so far in social

criticism, but no further. Denounced by Luther, he encouraged the peasants in Thur-situation by slashing W.P.A. great Buick division plants, a ingia to rise, together with the urban prole-still further and reducing its tarians and the miners, against the moneyed and feudal lords. Driven out of Muhlbausen, mum requirements. he travelled with his close co-worker Pfeiffer through southern Germany. Ungodly rulers. he told those he met, must be driven out, in keeping up the skills of Some brought food, others dokilled. The usurpers, he told them, say "Thou workmen, in providing commu- nated funds. shalt not steal" and then grab everything. nities and sections with useful But when an artisan "commits the slightest public works and public activity. Only the Communist Party the auto workers on the side of the unfortunate families meetings on college and high scure document. transgression, he has to hang, and Dr. Liar ties, the report ended by reculation that the same ties, the report ended by reculation that the same ties, the report ended by reculation that the same that the same ties, the report ended by reculation that the same that t

### Peasant War Unfolds

Towards the end of 1524, the peasant masses had definitely begun to move towards revolution. Their aims were incorporated in a document, the Twelve Articles, which called for a plain gospel (i.e., religious services in their own language and within their own comprehension and of their own choosing), and freedom from serfdom. By March, 1525 the move ment was quite general. By May they had achieved considerable successes. But as is the case with every peasant movement, there was no real solidarity between the various sections. Each section waged its battle in a limited and provincial sphere. At the begin ning they were favored by the equal disorganization of the lords; but as the lords organized largely under the leadership of Philip of Hesse, and spurred on by Luther, the peasants were beaten in battle after battle. History was much too young for a victorious popular insurrection; the peasants couldn's reorganize society, a proletariat was lacking to lead them, the next step in social development was capitalism.

In Muhlhausen, Muenzer and Pfeiffer had spread their propaganda. As preachers they had at first demanded the privilege of sitting in at council meetings. At a propitious moment, when the population was called together to answer a muster roll, Muenzer urged the assembled people to kick out the old government and take the reins into their own hands. This they did. A new government was decreed, to be run by an "Eternal Council." Community of property was proclaimed.

Philip of Hesse moved on Frankhausen where Muenzer with 8,000 men had made his stand. Philip asked for an armistice, but, as he had done in other cases, violated the armistice before it had elapsed. Muenzer's troops were defeated. 5.000 of them were slaught ered. Muenzer was taken prisoner.

His captors asked him to explain his deeds. He told them he acted and preached as be had because they, the princes, had sacrificed everything to just and avarice.

Muenzer was handed over to the executioner. For a day he was tortured horribly by thumbscrew and rack, then thrown into the

On May 27, two days after his capture, the executioner did his work. Muenzer's mutilated head was lifted on a pike, and displayed as a warning against revolt. It became instead a symbol of the struggle against oppression, an inspiration to future generations of rebels, the founders of German Marxian

## State Solons Battle

Inadequate Housing Bill Puts Burden on Workers—Violates Voters' Demands

By GRACE SAUNDERS need for slum clearance and \$3 a room per month. low-cost housing projects has just been brought out on the Legislature, one week before adjournment. The bill is tomake new housing projects so workers. expensive as to be almost proall the reactionary, landlordsponsored provisions that have been denounced and rejected by everybody seriously concerned about the housing prob-

Voters last Fall authorized a miserly \$60,000,000 for the the expenditure of an additional \$100,000,000 at some fu-

#### Survey Shows the Value of W.P.A. To Entire Nation

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
WASHINGTON, May 8.—The

The survey which was conmarizes 8,000 individual reports made by state, county, and city officials not the recipients of WPA. jobs) shows that W.P.A. projects have been of the 'highest benefit to the public welfare

that the W.P.A. failed in its fight, in addition to plans made task in only one particular, to keep the "death watch" gothat it was not conducted on a ing. large enough scale and that it Sentiment for the "death lacked sufficient funds. Roosevelt proposes to remedy this among Flint workers. In the Unemployed and W.P.A. Workfunds still further below mini-

of W.P.A. in providing work, foot to see the demonstration. Flint take steps to stop the public education as members any connection with movewith unemployment."

which even the bill's aponsors A disgraceful housing bill admit will increase carrying that does not begin to solve the charges on state projects \$2 or

Burden on Workers Consumer taxes on amusefloor of the New York State ments, tobacco, etc., are to be permitted for securing funds for this amortization—thus tally inadequate in the amount shunting the financial burdens of money authorized, it will for the new projects on to the

In addition, cities are to be required to match the state appropriations dollar for dollar. This provision will place a barrier in the path of the needed undertakings, for the cities are already heavily burdened with debts.

Furthermore, only partial tax exemption is to be granted housing projects.

"The bill is patently a scheme to prevent any serious tackling current fiscal year. As a sop of the disgraceful housing situto the opposition that it is ation." It exudes overweening known beforehand will be forth. consideration for the slum coming, provision is made for landlords, and displays a crass lack of interest in the needs of the slum-dwellers.

Jamming It Through

It is apparently the intention of the "people's representatives" to jam this shameful measure through both houses of the legislature in the hectic closing days of the current seasion, in the expectation that many legislators will vote for it as the best measure possible to obtain at this late date. A week before adjournment coptypewritten copy was available

to rescind the cuts, conserva-

live educators predicted that free education in New York would receive its most disastrous setback in a decade. Under the new conditions created by the cuts, thousands of regular teachers face dismissal, unwieldy classes will be further enlarged, tuition fees will be idopted in the free city colleges, summer sessions will be abolished, playgrounds closed. recreation and evening centers

scuttled entirely. Passing the Buck

Caught red-handed in as low ies of the bill were not yet back | a piece of fiscal finagling as from the printers. Only one Tammany Hall ever attempted. Mayor LaGuardia's efforts to for Inspection by legislators pass the buck to the State legiswho had to consider the problature were promptly spiked by Howard W. Nudd, spokesman

### 'Death Watch' Casts Shadow Over Flint W.P.A. Offices

(Continued from Page 1) ing "Solidarity." Then they as- the program of their leaders, sembled in the Park where de- joined the "death watch" and and Music, where students with termined speeches were made by the union leaders.

At the meeting, plans were More than 51 per cent of the made for further militant ac-individuals reporting stated the next week to carry on the

> watch" has proved strong collection was taken up to aid the unemployed union.

Hundreds of people from al! After detailing the benefits over town came in cars and on

ance members, disgusted with and after trying their best to discourage the demonstration, Workers Alliance leaders were watch" action.

tempts thus far to smash the the budget as anybody." whelming is the sentiment of Apportionment.

### Protests Mount On School Budget Cuts

for the Public Education Asso-

Thousands of Teachers Face Dismissal -Y.P.S.L. Plans City Hall Picket Line

By W. K. MANUEL NEW YORK .- Indignant pro- clation. tests against Mayor LaGuar-In a statement placing rella's cut of more than three sponsibility for the cut directly and a half million dollars from on the Mayor, Mr. Nudd said the school budget poured in 'It is, of course, absurd for from educational, student and city officials to imply that labor organizations this week as the City Council prepared they bave done their part for the schools and that the cristto adopt the budget cut withis entirely due to the shortout allowing representatives of sightedness of the Legislature. the opposition to be heard at The city itself is particep crimpublic hearings. inis to a large degree, for, Bor-A reactionary coalition of ough President Isaacs and City Democrats and Republicans in Council President Morris to the the State legislature recently contrary potwithstanding, the lopped off \$5,300,000 from the city started the landslide, not state educational budget, which merely by denying funds for idded to the city's proposal to expansion, but by cutting nearack away another \$3,600,000 otals up to a nine million dolar decrease in funds for the this year out of its own republic educational system. Unsources." less immediate action is taken

#### Y.P.S.L. Demonstrates The Young People's Socialist

opposing the cut.

consider ways and means of

League (4th International), youth section of the Socialist Workers Party, responded to he proposed cut with a spirited demonstration outside City Hall two weeks ago, demandcurtailed and other services ing immediate appropriations to the school budget to gap the deficit. Y.P.S.L. representa tives who attended public hearings on the budget, held at City Hall last Friday, were told that only those who favored the decreased budget would be heard. Following this the proceedings were handed over to reactionary spokesmen for the banks. insurance companies and big realty interests. Colonel Aimes. mouthpiece of the Citizens Budget Committee, sounded off in a two-hour exhibition of oratorical flatulence against "unnecessary frills like public edu abolish the High School of Art spirit. tore up their Workers Alliance outstanding talent in the arts cards. Finally, after four days, are given a specialized curriculum. After listening to severa! speakers assail the badly castrated budget as "still too forced by a vote of their mem. high," Robert K. Strauss, Fubers to support the "death sion flunkey in the Council, reminded them that "the Mayor All Communist Party at is just as interested in cutting

ers Union and the dramatic Isaacs, member of a dozen "death watch" have failed. By Stalinist stooge organizations. ridicule, lies, and whispers, and Council President Newbold insted. For it is obvious that C. P. members have attempted Morris, contributor to the New the Stalinist movement, youth to have the C.I.O. officials in Masses, approved the cuts in or adult, can no longer have militant action. But so over- of the Board of Estimate and ments for the liberation of op-

time National program dealing talked against the "death has been taken in opposition to picket line around City Hall in with unemployment." watch." Many Workers Alli- the "death watch." he near future.

### Jingo Note Loudest At Y.C.L. Meeting

By IRVING HOWE NEW YORK .- The 9th naional convention of the Young Communist League will open here this week-end with a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden. This convention will mark a climax to the drive to transform the Y.C.L. into an open jingo organization.

According to the preamble to the new Y.C.L. constitution proposed by its National Committee, the Y.C.L. formally abandons any pretense to:revolutionary ideas and becomes an ly \$3,600,000 from the amount-organization which has, among which it granted to the schools others, the following purposes: "Educate youth for citizenship The Association in our democracy"; "Oppose called an emergency meeting all subversive efforts to attack, of its Joint Conference of Civic undermine or destroy our de-Organizations, composed of no imperacy from within or withless than twenty groups, to out"; and "promote clean living and develop healthy minds in healthy bodies and to protect the American home and

> Despite the accompanying bashful mention of socialism. these points—especially the one on "subversive efforts" which means to be against all idea of revolution show that the Y.C.L. is trying its desperate best to prove itself to be a respectable organization desiring to live at peace with the capitalist world and capitalist youth organizations

Pro-War Rally The convention will have as its main function the whipping up of a war spirit among the delegates, especially those who are not hardened bureaucrata. In view of the war crisis, the Y.C.L. leadership wants to make sure that the organization will serve as an integral part of the war machine and the convention is the place. the youthful Browders figure. cation" and urged the city to to whip up an appropriate war-

Another function of the Y.C. L. convention will be to make certain changes in its declaration of principles in order to bring it up to date with its present political line. Such embarrassingly reminiscent points as "We condemn American intervention in the internal affairs of the Latin-American countries and the Philip-Borough President Stanley pines, and we support the Puerto Rican people in their fight for independence" will be elimpressed colonial peoples, even scure document.

Jim-Crow Stalinists A further indication of the rightward swing which this convention will mark may be seen from a recent article in the April pre-convention number of the Young Communist Review, which admits that Y.C.L. recruiting and education is on such a reactionary basis that in Chicago many branches exist on a Jim-Crow basis, dividing white and Negro youth into different groups!

Another step the convention will take will be the dissolution of student branches. These have in the past been centers of dissidence from the party line.

### LEWIS BLASTS F.D.R. STAND

(Continued from Page 1) hoped to achieve this in suffitient time before the coal commission sessions to have the U.M.W.A. tied up completely. The White House conference

was marked by the high-handed tone and dictatorial attitude of Roosevelt towards the U.M. W.A. committee and the operators.

Union on Defensive Roosevelt demanded that the

mines be opened but he failed to say a word about protecting the rights of the workers involved. He deliberately left tha false impression that the union was also responsible for the shut-down and the coal short-Actually, the entire role of

he U.M.W.A. has been completely defensive during the crisis that began on April 1 when the old contract expired. Inspired by Roosevelt's open

double-cross of the miners and the entire C.I.O. which is involved in this key strike, Governor Chandler quickly announced his intention to send the strike-breaking National Guardsmen to Harian county to open the mines.

### Daily Highlights of the N. Y. World's Fair

By RUTH JEFFRIES

May 2-The World of Tomorrow gave the American people a first lesson in how to receive the cream of the ruling class. A twenty-one gun salute, greeting Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Martha, served as a starter.

New York State announced that it had spent more than \$4,000,000 on parkways, bridges and landscaping for the World's Fair site, and \$2,200,000 more for its fair exhibit. No such investment for rehousing World of Today slum-

May 3-Twenty-one guns for Crown Prince Frederick and Crown Princess Ingrid of Denmark. Are we listening? For \$3.25 an hour you'n'me can see the Fair from a

motorized wheel chair; and for only \$2.25 we can get selected college boys to push our chairs around. Why can't these colleges turn out a \$3.25 product--where is the value of a college education? Inscriptions fronting the entrance to the W.P.A. pavilion:

"This building contains the story of America's unemployed and what they have to offer America"; and "This exhibition shows the wealth created by the skill and artistry of America's unemployed." But it doesn't show the wealth they created (for capital) before they were robbed of even their

May 4-Nineteen guns for the Polish delegation. (A dictatorship isn't quite as good as a monarchy.)

May 5-Mayor La Guardia, "one of the great admirers of Finland." as he termed himself, said, "Mention the name of Finland and every American will admire your one biggest exhibit to the whole world—your national honor." He was referring to the isolated example of "bonor" among the victorious thieves after the last World War.

The British Government is clasping America to her bosom in a fitful brotherly embrace; and so its Pavilion exhibits to millions of Americans the family tree of the Father of Our Country, tracing Washington's descent from King John. That should establish Our Father as an English ruler of good blood, and render us all loyal fighting subjects, just a little removed, of the British crown.

Columbia University's President, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, called, in a high-sounding Collective-Security variation, for the President of the United States to "lead in the organization of the world for peace, with international security protected by the combined navies of the world." A gullible audience, fooled (as once before) by college-presidential oratory, cheered.

May 7-High restaurant prices at the Fair are causing a tide of complaint. For example, at the Casino of Nations: Soup, 25c; entree, \$1 and up; roast-beef sandwich, \$1; ham sandwich, 50c; American cheese sandwich, 40c; coffee or

tea. 15c. Even the "popular-priced" places charge 50% more than do comparable places, and for comparable dishes, outside.

May 8-"Ricksha boys," declared the N. Y. Times in one column, "bave, by long odds, the most romantic jobs on the Fair Grounds. They meet such interesting people." And then in another column, it described the Fair after closing time, "Tired pushers-chatted wearily about their aching feet-(or) pushed their vehicles listlessly to the depot. changed attire and went home." Real Southern romance. Cashiers are also reported "as too tired by Sunday to do anything but sleep"; and so, adds the press, amused, "all they know about the Fair is what they read in the papers." A quaint sense of humor.

"More than 350 Gold Star Mothers rose in unison when, at a luncheon of their group . . . those who were opposed to sending any American boys to Europe in the event of war (were asked to), stand up."-N. Y. Times. Add reasons for our "peace-loving" President's opposition to a people's referendum on war.

### Yipsels Jailed for Aiding Calif. Agricultural Strikers

(Secretal to the Socialist Appeal)
FRESNO, Calif., May 8.—Deila Pedroncelli and Norman Dorn, both members of the newly formed Fresno unit of the Young People's Socialist League, were in jail today, charges with inciting workers on the 600-acre Paul Moseslan Ranci to quit work and join the week-old strike of agricultura laborers for higher wages.

The strike was called Tuesday by the Farm Worker: Association, the agricultural workers union in this area More than 100 workers left the fields to demand an increase in wages from 20 to 30 cents an hour. They had been em ployed to thin prunes on the Paul Mosesian Ranch where conditions were intolerable.

Comrades Dorn and Pedroncelli were arrested when the: went out to the orchards to persuade the 25 remaining work ers to quit scabbing and join the strike.

The Yipsels have been actively aiding the strike by join ing the ploket line every day. Over the week end, Myra Tanner, leading member of the Y.P.S.L. in California, procceded to the strike front and spoke to the strikers for more

The Fresno Y.P.S.L. expec's to continue to aid the strikers until victory is won.

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### FIGHT WITH THE SOCIALIST **WORKERS PARTY FOR:**

- 3. A job and a decent wage for every worker. 2. Open the idle factories—operate them under
- vorkers' control.
- 2. A Twenty-Billion dellar Federal public works and housing program.
- 4. Thirty-thirty! \$36-weekly minimum wasc-30-hour weekly maximum for all werkers on
- 5. Thirty dollar weekly old-age and disability
- 5. Expropriate the Sixty Families.
- ?. All war funds to the unemployed.
- 3. A people's referendum on any and all wars.
- 9. No secret diplomacy.
- 19. An independent Labor Party.
- 11. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and Fascist attacks

### Welcome the King!

Their Majesties, George VI and his Queen Consort, are now on the high seas headed for this continent.

These parasites, who by right of heredity are kept in fish and chips by a democratic parliament for parade purposes and diplomatic missions that require neither brains nor muscle, will be regally entertained by the official representative of a government once founded on the proposition that all men are created free and equal. Many thousands of dollars, filched from the needs of the unemployed, will be expended on their welcome. In return, America's starving multitudes will be graced with the sight of the King in all his fifty resplendent uniforms, and other items of apparel which fill some forty trunks.

Wouldn't it therefore be a fitting welcome if, in addition to the top-hats, there gathered at the pier and other places of welcome, the refugees from the British Empire? Indian workers to greet the King and his Queen on behalf of four hundred million exploited Indian masses who work twelve hours a day for a few pennies, and to remind them of India's revolutionary ferment (George VI had to skip the traditional visit to Durbar, India, at his coronation); Irish workers to remind their Majesties of the long struggle for Irish freedom, and of Irish resistance to the British conscription plan; Ceylonese workers to thank the royal do-nothings for years of tyranny and oppression; South African workers to commemorate racial segregation in their native land; workers of China, the West Indies, and the many other colonies trodden under the heel of British imperialism.

Such a welcome would indeed be fitting.

### **Old Superstitions**

Dr. H. F. Kilander, dean of the Panzer (N.J.) College of Physical Education and Hygiene reports that a three-year survey of 11,000 high school seniors, college freshmen and adults reveals that common "old wives' tales" and belief in supernatural tokens and charms still

A surprisingly large percentage of the population, for instance, believes that the thoughts of a pregnant woman affect her child, that excessive use of the brain causes baldness, that rubbers worn indoors leads to eye trouble, and that raw meat will reduce a black eye.

The learned educator did not even mention the most common superstition of all: the belief that the nation's industries in order to function must be owned and controlled by a handful of coupon-clippers.

### 910 Per Cent

During the first quarter of 1939, nine leading automobile manufacturers showed an increase of 910 percent in profits as compared with the first quarter of 1938.

These companies, General Motors, Chrysler, Packard, Nash, Yellow Truck, Mack Truck. Studebaker, Checker Cab, and Diamond Truck, at the end of March had raked in \$65,531,978 after all costs had been deducted, including enormous "executive" salaries. General Motors

three months \$53,206,716.

Yet in all the automotive centers, unemployrelief rolls into the streets.

How long will this state of affairs last?

Just as long as the millions of workers and millions of unemployed and millions of poor farmers permit the national resources and the national industries to remain in the clutches of a small minority of stockholders.

Cardinal O'Connell speaks on women's hat fashions: "You can tell the quality of a woman's brain by the kind of hat that covers it." Does that also go for the bats that cardinals wear?

### **High Time!**

In the Congressional Record, where everything the Congressmen say openly is printed, the following speech appeared recently:

"MR. KUNKEL. Mr. Speaker, I want at this time to invite all of you and your friends and your guests at the lunch-time hour to partake of some of the famous Lebanon County BALOGNA, of which I have a supply here, and which will be available in the cloakrooms for those of you who are too busy to get to the House res-

"Those of you who have lunch at the House restaurant will find it available there.

"This is a very unique product. It is both very good and very sustaining. It is manufactured in Palmyra, Pa., one of the finest towns in our entire State . . . and I am sure you will all enjoy it.

"Try it yourselves and get your friends to come with you to lunch. (Applause.)"

Mr. Kunkel, like the other barkers, acrobats, clowns, and pitch-men who perform daily in the masses in its lush days-but is the maximum that can be Washington legislative gyp-joint for the capitalist overlords, is paid off at the rate of \$10,000 a year cold cash.

High time that the workers and farmers of the country threw these BALONEY salesmen out on their ears!

High time we workers and farmers put in power an entirely new and different government-a workers' government, that will represent our interests for a change!

### Lewis and F.D.R.

Workers of America and of the C.I.O., has rent mine conflict.

In effect the labor leader declared that the operators' efforts to "disembowel" the miners union were made on a tip from the Adminis-

But unless we are mistaken, this is the Administration that was put into office, in two Congress of Writers. Our sleek committee. It's not everyone Louis M. Hacker and all such presidential elections, by the self-same John L. heroes are brave in the words who can prevent fascism with people Lewis. Not by him alone, but under his very vigorous leadership. It was Lewis and Hillman whether they would be equally Thomas W. Lamont. Henry and all the rest of the heads of the C.I.O. (and brave in deeds. most of the A.F.L., for that matter) who did all in their power to swing the labor vote behind was unquestionably the best tables.

Lewis' own statement is enough to judge the results of this policy of supporting one capitalist party as against another. With Lewis' own pen in hand urge the masses one opposed to the capitalist union engaged in a stiff fight, Roosevelt, not slaughter. for the first time, takes a union-busting, strikebreaking position which, as Lewis now states, scious of their mission in hisgives aid and comfort to the coal operators.

What then are the benefits of the capitalist party policy supported by Lewis, Hillman and party policy supported by Lewis, Hillman and at their feet, spellbound. Such ploy their public forum to cri-Green—as compared with the policy of labor enough to eat and clothes to striking out on its own in politics?

The only "benefits" are those accruing to worth considering, way should the common herd worry about the operators, to the employers, to the capitalist eating when they can listen to politicians.

The results in the labor movement are: disorientation, confusion, a feeling of dependence claimed on the good, the true upon political parties that are stacked, from start business is big-time politics to finish, against labor.

Every child knows that Roosevelt could never of the People's Front. One have been elected without the powerful, organ- Congress: that the democraized support of labor. That same support, given cles should unite at once to to LABOR'S OWN PARTY, to LABOR'S stop the fascist madmen—a CWN CANDIDATES would be call to join up for the next im-OWN CANDIDATES, would have produced perialist war. results a thousand times more solid, a thousand | It should be noted that when times more lasting, a thousand times more beneficial than the deceptive "benefits" gained by sociation, declared that it was lifting coal operators' friends into the White the duty of the intelligensia to House and Congress.

Every day brings a new event to prove over stirred restlessly. Even this again labor's need of its own political party, weak and tentative approach one based upon, supported and controlled by organized labor.

For all his harsh words about Roosevelt, Lewis will undoubtedly try to continue the old game of supporting one capitalist gang against another. All the more reason why the rank and file of American labor must mobilize all its est advocates of Popular strength to force the creation of a MILITANT, Frontism, had three field days INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY—labor's at this world congress of writers—they've certainly mighty arm on the political field.

### alone piled up for its coupon-clippers in these three months \$53,206,716. Cannon Fodder Does Not Need An ment has increased during this same period and tens of thousands have been thrown from the Education -- So the Bosses Rule

It is the Job of the Teachers Union to Organize Mass Agitation for Restoration of the Cuts Enacted Under Pressure of Real Estate Owners by "Labor's Friends"

for the children of the work- cessity for increasing real es- be necessary under the Marers of this country. The schools tate taxes. The business inter- shall plan, the size of classes were made sufficient to teach ests, utilizing the columns of would go up to 56 and a termost of the children the three its controlled press, have been rific additional burden would R's and to fill their heads with carrying on a propaganda cam- be placed on teachers who althe kind of bunk about history paign about the high pay of the ready carry an extremely and government which would teachers to help put these cuts heavy schedule of work. make them dutiful servants of over. the masters. More advanced James Marshall, president of

the wealthy. Nevertheless. world that has no place for the board. them except battlefields and INADEQUATE TO graveyards. Between 18,000,000 NEEDS OF CHILDREN and 24,000,000 young men and

ENGINEER CUT

**BUILDING INTERESTS** 

Education under capitalism cation outlay. Both are meas- Under the consolidations and never did amount to very much ures designed to avoid the ne-increase of classes that would

education has always been the Board of Education, deavailable only to a small pro- clared in a public statement portion of the youth of the that these cuts "will wreck the chants and real estate owners, land, mostly the sons and school system." He said it by the State legislature and by daughters of the well-off and would be necessary to cut out 6,800 teaching positions, including 1,000 held by regularly liwanted efficient, productive, censed teachers. In addition it and subservient workers, the would require the total eliminaboss system provided a portion tion, he said, of all the admitof its surplus and spent a given tedly meager social services part of its tax revenues for and evening school activities schools. Today capitalism can, which the board now sponsors. not even provide place for 15,- Such things as vocational play-000,000 adult workers, no less grounds, athletic centers, baths the millions of their children and pools, summer play schools who are growing up into a and gardens, would all go by

Marshall's statement, women who have grown up in signed primarily to bulldoze the last nine years have never the teachers into taking pay had jobs at all. The bosses are cuts, only told half the story. going to want our youth and The school system even on its place for the millions of youngour children who will be the present basis is utterly inadeyouths of tomorrow for cannon quate to meet the educational fodder purposes only. And you needs of the children of this don't have to send cannon fod-city. It is already badly overder to school. In short, capital- crowded. In the face of unaniism could afford the luxury of mous agreement among educaelementary education for the tors that a class of 30 pupils those days have gone forever. efficiently taught, nearly 64 Along with wage bills, school percent of the city's school budgets are the first things children from kindergarten up slashed at as the going gets | through high school — more than half a million childrenare in classes that range in size from 35 to 54. This in it-This is happening now in self represents a condition that tions it is possible to force the New York where the big real makes it impossible to get the State Legislature to call a speestate interests have engi-children and teachers both to cial session to restore the eduneered a cut of \$5,300,000 from make any effective headway in cational grants and to stop Lathe state aid to New York their work. In the elementary Guardia's "economy" drive City's schools and where the schools 58 percent of the pupils from making victims of the 'liberal' Mayor LaGuardia is are in over-crowded classes.

#### BEGINNING OF GENERAL ATTACK

The attack on the teachers now being led by the mer-'labor's friend " Mayor La Guardia, is only the beginning of a general attack on the tenure and job security of the civil service. The city has poured millions into showy highways and parkways, and into the World's Fair and is now trying to sweat that money out of its civil servants and off the backs of the city's children. After all, reason these worthies, what good is all this education? We can afford to cut down on it and save our own

taxes from going up. That is precisely their reasoning, for they know that their society, their system of insecurity and starvation, holds no sters who every day are crowding in ever-greater numbers in search of continually decreasing opportunities for work and

for livelihood It is the job of the Teachers' Union, above all, to lead the fight against this attempt to hack away at the schools and at the civil service. A vigorous counter-campaign against the menace of cuts and against the real estate owners must be organized. Through the parents and through public organiza-City's children while the ownforcing through an additional No wonder they arrive in high ers of property get exactly \$3,000,000 cut in the city edu-school actually unable to read! what they want.

### John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine In "World of Tomorrow" Setting issued a sharp statement condemning the Roosevelt Administration for its attitude in the cur-

selves, but it is doubtful fascists as Bernard Baruch, DOROTHY THOMPSON'S

place in which to hold the Stalinized World Congress of Writ-

These writers are highly contory. Behind every line uttered was a conscious feeling of susmall matters as having wear are unimportant, hardly Thomas Mann on the wonders

of democracy? These people ostensibly demore particularly the politics point of view prevailed at the

Vera Micheles Deane, Secreeducate the masses in the ways of democracy, the audience to reality was uncomfortable to contemplate. Much more heroic was the prospect of sending the masses into

#### LAMONT AND BARUCH AMONG THE SPONSORS

The Stalinists, as the loudgone up in the world. It is a

By DOROTHY WILLIAMS | far cry from the days when | Raymond Gram Swing; Carl A group of well-fed, oldish they advocated revolution. Van Doren and Pearl Buck, writers and penpushers gath- After all, it's no mean achievevorld safe for democracy." were listed as patrons and they use to describe them- the aid of such eminent anti- G.P.U. Morgenthau. Winthrop Al-The fake gingerbread setting drich, Marshall Field, Mrs. of the New York World's Fair August Belmont and other no-

Need we say that no writer who has taken a real anti-war ers. It was the best place to stand was present or, so far as gather together those who with one could learn, invited? No into the coming imperialist system disturbed the serenity of the Congress. Ignazio Silone was invited, said the Congress officials, but "unfortunate difficulties in regard to a passport and visas" prevented his being present. They said this dicize the American Govern ment for not giving Silone a

visa. But where were the Ameri can writers who stand against war or, for that matter, those who for one reason or another have incurred the enmity of the G.P.U.? The writers who spoke at the Congress in the name of American literature and thought were; Henry Goddard Leach (what did he write?); Hendrik Willem Van Loon, who can't wait for the war to start: Nora Waln (you know her work of course): Henry Seidel Canby: Mary Colum: Bernard de Voto (who. incidentally, is the chief American propagandist for Pareto's fascist philosophy); Walter F. White; Dorothy Thompson; Vera Deane; Vincent Sheean;

#### Special Offer at 35c (Good until June 1st)

Year's Subscription to the Twice-A-Month

Challenge of Youth

Forward to the Twice-A-Month Challenge of Youth

These, of course, exhaust cred together at the World's ment to form a People's Front American letters and thought, Fair this week "to make the with some of the people who and so there was no room for ames T. Farrell, John Dewey. Officially it was the World members of the hospitality Sidney Hook, James Rorty, interdicted by the

### LEFT-WING DEBUT

This was Dorothy Thompson's debut in such left-wing circles, and she cleverly catered to her audience. She expatlated on the subject of the 'news'' which could be planted on a newspaperman. She had just two examples: (1) Krivitsky had succeeded in planting his articles on the editors of the Saturday Evening Post (wild applause from the audience); (2) News from abroad hinting at a pending agreement between Hitler and Stalin was also planted (more wild ap-

plause from the audience). These two well-chosen examples of newspaper misinformaion provided Miss Thompson with the necessary background for a number of guarded remarks regarding the need for collective security. She drew vivid pictures of the psychological miasmas inherent in fascism as compared with the rarified heights of the good. the true and the beautiful as presented by our democracy.

Credit should be given where credit is due. As spinners of meaningless phrases, these 'democrats" are the equals of the fascist demagogues. It is easy to see how rapidly

these "anti-fascists" will capi tulate before true fascism, as their similars did in Italy and Germany. The objectivity which they have taught themselves to believe they possess is but a garment to cover their inability to think outside of established patterns-and their future capitulation.

To depend on them to prevent fascism, to depend on any kind of a People's Front, is to build mankind's present and future on shifting sands.

Who can believe that this smug group, clad in furs and the latest from Paris and Bond Street, can help save America or any other country from the barbarism to which capitalism must resort in order to protect its right to exploit the masses?

# CORNER ≡

By Max Shachtman

There are few things more admirable and encouraging than the work of the scientist who ventures into plague spo.s in order to isolate, analyze and counteract the cause of diseases and pestilences so that mankind may be spared their ravages. Without prospect of monetary reward or interest in it, unconcerned with sensational and transient successes, he quietly risks his own life in order that the life of man may be easier and safer. Poisonous swamps and jungles, poisonous beasts and microbes must be wiped out in order that the human race shall not be wiped out. Selflessly performing this noble task, he is indeed the priceless servant of society, counterpart in another field of the country doctor, eulogized in our recent literature, who ministers conscientiously to his flock for miles around and under the most difficult circumstances.

#### The New School of Social Medicine

Of an entirely different kidney are the practitioners of a new school of social medicine which has developed as a distinctly post-war phenomenon. We do not mean the "society doctors" who prescribe harmless but expensive pills to neurotic dowagers. The reference is to the reformist medicine men who readily acknowledge that capitalism is sick—some even say it is dying—but declare that they will move heaven and earth to bring it back to life. Even when it was young and lusty, the bourgeoisie never did like the ominous words of Marx about the proletariat being the gravedigger of capitalism. It likes them much less today, as it listens to its arteries harden and watches its gangrenous limbs decay. How relieved it must feel, then, to hear spokesmen of the labor movement state that their efforts are henceforth directed towards doctoring and rejuvenating the patienti

Among the recent products of the school are Dr. David Lasser and Dr. Herbert Benjamin, bosses of the Workers Alliance of America. Testifying before a Congressional Committee, Dr. Lasser blushingly admitted that he used to be a socialist but now believes in capitalism, believes in "making it work" and is devoting his modest talents to seeing to it that it does work. His tender sentiments were echoed by Dr. Benjamin, an exrevolutionist and therefore still a member of the Communist party, who also guaranteed to do his best to relieve capitalism of any and all maladies. from gout, hernia and arthritis to leakage of the heart and water on the knee.

If memory serves us, it was either Fritz Tarnow, head of the German trade unions, Dr. Naphthali, his theoretician, or Rudolph Hilferding, the German social-democratic leader, who coined the phrase some ten years ago about substituting for the terrifying words "grave-diggers of capitalism" the more pleasant phrase "doctors at the sick-bed of capitalism." In any case, all three of them and their colleagues set to work restoring German capitalism to health. After several years of continual blood transfusions from the workers to the capitalists, which left the former anemically haggard and paralyzed, without satisfying the increasingly irritated patient, the Nazis were called in to take up where the social-democratic doctors were forced to leave off. Although the patient hasn't died, neither has he been cured; but many are those who now realize that if the social-democratic doctors had spent their time fortifying the working class to resist the effects of capitalism's poisonous disintegration, the Brown-shirted doc tors would not be where they are today.

#### The Way to Make Capitalism "Work"

Blandly unconcerned with the German experience, the distinguished quacks. Drs. Lasser and Benjamin, have taken the oath to "make capitalism work." Now we do not deny that capitalism. even today, can be made to "work" after a fashion. There is one infallible remedy for its ills, the one that has sustained it throughout its existence: a steady flow of good, substantial profit. If anyone ever discovered another way of making capitalism work, we have not been told about it. The flow of profit, rich with shiny yellow corpuscles. is as indispensable to the life of capitalism, as the flow of blood is to the life of Lasser and Benjamin.

Now, as the latter know-and who doesn't?--the capitalists do not make profit by taking in each other's washing or drinking up each other's champagne bottles. They make it out of the labor of those they employ in their enterprises. What is more, profits are not made by raising the wages of labor and shortening the work-day; quite the contrary. The longer the work-day, the smaller the wages, the faster the speed-up, the more intense the exploitation-the higher the profit.

To accomplish his task of "making capitalism work," the social doctor of the new school must therefore help the poor old invalid cut wages. lengthen the work-day, cut out "wasteful and costly strikes," cut down relief for the "surplus, superfluous population." The "dialectical method" of the new social doctor consists in saving capitalism by enslaving labor, bringing color to the cheeks of the capitalists by draining it from the veins of the workers, preserving the life of a decaying order by dooming to misery and starvation the only class capable of establishing a healthy social order.

That is precisely what the Lassers and Benjamins have been doing. When they boasted before the investigating committee that they were opposed to strikes and discouraged them, they were stating a truth of key significance; simultaneous with their announcement of devoted medical service to decrepit capitalism they present their credentials as strike-breakers. To prove that they are ready to "make capitalism work" they show how completely they have anesthetized and paralyzed the W.A.A.

Like all practising doctors, they ought to hang out a shingle. The following text is recommended.

Dr. Lasser & Dr. Benjamin Consulting Physicians to Capitalism Supply of Unemployed Guinea Pigs on Hand Healthy Flow of Profits Guaranteed or Money Refunded

Emergency Service Any Time, Day or Night Service Charge Cheap-Very Cheap