

**STOCK
CRASH
AND NEW
CRISIS**

Page 5

Socialist Call

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY, U.S.A.

Entered as Second-Class Matter March 21, 1905, at the Post Office at New York under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Vol. III—No. 136

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1937

PRICE FIVE CENTS

A SOCIALIST VOTE IS A LABOR VOTE

Election Day is your day of opportunity. You strike a blow for a better life in the city of New York.

Your straight Socialist vote along Row D of the voting machine and your selection of the Socialist councilman candidate in your borough as your first choice will win, your vote is shifted to your next choice.

the masses in New York the representation in government that have long required.

New York needs Socialists in city government, needs their program by which the principles of socialism are applied to municipal problems.

where on this page, you find the list of Socialist candidates who head the ticket in different counties. Your vote is a vote for the highest of working class government as expressed in the platform of the Socialist Party.

ur vote in the councilmanic is particularly important, remember that no vote is lost, the principle of proportional representation is being followed, if your first choice doesn't

win, your vote is shifted to your next choice.

You CAN elect Socialists to the City Council and give expression to a workers' program.

In Brooklyn, you can elect Dr. Harry W. Laidler, who has been endorsed by the American Labor Party and by the Citizens' Non-Partisan Committee, whom the Citizens Union has described as "one of the best qualified candidates in the city."

In Manhattan, you can elect S. John Block, also endorsed by these organizations, who served on the Charter Revision Commission and put collective bargaining and proportional representation into its provisions.

In the Bronx, you can elect Aaron Levenstein, former editor of the SOCIALIST CALL, active

HOW TO VOTE YOUR COUNCILMANIC BALLOT		
Brooklyn	Manhattan	Bronx
1 HARRY W. LAIDLER	1 S. JOHN BLOCK	1 AARON LEVENSTEIN
2 LOUIS HOLLANDER	2 R. CHAR. VLADICK	2 MICHAEL QUILL
3 A. E. ARMSTRONG	Queens	3 SALVATORE NINFO
4 JOHN GELO	1 JAMES J. BAMBRICK	Richmond
		1 DENVER R. CAMPBELL

Look for the names of these candidates in your borough. Be sure you get your councilman ballot. Mark them with the numbers indicated.

fighter for civil liberties throughout the country, of whom the Citizens Union has said that he is "an able young editor, whose career has acquainted him with important public issues."

All of them are running on the Socialist program and will speak on behalf of the workers in serving on the City Council.

After voting the Socialist candidate in your borough as your first choice, by writing the number 1 in front of his name on the paper ballot, vote the candidate of the American Labor Party as your second, third and fourth choices. A strong Socialist and Labor bloc in the council can make New York a city for the workers.

In this campaign, the Socialist Party is cooperating with the American Labor Party. While it does not approve of the practice of the ALP in endorsing old party candidates in some instances, the Socialist Party believes that the trade unionists of this city are started on the road to independent political action. Socialists want a labor party, and will help in the task of building one.

In the interest of building a labor party, the Socialist Party is cooperating with the ALP. It has refused to endorse the candidate of that party for mayor because of his connection with the Republican Party, but in deference to the wishes of an organization that has begun the march to independence by nominating scores of independent candidates, the Socialist Party has withdrawn its candidate for mayor, and through its comradely criticism

and in the spirit of working class solidarity, it is helping the ALP achieve the growth that is essential.

The independent candidates of the American Labor Party have been placed on the Socialist ticket, with the result that Tammany has been terrified by the prospect of the election of the joint candidates of the two parties. As a result, through the Board of Elections, the reactionaries have attempted to rule the names of such candidates as Isidor Nagler, running for the Bronx Borough President, off the ballot. The matter is now before the courts, and it is confidently expected that the workers' parties will be successful, defending their designees.

Your straight Socialist vote this year will have more meaning than ever before. It will be your instrument for electing the independent candidates of labor; it will be your means of demonstrating your desire for the complete independence of labor from the old parties; it will be the method by which you assert your desire for the application of Socialist principles to municipal government.

In addition, through proportional representation you can achieve the great victory of electing Socialists to the council—Dr. Harry W. Laidler in Brooklyn, S. John Block in Manhattan and Aaron Levenstein in the Bronx.

A Socialist victory in New York will be a victory for workers throughout the country. Vote straight Socialist!

Class Lines Clear in N. J. Fight

NEWARK, N.J.—The Socialist Party of New Jersey is entering the final drive in its campaign behind Henry Jager, candidate for Governor.

With the class lines drawn clearly—for the Democratic candidate is Boss Frank Hague's errand boy, A. Harry Moore, and the Republican nominee is Lester Clee, exponent of "economical" government in traditional Republican fashion—the Socialists have directed their appeal to the working class to "vote labor by voting Socialist."

The role of the Communist Party has been an amusing one. Hesitating and perplexed, it finally decided it could not endorse Clee, who is now allied with the discredited Governor Hoffman.

This step was taken only when Labor's Non-Partisan League, which had given a tentative endorsement to Clee, adopted a hands-off attitude in the election because of the anti-labor stand of the Republican State Convention.

The Socialist Party expressed its pleasure at the Non-Partisan League's refusal to endorse a capitalist candidate in a letter from Helmut Suchomel, State Secretary to Carl Holderman, head of the League.

Socialist Candidates

New York City

ASSOCIATE JUDGE, COURT OF APPEALS
MARION SEVERN

COMPTROLLER
FRANK R. CROSSWAITH

PRESIDENT, CITY COUNCIL
MURRAY BARON

PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
JACK ALTMAN

PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF KINGS
DAVID M. CORY

PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF BRONX
ISIDOR NAGLER

PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF QUEENS
LEONARD LAZARUS

PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF RICHMOND
ZEKOR ANTONSEN

Vote for These Candidates and Your Local Socialist Candidates!
Vote Straight Socialist!

PICKET BRITISH CONSUL

The Tory Government of Great Britain has been acting as prime mover among the democratic capitalist powers of the world in levying an embargo against the Spanish Government. This policy of "non-intervention" has been a source of power to Franco, who continues to get aid from Italy and Germany, while it has seriously weakened the Spanish anti-fascists.

The imperialist rulers of Great Britain have made deal after deal with Hitler and Mussolini and are preparing even now to make another deal with them at the expense of Spain, and possibly, Russia.

American workers have demonstrated their hatred of Hitler and Mussolini rule, especially their war against the Spanish masses.

It is high time to register vigorous protest against the "democratic" imperialism of Britain's Tories.

On October 30th, New York workers are called upon to picket the British Consulate. This action, which is being organized by the Socialist Party of New York, is to take place at 1 P. M. The consulate is located on 5th Ave. at 50th Street.

France and England Seek Four-Power Pact Against Soviet

By Gus Tyler

France and England are preparing to make another "deal" with Germany and Italy in the non-intervention committee on Spain, and are threatening to isolate the Soviet Union from a European pact should the Russians object to the deal.

Although the Soviet Union was claiming a victory over the Italian pirates at the recent Nyon Conference, subsequent developments make it appear that Russia is once more being made the goat of British diplomacy.

Italian piracy was not halted by the Nyon agreement, which winked at the culprit by making the pirate Mussolini one of the police force to arrest himself. Late this week, two attacks were made upon France by unknown assailants:

(1) The French steamship Oued Mellah, on its way from French Morocco to Port Vendres, France, with a cargo of wheat, was sunk by an airplane on the high seas, fifty miles east of Barcelona, Spain, on the direct line of French communications to Africa. The crew were saved by French destroyers which responded to its SOS call.

(2) An airplane attacked the Air France mail plane base in the Bay of Fornells, on the Island of Minorca, held by the Spanish loyalists. The French dispatch boat No. 91 was burned by incendiary bullets and Spanish loyalist reports alleged that the airplane pursued fleeing civilians to the countryside, machine-gunning them.

Such incidents, which would ordinarily precipitate an international war, are being slighted by France and Britain. Both these powers—fearing a decisive defeat of Franco in Spain such as would hasten a working class revolution—have been groping for some compromise agreement with Italy and Germany on the basis of a Spanish capitalist regime which would safeguard the imperialist interest of the four great powers.

The Italian Demand
Italian resistance to any compromise brought international tension to the breaking point last week. The wily Mussolini released the tension by expressing a willingness to withdraw volunteers from Spain. Although the Soviet Union hastened to claim a diplomatic victory, the Fascist powers were quick to turn their apparent concession to their advantage.

As price for withdrawal, Italy demands recognition of Franco and a grant of belligerent rights to his regime. This would put Franco and the Loyalist Government on an international parity and would entitle the Insurgents to all channels of international aid.

Simultaneously, Italy holds out for a withdrawal of troops on a man for man basis. This would again benefit Franco who has more volunteers to start with.

The Soviet Union—which has made it a policy to oppose the policies of capitalist Britain—has signified its readiness to abide by such a settlement. Italy demands, however, that the plan get unanimous endorsement. The Soviet Union is called upon to give its pledge for an active enforcement of the Spanish "sell out."

The Italian demand now finds British and French backing. Ferdinand Kuhn reports through the New York Times that "the French, for their part, are ready to go ahead without Russia." Charles



America's ambassador-at-large to the Nine Power Conference, Norman H. Davis. This former New York banker is known as the brain of Wall Street, as well as its mouthpiece in matters of foreign diplomacy. Is this the man who is going to save the oppressed Chinese from the aggressions of capitalist imperialism?

Corbin, French emissary at the Non-Intervention Committee received instructions not to insist on the unanimity rule. "The British likewise would be prepared in a last resort to take a decision without Russia."

The Anti-Soviet Bloc
In the background of these events, is the constant leaning of Britain toward a Four Power Pact. Ever since Hitler's reoccupation of the Ruhr, Britain has been ready to buy off Hitler by organizing a Western European Peace Agreement that would exclude the Soviet Union.

The attempts of the Soviet Union to outwit capitalist diplomacy at its own game have proven to be a sorry mess. The Franco-Soviet Pact is a dead letter. Its original purpose—to encircle Germany—is today further from realization than ever.

The many concessions that the Soviet Union has made to the democratic imperialist countries have not gained real allies for the workers' state. The French capitalist class has taken advantage of the Communist readiness to support the war-machine to go ahead with a "popular" militarization program. British capital has used the Soviet Union as a cat's paw in Spain to crush the revolutionary aspects of the struggle against Franco.

Now that the international working class base of Soviet strength—the revolutionary movement outside Russia—has been seriously weakened, France and Britain prepare to throw Russia to the mercies of the Fascist powers.

The Soviet Union is today in a most precarious position: having weakened its international working class base it must either (1) capitulate or (2) be isolated.

Capitulation will not aid the Soviet Union. Capitulation today can only strengthen international reaction and make it even more difficult for the Soviet Union in the future.

The isolation which begins to surround the Soviet Union is not the result of faulty diplomacy; it is the position into which a working class state is naturally forced in a capitalist world. No amount of kow-towing to Britain and France will fundamentally change that.

Flint Labor See Liberal In Action

By Genora Johnson

William Palmer, Michigan State Senator from Flint, is resigning to enter private business. Workers of the auto state are rejoicing at this move of the "liberal Roosevelt Democrat" who was going to the state capitol to "represent the working man and his interests."

All the liberal and progressive organizations in Flint spouted eulogies about this same Palmer before his election. The most liberal section of the local YMCA devised a play, and presented it to its members, in which Mr. Palmer appeared as the chief actor advising those in trouble how to remedy the rampant evils of our civilization, and telling them how local conditions could and should be bettered.

So, after much ballyhoo by the liberals, Mr. Palmer was finally sent to Lansing by the autoworkers, who were then suffering under terrible shop conditions.

And then the CIO came into the auto industry, and the workers, knowing full well that industrial unionism was the answer to their labor problems, organized and fought for their rights.

But what did their hero do to help them in this, their hour of need? He raved and ranted and denounced the agitators and reds of the union, and ended up by becoming the author of the bill to outlaw sit-down strikes . . . making it a felony and crime with the maximum penalty a prison sentence for participants! This was called "the Palmer method" of helping labor.

The Socialists of Flint want to take this opportunity to point out to the workers—not only auto workers, but all workers—that Mr. Palmer is only one of many thousands of capitalist politicians who are labor's friend—during the voting days—and then serve the interests of the bosses of their capitalist-owned parties after they are safely in office.

We don't want our "friends" in office. We want our fellow workers in office, who know our needs, our poverty, our misery, and our problems—because they have been a part of it all. We want the workers, who are the majority, to run the government for the majority instead of the powerful minority . . . the capitalists.

Detroit workers are waking up and voting labor. Organized, we have won victory after victory on the economic field—thru our labor unions. We are eliminating deplorable working conditions. Now we must enter into the political arena, and clean the deplorable mess that allows workers and their families to starve and freeze during man-made depressions. And we will!

Problems of Democracy In the Trade Unions

(This is the first of a series of articles on the problem of union democracy. Various rulings in unions, hampering full democratic practices, make the problem of a most pressing character.)

(Next week, the CALL will deal with trade union democracy means of preparing the masses for self-government.)

IN PERIODS of organization, trade unions draw on the deepest reservoirs of working class energy. Every last worker is called upon to participate in

actions of the union, to agitate, picket, risk his life and limb for his organization.

Such struggles bring out the idealism of trade unions. The ingenuity, courage and heroism of the ranks are constantly tapped.

The union's activities, in these periods, reflect very sharply the pressing needs, the burning indignation and the militant power of the rank-and-file.

After the storm comes the period of business-like administration.

The problem of trade union democracy becomes most pressing in the post-organizational period. After the storm comes the period of business-like administration.

THE CONSERVATIVE ERA

WORKERS who were propelled to the forefront of the strike tend to withdraw from active participation in the period of normal trade relations.

These workers tend to leave the business of the union in the hands of the officials. Less and less do the ranks display the initiative and drive of the strike period; and more and more are decisions handed down from above.

The trade union officials tend to grow out of contact with the affairs of the members in the shops. Only by indirection can the union officers feel the pressures that are brought to bear down upon the man or woman in the shop. The multiple horrors of a little wage cut, the agonies of lengthening hours, the indignities of the boss are not felt as directly and as keenly by the official who has divorced himself from the workbench.

Not all officials grow callous. Those who have principles and

ideals, who have an understanding of the exploiting character of capitalism and have therefore voted themselves to the struggle to overthrow the boss, are less apt to grow hard-hearted and rose to the top—in a period of personal fight for better conditions, can grow tough, bureaucratic, very quickly.

But trade union officials, whether they be hard or soft, will only pursue a true working class course if they are made to hear the constant voice of the rank-and-file. The leadership will be incessantly subjected to pressures from the ranks. The officialdom learns about and presses the needs of the rank-and-file only as they on top are made to realize the demands of the rank-and-file.

GUARANTEE DEMOCRACY

NO single individual or little group of individuals can long administer a union contrary to the interests of the membership if the rank-and-file insist upon expressing its demands in a vigorous manner.

The only guarantee for trade union democracy is the vigilance of the membership; the basis for trade union bureaucracy is the laxity of the membership.

It would be a sad mistake for the workers who are today being organized so rapidly into unions under militant leadership, to imagine that they can now place complete faith in this leadership and leave all problems to it. Precisely out of such blind faith is a bureaucratic trade union machine built.

A good trade union leader is one who is glad to see his membership constantly checking up on him, who is anxious to awaken the most lively interests of the masses in the administration and policies of the union, who welcomes every expression of rank-and-file initiative even if it is not always correct.

Trade union democracy is as important to workers as hours and wages, dollars and cents, overtime and shop conditions. The gains that workers make are not permanent. The bosses bide their time and finally seek to wipe out whatever concessions the workers have won. Where democracy has been wiped out in a union, where the affairs of a union have been entrusted solely to desk sitting officeholders grown out of contact with the membership free from rank-and-file pressures, the union can react only slowly to the needs of the workers in the shop.

It is in a period of quiet—when workers feel that everything is rosy—that bureaucratism sets in. It is in this period, too, that intelli-

gent and enlightened workers will make every effort to keep every channel of trade union democracy open.

Workers must not be lulled into believing that because the union agreement is not so bad because the boys on top are best that they can afford to forget the principles of democracy. Surrender democratic rights is to make it more difficult to defend economic rights later.

MISSOURI

St. Louis, Mo.—Local St. Louis expelled Thayer Burbank and expelled Saunders for affiliation with the activities of the "Appeal" publication and organization which have been as an opposition sect to the Socialist Party. Thayer Burbank is automatically removed as state secretary which position he had withdrawn and refused to fill the functions of his office in transmission of dues collections to national office for some time.

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS AT 4
Come to the Village Branch
COCKTAIL PARTY
107 MacDougal Street, N. Y. C.

WATCH THE WRAPPER

on your copy of the Socialist Call. If the number on lower left of this notice, any number less than number appears on wrapper, it means that subscription has expired. Renew immediately.

136 EXPIRED! RENEW NOW!

Communist Error in Spain

Again Postponed for POUM Leader

By Sam Baron

France (via Queen Mary) Caballero forces in the UGT a majority of at least 250,000. This cannot be disputed since the Communist controlled press permitted that claim to be out of Spain through the foreign press.

Caballero, authoritative sources claim, represents over 1,000,000 in the UGT and has the confidence of the estimated 2,000,000 in the CNT-FAI (Syndicalist movements). Also the loyal support of 29 Socialists in the Cortes against the 33 at present supporting Prieto and Negrin.

The Socialist youth are expected to break away from the Communist controlled youth movement within the next few weeks. Latest developments resulting from the Communist campaign to terrorize and exterminate all political opposition to the left:

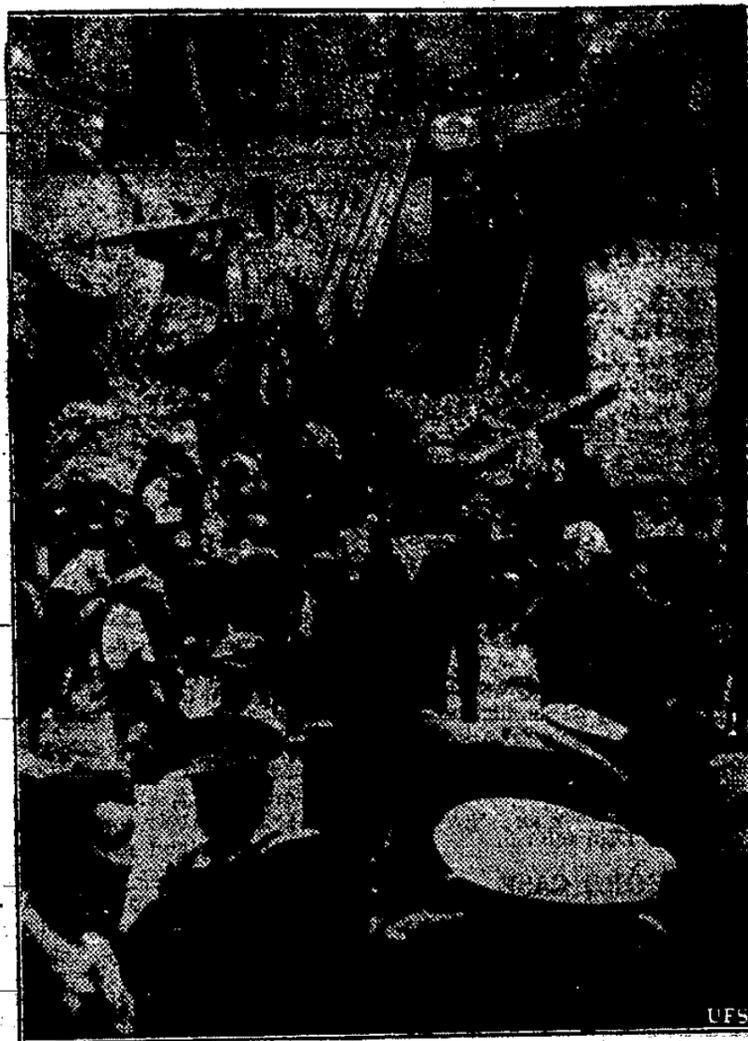
Benito Pabon, chief defense attorney of the imprisoned POUM leaders, Gorkin, Andrade, Bonet, and Escuder, was reported in Barcelona, refusing to return to Spain unless given guarantees by the Negrin Government that he would be protected against the Communist unofficial Cheka operating in various provinces. It is reported that he justified this unusual request by citing the arrest of his associate counsels, Barriero and Rusinol in Catalonia. The authorities there claim it was a "collective arrest" it is alleged.

Identically, Pabon is Presidente de la Comision Aesora Juridica, (advisor to the government on legislation of laws) and also is the Aragoza deputy to the Cortes. Trial date has yet to be set for the indicted POUM leaders. The reason attributed for this is the insistence of the Government on an open trial and the demand of the Communists—the real prosecutors—for a closed trial. Observers are amused at this since the Communists have been screaming for weeks that they can prove that these men are "direct agents of Franco and International Fascism."

The Government has not been convinced, evidently, as they have reduced 50 rank and file Proumists on October 5th.

Isa Wolf, with whom I constantly associated in Madrid, well-

Ruins in Barcelona



A search for crushed children in the homes of Catalonian citizens after a Fascist air raid.

known Social Democrat and militant Socialist and now a refugee from Nazi Germany, has fallen from grace with the Communists and has been accused by them of being a "Fascist Spy." I am happy to hear that the Socialist Party officially has taken up her defense. Isa is a loyal militant socialist, working day and night in Madrid as reporter and journalist for Claridad, as director of Radio Station UGT and escort to the front line trenches of many of the visitors to Madrid.

Gabriel Moron, Director of Public Safety and former Governor of Almeria Province, resigned—some say in disgust—after the disappearance and likely murder of Andres Nin, Proum leader.

The Caballero forces are firmly convinced that the majority of fascists imprisoned or shot as spies held Communist Party cards at the time of their arrest; a list of these prisoners requested has yet to be furnished.

One item the Communists have been unable to suppress... early in May a huge spy ring was discovered in Madrid and who do you think was the leader—none other than Lujan, right-hand man of General Miaja member of the Communist Party!

The Russian Ambassadors to Spain have created quite a deal of talk here; Marcel Rosenberg, recalled some time ago, is reported

to have been jailed because he wasn't more efficient in exterminating the POUM. The present Ambassador, some time ago returned to Russia, causing Spaniards to wonder why Russia has no Ambassador in Spain through these hectic days.

President Azana is reported to have expressed his anger with those carrying on the campaign against Caballero.

Ed Parker Case Postponed

By Bernard Kirby
CAIRO, Ill.—The trial of Ed Parker, militant Workers Alliance organizer, has again been postponed.

The cause for the latest postponement is the fact that a number of the candidates on the Republican ticket here are Negroes, and the local political leaders fear the unrest which would be caused among the Negro population, which is firmly behind the Workers Alliance, would seriously complicate the November elections.

Charles Edward Robel, Jr., 1916-1937

To The Comrades of The CALL:

I am enclosing an editorial from the Lewiston Daily Tribune as comment on the death of my son, Charles Edward, Jr.

Though we are suffering with grief and life seems a burden and unbearable, I feel he would wish us to carry on so that we will have international Socialism and lives in the future will be more secure and livable.

I am sending \$5 currency to aid the CALL. You may send sub cards if you wish.

Fraternally,
C. E. ROBEL, SR.

"He Found No Peace"

"The little world war in Spain seemed less impersonal and less distant when you read yesterday that, among its dead, was a young man from Lewiston.

"Lewiston people who were acquainted with Edward Robel considered him a youth of more than ordinary intelligence, sincere and unassuming, a serious student whose thinking was along liberal lines and who believed that problems which beset the world cannot be solved without a profound modification of our whole social-economic order.

"In the community at large he perhaps was best known as an able member of the student debate teams which represented the Lewiston normal.

"Now word comes that Edward Robel is dead at 21, in faraway Spain. He died a soldier's death, wounded in battle while fighting for the loyalist government against the rebel legions of General Franco and the mercenaries from fascist lands.

"Why did he do this thing he knew was so dangerous? It wasn't Edward Robel's war,

and he entered it voluntarily, with full recognition of the consequences. He was under no obligations to help save an unknown, foreign people who had gotten themselves into this trouble.

"Yet Edward Robel considered it was his war, not for a personal interest in the people of Spain but because, in their battle against fascism, he saw the battle of all democratic forms of government against the oligarchy of fascism.

"You may not agree with the advanced economic and social views held by this young man from Lewiston. You may feel that his act was foolhardy, a daring and futile gesture of youth. You may hold these opinions, yet you also must admire and respect this unselfish devotion to an ideal which he was prepared to defend to the death.

"Edward Robel forgot himself in what he considered the common weal. He gave the last full measure of devotion and died for others."

—from the Lewiston, Idaho, Morning Tribune.

Christian Council Approves Japan Boycott by Labor

I have just attended the meeting of the executive committee of the "United Christian Council for Democracy" in New York, where I was glad to see copies of the SOCIALIST CALL snapped up by the members in happy fashion.

Some of the remarks that were made at the meeting seem to me to be of interest and significance. "As it becomes clear that our economic system is unable to insure the security and moderate abundance to all our people in spite of an increasingly efficient technical process, it is necessary to challenge and change the nature of the system itself" was a statement which received general acceptance.

Much stress is to be laid on education of the middle class and also on workers education by the Council, in cooperation with labor action to safeguard the growth of a militant labor movement.

The letter of comrade Devere Allen on Neutrality and the Far Eastern situation in the Oct. 23 issue of The CALL which was distributed to the meeting of the Council, makes the following resolution which we passed of significance:

"In urging the members of our churches and the broad masses of the American people to unite in putting a People's Boycott against Japan into immediate effect, we wish to affirm our solidarity with those people in Japan who have resisted the present policies of their government, as well as with the AF of L, the CIO and other American groups who have taken action similar to our own.

"We are aware of the gross injustices of which other nations (including our own) have been guilty in the past. We also realize that through such a boycott we will impose even greater burdens on the Japanese people. For them

we assert our genuine friendship. We believe, however, that a policy of violent economic frustration—whether in the Orient or elsewhere—will even further jeopardize the security and peace of Japan and the entire world.

"There remains no other recourse. Our condemnation of economic imperialism must be implemented with effective, peaceful action.

"Knowing full well the danger to international peace in an official governmental boycott, we do not ask for such a policy. We ask, rather, for an unofficial boycott, a nation-wide policy of non-cooperation; a refusal to purchase Japanese goods and a denial of aid and comfort to fascist aggression."

This action by a leading left-wing religious group shows a willingness to reject reliance on the Neutrality legislation, realizing full well that such action as may be taken under this legislation is likely to lead to American participation in war.

Another very significant resolution concerned the specific task of church groups, which are largely middle-class. This read:

"Since capitalism, by its very nature, is reducing the middle class to the same economic level as the working class, it will be our task to educate the middle class and expose more and more members of the middle class to action on behalf of and in cooperation with labor groups."

Those present, and those they represent, in the Various Protestant denominations, are resolved to become modern pioneers in becoming active in various labor situations in our own community.

Spanish Revolutionists Greet Socialists in U. S.

Mr. Gus Tyler, Editor, Socialist CALL,

I have been in constant touch with Sam Baron during his stay in Paris, and I had the occasion of seeing the various articles your paper has published in defence of the Spanish revolutionary workers and of the POUM comrades in particular.

The Executive Committee of the POUM wishes me to express to you, to your paper, and to the Socialist Party of America, our sincere appreciation for all you have done to publicize the unbelievable situation now existing in Spain. We trust your regard for justice, together with your Marxian analysis, will urge you to continue reporting the true facts about Spain.

I wish to thank personally the Socialist Party, and Mr. Thomas in particular, for the negotiations carried on in favor of my husband, Jose Escuder, who was arrested in spite of the fact that the Executive Committee of the POUM formally announced that as Managing Editor of "La Batalla," he had no political responsibility and was considered as a technician in the making of the newspaper.

WITH COMRADELY GREETINGS,
AMERICA ESCUDER.

PARIS, FRANCE

THE SOCIALIST CALL

Official Organ Socialist Party U.S.A.
Published every Saturday by The Call Press, Inc. Address all communications to The Socialist Call, 21 East 17th St., New York City.
Telephone: GRamercy 5-8779

By subscription: \$1.50 a year; \$1 for six months. Foreign, \$2 a year.
Special rates for bundle orders and club subscriptions.

Editor: August Tyler Business Manager: John Newton Thurber

EDITORIAL BOARD

Jack Altman, Sam Baron, Robert Nelson, Herbert Zam

Saturday, Oct. 30, 1937 No. 136

FREE SCOTTSBORO BOYS

The petition of Haywood Patterson, one of the Scottsboro boys, for a fair trial has been denied by the United States Supreme Court.

In all progressive circles, the fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys—for a decent trial free from prejudice—has been one of the salients in the struggle against Bourbon conservatism in the American Southland.

The action of the Supreme Court is a blow to civil liberties in America.

It is not so long ago that the reactionary press in America raised a hue and cry against the seating of Hugo L. Black on the Supreme Court bench because of his Klan affiliation. We found ourselves, strangely, in agreement with them—Black should not have been permitted to take his seat. We opposed Black because we hate race prejudice in all forms—not merely when to protest against Klanism is a means to embarrass Roosevelt. We want to see the same reactionary press that protested Black's appointment raise its voice in protest again—against the Supreme Court decision.

We have no illusions—from that camp we expect silence!

But what of the liberals, who took various attitudes toward Black's appointment, who have been hailing the new liberal trend of the Supreme Court?

We were told that Black had reformed. And how? Black refuses to do what any real liberal would have done—state a minority opinion on the case of Haywood Patterson. Black refuses to sit in this case.

Can we look forward to a great "liberal" journalist campaign to free the Scottsboro boys? Can we expect a relentless struggle against the Supreme Court? Can we expect an opinion from the



No single voice carries greater weight in the United States than that of President Roosevelt. Shall we hear it demanding justice for the Scottsboro boys?

great humanitarian in the White House on this question?

No doubt, some sticklers for technicalities will tell us that some tangle of the law made it impossible to hear the case.

One thing the last few years have taught us: no legal tangle is too knotted if the smart gentlemen on the Supreme Court bench really want to untie it.

They have been able to find reasons for and against government intervention in industry, for and against regulation of agriculture, for and against control of prices, for and against supervision of labor conditions. They can find reasons for and against hearing the Patterson case—depending upon their political prejudices.

The case is not yet dead. There will be further attempts to reopen the hearing.

The Supreme Court will listen if the cry is loud enough.

The Socialist Party and the SOCIALIST CALL have not given up the fight. Those who wish to continue this battle must join us and right why must aid us in our struggle.

Your voice is our voice in this. And our collective strength depends in no small part on the power of our press. If you want to help the struggle for racial equality send your donations to the SOCIALIST CALL—now!

AT THE FRONT



With *Woman in the Case*

Let the economists who accept the profit system quarrel as they like about the particular causes and probable consequences of the dramatic stock market slump which has wiped out 25 billion dollars worth of nominal value.

Let them consider also the even greater portent of a business index which has dropped steadily for nine weeks, and of a steel industry down to a little over fifty per cent of capacity production. Whatever else is true, it is clear that these phenomena show the inability of our capitalist system to solve its own vital problems.

It is not the conspiracy, the stupidity or the wickedness of individual men which is primarily responsible for what is happening. It is the system itself, which has not been fundamentally changed by any New Deal reform.

SCOTTSBORO CASE

It is the system itself in its political as well as its economic aspect which lies behind the tragic failure of justice. It is a fact that the all powerful Supreme Court could find no legal grounds to upset the shocking miscarriage of justice in the Scottsboro case while in Florida the State prostituted its legal system to the service of the Ku Klux Klan, the corrupt Democratic Party machine, and the employing interests, and let the murderers of Joseph Shoemaker get scot free.

It is the system itself in its nationalistic as well as its capitalist aspects which lies behind both fascism with its aggression and the ever present menace of war. Clearly it is the primary duty of socialists to bring home these truths to the great mass of workers and in addition to propose ways for building a constructive socialism with plenty, peace and freedom for all.

All these events which show the inadequacy and worse of the Deal will have an effect, as yet hard to calculate, upon the process of building a genuine farmer-labor party, not a mere progressive or third capitalist party. Such a party is infinitely to be desired in America. Of itself it will not do the work of a militant, aggressive, intelligent and constructive socialism, but it will be an invaluable tool for socialist use.

Disappointing as is the record of the British Labor Party in many respects, a record which has been changed for the better at least in respect to the Constitution of the Party at its last Convention, no sane and thoughtful man in England, no matter how far he may be to the left, wants to break up that party. He wants to improve it. The I.L.P. seeks to return to it. Socialism in Great Britain which fails to act vigorously and successfully within a labor party can scarcely be expected to act vigorously and successfully without it. That is why here in America the beginnings, even the imperfect beginnings, of a labor party movement are so important.

THE DETROIT ELECTION

My visit to Detroit gave me a good deal of confidence not only in the numerical showing that the labor state will make in the municipal election but in the growth of feeling for a genuine labor party. Our socialists have done well in the way in which they have cooperated with this labor state. In any event, whatever the results in November, the problem will still be ahead of building out of the growing sense of labor solidarity in Detroit a proper labor

party not only for Detroit and Michigan but for the nation.

Here in New York City the worst thing that could happen to decent labor unionism, to say nothing of the building of a good labor party, would be the triumph of the Democratic machine.

Workers who consider that the Democratic Party as such is a party of any kind of progressivism are asked to remember the simple fact that the corrupt city machines of Chicago, Kansas City, Jersey City, etc., are Democratic; that the corrupt, and tyrannical state and city machines in Florida, Arkansas, and the rest of the solid South are Democratic. And after they have remembered that, let them look at the sort of campaign Jerry Mahoney and his allies, including Senator Wagner, are waging here in New York.

They stand for no principles and no program. Their stock in trade is mendacious abuse of their opponents and the stupidest but most dangerous sort of red-baiting. If this Democratic machine gets power in the City Hall, in District Attorneys' offices, and the courts, inevitably it will mean the return of the racketeer and gangster and their alliance with certain elements typified by a man like Joe Ryan of the Longshoremen in the labor movement.

These racketeers will all have their connections and their protection from the Democratic Party office holders. The rule of special privilege will return. And many workers in despair will be tempted again to seek by favor a small part of that which they should be organized to take by right.

THE ALP

That is why socialist cooperation with the American Labor Party is so important. That is why I rejoice at the real progress made. We shall be better able to do the work we have to do because of better relations with the A.L.P., and because we have not fought against their candidate for Mayor who at the worst offers the workers so much that is better than the Democratic machine.

We are better able to get a hearing for constructive criticism, of LaGuardia's mistakes in word and deed and for our insistence that the future of a genuine labor party demands that it shake itself loose of old party alliances and deals. In all this we have not compromised socialism. We have kept it from liquidation in sectarian isolation.

I repeat that we have not condoned or over-emphasized LaGuardia's mistakes, such as his endorsement of a Harvey in Queens, or of a Bruce Barton for Congress in Manhattan. Such mistakes are inherent in deals with the old parties such as the A.L.P. has tolerated. We have said that the remedy for these things must be found in the workers themselves and in the organization and standards which they set up and maintain.

In particular we have said that it was of the utmost importance to put a bloc of socialist and A.L.P. Councilmen in the first Council to be chosen under proportional representation. That bloc headed by men like Harry

Laidler and S. John Block can untold service not only to New York City but to the nation to the development of the right sort of a labor party.

But because we have urged the importance of the election these Councilmen we have not forgotten to talk about our platform, and about the vital importance of voting the socialist ticket straight. We have not forgotten, as I can testify from speeches I have listened to, many a corner, to hold up socialism as the hope, not alone chiefly of municipal government but of the whole wide world.

To the candidates, to the working Party officials, and the Jimmy Higginses must go appreciation of the kind of campaign they have waged under a cult, with meager financial resources, fired by the courage of the hope of socialism.

Congratulations to Kenosha Labor on instituting a campaign for a million signatures to a petition from workers asking peace between the C.I.O. and A. F. of Personal feelings and vested rights must not stand in the way of unity of the workers. But the principle of aggressive industrial unionism must be preserved.

Speaking of Wisconsin matter congratulations also to the socialists of Milwaukee for the successful housing conference which they have instituted with Max Raskas as chairman, Clarence Senior as Secretary, and the cooperation of a great many labor and other groups.

BLACK

Just why Judge Hugo Black was so scrupulous in refraining from participating in the Supreme Court action in rejecting the Scottsboro appeal, I don't know. Maybe he wanted to preserve his unbroken record of silence on a case of primary importance to a genuine liberal. There is nothing left except to bring the heaviest sort of pressure to bear on the Governor of Alabama. He must realize how completely his state has given away its own case by releasing four of the boys on the same evidence on which Patterson is sentenced to death and the others to virtual life imprisonment. The Scottsboro boys must be released in the name of justice, not mercy.

In the death of Fred Whittaker of Arden, Delaware, twice a Party candidate for Governor of his state, we have all sustained a great loss. Our especially sympathy must go to his family and to the comrades of his state.

BRANCH DIRECTORY

RATES: 3 lines, 25c. 5 cents per additional line.
Minimum 1 Month.
Deadline: Monday at 2 P.M.

- MANHATTAN
- VILLAGE BRANCH meets every Thurs. night at 107 MacDougal St. Ellen Loeb, Sec'y. 303 West 4th St. Open discussion last Thursday every month.
- GERMAN Branch. Meets second Tuesday of each month during summer. Yorkville Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th St. G. Hoffman, Organizer
- Chelsea Br. Meets every Wed. at 12 West 24th St. Victoria Hakin, Sec'y.
- BRONX
- 8TH A.D. Meets every Wed. 7 West Burnside Ave. Roberta Sugarman, Sec'y.
- DETROIT
- BRANCH ONE meets every Wednesday. 8P. M., 1110 West Warren.

Roosevelt "Prosperity" Cracks As Capitalist Cycle Dips Down Again

By John Newton Thurber

The Stock Market is breaking.

For the last ten weeks the prices of shares have been dropping drastically.

On two days days week the turnover in the market was of panic proportions. More different kinds of shares were sold on Tuesday, October 18, than on any previous day in stock market history. Out of 1044 stocks traded in that day, 937 were sold at new lows.

In ten weeks the 'stock' market prices (N.Y. Times' weighted average of 50 stocks) has declined from a high of 143 to a low of 86.

The stock market has been declining since November 11, 1936. At that time, Roosevelt Prosperity reached its peak.

The severe drop in the stock market indicates to American workers the thinness of Roosevelt prosperity.

It warns them that a new depression is at hand.

It was almost exactly eight years ago when the stock market broke, in October, 1929. That break heralded the Hoover depression.

This break is marking the end of what has been called "Roosevelt Prosperity." It heralds the beginning of Roosevelt's Depression.

For Roosevelt, no more than Hoover, is unable to halt the inexorable recurrence of prosperity and depression which is an absolute and irrevocable feature of the capitalist system.

Roosevelt Prosperity

Roosevelt's prosperity has been unlike any previous period of capitalist prosperity.

In previous depressions piled-up capital found an outlet in some great new industry in America—railroads, steel, autos, radio—where new investments could be made and purchasing power put into the hands of the working masses.

In previous depressions piled-up capital found an outlet in foreign investments, building up new industries, sources of raw materials, new markets, in the "backward nations" of South and Central America, Africa and Asia—and even Europe.

No such outlet has been found for capital during this "prosperity."

No new industry was developed. Little investment and less employment could be found through the repeal of prohibition or through air-conditioning, the two new industries which were groomed.

Instead of pushing forward, America's proportion of foreign investment has fallen back in many fields before the rude advances of Japan.

American capitalism proved itself unable to achieve recovery unaided. The steady march of science and invention has produced so many labor-saving devices that comparatively full production has been attained with but little reemployment.

7,500,000 Unemployed

Unemployment continued to stand at a minimum of 7,500,000 in the best of Roosevelt prosperity.

Private industry has been unable to put purchasing power into the hands of American workers through its own unaided operations.

Private capital could not find a profitable or even safe field for investment. Any measure of restoration of mass purchasing power in America since 1933 has been through government operation.

The pressure of mass unem-

ployed, of mass foreclosures, of mass bankruptcies, forced Roosevelt to step in. Government mobilization of credit and subsidization of the unemployed masses saved the day for the capitalists.

CWA and PWA and WPA were the new industries which put some measure of purchasing power into the hands of American workers.

Direct aid to the unemployed placed a backlog behind American labor so that the AFL and the CIO could go forward demanding higher wages and shorter hours without fear of the huge standing army of the unemployed standing at the gates of the factories.

HOLC and FHA and RFC mobilized credit to save home owners, insurance companies and banks from bankruptcies.

Private capitalists stood by, eagerly absorbing the purchasing power which government was mobilizing for the consumers into their insatiable maws through the working of the profit system.

Banks which would not risk their piled-up credit in private industry were willing to turn it to the government where it was felt to be more secure.

With the restoration of confidence and the gains of strength, the capitalists turned on Roosevelt. "They demanded a halt to 'Government spending.'" They demanded an end to the only thing which has saved their hides.

Roosevelt, capitalist politician, has heeded their demands. He has had to do so because the government's ability to mobilize further credit is approaching a limit. Government borrowing has already passed \$40,000,000,000. It cannot go much farther without becoming in reality a capital levy—such as was forced on Mussolini last week.

The Break

With his re-election secured in November, 1936, Roosevelt was forced to start tearing away those very governmental agencies which have built this strange "prosperity."

The day after election the first WPA cuts were announced.

The day after election the first PWA cuts were announced.

It is no coincidence that on November 11, 1936, the stock market was reaching its highest point.

For the stock market then reflected the profit-prospects of the various corporations. The cutting away of purchasing power from the masses through WPA and PWA curtailment started to eliminate the consuming market. The prospects for profit have been lessening ever since.

A business recession has set in. In industry after industry, stagnation has appeared. Orders have not come in this season. Buyers aren't there.

In the fur industry, in the clothing industry and in many other lines, this has become apparent.

Steel, the heart of American industry, despite pseudo-enthusiastic press releases, reports a sharp decline in output to 56 per cent of plant capacity.

Why?

Roosevelt Economy

The government has ceased to mobilize capital.

Roosevelt is seeking the balanced budget. \$2,000,000,000 less is being spent this year by government than was spent last year. \$1,000,000,000 less was borrowed by government since last May than in the same months last year.

Private business has failed to take over. It too has borrowed less, since there are not now opportunities to produce consumers' goods at a profit, and in turn there is no further need to produce producer's goods, since the ultimate profit is disappearing.

The basis of American recovery was governmental mobilization of credit to put purchasing power into the hands of the masses. When Roosevelt sought to balance the budget he eliminated the basis of his prosperity.

This week PWA announced that no new projects are to be approved. WPA cuts have already reached deeply. HOLC has been frozen. Purchasing power is no longer being placed in the hands of the masses.

Business is receding rapidly. Profits are disappearing.

The strange Roosevelt prosperity nears its end.

The stock market is crumbling. It may make speculative gains and little booms. But its basis is being wiped out. A new depression, more severe than any which has passed, lies ahead of the workers. Capitalism works this way inexorably.

Only some restoration of government subsidy of purchasing power, which is limited as to possible extent, or a World War, (which the capitalists may resort to), can give even temporary relief.

The risks to the capitalists of a world war are great, and the capitalists hesitate to embark in that direction if it can be avoided.

But, in either case—temporary recovery through government aid or war, or a new depression—the brunt will be borne by the workers. And the workers alone have the power to band together to eliminate the system which saddles these hardships on their backs.

MARYLAND

The Maryland Socialist Party held its annual convention in Baltimore on October 17th. A new Constitution, based upon that of the national party was adopted and a State Executive Committee, was elected consisting of Comrades Gilman, Bernstein, Elder, Peppel, Winterstein, Horak, Tucker and Eymann. Yet to be elected is a representative from the local YPSL Comrade August Winterstein was named State Secretary. The Convention approved the affiliation of the eastern section of the state with the Middle Atlantic State District.

One of the major tasks of the Convention was selection of a state-wide slate for the 1938 gubernatorial elections. Comrade David W. Eymann, of Havre de Grace, was unanimously elected candidate for Governor. Elizabeth Gilman was unanimously chosen as candidate for U.S. Senate; William Elder was picked for the office of state Comptroller and Harry Smith for the office of Clerk of Court of Appeals.

Climaxing the Convention, a mass meeting was held with Dr. Harry Laidler as guest speaker.

Street Fighting in London



Oswald Mosley, British Fascist, inspects his troops (above) before demonstration in Bermondsey, London. His meeting was attacked by British workers, and one of the most bloody riots in London history took place. Police interference increased the bloodshed (see lower picture.)

Legion Plays Fascist Role in Strikes, War

By Stanley McNail

Now that the blaring band music, flag-waving, and ballyhoo of its 1937 national convention are over, the American Legion finds itself under a new National Commander who

possesses all the qualities for leadership in this organization. Commander Daniel J. Doherty proposes a program of action which clearly demonstrates that the Legion will continue to serve the interests of reaction in the best approved fascist style during the coming year.

As summarized by the National Legionnaire, October, 1937, its program includes condemnation of "all alien organizations which seek to promote loyalty to some other government or system," and urged "Congressional investigation of groups militantly serving Germany, Italy, Russia, Spain, or any other alien power or system."

We do not wonder that Spain is listed, but it is self-evident that the slap is meant only for proletarian and anti-fascist organizations. No good Roman Catholic like Commander Doherty would condemn the supporters of General Franco in his wanton slaughter of Spanish women and children. Undoubtedly, groups like the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy would be among the first to fall under the Congressional axe, if Doherty's hopes are realized.

The convention "opposed lessening the restrictive provisions of our immigration and exclusion laws," and "favored deportation of undesirable aliens." It is all too plain that "aliens" will continue to be denied elementary civil rights as long as the Legion has a voice in the matter. The "desirability" of immigrants is determined according to political opinion, to make sure that jittery old Uncle Sam doesn't import any radical nephews.

The Cause Of Peace

While giving its usual lip-service to the cause of peace, the Legion calls for an army of 180,000 men and 14,500 officers, "a navy second to none," and an air force of 2,358 planes. Secretary of State Cordell Hull's

plea for a "genuine renewal of a drive to limit and reduce the bankrupting burden of arms," which he made in a speech at the National Commander's dinner, might as well have been left unsaid. Herbert Hoover, the old pal of the veterans, followed Secretary Hull, saying: "There must be adequate preparedness for defense." Meanwhile, the "bankrupting burden" of armament mounts daily, and world peace is farther away than ever.

President Roosevelt sent the Legion a letter of greetings in which he said: "Were I to solicit the aid of the Legion in the solution of any one of the many pressing problems which confront us, it would perhaps be that of unemployment. The Legion is in a position . . . to contribute materially to the success of the movement now well under way to absorb the unemployed into commerce and industry . . ."

The deal that the general unemployed and workers alike may expect from the Legion, may be deduced from the role it has played in the recent strikes which have swept the country. In virtually every case where labor and the auto or steel bosses clashed, members of the American Legion stood ready to serve the bosses. Their scab-herding and strike-breaking activities were so consistently and systematically carried out, that Tom Girdler, Henry Ford, and Bill Green may well be proud of them.

It should be clear that we cannot expect genuine progressivism from the Legion. It is too thoroughly steeped in bourgeois patriotism to give other than half-hearted support to peace, and it is definitely hostile to the masses of workers in their struggles for economic justice. If we are to judge from its 1938 program, the Legion is well on the way to becoming openly and violently fascist.

N. Y. Socialists End Campaign With Rallies

By Jack Altman

New York Socialists this week swung into the last lap of one of the most vigorous campaigns that Socialists have waged in recent years. Countless numbers of voters, never before reached by Socialist literature, will go to the polls next Tuesday to cast their votes for the straight Socialist ticket and to elect Socialist councilmen.

This week-end will see tremendous wind-up rallies in various parts of the city. The splendid race waged by Dr. Laidler for city council will come to a close in the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Sunday night at 8:30 P.M., with Norman Thomas, Harry Laidler, S. John Block, Paul Blanshard and John Haynes Holmes as the speakers. Mary Hillyer, Brooklyn campaign manager, will preside.

Earlier in the day, at 2:30 P.M., Bronx Socialists will stage the principal rally in their campaign in Hunts Point Palace, 168rd St. and Southern Boulevard. Norman Thomas will head the list of speakers which include Aaron Levenstein, candidate for city council in that borough; Murray Baron, candidate for president of the city council; Frank Cross-waith, candidate for city comptroller; Laidler Nagler, joint candidate of the American Labor Party and the Socialist Party for the Borough Presidency; and Nathaniel Minkoff, joint candidate for assembly in the Fifth A.D.

At the same time, in Queens, a mass meeting will take place in the Woodside Labor Lyceum which will be addressed by Norman Thomas, Leonard Lazarus, the candidate for the Borough Presidency who has waged a brilliant campaign against George U. Harvey, the little Hitler of Queens, and James J. Bambrick, American Labor Party candidate for councilman who has been endorsed by the Socialist Party.

P. R. For Council
Widespread enthusiasm has been aroused among the voters particularly in the councilmanic race where proportional representation makes possible the election of Socialists to the council. S. John Block, in Manhattan, who, like Laidler in Brooklyn, has been endorsed by the American Labor Party and the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee, has carried on an inspiring campaign. All three Socialist councilmanic candidates, together with their comrades running for city-wide offices, have brought the Socialist message to the voters through open-air meetings, indoor rallies and radio addresses.

Party members have distributed hundreds of thousands of copies of special campaign supplements of the Socialist CALL, prepared for the different boroughs. They report that the supplements, which contained the full text of the municipal platform and the Town Hall speech of Norman Thomas were received with avidity by the voters to whom they were distributed. The front page dealt with the candidates in each of the boroughs.

Torch Light Parade
The campaign will not have closed until torch-light parades will have wound their way through the streets of the different counties, carrying Socialist banners and slogans. In Brooklyn, Friday night will see a Socialist caravan collecting at campaign headquarters, 42 Smith Street, at 7 o'clock to tour the county in behalf of Dr. Laidler's candidacy and the straight Socialist ticket. In the Bronx, the cars will gather at 7 West Burnside Avenue, and make a similar trip through the

streets on Saturday night. The Manhattan parade will take place on Monday night, starting from 21 East 17th Street.

Preparations are under way for a careful watch of the vote on Election Day and on the subsequent days when the councilmanic ballots will be tabulated under the rules of proportional representation as set forth in the city charter.

New York Socialists are proud of the vigorous campaign which they have waged, in the course of which they set forth the Socialist municipal program gaining countless numbers of adherents, and helped to cement the spirit of labor solidarity. Entering now on the last lap, they are confidently going forward with the knowledge that victories will be won.

KANSAS

Kansas City Kan.—Kansas state Socialists met here in two day session to plan reorganization of Party work for Socialism in the state along lines of Chicago Convention program. All sessions were held in the Kansas City Kansas Local's fine hall on Minnesota Avenue. Arthur G. McDowell, National Labor Secretary, attended the Convention as the representative of the National Executive Committee.

A general three point program was agreed upon. This included recruiting members and organizing Socialist propaganda in railroad and packing-house unions, two main industries of state, revival of contacts with the National Farmers Union and other farmer organizations in Kansas which is a heavily agricultural state and a winter program of Socialist educational classes for recruiting and educating new members for whom a drive will be put on throughout the state. Vigorous support will be given the Party Press, both the Socialist Call and the Socialist Review.

The Convention went on record for more extensive support of the Review as the educational and theoretical organ to go to all Party members in order to free the columns of the Socialist CALL for more definite Socialist propaganda work.

After lengthy hearing the Convention unanimously approved the action of the State Executive Committee in requiring the resignation from the Party of George Whiteside who had publicly announced his intention of affiliating with the new Trotskyist Party now being organized by the Appeal Association out of the forces formerly making up the Workers Party (Misto-Trotskyist).

The Kansas Party after long delay, due to wrangling and dissension born of the activity of Trotskyist adventurists in the Socialist Party, now expects to be able in peace to go forward with real Socialist Party building. State office remains at Wichita.

MINNESOTA

Chicago, Ill.—The National Headquarters of the Socialist Party last week announced thru its National Chairman Norman Thomas that the state charter of Minnesota and the local charters of Minneapolis, St. Paul and Austin had been revoked and loyal members temporarily classified as members at large pending reorganization. The action followed a chain of abuses in Minnesota to a state charter was granted again about a year ago after a long period of suspension.

Both the state executive Committee and the locals concerned had refused to carry out National Executive Committee decisions and announced their solidarity with political groups outside and opposed to the Socialist Party while the Minneapolis Local to whom one of the National Office sound trucks was loaned last Spring for the municipal campaign refused to return this valuable piece of equipment to the National Office and presented a fraudulent lien against

J. Lash Is Dropped By Socialist Youth

Joseph P. Lash, executive secretary of the American Student Union, resigned from the Young People's Socialist League shortly before its expulsion became effective. He is no longer a member of the Socialist Party as well.

Charges brought against Lash in the YPSL by Ben Fischer and Alvaine Hollister had been pending since last spring. A final decision was deferred until his return from Europe this September. Lash, before the National Organization Committee, stated his position on war—one little dissimilar from the collective-security, pre-war line of the Communists and Roosevelt-supporters. It was obviously impossible for him to hold membership in a revolutionary youth organization dedicated to the principle of unceasing, uncompromising struggle against imperialist war and the imperialist governments.

Lip Service

In his attitude on Spain, Lash paid lip service to the struggle for Socialism. But he thought it quite all right for the Negro Government and the Communist party to persecute, and kill, the workers of the POUM, Anarchists and Left-Socialists, precisely because these elements wanted to advance the social revolution as well as the military struggle against Franco. One cannot pay tribute to revolution and yet condone the armies of the conservative forces whose aim is the restoration of the status quo of democratic capitalism. The YPSL, while aiding in every respect the military struggle against the Fascists, has condemned the vile role of the Communists in suppressing workers' liberty in the interests of capitalism. Lash, in sympathy with the Communists on this question, cannot remain in a revolutionary organization such as the YPSL.

Lash, who is now on a speaking tour, is describing his stay in Spain where he was in close contact with the Communists. He will, of course, give his own personal opinions. What he will say should in no way be construed as a representative of the Socialist position.

In the past, there have been repeated disagreements with Lash, flowing out of such basic differences as described above. In the student field, where our comrades have had to work with him, these differences have not only been embarrassing but have also hindered the constructive work of Socialists in the student movement by confusing issues and wasting valuable time in the settling of these differences.

The removal of Lash from the YPSL was delayed, perhaps too long, simply because of the democratic traditions and processes of the League. He was given innumerable opportunities to work in the disciplined, sacrificing, manner which characterizes the rank and file Yipsels in the student movement, many others of whom also hold important posts

the unit in an attempt to create a legal tie-up.

The final violation which brought NEC action against the Minnesota state organization was the action of the Minnesota Executive Committee in permitting their name to be attached to a Convention call sent out by the Trotskyists under James Cannon for the organization of a new Trotskyist Party made up of former members of the Workers Party and a few deserters secured from Socialist ranks.

THE CUBAN MODEL HAND LAUNDRY
108 East 31st St.
ASHland 4-7263
Rapid and Efficient Service
Goods Called For and Delivered
SYD. PEARLMAN
Manager

in student organization. All this failing, there was naught left but to remove Lash from the League and thus permit the work of Socialists to proceed unhampered.

Build The ASU

On the basis of the present program of the ASU, we shall work to build it. Unlike Lash, we are of the opinion that only around a militant program of students' demands and a clear-cut statement of opposition to imperialist war (the Oxford Pledge) can and will the Student Union grow in numbers, influence and results. We cannot agree with him that a "big" organization with no program, or one which "everyone" can accept, such as careless dependence upon the American imperialist government to preserve world peace and the consequent scrapping of the Oxford Pledge, will be of value to the student masses. True, it will have many members, but then, so does the Republican Party, the Boy Scouts and American Legion.

What America needs, and what we intend to cooperate in building is not "just any" student group of which there are many, but a student movement which will tell the American Government in advance, as well as later, that it will oppose American participation in a war, and which will daily carry on a militant struggle for the needs of students, and to bring students closer to the labor movement.

Obviously, much has to be done in bringing this program before the student bodies of the nation. Much has to be done by the ASU in carrying through struggles for the immediate needs of students on the economic field, for stu-

dents' rights, against race and religious discrimination. Much has to be done in tightening the organization, strengthening it, improving its functioning. These problems will be dealt with, and to their solution our active participation is assured.

But it will be a hollow gain to accomplish the organizational tasks, and give the ASU a program such as Lash proposes, one which will snuff out its progressive character by having the ASU say it is "against war," but remove the Oxford Pledge from its program.

Lash has stated that he does not intend to join the Communist Party. We can understand this (despite his theoretical agreement with the CP on many questions) for he has often criticized its monolithism, undemocratic functioning, and sterility of thought. We warn him, however, that his role will be an exceedingly ambiguous one if he acts as the torch-bearer within the student movement for the Communist line.

We of course regret the necessity for the removal of Lash from the YPSL, as we regret the loss of any worker from the Socialist movement. But the inspiring uplift which this apparently trivial action will give to our rank and file comrades throughout the country will make it of a completely beneficial character.

On any question where Lash and the YPSL find themselves in agreement, we state in advance that we shall amicably cooperate in the interests of the ASU.

However, where Lash's actions are to the detriment of the student movement, we shall oppose him with the same vigor characteristic of our struggle to advance the needs of students in the past. We express the sincere hope that this will be unnecessary. Yet we shall continue to be guided only by the thought of raising the ASU to a place of prestige as a progressive militant, anti-war organization which can dominate the life of the nation's students.

National Action Committee,
Young People's Socialist League.

As Comrades to Comrades let us advise you that it pays to be insured where it pays.
Join
The Workmen's Sick & Death Benefit Fund
(A Non-Profit Seeking Fraternal Organization)
RELIABLE — SOUND — PROGRESSIVE
Protect Yourself and Your Family
Against the Hazards of Life. We Pay
SICK — ACCIDENT — DEATH BENEFITS
We Provide for Medical and Hospital Care
Emergency Relief — Juvenile Insurance
Recreation Farms
For Further Information Write to
WORKMEN'S SICK & DEATH BENEFIT FUND
714 Seneca Avenue Brooklyn, N. Y.

Where To Dine

COMRADE Louis Linn, now located at

LOUIS RESTAURANT • HOME COOKING HUNGARIAN STYLE
207 E. 14TH ST.,
Bet. 2nd and 3rd Aves. • NEW YORK CITY

JOHN'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT
Lunch and Dinner, Wines and Beer Served.
Favorite rendezvous of Eugene Victor Debs.
Popular prices.
502 E. 12th St. NEAR 2nd AVE.

RITZ DINER 27 UNION SQ. (cor. 16th St.)
OPEN DAY AND NIGHT
Trommer's Malt Beer

5th Ave. Cafeteria and Bar
54 FIFTH AVENUE. The very best food—Most reasonable prices. Large Beer—5¢

HARTFORD MONROE CAFETERIA and BAR
WINES & LIQUORS
BROADWAY AT 17th STREET
ALGONQUIN 4-5297
Right Next Door to The Call

Come on Ye' Old CALL Readers!
"POPPA-GANDER" HALLOWEEN—
Party Saturday Nite.
The students, artists and models (!) of
the American Artists School, present at
121 W. 14th St.
De Knight's Swing Band—Refreshments
Gala Entertainment—Souvenirs to All
8:30 P.M. Part of proceeds to Spain
Admission, 50 cents

Stalinists Cause Wisconsin Split In Jobless Org.

By Arthur G. McDowell

National Labor Secretary Socialist Party

CHICAGO, Ill.—The Communist Party of the United States has launched a campaign to secure mechanical domination of the Workers' Alliance of America into which they were admitted only two years ago after the complete collapse of the Unemployment Councils under their leadership as a result of a similar policy. If the policy it not reversed either by the Communist Party or by a rebellion of the progressive and militant elements in the Workers Alliance against that policy the Workers Alliance is doomed.

The partial split in the New Jersey Alliance has now been followed by a full fledged split between the Communists and the rest of the elements in the Wisconsin Workers Alliance. Irked by the constant playing up to New Deal—La Follette relief administration — and the constant playing down of any militancy of the rank and file and the locals, the non-Communist elements finally exploded under pressure of the resentment against obvious Communist Party domination of a supposedly non-partisan organization. This domination has grown steadily worse since the CP captured the state organization by packing the state convention of the WWA with paper locals early this spring. The rebellious elements, unfortunately did not consult with Socialist and allied labor militants but in the fierceness of their resentment broke away and formed the American Workers Committee.

Unless the present course of events is reversed the substantial unity of unemployed and part-time workers achieved by the Workers Alliance of America before the entrance of the Communist controlled Unemployment Councils, will be split tragically.

The first evidence of what was transpiring behind the scenes, where the Communists at first, following their admission, had eaten very humble pie in view of their bankruptcy in the unemployed movement, came at the National Convention of the Workers Alliance early this summer. The Communists in old time style deliberately packed the Convention, their opportunity

coming due to the very weakness of the organization, resulting largely from their policies of playing with the administration.

Steam Roller Convention

The Convention was a mechanical thing, mechanically driven, opposition being fairly shouted down, the full program of the CP on every question domestic or international steam-rolled thru, and the fundamental program of the Workers Alliance since its foundation being watered down to make it fit.

President David Lasser made but weak pretence of having any dissent from these Communist policies and tactics and was rewarded by the irrelevant action of the Convention in awarding him a communist-guided tour of agonized loyalist Spain.

Now at the helm of the Workers Alliance is Herbert Benjamin who so successfully ran the Unemployment Councils into the ground and then climbed aboard the Workers Alliances. Everywhere a drive was launched against militant elements whether they be Socialist, Communist-ex, and present non-political elements. The first occasion for the attack was the coolness of the rank and file to the tragically mis-managed Washington March in August which was scheduled so late as almost to guarantee the departure of Congress, and wound up as a billing and cooling contest between the spokesmen of the Workers' Alliance and the New Deal relief administration. Desperate attempt was made to cover up both the lacks in results and in common sense fighting tactics.

Literature and much abuse of critics within was poured out unsparingly by the Communist elements locally and nationally.

Expulsion Campaign

Altho there are almost literally no Trotskyist political elements

in the Workers Alliance, a sudden campaign against Trotskyist disrupters was launched in Chicago, one of the strongest remaining centers of the Alliance and its birth place, a campaign of expulsion against militants was launched under this banner only to be caught up short when Communist Party fraction minutes fell into the wrong hands. Their plans called for colonizing CP members in the uncontrolled locals, settling questions of organization of the Alliance in the party fraction gatherings, waging a campaign against militants including dissident CP members and Socialists and handing over leadership of the Alliance directly to the Communist Party.

An uprising of all non-Communist elements in the Cook County Workers Alliance followed and CP functionaries in the leadership narrowly escaped expulsion by the House of Delegates which they filibustered until 3 A.M. in the morning and then only escaped by a vote of 20 to 24. Sobered by this experience the CP elements when hauled on the carpet promised to be good and expressed vague sense of wrong doing.

Contradicting this attitude they then proceeded to sabotage any part of the fight on the relief crisis in Chicago (funds reduced by Horner penny-pinching to below point of ability to pay any rent or extra services above minimum food budget on very eve of winter, the poor man's double Hell) which might reflect on the national administration. Instructed to distribute leaflets and arrange for a sign at President's Chicago bridge parade and speech, they put out (being in charge) 600 mimeographed leaflets in a crowd of a million and forgot about the sign.

Now come reports indicating that this is but surface manifestation of a drive under Benjamin's direction nationally for complete suffocation in the Alliance, or expulsion of opposition to straight Communist party line. Tomorrow will bring grave results.

WISCONSIN

Frank Zeidler, secretary of the educational committee of the Milwaukee county local, has been elected state secretary by the executive committee.

Comrade Zeidler has begun work this week. He has been active in campaign and educational work in the party and has the confidence of the comrades locally and out-state.

Last fall he managed the Farmer-Labor Progressive Federation campaign in the eighth assembly district. He is a young man anxious to build the party.



Simeon Budenny, head of the Soviet cavalry. He is one of the few old military leaders still intact.

Roosevelt Rushes Navy In His Search for Peace

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Sixty-million dollars of the people's money is to be spent this week in laying the keel of the battleship North Carolina.

This is the first step in a program to hasten the construction of an increased American war time navy.

Speculation is rife as to the connection between this sudden haste in ship building and the danger of war involving America. Official government sources deny any relation between this precipitate action and the conflict in Spain and the Far East.

The decree to rush the naval

construction follows closely on the heels of the President's speech to begin active "search for peace."

TUESDAY—NOV. 2nd
AT 8:45 P. M.
EUGENE LYONS
Famous European Correspondent
Will Talk About His New Book
"ASSIGNMENT IN UTOPIA"
(Soviet Russia)
Discussion — Admission 50 Cents
THOMAS PAINE SOCIETY
88 Seventh Avenue South
(Seventh Ave. Subway-Christopher St.)
ELECTION RETURNS ANNOUNCED
Admission — With This Ad — 40 Cents
or Mention Socialist Call

DANCE - SOCIAL
Meet Old Friends and Make New Ones
Every Sat. Night at 8
Rand Auditorium, 7 E. 15 St.
Red Hot Swing Orchestra
Fun, Frolic, Frivolity
Auspices of Friendship Builders

Camp Three Arrows
Barger Road — Shrub Oak, N. Y.
A Co-operative Colony
Memberships Now Open
Write for Information
N.Y. Address: 8 East 17th St.
Phone: GRamercy 5-5000

THE PULITZER PRIZE PLAY 1937
"The Season's Funniest Comedy"—The New Yorker
SAM H. HARRIS presents
YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU
By MOSS HART and GEORGE S. KAUFMAN
BOOTH THEATRE - 45th ST. WEST OF BROADWAY
Evenings, 8:40; Matinees, Wed. and Sat., 2:40
EXTRA MATINEE—ELECTION DAY

ANNOUNCING THE NEW
ARISE
National Magazine of the
Young People's Socialist League
NEWS - ARTICLES - PHOTOS - STORIES - POEMS
("Life" Size — 20 pages)
This new Revolutionary Youth magazine brings to the youth of America an interesting and attractive presentation of the Marxist interpretation of current problems. The first issue includes articles on NYA, Trotskyism, China, the American Legion, and the Student Union.

A SURE HIT!
OUT OCT. 25
5c per copy
Order from:
ARISE
21 E. 17th St., NEW YORK CITY

CURRENT ISSUE

SOCIALIST REVIEW

Edited by HERBERT ZAM

CONTAINS

CABALLERO SPEAKS OUT ON THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN SPAIN

The first authentic document presenting the point of view of the former Premier and Minister of War and the leader of the Revolutionary Socialists. Also discusses the split in the U.G.T.

Other Articles:

- The Crisis in the Roosevelt Regime, by David P. Berenberg
- People's Front: American Style, by Frank N. Trager
- Mexico's Social Revolution, by Clarence Senior
- Socialist Youth Faces the Future, by Al Hamilton

BOOK REVIEWS

NOTES of the MONTH

Order now from

SOCIALIST REVIEW

21 E. 17th Street
Single Copy 15c

New York, N. Y.
One Year \$1.50

CAMPUS MILITARISM - I

By Robin Meyers

Peace is an illusion in the modern world. Not war tomorrow but war today is a reality which confronts the college student who has an aversion to utilizing his education in the trenches.

In Spain there is war. In China there is war. We have grown accustomed to headlines in our newspapers of battles in the air and on the sea, of towns besieged, of thousands killed.

In the United States there is war. We have likewise grown used to news items half-hidden away of pickets killed in Pennsylvania, in Maine, in Michigan. And if we know that news reels of conflict in Spain are shown while news reels of conflict in Chicago are suppressed, we know why it is that peace is a pleasant fantasy, no more.

War and the Student

War today is distinctly the product of a competitive economic system which exalts property rights above human rights. Wars are fought today as business deals extended on an international scale, a struggle for raw materials and markets, for fields to invest surplus capital and for the protection of that capital once invested, for loans and banking interests.

And war today is the extension of the conflict between employer and employee to an international arena. Unable to sell their products at home to workers who cannot afford to own what they make, industrialists seek new markets abroad. Unwilling to put much of their capital into goods for consumption, they seek greater profit through re-investment in capital goods, especially in undeveloped countries. International competition between financial interests backed by their respective governments becomes war.

Such war can be prevented only by increasing the actual power of the people, economically by enabling them to consume what they make, politically by breaking the latent strangle-hold of the financiers. Thus the struggle for peace is the same as the struggle of working people to better their conditions.

The fight against war is the fight against the economic and political domination of large capital interests, and the vital conflict must take place within the boundaries of the country.

Is all this true of democratic countries? Most assuredly. The fascist march toward war is more flagrant, the methods of its ruling financiers more direct, but the power behind the throne must be the same in any capitalist country.

In the United States it is not necessary to review our entrance into the World War to prove this, but merely to examine the 'cash and carry' point in the present neutrality legislation, and the use made of that legislation in the cases of Spain and China. With the largest arms appropriation since 1918, the war preparations of the United States are supposedly necessary for adequate national defense, a phrase as yet undefined. A navy second to none with bases far into the Pacific to defend our coasts? Alliances with South America which include leading Brazil battleships? Retention of the

Philippines and intervention in Cuba? Why?

If we enter international war soon, and we may indeed, it will not be the choice of the people, who suffer by it, but of the large financial interests who profit.

People in the past have been duped into war. Patriotism and nationalism have been and are used as fronts for militarism and imperialism. Slogans to preserve democracy—infinite propaganda is used to induce the masses to support the war they hate and the system which creates it.

A particularly virulent form of such propaganda is found in the Reserve Officers Training Corps, established in several hundred of our schools and colleges as an integral part of the armed forces of the nation. Its subtle hypnosis is definite preparation for the acceptance of war abroad, in which the workers of this country cut the throats of workers of other countries for the sake of their respective bosses, and for war at home in which the police and the national guard are pitted against the people they are sworn to protect, again for the profit of non-combatant bosses. Strike-breakers today and soldiers tomorrow is the ROTC record.

War will not end until men realize that they are puppets, till they remove those who now pull the strings and choose their own roles. It is important that the curtain be rung up on the farce now showing on the college campus and its true actors be revealed, that the lines of the next scene be of human advancement.

The ROTC

Personified in the ROTC, twin spectres of war and fascism march within the ranks of youth and seek to identify the two movements. Thus the specific contribution of students to the cause of peace and social justice is delineated. As the war-machine invades the campus, the student battlefield is created.

1. The increasing extension of military training in civil institutions must be checked. Within the past two decades the number of non-military schools and colleges with federally aided military training units has increased five-fold, and the number of students involved has been augmented equally. Junior ROTC units now make up half the total. And the War Department appropriations for 1936 and 1937 have provided over one and one-half millions for the establishment of new ROTC units.

2. Any efforts designed to substitute voluntary for compulsory ROTC must be supported. National and state legislation promulgated toward this end can be backed or instituted by student pressure. On a local scale, student curriculum committees can be urged to take up the task and cooperation promised. But voluntary ROTC is not a solution. It is a reform useful to build on, not an acceptable compromise.

3. The student fight against war on the campus must be concentrated upon the complete abolition of the ROTC. While ROTC exists, although optional, the tie-up of the college and the War Department continues; the praise of Hearst and his ilk is loud; the susceptibility of students to

drill uniforms and girl colonels is tested; and the making of the war mind goes on apace and a potential fascist student movement threatens.

On the Campus

Stigmatizing the ROTC as the war machine on the campus may seem an exaggeration to some. To others it will sound legitimate, perhaps a necessary evil. Still other students may feel that the phrase is meaningless. Abolish ROTC! Why, and what is all the fuss about? What is a branch of the War Department doing on the campus anyway? How did it get there and who wants it there? Who doesn't? What good is it, and what harm?

1. How did it get there?

In 1862 Congress passed the Morrill Land Act, appropriating to states which accepted its conditions public land to be sold to provide an income for the establishment and maintenance of colleges. In the words of the act:

"the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such manner as the legislatures of the States may respectively prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life."

Military tactics were thus introduced into the curricula of various colleges, as a secondary consideration in provision for a liberal education. Under the loose phrasing of the act, no standardization was possible. Both voluntary and compulsory courses existed, and they differed with each campus.

When in 1916 the National Defense Act passed by Congress authorized the War Department to establish units of the Reserve Officers Training Corps in schools and colleges, the military tactics courses already functioning in land grant colleges were utilized in the general plan. This was a substitute plan for that of the War Department, which had advocated the adoption of universal compulsory military training and was compelled to accept defeat only after months of struggle. For the first time, however, military training was put on a compulsory basis, for two years.

Amended in 1920, the Defense Act made possible extension of ROTC units to schools not covered by the Morrill Act. And national military men have taken advantage of this provision to such a degree that at the present time nearly 250 civil institutions have ROTC, as opposed to 53 before the passage of the National Defense Act. Half of this number are secondary schools! Correspondingly, the number of students enlisted and the number of army officers attached to the schools have jumped.

Those decades which have seen ROTC expand have also witnessed the development of strong opposition. On the floor of Congress pros and cons are debated. In the courts cases come up and decisions are handed down. On the campus students protest and are expelled. The nation seethes.

There must be some reason for the expansion, some for the opposition, what is the line-up? Who wants it?

BUILD THE CALL

On either side of these few lines are letters from two active comrades who show their understanding of the importance of the CALL. Elsewhere in this week's CALL are other similar expressions.

The CALL needs your active support at this time.

EVERY READER WHO WISHES TO HELP THE CALL SHOULD PLAN TO HOLD A BENEFIT PARTY FOR THE CALL IN THEIR OWN HOME BETWEEN NOW AND CHRISTMAS. START YOUR PLANS NOW.

THE CALL MUST HAVE THE RECEIPTS FROM THESE PARTIES, PAINLESS DONATIONS TO THE REVOLUTION, IMMEDIATELY! RUSH DONATIONS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, AND BUNDLE ORDERS NOW!

Lanark, Ill.

Since I've been taking the CALL I've donated several subscriptions to friends of mine in order to circulate it and they are very well pleased with it.

I want to say this for the CALL: it's the most educational paper I've ever read.

JOSEPH SCHMIDEKAMP.

Olean, N. Y.

Please find enclosed check for \$6.50 for 5 yearly CALL sub cards and some 6 months cards.

I shall do all I can to push the CALL in this vicinity, for in these times one should keep posted on what's happening to the world and the CALL will supply that need.

CALL Booster.

Contribution

I know that a paper like the SOCIALIST CALL needs financial support beyond the small income it gets from subscriptions. I want to see that it continues and send you \$.....

I will send you \$..... each month,

Name

Address

City

Rush to The Socialist Call

21 East 17th Street New York City

Subscription

Please find enclosed \$1.00. I want the CALL for the next 52 weeks at your special offer.

Name

Address

City

Check if renewal

Rush to The Socialist Call

21 East 17th Street New York City

Bundle Order

Please find enclosed \$1.00. Send me a bundle of 10 CALLS a week for the next month. (Or \$2.00 for 20 a week!)

Name

Address

City

Rush to The Socialist Call

21 East 17th Street New York City