

Against Imperialist Collective Security! For International Working Class Action!

Socialist Call

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

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

Attend the
Anti-War Rally
at the New York
Hippodrome,
March 6,
2:30 P. M.!

Fascist and Demo Imperialists Gird For European War

By JUDAH DROB

A new development in the diplomacy of Europe was clearly initiated last week in the beginning of assumption of control of Austria by the Nazis, in the resignation of Anthony Eden and in the beginning of negotiations for a four power pact in Western Europe to include England, France, Italy and Germany. This new development is a period of open collaboration of the "democracies" with the fascist nations. It is a desperate effort to satisfy the urgent needs of the fascists and to gain time in which to prepare for decisive struggle with them.

The policy of Eden, of the Labour Party and of all those who advocate the policy of collective security and the support of vigorous action by the League of Nations, has been completely repudiated by the Chamberlain government. Reluctantly, but no less inevitably, the French government has followed suit.

Struggle For Colonies

It is the hope of Chamberlain and Delbos that the fascist nations, ruined economically by the World War and the great depression, will be enabled to rehabilitate themselves. There is a possibility, then, that they will not find it necessary to go to war in order to wrest from France and England the colonies for which at the moment they are clamoring.

But this is admittedly a long shot and no matter how free a hand they give Hitler and Mussolini in Central Europe and in the Soviet Union, there is no doubt that sooner or later Italy will have to strike out for Egypt, Syria and Palestine. Germany will have to make a new and desperate effort to secure useful African colonies.

Postpone Conflict

The conflict in the forces that seek to defend the British and French empires has been over the date on which the stand against Hitler and Mussolini shall be made. Eden and the League of Nations and collective security crew have urged that it is now or never; that to allow Germany and Italy to strengthen themselves in Europe and Russia is to make it impossible ultimately to defeat them.

When Germany and Italy and Austria-Hungary plunged into the war of 1914 to secure much-needed colonies and trade they were impelled by the same necessities that impel them today. Capitalism produces a surplus that cannot be consumed at home. Prosperity and development is dependent upon the ability of the capitalist nations to secure colonies and trade concessions thru which they can sell that

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MAY CONSCRIPT BILL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, D. C. — On Feb. 25, the House Military Affairs Committee approved the May bill for imposing a military dictatorship upon this country in the case of war. The measure contains a provision for a universal draft of industry and labor in wartime. It also grants to the President the power to regulate prices, wages, etc., while making only a vague reference to the taxing or otherwise curbing of profits.

The bill, which replaces the Sheppard-Hill Bill, is now before the House of Representatives for action. It is necessary for all those forces who oppose this dangerous and anti-labor legislation to redouble their efforts to prevent its passage.

Every Congressman should be deluged with resolutions and individual protests informing him that the people of this country do not want and will not stand for such legislation.

American Youth To March

During March 10, 11 and 12, thousands of American young people will be in Washington to exert pressure upon President Roosevelt and Congress for the extension of relief and the passage of the American Youth Act; for federal, non-discriminatory, aid to education; for the abolition of compulsory ROTC; for the removal of military control from the CCC; and for the defeat of the Sheppard-Hill Industrial Mobilization Bill. They will come from all parts of the country for the second annual national Youth Pilgrimage to Washington.

Preceding the Pilgrimage there will be hearings before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor on the American Youth Act. Among those who will testify are Al Hamilton, National Secretary of the Young Peoples Socialist League.

All Young Socialists who are able to get to the Pilgrimage have been instructed to do so.

Hammond Soap Workers Gain Wage Raise Pact

HAMMOND, Ind.—An agreement has been negotiated with Lever Brothers Company, of Hammond, manufacturers of Lux soap, by the Soap and Glycerine Workers Union.

Imperialist



The British Empire's Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, whose first and foremost interest is to protect his class' imperialist interest. Whether that is accomplished through pacts with fascist imperialists or democratic imperialists makes no important difference to Neville.

Students Oppose Collective Security

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — The Intercollegiate Peace Council, numbering 100 delegates from eight colleges in Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia defeated by an overwhelming vote an attempt to put the council on record for support of the President's collective security policy toward Japan.

The conference passed, with only a few abstentions and no negative votes, a motion of support for the Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge. Over the opposition of the representatives of the Young Communist League it endorsed the view that Socialization of production and distribution is a step toward world peace.

ANTIWAR MOVEMENT ORGANIZED IN WEST

By A Special Correspondent
LOS ANGELES, Calif. — A meeting addressed by the Hon. Jeannette Rankin, Legislative Secretary of the National Council for Prevention of War, held here on Feb. 28, was the initial public activity of the Los Angeles section of the Keep America Out of War Committee. Miss Rankin spoke on "The Current Situation in the Fight Against War."

Miss Rankin was the first woman ever to hold the office of member of Congress, being in the House of Representatives when that body was asked by Woodrow Wilson to vote the Declaration of War against Germany, in April, 1917. She was one of the small band who voted "No" on that fateful roll-call. Among those who signed the

Workers' World Is Only Solution Asserts Thomas

By GERRY ALLARD

CHICAGO, Ill. — Norman Thomas, national chairman of the Socialist Party, and Paul Douglas, liberal professor at the University of Chicago, debated the question of collective security before an attentive audience here, Thursday evening, Feb. 24. Dr. James Yard, former instructor at the Northwestern University, presided.

The debate was a spirited clash of opinions highlighted with a review of the historic forces of the moment which again threaten to engulf the civilized world in a horrible slaughter. Another feature of the affair was the active interest of the listeners who greeted Thomas with tremendous applause everytime he scored a salient point. Douglas had his supporters, too, and they were present rooting for their side.

Thomas voiced the position of the Socialist Party. He vigorously opposed collective security as an international policy and reiterated his complete faith in the policy of international Socialist action.

In Tip-Top Shape

The grand old fighter for Socialism, who uncompromisingly stood his ground in opposition to the World War of 1914-18, was in tip-top shape. There was a fighting glow in his eyes and his sharp tongue time and again lashed his opponent into a defensive position.

"Collective security," he said, "is the policy of the makers of the Treaty of Versailles which produced Hitler and intensified bitter nationalistic feelings as never before. Collective security

is due in advance to fail because the participants in collective security themselves are the forces which breed fascism.

"In practice collective security means war. I am unalterably opposed to war and don't want to see my son and my countrymen engage in a war. Among other things war will bring about a totalitarian state at home. It will increase and root more deeply the elements of fascism which the proponents of collective security propose to destroy by going to war," Thomas exclaimed.

Capitalist Breakdown

"Fascism, the deadly enemy of social man, is potentially here in the United States and other democratic nations, not because of Hitler but because of the breakdown of capitalism."

"For us to engage in a program of collective security means war—and let me repeat, war means the destruction of civil liberties, the wholesale conscription of labor, the regimentation of the whole people and the establishment of a fascist regime in the United States as bad as the Hitler regime.

"Collective security will lead to war with Japan and war with Japan won't be to 'save democracy' anymore than the last war—it will be for other Panay incidents and for the protection of vested interests in the Far East."

Douglas admitted the possibility of war in a policy of collective security. He believed, however, that it was a "stroke of fate" that in the present world situation the democratic countries possessed the essential raw materials for the machinery of war. This factor, Douglas, averred, indicates that world democracy would certainly triumph over the fascist foes.

Democratic Aggression

Thomas said that this was the case, "but the democratic nations did not acquire the tremendous resources of war material by righteousness. They were acquired from colonial peoples by ruthless imperialist aggression in the same style Hitler now wants to embark upon."

"The Austrian Schuschnigg oppressed the workers of that country first with the help of Mussolini, now Hitler is to oppress them with the help and blessings of Chamberlain and perhaps France!

"By way of blundering we have come to collective security. And collective security by capitalist governments is not intended for peace but for the maintenance of the status quo.

"Collective security means war for the workers and security for the capitalist class of the world. We Socialists believe in the

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call for the Rankin meeting were: Helen Marston Beardsley, Gladys Greene, H. Stone Hull, Rev. Allan Hunter, Ethelwyn Mills, Prof. R. B. Pettingill, William Seligman and John Newton Thurber. In issuing the notice for this meeting, it was agreed that the Rankin meeting will serve as a rallying point for the development of future activities of the Keep America Out of War Committee in Los Angeles.

Miss Rankin is also speaking in Long Beach and over radio station KFVD, Los Angeles, during her hurried trip west. Later in the week she was to be in San Francisco where it is planned that a section of the Keep America Out of War Committee will be formed as a result of her visit.

NINETY YEARS AFTER THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

By HERBERT ZAM

(Concluded from last week) MARXISM UNDER FIRE

Today also, revolutionary Marxism is under fire, not only by the classical reformists and revisionists, but particularly by the new, the militant reformists and revisionists, who by a historical accident have the same title as the Manifesto. For the theory and practice of the Communists of today is thoroughly revisionistic, thoroughly anti-Marxian, thoroughly reactionary.

The Communists, in a revolutionary garb, are trying to revise all the reactionary notions which the Manifesto tried to bury. Above all has the concluding slogan of the Manifesto been abandoned by the Communists.

Today they stand in the front ranks with the patriots, for the preservation of the hegemony of the bourgeoisie and of imperialist rule over the colonies. The American Communists stand together with Hearst, Hiram Johnson and McAdoo for the "defense" of the Philippines, Hawaii and sunny California against the "yellow peril."

The French Communists open their convention with the singing of the Marseillaise, while the French workers march out of the factories they have vacated after a long sit-in strike singing the Internationale. While the organized Catholic movement thruout the world is raising funds to help Franco's legions in Spain, the French Communists propose a united front with the Catholic church for the "defense" of France against "fascist aggression."

All this is being done for the purpose of convincing the "good liberal" bourgeoisie and the middle class that they need not turn to fascism to save capitalist society, because the working class is not threatening with revolution, is on its good behavior, so to speak. But this theory of class peace, whose contemporary term is "peoples front" does not and can not solve the basic problem which convulses capitalist society from time to time—crises.

The working class can not prevent crises by being good, that is by discontinuing the class struggle, any more than the capitalist class can precipitate them by being bad, that is, by a "sit-down strike." The Manifesto shows that crises "by their periodic return, put on trial, each time more threateningly, the existence of the entire bourgeois society. . . . In these crises there breaks out an epidemic that, in all earlier epochs, would have seemed an absurdity—the epidemic of overproduction.

CAPITALIST CRISIS

"Society suddenly finds itself put back into a state of momentary barbarism; it appears as if a famine, a universal war of devastation, had cut off the supply of every means of subsistence; industry and commerce seem to be destroyed; and why? Because there is too much civilization, too much means of subsistence, too much industry, too much commerce."

This, and only this, is the explanation for capitalist crises, which came into existence with capitalism, which are inherent in it, which will pass away only with capitalism. Therefore, to abolish crises and their destructive effect on the working class, the working class must struggle to abolish capitalism itself, not unite with it to save capitalism.

CLASS CONFLICT

For the capitalist solution for crises is not the working class solution, as the Manifesto points out: "And how does the bourgeoisie get over these crises? On the one hand by enforced destruction of a mass of productive forces; on the other by the con-

quest of new markets and by the more thorough exploitation of the old ones. That is to say, by paving the way for more extensive and more destructive crises, and by diminishing the means whereby crises are prevented."

And what has been the history of capitalism since this was written except the execution of these prophetic words? Only one thing has changed. At the time Marx wrote, capitalism still had "new" markets to conquer, it still had an internal market to extend. It still had potentialities for internal growth and development. But today capitalist society is senile. Its old parts decay more rapidly than its new ones grow.

QUEST FOR MARKETS

The conquest of new markets becomes more difficult and the greater exploitation of old ones possible only by sheer violence, by a new form of "primitive accumulation." Thus fascism is born. Fascism is the product of capitalism in its old age, when it is dying but not yet dead. And in its death throes, it can carry all of civilization to destruction unless the proletariat which "alone is a revolutionary class" can give capitalism its coup de grace and usher in the new society.

To think that a temporary truce can be effected with capitalism, that capitalism can be put on good behavior, is to try to supercede the laws of capitalist operation by wishes. The laws of capitalism will continue to operate, only the working class will be carrying out the "truce," that is, will be paralyzed to act in the face of the breakdown of society, so that only fascism will be left to assume control.

THE SOURCES OF FASCISM

But we are told, new methods of fighting fascism have to be found. The middle class, which provides one of the main recruiting grounds for the fascist movement, is brought forward as the new savior, as the defender of "democracy" and fighter for "peace." Trust-busting speeches by the Ickes and Jacksons roll over the air waves, and the attack is directed, not against capitalism, but against the "sixty families."

The authors of the Manifesto were not unaware of the contradictions between the big and small bourgeoisie. But did they expect that the small bourgeoisie could become revolutionary fighters against capitalism? Let the Manifesto speak:

"The lower middle class, the small manufacturer, the shop keeper, the artisan, the peasant, all these fight against the bourgeoisie, to save from extinction their existence as fractions of the middle class. They are therefore not revolutionary, but conservative. Nay, more; they are reactionary, for they try to roll back the wheel of industry."

FASCIST DEMAGOGUES

The fascist demagogues carefully nurture these ambitions of the middle class, hold forth the paradise of restoration of free competition and the breaking up of the monopolies, only, after the victory of fascism, to fasten the yoke of monopoly more firmly upon the necks, not merely of the workers, but of the very middle class which helped put it in power.

Only if the middle class gives up its own class interests and identifies its future with that of the proletariat can it act as an effective force against monopoly. And the experience of the last two decades has shown that only a small section of the middle class can be won to that standpoint. Therefore, to subordinate the revolutionary struggle of the proletariat to the objective of winning the middle class can

only lead to the guaranteed victory of fascism.

THE CURRENT CRISIS

The new crisis in the United States, the existence of an army of ten million permanently unemployed persons, the vast "relief" enterprises which are required to feed a substantial portion of the former proletariat, the revival of reactionary myths and the growth of reactionary movements demonstrate the truth of the prophecy of the Manifesto that the development of capitalist society would lead to a point where:

"The bourgeoisie is unfit any longer to be the ruling class in society, and to impose its conditions of existence upon society as an over-riding law. It is unfit to rule because it is incompetent to assure an existence to its slave within his slavery, because it cannot help letting him sink into such a state that it has to feed him, instead of being fed by him. Society can no longer live under the bourgeoisie."

THE DEATH OF CAPITALISM

The death knell of capitalism has sounded. There remains but to gather the forces and organize them to the historic act of burying it. And as this task is taken up by more and more revolutionists, they will find the Manifesto a wonderful help in their work of organization and preparation.

To the bourgeoisie, Karl Marx has long been a bogey man with which to frighten the weak-minded. In certain "radical" circles which like to parade as "advanced" and "sophisticated," Marxism has been sneered at as passe. The leader of American Communists can publicly say that he "never mentions Karl Marx in his home, because he has two small children and he doesn't want them to grow up reactionary Republicans."

These new devotees of the flesh-pots of capitalism can keep their new idols—their "new deals," their "20th century Americanism," their fads of "epic" and "technocracy," their "peoples fronts." The revolutionary proletariat will sweep all these obstacles aside and will conquer with the only weapon with which it can conquer—revolutionary Marxism.

HUNTING IN INDIA

BOMBAY (NNS) — The people of India are ruled by the British Government or by Indian princes. What happens under British rule has been told frequently, but rule by Indian princes is also worth describing.

Thus, for example, in the state of Cutch in western India 22 persons have been killed and 42 wounded by cheetahs (leopard-like animal), and 2 killed and 38 wounded by hogs. These animals were let loose in the jungles of Cutch by the ruling prince in order to satisfy his desire for hunting. The cheetahs and hogs prey upon cattle and human beings, but the people are forbidden to attack these beasts, even in self-defense. Protest against this grievous wrong has resulted in nothing.

The Maharaja of Cutch is a leading spokesman of the princes of India and holds a high position in the Chamber of Princes. He has been to many countries of Europe and Asia and has seen much of the world.

ALL QUIET—



Why Hitler Has No Complaints About the German Press

WORLD NOTES

By JOHN MILL

Workers Oppose Hitler

Hitler is very much "worried" over the plight of his "oppressed brethren" in Czechoslovakia. He is very anxious to help them, to protect them, to free them, but it seems that his "brethren" prefer the Czechoslovakian "Hell" to the "Eden" in his Naziland. Not long ago elections of factory stewards took place among the Sudeten German workers. Two organizations were competing, the Sudeten German Labor Party and an organization under the influence of the Nazi leader—Henlein.

Terror exercised by the fascist bosses, the factory owners, brutal intimidation of the workers by Hitler's hooligans, millions of German marks spent for propaganda—nothing could stop the big majority of the German workers in Czechoslovakia from showing their love for freedom and their preference for democratic institutions.

The results of the elections in 47 districts show that the Labor Party has received over 60 percent of the votes and has gotten 120 mandates as against 44 Nazi mandates, 19 so-called Christian Union mandates and 17 mandates of smaller groups. The elections have also shown the vanishing influence of the Communists as they succeeded in winning only 8 of the 228 mandates.

Ferment in Italy

Good news from Italy. Discontent with Mussolini and opposition to the fascist policies are growing rapidly and extensively. Sabotage by the workers, anti-fascist posters, protests against intervention in Spain—these are the latest signs of the revival of the Socialist and revolutionary activities of the Italian workers. In the main industrial city, Milan, forty bombarding airplanes (in a big airplane factory) which were made for General Franco of Spain were wrecked to such a degree that repairing them was unthinkable.

Mass arrests followed, and about 600 people were imprisoned in the local prisons. In the same town, gramophone records, which contained on one side ordinary street songs and on the other side anti-fascist speeches, were sold in big quantities and made a big hit. On the walls in many places very often appear anti-government revolutionary posters.

Soviet Trade Unions

The Soviet Trade Unions made a big mistake by putting up some of their demands that looked like an ultimatum for joining the Trade Union International. They failed to foresee the opposition those demands would provoke

from the different sections of the International, though some of the demands were of such a character that the International could accept them without any discussion. They advocated increased activities by the Trade Union International in questions of struggle of the working class against war and fascism, to bring in motion all means of propaganda and agitation for this purpose, labor meetings, press, radio and movies, to organize proletarian sanctions against aggressor countries (Germany, Italy and Japan) to refuse loading their boats, to organize strikes in concerns where arms and war materials are being prepared for them, to actively help Spain and China in their struggle against the above mentioned aggressor countries, to help to unite the trade union movement in those countries where it is still split or where there is a danger of an impending split: United States of America, Czechoslovakia, Canada, South America, Spain, etc.

These conditions could easily be accepted by all the sections of the Trade Union International, but the Soviet Trade Unions found necessary to put up a few more conditions which caused strong opposition. They demanded that the International should sponsor not only a united proletarian front but also a Peoples Front.

Further Proposals

They insist that the executive committee should call an extraordinary convention with the Russian Trade Unions taking part, that the future International must have three chairmen, of which one shall represent the Russian Trade Unions and each shall preside in turn in the bureau of the International. One of the general secretaries must be a Russian representative.

The Soviet Trade Unions taking enormous financial obligations in accordance with the constitution of the International—their dues would amount to 5,280,000 French francs yearly—must get the assurance that these millions of francs won't be used for propaganda against the U. S. S. R. and the Soviet Trade Union movement. Especially because of this last condition, the executive of the International recommended to refuse their admittance of the Soviet Unions. The Independent Labor Party in England is of the opinion that this step was wrong. Even if the Russian conditions, they say, were not entirely acceptable, there was certainly a basis for negotiations, and it is deplorable that the opportunity of a big step toward world trade union unity should be rejected.

Demos Double Cross Pennsy Labor Unions

By a Special Correspondent
HARRISBURG, Pa. — After nearly two years of playing with the Democratic Party both directly and through Labor's Non-Partisan League, organized labor in Pennsylvania was this week unanimously awarded the political order of the double cross by the state committee of the Guffey-Earle-McCloskey-New Deal Democratic Party.

For the last four months Labor's Non-Partisan League backed by the C. I. O. and the state Federation of Labor have made it quite plain that they expected recognition for the solid organized labor support which made the state safely Democratic Party territory in 1936. They said quite plainly that they expected this recognition to take the form of official endorsement for governor or at least U. S. Senator, of Lieutenant Governor Thomas Kennedy, the secretary treasurer of the United Mine Workers.

Millionaire Boss

So labor proposed, and Mathew McCloskey multimillionaire Philadelphia contractor grown fat on years of public contracts and newly emerged boss of the state Democratic Party disposed, by getting unanimous support for a slate which mine workers and Lieut. Governor Kennedy correctly said "they will have to get a legislative investigating committee to find a labor candidate on that slate."

Neither Kennedy nor any other labor man was to be found anywhere near the slate and the candidate for the powerful office of Governor which is the key post went to a colorless utility company lawyer from Pittsburgh.

Forget Labor

More significant yet was the state platform adopted which carefully omitted any mention of additional social legislation

but spoke vaguely of "consolidation of labor and social justice legislation." In short organized labor has worked out all the pay dirt it is going to find in the Democratic Party of the Earles, the Guffeys and the McCloskeys, millionaires all. The only thing straight about the ticket was the boast of state chairman Lawrence that they were all war veterans. He did not mention that they were all beyond draft age for any new war. Governor Earle in accepting the nomination for U. S. Senator pledged himself to "hate war like President Roosevelt."

Green Double Cross

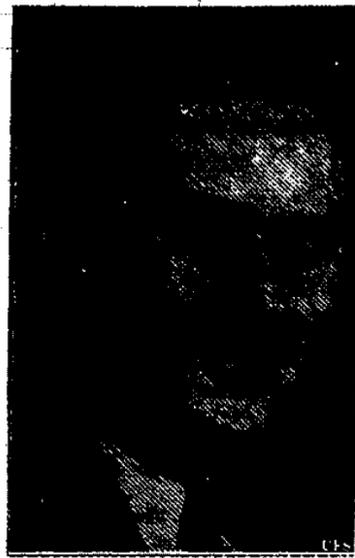
President Green of the American Federation of Labor acted to make the double cross of the Pennsylvania New Dealers doubly safe by carefully acting to expel the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor from the A. F. of L. the day before the state meeting and proclaiming that the C. I. O. forces based on miners and steel workers and representing 75% of organized labor in the state could not use the pledge of any support from "loyal members of the A. F. of L."

The Pennsylvania Federation of Labor Executive Committee voted unanimously to organize as the Pennsylvania Industrial Council when notified of their expulsion.

Pa. Keystone

The organized workers of Pennsylvania must now decide whether to accept the bonds of the political company union of McCloskey's Democracy or Pinchot's discredited Republicanism or launch upon a course of genuine independent labor political action in which the Socialist Party has pioneered in the state for the last thirty-eight years. Important events will hinge nationally on the decision. Pennsylvania is still a keystone state.

Boss Tool



While labor forces were at each other's throat in the strong union town of Seattle, Wash., this ultra-reactionary, Arthur B. Langlie, polled an impressive vote in the Mayoralty primaries. This is another example of what happens when labor is divided. A united labor party can still defeat this agent of the bosses.

A.N.G. Signs Pact With Boston Paper

BOSTON. — Wage increases totaling \$100,000 were gained by the Boston Newspaper Guild when the Herald-Traveler signed a contract covering editorial building maintenance and mechanical workers.

The new contract, hailed by Guild leaders as major advance for the union in New England, brought with it the five-day week for editorial department employes, while providing non-editorial department workers with sick leave and vacations with pay.

While members of the book-keeping and clerical departments were not covered by the pact, the Guild's strength brought them increased minimum pay rates.

Typical of the new deal brought to the Herald-Traveler staff by the guild contract was the case of a watchman whose hours were cut from 72 to 48, while weekly salary was raised some 30 per cent.

All Plans Set For March 6th Antiwar Rally

NEW YORK CITY—All plans are set for the "Keep America Out of War" mass meeting which is to be held at the New York Hippodrome Sunday, March 6, at 2:30 p. m., the committee on arrangements reported this week.

Brooklyn Bosses Frame Knitgoods Union Organizer

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—William Shaffer, organizer of the Knitgoods Workers' Union of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' organization, has been imprisoned for a four-month period on charges which grew out of a strike of knitgoods workers in Brooklyn.

A statement issued by the Joint Council of the Knitgoods Workers' Union last week denounced Shaffer's imprisonment as a palpable frameup concocted by the state's attorney's office and the police.

Before leaving to serve his sentence Shaffer told the union committee: "Your job is to continue to organize. They may arrest me and a few others, but the membership is behind us and we must continue our work. When I get out of jail I will rejoin you on the picket line."

Many Arrests

Shaffer's sentence is only one of a series of trials and imprisonments instituted by the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce against the Knitgoods Union. It is the effort of the Brooklyn bosses to protect sweatshop conditions and to keep Brooklyn an open shop town.

Manager Nelson reports that in the last few weeks ten strikes were conducted against open shop knitgoods manufacturers. Many of these have been settled.

John Bosch, leader of the Farm Holiday Association, has been added to the list of speakers which includes Senator Robert M. LaFollette; Homer Martin, president of the United Automobile Workers of America; Norman Thomas; Ernest L. Meyer, newspaper columnist; John T. Flynn, economist and writer; Bertram D. Wolfe, writer, and Major General William C. Rivers, Ret. Oswald Garrison Villard, former editor of "The Nation," will preside.

This meeting is the send-off for a national drive of antiwar forces against Roosevelt's armament program and the dangerous international policy which this country is pursuing in meeting the menace of war.

WPA War Scheme

It also meets at a time when New York WPA and army officials were laying plans to transfer young unemployed workers from relief and WPA to various military divisions. The meeting will express itself on this latest scheme of militarization which is in line with Roosevelt's vast war program.

The arrangements committee announced that it had made plans to accommodate the overflow crowd which is expected to attend the meeting. A system of amplifiers are to be set up outside the Hippodrome to transmit the speeches.

A special feature of Sunday's program will be a song-and-dance number by Labor Stage's (ILGWU) roaring success "Pins and Needles" entitled "Four Little Angels of Peace are We," which caricatures Eden, Mussolini, Hitler and Hirohito. Doors will be open at noon.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY ANSWERS HANS AMLIE

Hans Amlie, a member of the International Brigade, returned to this country from Spain several weeks ago to deliver an attack against the Socialist Party of the United States.

His letter was published in the "Daily Worker" and widely circulated by the Communist Party. The Socialist Party of the United States, as all decent sections of the world labor movement, has been a vigorous critic of the Communist Party in Spain because of its vicious and brutal persecution of revolutionary workers who do not agree with the line of the Communist International.

The following is a reprint of the letter issued by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party in answer to Hans Amlie:

DEAR MR. AMLIE:

You gave much publicity to your recent letter to us which contains many serious and damaging misstatements of fact about the Socialist Party in relation to Spain. It becomes necessary for us to correct those mistakes.

We do so in full appreciation of the services that you rendered the Spanish cause. We are glad that the Debs Column attracted your attention and sent you to Spain where you could render that service. Doubtless it is because you were so busy at the front that you were unable to keep in close touch with what was actually taking place behind the lines. You were consequently subject to being misinformed by the Communists who control

propaganda in the International Brigade.

Those primarily responsible for the campaign in behalf of the Debs Column have already corrected certain of your misstatements about it. It was never intended to form a separate unit but only to send picked men to work with the International Brigade. And we repeat that we are glad that you did what you did in this capacity.

Let us, however, examine some of the very erroneous statements you make:

1. You say that Sam Baron left Spain after "a long delayed deportation." Your informant misled you. Sam Baron left Spain of his own free will without government pressure. The Loyalist authorities were deeply apologetic because of his arrest which was effected at the instance of Communists. Further you say: "It is quite possible that if Baron hadn't been an American he would have been shot for treason."

Apparently Baron's act of treason in your eyes was his authorship of articles in the Socialist Call. Yet after the publication of those very articles Baron was given letters of introduction to government authorities in Spain, including Premier Negrin, by Ambassador Fernando de los Rios, who was fully aware of the American Socialist Party's position and the writings of Baron. Obviously the Ambassador, while he differed from those articles, did not regard them as treasonable, in which respect he showed an understanding of what freedom

means that your Communist informants completely lacked. Political criticism on the part of those who love a cause is never treason.

2. You say that in Baron's articles in the Socialist Call he "describes his fellow Spanish Socialists, who lead the Barcelona government, as the 'Spanish Cheka.'" Another grievous error. Sam Baron has charged the Communist Party of Spain, not the Socialists, with maintaining a Cheka independent of the government.

This charge, alas, is confirmed by former Communists like Linton Oak who worked for many months in the censorship bureau of the Loyalist government and had a distinguished record as former editor of the magazine "Soviet Russia Today"; by John Dos Passos who writes: "It must be admitted that they (the Communists) have brought into Spain along with their enthusiasm and their munitions the secret Jesuitical methods, the Trotsky witch-hunt and all the intricate and bloody machinery of Kremlin policy," and, with much detailed evidence, by the representative of the Independent Labor Party of Great Britain, John McGovern, Member of Parliament, in his pamphlet "Terror in Spain."

Mark Rein, who had gone to Spain to serve the Loyalist cause and who suddenly disappeared, was on the basis of circumstantial evidence the victim of that Cheka. He is, as you know, the son of the distinguished Raphael Abromovitch, member of the Executive Committee of the Labor and Socialist International

3. You charge the Socialist Party with support of the POUM and of the Barcelona rising of last May. Both charges are false. The Socialist Party of America does not support POUM and criticized the Barcelona rising. It did insist that there were Communist provocations for the latter and that POUM by its loyal service against Fascism is entitled to be considered in any united front plans. Its members certainly are entitled to civil liberties and freedom from Communist "liquidation". Contrary to Communist reports, POUM has not organized armed revolt, and the arrest of its leaders, the suppression of its press, etc., are an indefensible black spot on the escutcheon of Spanish revolutionary honor and integrity. When you repeat Communist charges against the POUM to the effect that it is "an ally of Franco and the Nazi Gestapo" you should at least offer evidence, and of this we find none in your letter.

4. In your letter you say, again obviously from Communist informants, that "Caballero is the enemy of the Spanish Socialist Party and is treated as such." Wrong again. Largo Caballero is still a member of the Socialist Party of Spain with which he has been affiliated all his political life and is recognized not only in that country but by the international socialist movement as one of its leading spirits. He rendered magnificent service to Spain in establishing a united front government, primarily of the workers, in dark days. He fell from power because while

grateful for such help as the Soviet Union gave to Spain he would not accept Russian dictation and because he objected to the Communist policy of denying workers' rights to their critics of the left. He and his followers, the Left Socialists, are still honored Socialists and still rendering loyal service to the great anti-fascist cause. Only a year ago the Communists hailed this same man as "the Spanish Lenin," and it is they who have changed, not he.

Finally, may we say that the Socialist Party believes that it is consistent with the highest loyalty to the great anti-fascist cause in Spain, consistent with support of the Loyalist government in its necessary activity to protest earnestly against any intrusion of the fascist spirit of brutality and repression in the conduct of the Loyalist cause. We have always acknowledged the military support which Communists in Spain and out of Spain have given to that cause. But in the name of the working class of the world; in the name of those ideals of liberty and justice we protest against such crimes against liberty as must be laid to the door of the Communist Party in Spain both through their own direct action and through their influence on the government.

Sincerely yours,

The National Executive Committee Socialist Party, U. S. A.

ROY E. BURT, Executive Secretary.

February 23, 1938.

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May Day

Preparations for May Day are underway in the United States and throughout the world. Again militant sections of the working class will assemble May 1 in a mighty proletarian front against their common enemy—capitalism.

May Day 1938 will find the workers of all creeds, races and nationalities confronted with greater responsibilities than ever before. World capitalism totters. In the wake of this degeneration are bred wars, fascism, famine and insecurity. It is the common task of the international working class to define the many vexing problems, review its rich experience and in the light of these shape the necessary implements of action for its liberation.

Only the working class can lead in giving the world succor from the savage national and international conflicts that plague mankind. The capitalist world is already at war. War rages in Spain, China and Ethiopia. Concentrated military action which is now in the making will spread the horrors of death to the far corners of the earth.

But war is not confined to the international scene alone. War rages within all capitalist countries as toilers struggle for their elementary needs of life. Even on May Day police, mobile guards, infantries and war tanks will be on hand in industrial centers throughout the world to maintain "order".

May Day this year must be made the rallying center for concerted proletarian action. In line with the traditions of International Labor Holiday the workers must aim their main fire against capitalism in general and fascism in particular. They must demonstrate where they can against war and imperialism. They must make their voices heard, even in the concentration camps, dungeons and places where thousands of true proletarian fighters are exiled. They must act for peace, jobs, security and freedom.

Forward with May Day preparations! Workers of the World Unite!

Judge Wham's Decision

Down in an important section of the Illinois coal fields—the Belleville district—is being written a chapter in labor history which well merits the attention of the whole labor movement. Federal Judge Wham of the East St. Louis, Ill., federal district, has ruled that 55 members, 12 locals unions and the state organization of the Progressive Miners of America is liable for profits lost by a United Electric Coal Co. during a strike waged by that union in 1932-33.

Without batting an eye the all-powerful judge has decreed that miners pay the coal company \$117,000 in damages. To the miners this means that their jobs, homes, family welfare and everything else they have maintained and preserved through many years of hard work and struggle are thrown into jeopardy. Potentates never enjoyed greater control over their subjects than this one man judge who is able with a sweep of the hand to wreck the lives of scores of miners' families.

The case is not without precedent. Students of the labor movement will recall the infamous Danbury Hatters case in Danbury, Conn., and the Coronado case in Arkansas, which resulted in an expensive defeat of hat makers and coal miners.

It seems to us that now is a good time (if ever) for the coal miners of Illinois, who are divided into two warring camps, to reunite on a basis of honor, marshal their forces for a finished legal fight and hurl the rotten decision back in the teeth of a judge whose action is another clear cut example of the role of courts as agents of the boss class.

Jitters in Japan

Even in Japan, the attempt to introduce a complete military control of the industrial life of the country is meeting serious opposition from capitalist forces in the Diet. This unexpected event should give pause to those who are trying to foist the May Bill for war-time conscription of industry down the throats of the American people.

This struggle is bound to weaken Japanese imperialism and will hamper the struggle for control of China. So much to the good. We must not, however, overlook the basis for the resistance. The Japanese army is anti-capitalist and extols feudalistic virtues. It is trying to deprive the capitalists of their prime incentive of profits and substitute instead the idea of sacrifice for patriotism.

The Japanese capitalists, like their fellow exploiters in other countries, are a hard headed lot and are patriotic only when it is profitable to be so. Therefore their opposition to the attempts of the military to deprive them of their profits now.

It is to be hoped that the proletariat of Japan will soon step to the fore with the kind of action that will destroy both military and business sets of imperialist thieves. In the meantime we can do our part by combatting the imperialist May Bill in our own country which in the final analysis is aimed at the further subjection of the American working class and the colonial masses wherever finance capitalism may have its fangs.

Workers' Forum

Contributions to the SOCIALIST CALL must be accompanied with the name and address of the writer as a matter of good faith, not to be used for publication if the writer prefers that the name be omitted. Short, snappy letters shall receive first consideration.

BUZZARDS

Bald buzzard sails over piney-woods
In the same slow circle—he's got the goods;
May be a-dyin' ol' houn' dog,
Or a spindlin' young calf got mired in a bog;
Whichever it is, ol' Baldy'll begin
With the eyes an' leave only the bones an' dried skin.

Bald-head buzzard—no need to sail high,
Scrawny neck in a black string-tie,
Squats on the flank of the dying South
(Blood . . . or 'backer-juice . . . on sharp-edged mouth?)
Tenants tradin' at the boss-man's store
Mire down deeper goin' through the door.

Too much (not enough) rain or sun;
Boll-weevil finishes what these begun.
If the crop for a change is big or bigger—
Well, 'a nought's 'a nought' an' 'a figger's a figger.'

Lein' on' the one-room hut, log-built,
Lein' on each pot an' raggedy quilt . . .
Nothin' in the lard-pail but dry corn-pones;
Eyes dead—picked down to skin an' bones.

—Kenneth Porter,
Southwestern College,
Winfield, Kansas.

COLLECTIVE SECURITY

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A popular slogan among certain European powers, and echoed here by a group of noisy ex-radicals and others, is the cry for "collective security," to be achieved through some sort of joint action against fascism. Great Britain, as usual, is adroitly endeavoring to form several sets of alliances, even with fascist powers, with a view to reestablishing the old balance of power theory, and, fundamentally, rehabilitating her own supremacy in diplomacy and her leadership in European and world affairs.

It is obvious to radicals that the powers thus engaged are thinking only in terms of nationalism and that they are ready to stick knives into the backs of their erstwhile associates the moment it serves their purpose.

I am reminded of the fate that befell one of my ancestors—a Mr. Anthropoid—several millions of years ago. He and his tribe, suffering much from the depredations of larger animals, slept in trees, and numerous catastrophes occurred when they fell during sleep. My ancestor and one of his friends devised a plan of tying their tails together over a strong limb, for "collective security." All went well during the night, but when my ancestor started to descend in the morning, he shouted testily: "Let loose of my tail." The other retorted: "What are you trying to do; drag me down?" They glared at each other and started to fight. One had an eye gouged out and the other had an ear bitten off, and both lost copiously of hide and hair.

The outcome was that both fell to the ground. My ancestor, with his dying breath, muttered: "There is no use in being dovetailed together for 'collective security' unless you have the sense to recognize the mutual responsibilities entailed and are able to co-operate instead of seeking to get the advantage over your fellow."

—Harlan E. Glazier.

FORT WORTH, Texas.—The Motor Coach Employees' Union has secured a second 10 percent increase in wages in a new agreement recently signed with the Bowen Motor Coach Lines. A previous six-month agreement had also granted a 10 per cent increase. The new contract is for a year.

LADERMAN OPPOSES COLLECTIVE SECURITY

Mr. A. E. Edwards
American League for Peace and Democracy
New York, New York
Dear Mr. Edwards:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your communication of February 9th, asking me to endorse your policy on war and peace, which is in support of the policy enunciated by President Roosevelt, in his Chicago speech of October 5th.

I regret to say that I am entirely in disagreement, both with the American League and President Roosevelt on this matter.

I am confident that "the policy for concerted action to quarantine the aggressor nations," will lead not to peace, but to war and if you were consistent and frank about it, you would say so, that is that you are in favor of this country's participation in a new world war against the fascist countries.

It is my opinion, that one war "to save the world for democracy" is sufficient for us. We should have learned from the last war that democracy cannot be brought about in a country through war; that on the contrary, war leads to dictatorship and fascism. It is therefore my sincere belief that American trade unionists should do everything in their power to help the workers of the fascist countries, in their struggle for freedom and democracy, but not to pursue a policy which is bound to bring about a new world war, with the consequences so well known to us.

Fraternally yours,
Isidor Laderman, President
International Pocket Book Workers Union.
Feb. 11, 1938

BANG!

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, O.—Is the CALL a Socialist paper or isn't it? Your editorial Feb. 19 "Victory in Steel" surely is poor propaganda. For workers, under capitalism, there never is a victory, and it should be the business of the Socialist press constantly to point it out.

To do so fools the workers, it does not educate them. Much more could be said about the so-called victory in steel, but since I wish to make this letter short I have only brought up one point. This alleged victory in steel in no sense was a victory for Socialism nor even in the direction of it. The CALL should have said so and not indulge in quackery.

—Joseph Manlet.

Editor's Note: The editor has taken the liberty of underscoring two parts of Manlet's letter. It is sound Socialist policy to constantly emphasize the need of abolishing the capitalist system, as the one basic cure for our economic ills, but to characterize the significant success of the steel workers in consolidating their gains, particularly their recent important victory (victory it remains!) under depression times, as "quackery," is loose and irresponsible talk.

WATCH THE WRAPPER

on your copy of the SOCIALIST CALL. If the number lower left of this notice, or any number less than this notice appears on your wrapper, it means that your subscription has expired . . . RENEW IMMEDIATELY! . . .

154 EXPIRED! RENEW NOW!

SQUIBS

BY GENE LOMAN

WHOOFS

A successful columnist, some wag once remarked, is a guy that lets other people to do his work for him. If that be true, we're a howling success. The way our correspondents have been shoving stuff at us makes little shivers of pride chase up and down our spine. So come, on boys and gals, fire away with those contributions. We can take it—with our feet on the desk!

LOOKING BACKWARD

Can you recall how once it was suspected
By G. O. P. and C. of C.
that when in
November F.D.R. was re-elected
The country "picked a
"Lenin?"
KENNETH PORTER.

CLASS STRUGGLE

"Why did you ditch school yesterday?" asked a Socialist father of his small son.
"Class hatred, papa," replied the dissenter.

We see that the New Masses is advertising a series of articles by Earl Browder as a scoop. Down our way we always figured that the proper tool for handling the stuff Browder dishes out was not a scoop but a fork.

DIFFERENCE

A French Communist asked a Socialist fellow-worker: "Tell me, what is the difference between the General Secretary of the Socialist Party in France, Paul Faure, and the General Secretary of the Communist Party in Russia, Stalin?"

"The difference is plenty," replied the Socialist. "When Paul Faure has the majority of the Socialist Party against him, he resigns; but when Stalin has the majority of the Communist Party against him, he orders them shot."
JOHN MILL

WHICH?

Movement Afoot to Have Russian Taught in High School.—News Item.
Do you mean the language or the creed?
WILLIAM BORG

MULES AREN'T THAT DUMB

A small boy leading a mule tightly by the reins passed a group of soldiers.
"Why are you holding onto your brother so tight?" called a soldier to the boy.
"He wants to join the army," came the reply.

TIMES DO CHANGE

A Socialist collecting ads for a small monthly sheet approached the neighborhood banker who for many years before had purchased space in Socialist journals. The banker refused to take an ad, however, although the Socialist was an old friend and a man of considerable influence in the small town.

As they shook hands in leaving, the Socialist said:
"You know, George, there was a time when people seeing a banker and a Socialist shaking hands would have said, 'That Socialist must be a pretty good fellow; see the banker shaking hands with him'—but now they say, 'That banker can't be so bad; see the Socialist shaking hands with him.'"
"Wait a minute," said the banker. "I'll take that ad."

BUNDLE RATES

for the

SOCIALIST CALL

Less than 10.....3c each
10 to 100.....2 1/2c each
100 to 300.....2c each
300 to 500.....1 1/2c each
Over 500.....1c each



AT THE FRONT

with Norman Thomas

Travels upstate in New York and in Wisconsin give me plenty of evidence of the seriousness of the depression—in one industrial town a third of the population is on relief and more than a third of the workers have lost their jobs since August, not counting the number on part time. I found that this new farm law which has just passed is unpopular among both New York and Wisconsin farmers because it's likely to raise the price of cattle feed and increase competition with the dairy business by putting cattle on fields taken out of grain and cotton growing.

There is a growing disposition to be critical of the Administration's action or inaction in this new depression; to want housing, not battleships, and to fight the Sheppard-Hill bill for universal conscription in any form. And more folks are turning out to socialist meetings! The people are with us in wanting to keep America out of war.

THE FALL OF TERUEL

What is left of Teruel has fallen against to the Insurgents. It is hard to believe, however, that they are in a position to make a drive from that ruined mountain town toward the sea through passes strongly fortified and strongly held by the Loyalists. The gallantry of the anti-fascist forces in mountain snows has probably at least diverted and absorbed a fascist military strength that might otherwise have been more dangerously directed.

All is not yet quite lovely for Hitler in Vienna. The Nazi party has not yet been formally legalized in a country where nominally the "Fatherland Front" alone is legal. Schuschnigg—himself a dictator and a clerical fascist—declared that Austrian independence had been promised, and praised not Hitler but Mussolini. But Nazis riot in Austria.

CHAMBERLAIN-EDEN FEUD

One can sympathize with any ruler's reluctance to plunge his people into war. But in Chamberlain-Eden feud there was no immediate war issue. Chamberlain took the worst of times to lose a foreign minister whom Hitler had attacked. There is growing suspicion that Mussolini's desperate financial plight could have been used to get some action from him to show good faith. He is neither fanatical as Hitler nor as rich in industrial strength.

Chamberlain's move, in line with the general record of the British Tories, suggests that they would be more afraid of Mussolini's downfall than of his continued power! They are not primarily concerned to save democracy or even to check fascist aggression. Look at their own empire, their own Indian empire, where even now the Indian National Congress again protests subjection to the British Raj. They—the British Tories in the saddle in London—want to protect their class and their power. Collective security to them means the security of British capital and British dominions.

It is not the external strength of Hitler and Mussolini which makes them such a menace; it is the inner weakness of a bourgeois democracy based on capitalism and nationalism and of Stalin's totalitarianism of Communism. In Russia the purge also marches on.

ANSWER TO A QUERY

I am asked: Why do you attack Chamberlain for keeping Britain out of war while you work to keep the United States out of war? Here's my answer:

1. I do not primarily attack Chamberlain for keeping, or trying to keep, Britain out of war. I attack him and his predecessors from the Peace of Versailles down for their responsibility for the acts which inspired and encouraged fascism and for their refusal to aid democracy when there was almost no risk of war—for example, in the summer of 1936 when they imposed the hypocritical non-intervention agreement on Spain.

2. Great Britain and the British by their geographic position, their history and their own commitments have a very different degree of responsibility for what happens in Europe than has the United States. We kept out of the League of Nations which has clearly shown itself a league to preserve a status quo which was itself the foe of peace.

3. Wherever my sympathies lie in these national crises and whatever the differences in responsibility between the governments of Great Britain and the United States, I know that it is a sure law of life that capitalist and nationalist states in new wars will not and cannot be the instruments of that true and lasting peace of which the method of world war and the nature of capitalism and nationalism are the foes. Chamberlain is but heaping up evidence that if and when Britain goes to war and with her allies is victorious she will but write a new Peace of Versailles. The entry of the United States will not change that picture. It would only mean a loss of liberty at home.

So overwhelming are the superior forces of Great Britain, France and the U.S.S.R. that even today the two prima donnas, Hitler and Mussolini, would

have no chance against them except as the non-fascist states themselves are divided within. And to conscript our sons and daughters will not cure that inner division in Europe.

HOMES, NOT MILITARIZATION

Some of the persistent advocates of a collective security for the United States, which is today impossible in fact and dangerous in the illusion which it cultivates, say that they oppose the super-navy bill because with collective security it will be unnecessary. Others say that they favor it in order to make America's force or the threat of it more potent.

All the logic is on the side of the latter. Earl Browder and certain other war makers to the contrary notwithstanding it is not California that is in danger. We aren't asked to join in collective security to defend California but to defend justice (and incidentally "our" trade and "our" citizens) the world around. If that's our job let's build up the army and navy! If that's not the way that justice will be served let's build houses!

By the way, let's build houses instead of wasting \$8,000,000,000 on transcontinental super highways, as has been proposed to Congress. We need more roads in congested areas but not vast highways over plains and deserts. Homes are still more important than trailers.

THE SEATTLE PRIMARY

William Green has revoked the charter of the Pennsylvania A. F. of L. In Seattle, Wash., the anti-, or at least, non-labor, candidate for mayor in the primaries won more votes than the combined votes of the A. F. of L. candidate, the unsatisfactory Mayor Dore, or the CIO candidate, the clown lieutenant governor, Vic Meyer, whose greatest campaign feat in the 1936 election was to jump into a watering trough fully clad.

The A. F. of L. backs the attempt to deport CIO leader, Harry Bridges. Joe Ryan, A. F. of L. Longshoremen's leader, calmly admits that his men used bats paid for by money from the shipping companies in a war which Joe Curran of the CIO testifies cost 28 men killed and 163 wounded. In town after town I find less terrible but indefensible civil war in which sometimes the A. F. of L. and sometimes the CIO in the offensive.

A blind man can see labor's doom written large in this struggle. It invites reaction and fascism. It makes a nation-wide labor party a hopeless dream. It must be headed by a clean, united, aggressive movement of American labor intent upon the effective organization of all workers. I am happy to see the progress made by the Kenosha movement in keeping peace at home while pushing the great petition for unity.

BOOKS

Rauschenbush, Stephen and Joan, "THE FINAL CHOICE," John Day, \$2.50

The chief investigator for the Nye munitions investigating committee has collaborated with an assistant to the committee in writing a case against another "war to make the world safe for democracy" and against the policy of "collective security."

Their argument is strongest when it draws on material unearthed by the committee. A war "for democracy," they point out, will expect the ordinary citizen to sacrifice his life, but it will not be able to limit manufacturers even to a six per cent profit. Instances are cited in which, during the last war, manufacturers went on strike against the government, even to the point of sabotaging the conduct of the war, in order to exact their price, while army authorities yielded to this pressure rather than risk discontent by making these facts known to the public.

As Judge Gary put the attitude of the steel magnates: "Manufacturers must have reasonable profits in order to do their duty."

Pressure from Bankers

The authors make out a strong case proving that this country went into the World War after pursuing a very unneutral "neutrality" policy formed by the pressure of bankers and manufacturers with heavy stakes on the Allied side.

Sinking of the Lusitania by German submarines is often referred to as the big incident leading to America's declaration of war. But, the authors show, this government could just as easily have taken out its wrath against England, which armed its merchantmen and then covered them with passengers as a means of protection.

The book reviews the secret and high-handed diplomacy of "democracies" and traces the glaring contradiction between Roosevelt's rush for "neutrality" on Spain and his disregard for the very same law on China.

There is lack of emphasis, however, on the fact

TERROR IN SPAIN!

By JOHN MCGOVERN

(From a pamphlet published by the Independent Labor Party of Great Britain)

(Concluded from last week)

THE HOME SECRETARY DOESN'T KNOW

The Home Secretary, Senor Zugazagoitia (of the Prieto wing of the U. G. T.), saw us for a further two hours. He deplored the disappearance and death of Andres Nin and Kurt Landau and assured us that he was still having energetic inquiries made. The accusations of associations with Franco were, he believed, outrageous. He explained the difficulties raised by refusal of the French Ambassador to permit the return of French subjects who were prisoners or to allow foreign prisoners to go through France. He accused the Ambassador of Franco sympathies.

I asked, "How is it that Fernandez, Chief of Police in the previous Government, is in prison for the killing of an official by his men while Burillo, Communist Chief during Nin's disappearance and murder, is free?" He could not explain why. He answered, in reply to an allegation of Cheka domination, "Well, we received aid from Russia and we had to permit certain actions which we did not like." He also promised to speed up amnesty of all genuine anti-Fascists.

THE WIFE OF KURT LANDAU

We paid a visit to Katia Landau, wife of Kurt Landau. She has been a prisoner for over five months, and went on hunger strike for eleven days. Senor Irujo went to visit her, assured her that her husband was dead, and pleaded with her to cease her hunger strike. She is from Germany; four feet ten inches in height and weighing 5 stone 8 pounds, she is full of fight and idealism.

She was in hospital as a result, with two armed guards at the door. Two days after we visited her she was released. We secured papers for her in place of those stolen by the Cheka. Else Homberger was also released with her. A German, she has been five and a half years in Spain, was in prison from June 17, and under the Cheka for two weeks. (Both were rearrested by Stalinist police.—Editor.)

CHEKA VERSUS GOVERNMENT

Our most sensational, illuminating and tragic experience was our attempt to enter Calle Vallmajor prison, which is held by the Communists. We had credentials from the Director of Prisons and the Minister of Justice, but these were treated with contempt. We were met with a complete refusal to allow us to see either prison or prisoners. Following this we went to the Cheka Office, but again from a Russian and a German were refused permission. I said, "We have credentials from the Director and Minister of Justice. Are you more powerful than the Government?" They were taken aback by my question, but still refused to grant admission.

This was indeed a challenge to the Government. We were now on tip-toe of expectation as to the result. The secretary of the Minister of Justice assured us that he would secure our admission. He said, "You must not leave Barcelona with the impression that the Government does not govern this prison." We waited. We paid three further visits, by arrangement, to the secretary. He could not secure a permit.

Every excuse was made to save the face of the Government and the Minister of Justice, but the plain truth is that the Russian Cheka have their thumb on the Government. There are two International Brigades in Spain, one a fighting force and the other an International Cheka which is responsible for arrests, tortures, imprisonments, abductions and murders of persons who are opposed to its brutality.

FREE THE ANTI-FASCIST PRISONERS!

If Spain is to win her workers' struggle, a halt must be called to the work of this second Inquisition. The prisoners must be freed.

We believe we have marked a further milestone in the battle for an amnesty for anti-Fascists.

Russia is paralyzing militant action, weakening the struggle, and storing up for herself a storm of indignation and anger against her arrogant, brutal and terrible actions in Spain. I can now understand the Trotsky purge in Russia.

No honest person who is a member of the Communist Party can defend this murderous campaign in Spain. It accuses the Comintern of brutality on a par with Hitler, Mussolini and Franco.

Free the anti-Fascists, intensify the struggle against Franco, and put Comintern in her place, must be the demand of British workers.

that these apparent inconsistencies, far from being accidental, consistently follow the line of imperialist politics—protecting trade, investments, colonies. The book would be stronger if it referred less to neutrality legislation and more to the basic imperialist character of capitalist governments.

This weakness becomes apparent toward the end of the book when a plan for peace is proposed, including the merger of the great powers into a virtual super-state, a plan which, whatever its eventual merits, cannot be achieved in a capitalist society, as the authors half admit.

It is much more important plainly to say that achieving peace means a fight against capitalism and its treacherous governments, a struggle against military budgets, for the recall of troops from colonies and foreign lands, and for a workers' society and government that will put the lives of the people above the profit and prestige of those who collect their six per cent.

—Robert Tyler.

Imperialists Gird for New War in Europe

(Continued from Page 1)
overplus. Today, weakened horribly by the terms of the Treaty of Versailles and needing more desperately than ever the relief offered by colonies, Italy and Germany are making every effort available to them to gain what they must have if they are to continue to exist as capitalist nations.

In order to gain the time to prepare for a new war England and France are today making the concessions that should have been made to democratic post-war Germany, Austria and Italy. Had those concessions been made at Versailles and in the few years following, there might well be no fascist dictators in Europe and none of the intense economic crisis.

But the victorious powers could not have made those concessions, Germany and Austria were defeated and had to be crushed if they were not to grow powerful enough to again challenge the victorious Allies. A customs union along the Danube, union of Germany and Austria, concessions to Italy (which was actually treated like a defeated nation) would have strengthened the middle European alliance. A dilemma has been presented to the former Allies that permits of no solution. Strong democratic Germany and Italy would be as insistently driven to war as today are weak and desperate dictatorships.

The fascist countries are apparently being given free rein to take Czechoslovakia, Rumania and the Ukraine. Thus by diverting war toward the East, it is hoped to avert it in the West of Europe. Of course, neither France nor England will be sorry should Hitler and Mussolini find that they have bitten off too large a chunk and are forced to retire to a more peaceful attitude.

Imperialist Motives

English and French capitalist-imperialists are torn by many different motives and are unable to find a completely satisfactory policy. They want to defend their empires. They want to prevent working class revolutions in Italy and Germany (as well as in Spain and at home.) They feel that they must do their bit to support the dictators while not giving up any of their important interests and holdings. It is an impossible balance to strike and is doomed in the end to failure. Italy and Germany must have more colonies and must fight France and England in order to get them.

The interests of the workers of Europe and America are pretty well defined by now. They can expect nothing but perfidious deception from Britain as long as the capitalist class rules. They can expect nothing but servile tailing to Britain's kite by France as long as France's policy is determined by the need for defense of its empire. In short they can expect no constructive policy for peace from any but a Socialist government, which produces for the needs of the people and has no need or desire for colonies; a Socialist government whose first responsibility to colonies would be to set them free to live and determine their own lives.

The governments of the capitalist nations are following policies that are based upon the expectation and the necessity of war for commercial advantage. All their talk of collective security and righteous wrath against the enemies of democracy is revealed more clearly than ever by the events of the last week to be the camouflage for the defense of imperialism.

Worker's World Is Only Solution Asserts Thomas

(Continued from Page 1)
loyalty of the workers of the world—we believe that through a consumers' boycott, through workers' sanctions and the establishment of an international co-operative commonwealth is the means to relieve a troubled world of wars and to establish everlasting peace," the Socialist leader said in conclusion.

Believes in Wilson

Professor Douglas in the presentation of his side of the debate reviewed international events following the World War. He lauded Woodrow Wilson's ideals of the League of Nations, and stated that Wilson was right in the policy of "guaranteeing peace by pooling forces against aggression."

He said the League of Nations had been weakened by the Treaty of Versailles, by the United States' refusal to participate and by betrayals.

"If you believe in a police force, you must believe in collective security because that policy applied against aggressor nations is international policing," Douglas said.

The Professor traced the fall of the League of Nations and the rise of fascism; he blamed Great Britain as largely responsible for the collapse of the League; recent removal of Anthony Eden was a part of Britain's betrayal, etc. In passing, he took a whack at the Soviet Union for supplying Italy with oil during that nation's rape of Ethiopia.

Cites Present Wars

Douglas completed his review of the collapse of the League of Nations by citing Spain and China as present victims of fascist aggression.

He said Austria is in the process of being swallowed up by Hitler and that Czechoslovakia will be the next victim of Naziism's march to the Ukraine, Georgia and probably South America.

Douglas enumerated the reasons for the advance of fascism as the following:

1. Most democratic leaders are crypto-fascists.
2. Others are semi-crypto fascists, if they can be called such.
3. Neville Chamberlain has sold out the British Empire.
4. English isolationists, pacifists, and Socialists like Norman Thomas, who oppose collective security.

Stop Fascism!

The liberal professor said fascism must be stopped in Czechoslovakia. He said he would propose zones of responsibility by having Great Britain and France take care of Germany should it attack Czechoslovakia while Russia and China took care of Japan. The United States would throw its economic and moral force on the side of the democratic powers. (In answer to a question he said the United States' entry into war in the Far East was possible but did not think it probable under such a program.)

After the debate there were many questions asked by members of the audience. Among the questions, posed to Douglas was an inquiry as to his position on the Roosevelt-Vinson supernavy bill. He replied that he was for the measure and believed that the Roosevelt administration had been amazingly good. "I voted for Norman Thomas twice, though!" he exclaimed humorously.

One listener asked Thomas if he would favor collective security with a "labor" France and Great Britain.

"Ask me that question when what you say happens," he quickly retorted. "What kind of a labor government do you mean? You will have to show me a labor government that does something about imperialism before I can properly answer your question."

Resigns



Dr. E. Wilhelm Meyer, for 16 years a member of the German diplomatic service, announced his resignation as First Secretary of the German Embassy in Washington. He denounced Hitler for his persecution of Christians.

WAGE SLASHES INCREASE AS SOLONS STALL

By A Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—While the national government continues to fumble with the Wages and Hours Bill pending before Congress since last May, the wage cut movement which began in November, 1937, with formal announcements of reductions in the boot and shoe industry is now spreading rapidly throughout the community.

Early returns on a nationwide survey started by the SOCIALIST CALL'S Washington Bureau two weeks ago indicate that wage rates are being slashed in precisely those plants which would be most affected by comprehensive wage-hour legislation.

Cuts Widespread

A large number of non-union plants in Southern industries and numerous non-union lumber mills are reported to have lowered wages during the past month. Wage cuts have also been widespread in the cotton textile industry where pay schedules were already extremely low.

Although the large corporation have thus far not reduced wage rates, industrial and labor observers believe that a change in policy will occur unless substantial improvement in business conditions takes place within the immediate future.

NEWSPAPER GUILD GAINS IN EAST

NEW YORK.—All nonmechanical workers on New York City's two tabloid papers—more than a thousand in all—will in the future be represented by the New York Newspaper Guild, C.I.O.

The Natl. Labor Relations Board certified the guild as sole bargaining agency for all editorial and business department employes of the Hearst-owned Mirror. The decision, made after a board examiner had held hearings late last year, pointed out that the various departments are so bound together that their problems are completely related.

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Imperialist Battleships Versus Proletarian Babies

LILLIAN SYMES

The slick "women's magazines" with their monthly burden of sweetness, charm and national advertising are ordinarily the last place one might look for a report of the seamier facts of life in the United States today. But on the subject of infant and maternity mortality the Woman's Home Companion for February not only reported some of these facts, but drew a conclusion. The editorial begins:

"Every thirty-seven minutes of every day somewhere in this country, a mother dies in childbirth. At least half and possibly two-thirds of these maternal deaths could be prevented. Every seven minutes a child is born dead. Every eight minutes another child dies after living less than a month. At least a third of these infant deaths could be prevented. In spite of the great progress we have made in child welfare . . . the death rate of mothers and infants is practically as high as it was twenty years ago. It is worse than in any other civilized country for which figures are available. The chief reasons are poverty and remoteness from medical care."

Proletarian Babies

After pointing out that a third of the total number of births take place in families whose annual income, including produce, is less than \$750, the article continues:

"About a quarter of a million babies are born without the aid of a doctor . . . One of our southwestern states reports that in six of its 31 counties less than a quarter of the mothers have medical care in childbirth. In seven of this state's counties more than three-quarters of the babies who die have no medical care."

But we should not despair. Something is being done at last, we are told, about this appalling human waste and suffering. Under the Social Security Act, \$3,800,000 has been appropriated for maternal and child health service in the form of federal grants to those states which will match these grants with state funds. This is a million dollars more than the appropriation for the preservation of game and other wild life! A million dollars more for babies than for birds and buffalo!

A Mere Sop

This is all the federal government can afford to spend on maternal and infant care, but it can afford to spend \$800,000,000 for new battleships and other navy equipment. (The Woman's Home Companion does not mention this.) Two hundred times as

much money for slaughter as for the preservation of life!

The mothers and babies (just babies, Mrs. Roosevelt) who die in the United States because of "poverty and remoteness from medical care" do not need a "defensive" navy any more than they need an offensive one. The husbands, sons, brothers they leave behind have nothing worth defending.

Wasted Funds

The price of one battleship could provide medical and nursing service for our most remote and poverty-stricken districts. Our new navy appropriation would set up a system of general medical care that would save the lives of millions and revolutionize the health standards of the United States. If the two electoral victories of the President meant anything they meant a mandate for just such concerns as these—and a repudiation of government unconcern with private misery! But the Shepherd of the Forgotten Men of 1932 turns out to be the biggest Big Navy President in history.

When the next war is followed by the next depression, the burden of armament and war debts will probably make it necessary to curtail the \$3,800,000 which our federal humanitarians have allocated for maternity aid. And by that time we will be needing \$800,000,000 for pensions.

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Building Socialism

A Socialist Journey

By ARTHUR G. McDOWELL, NAT'L. LABOR SECRETARY

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Since leaving Chicago in early February, I have visited Socialists in thirteen cities in five states and spoken at sixteen meetings and the three sessions of the Eastern seaboard trade union and unemployed conference scheduled under the Party's Labor Department. The picture of the Party which I find is in general encouraging and gives a sense of confidence in the future which was not possible six months ago.

On the dark side there is undoubtedly the fact that the Socialist Party needs rebuilding in most localities and extensive recruiting to fill up the ranks, recruiting which is possible on the basis of excellent work done in the labor movement especially in the new C. I. O. unions and around the high grade of the individual Party members who have done the work.

Recruiting Neglected

This recruiting has been inexcusably neglected all along the line and there is little understanding as yet of the central nature and importance of the Socialist press. In most places the normal recovery and growth of the Party was delayed during 1937 by the short but unprincipled adventure of the Workers Party (Trotskyist Communist) intriguers in the Party.

In spite of all this, Party morale and activity are on the upgrade. Party people everywhere I went were clear and aggressive on the question of the Socialist anti-war program and agitation which gives the Socialists leadership of the anti-war forces wherever activity is undertaken. Enthusiasm for the new SOCIALIST CALL as now published out of the National Office was marked everywhere. Real organization behind the circulation of the CALL needs still to be created.

Must Build Press

The time must come when a functioning branch and local agent of the CALL and "Review" will be considered as vital as a secretary. There is a growing understanding that the mass organizations of the workers in which Socialist have functioned loyally and well are logical field of Socialist Party growth and activity. And as in the case of the war question, so in the matter of independent political action, the Socialist Party is the only clear voice which is consistently heard in the labor movement. There is then the foundation and the opportunity for an immediate and marked growth of the Socialist Party in numbers, strength and influence. The turning of opportunity into fact is up to the Socialists.

Detroit

A Sunday morning address on roots of depression and war to between three and four hundred Dodge plant stewards was a pleasant and reassuring experience. If it were only as easy to arouse the leadership of the labor movement and the intellectuals to united expression against war as is the main body of the organized workers when they can be reached directly, we would have nothing to fear from Roosevelt and his dabbling in naval adventures.

In the case of the Auto Workers Union it must be said that the leadership of the international union is leading in solidifying the rank and file on this anti-war policy above any other union. Only the Communists strike a discordant note in labor unity against war here. They have actually proposed in many local unions to put the inflammatory and jingoistic film of the sinking of the Panay before the union members as part of the union's educational program.

Socialists in the Dodge local are far ahead of the militant West Side local in attracting workers to the Socialist cause as was seen at the evening meeting under the auspice of Branch One on the subject of the conflict and unity of C. I. O. and A. F. of L.

Toledo

Nelson and Dorothy Meagley and Ruth Frederick of East Toledo are still a valuable force in the Workers Alliance which is growing particularly in the out of city townships. An especially good word must be said for the work which Comrade Frederick, a real militant is doing almost unassisted in these townships.

Cleveland

Louis Golden has done one of the best jobs in the organization of white collar W. P. A. workers into the Workers Alliance that has been done anywhere in the country. Lee Morgan is just safely recovered from his near fatal motor accident and is back at work as the new chairman of the Cleveland Workers Alliance county council. The Cleveland Party in a better and well equipped office is at work building up in union and other fields and was organizing an excellent program under the Workers Defense League and Southern Tenant Farmers Union auspices for National Sharecroppers week.

Erie, Pa.

The best meeting in many respects was the Erie meeting in the fine Socialist Hall which has been successfully maintained by the Erie comrades for the last several years. Sober and hard working veterans like Walter Lund, Kesselring and Carl Laese of the Italian Federation and an active member of the S. W. O. C. are the nucleus of a continuing Socialist influence in this industrial lake town.

Buffalo, N. Y.

The Buffalo comrades have been buffeted by the winds of division more severely than most other places but such Comrades as Herman Hahn, George Brickner, Ethelyn Christensen and Pattie Ellis are the type of people who will play a necessary and important part in any advance of the organized workers movement in Buffalo.

Syracuse, N. Y.

A brief between trains stop was well worthwhile to meet two young Comrades, Sam Wolfson and Henry Woosnam who is also secretary of his S. W. O. C. lodge at the Crucible-steel. A revival of activity of the Party and the building of the SOCIALIST CALL is a lively prospect here.

Utica, N. Y.

A small meeting in the Labor Temple here was nevertheless larger than a previous meeting and heartening. Veterans like the Maders and the Comrades of nearby Rome headed by Albert Tully will not long be denied results for their consistent and sacrificing work. The American Labor Party and the Socialist Party cooperated within the limits of independent labor action here last year and prospects of future advance are good.

New York City

In addition to working with the New York Comrades of the unions and the Workers Alliance in the eastern conference the Labor Secretary was glad to find time to assist in the organization of a neighborhood committee of the Keep America Out of War Committee up in Sunnyside.

Newark, N. J.

Newark Comrades arranged a public meeting on very short notice. Here in Jersey, Hitler Hague is an overshadowing issue in the labor movement and the job being done by the Workers Defense League and the Socialists in the League in this

BUILD THE CALL

By NORMAN THOMAS

I am writing on a visit to Chicago. I am filled with admiration for the heroic and intelligent work the CALL staff and the Editorial Board are doing on a shoe-string.

Each week the CALL becomes more indispensable to me and I think to you. Everywhere in my travels I hear its praises sung. Literally it is America's most effective fighter against war, the single most effective builder of our Party and for Socialism.

But the CALL can't live and grow on praise from its readers or good words from the workers. We've got to put this BUILD THE CALL drive over. What we do is one yardstick to measure our hatred of capitalist America's entry into war and our love of Socialism. Let's come through with the drive! Get subscriptions and contributions. Building the CALL is your best vote for Socialism!

Total Remitted\$828.15
Last Week\$740.90

This Week\$ 87.15

State	Quota	Am't Remitted
Ala.	\$ 5.00	—
Ariz.	5.00	—
Ark.	5.00	—
Calif.	50.00	12.50
Colo.	25.00	—
Conn.	50.00	24.75
D. C.	15.00	5.00
Dela.	5.00	—
Fla.	5.00	—
Ida.	5.00	—
Ill.	150.00	76.80
Ind.	40.00	19.50
Ia.	5.00	—
Kan.	25.00	3.00
Ky.	10.00	10.00
La.	5.00	—
Mass.	150.00	99.30
Me.	10.00	3.00
Md.	25.00	21.00
Mich.	150.00	68.00
Minn.	10.00	—
Mo.	50.00	—
Mont.	5.00	—
Neb.	5.00	—
N. J.	75.00	15.00
N. M.	5.00	5.00
N. Y.	1000.00	170.00
N. C.	5.00	2.00
N. H.	5.00	1.00
Ohio.	75.00	36.30
Okla.	5.00	1.00
Ore.	15.00	7.00
Pa.	300.00	93.00
R. I.	20.00	20.00
S. D.	5.00	—
Tenn.	10.00	—
Texas	15.00	13.00
Utah	5.00	1.00
Vt.	5.00	—
Va.	5.00	—
Wash.	25.00	1.00
W. Va.	5.00	—
Wis.	700.00	120.00
Wyo.	5.00	—
Total	\$3,095.00	\$828.15

fight deserves much more mention and praise than it is receiving.

Paterson, N. J.

Stanley Mazur of the Hosiery Workers Union and formerly of Reading, Pa., took the lead in organizing an excellent meeting in the new Workmen's Circle temple here.

Next week I hope to report on visits and meetings in Philadelphia, Bethlehem, Allentown, and Harrisburg where a new branch is at work and has arranged a meeting for March 1. A promising schedule has been arranged in the Pittsburgh district preceding the Western Penna.—West Virginia and Eastern Ohio trade union and unemployed conference which will be held Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday at the Social Center, 1862 Center avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.



COMING EVENTS

CALENDAR FOR NATIONAL SHARECROPPERS WEEK

Note: Where information as to date and place of meeting is incomplete, such information can be obtained by the person in charge of arrangements.

NEW YORK AREA

March 8—Meeting at Church of Our Savior Parish House, Monroe Place and Clark, Brooklyn.
March 10—Luncheon, Norman Thomas presiding, at Rosoff's Restaurant, 147 West 43rd St., Manhattan. Reservations may be made at WDL office, 112 East 19th St., Algonquin 4-4954.

March 13—Benefit performances afternoon and evening of "Pins and Needles." Reservations at WDL office. Other meetings are being arranged for the Bronx, Harlem, and Williamsburg. Brendan Sexton in the WDL office is in charge.

NEWARK

March 11—Meeting, will be held at 190 Belmont Ave.

BOSTON

March 10—Meeting being arranged by Alfred Baker Lewis, 580 Massachusetts Ave., Central Square, Cambridge.

PHILADELPHIA

March 13—Meeting, 7:30 p. m. Friends Meeting House, Race Street.

BALTIMORE

March 15—Churches Parlor, Hopewood Meeting House, 3167 N. Charles St., 8 p. m.

WASHINGTON

March 15—Val Lorwin, 1230 New Hampshire Ave., N. W., in charge.

LOUISVILLE, KY.

March 7—Mrs. Carrie Robertson, Anchorage, Ky., in charge.

CINCINNATI

March 8—Lola Symons, 6800 Miami, Mariemont, in charge.

COLUMBUS

March 9—J. G. Dickison, 1474 E. Long St., in charge.

DELAWARE, O.

March 10—Prof. Guy Sarvis, Ohio Wesleyan, in charge.

CLEVELAND

March 11-13—A series of meetings including a luncheon and church meeting are being arranged by Mary Scott Chafin, Cleveland Sharecroppers Week Committee, 508 Prospect-Fourth Bldg.

CHICAGO

March 14—Bernard Kirby, 20 West Jackson Blvd., in charge.

ST. LOUIS

March 7—Meeting in Webster Grove is being arranged by Prof. Harold Plug of Webster Grove Seminary.

March 8—St. Louis meeting arranged by George Duemler, 5231-Windon.

ST. PAUL-MINNEAPOLIS

March 9—Dorothy Holmes, 158 LaFond St., St. Paul, in charge.

MADISON

March 10—Ed Neatigen, 740 Langdon St., in charge.

MILWAUKEE

March 11—Eugene Johnson, Room 201, 506 W. Juneau, in charge.

NEW YORK CITY

March 3—Jamaica Branch Open Forum: "How People Are Prepared For War By Propaganda." Winston Daniels, member N.E.C. War Resisters League, W. C. headquarters, 92-18 N. Y. Blvd. Columbia U. YPSL Circle—"Lynching and the Anti-Lynching Bill," 2 p.m. 308 Mines Bldg., Columbia U. Speaker to be announced.

March 4—West Side Forum, auspices 5th AD Bx Br. Louis Nelson, "Building a Progressive Labor Movement." Mr. Nelson is the manager of Local 155, ILGWU, Knitgoods Workers, Adm. 100

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5TH A.D. Meets every Wed. 7 West Burnside Ave. Harold Reisman, Sec'y.

DETROIT

BRANCH ONE meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., 1110 West Warren.

CHICAGO

CENTRAL BRANCH, Chicago and Cook county: Open meeting first Thursday of each month; business meeting second Thursday at 549 Randolph St., 4th fl.

CHICAGO WEST SIDE YPSL Circle—Tuesday at 8:30, 3108 Douglas Blvd. Marxism classes same place Sundays at 11:30 a. m.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

CENTRAL BRANCH meets every Thursday night in Room 517, 524 S. Spring St. Ben Sands, secretary, 500 E. Maple, Glendale, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco Local SP meets every Wednesday night at 8 p. m. at 1057 Steiner street.

Attention Chicago!

The CALL Anniversary Dinner and Dance will be held on Saturday, March 5 at the Workers' Lyceum, 2783 Hirsch Blvd. A fine menu has been prepared and the speeches will be short and sweet. After the banquet, there will be a program of dancing beginning at 9 p. m.

Tickets for both the Banquet and Dance are \$1.00 and tickets for dancing only are 35 cents. Advance ticket sales indicate a good crowd and a good time.

7 W. Burnside Ave., Rm. 20. Morningside Hts. Branch Anti-War meeting, Union Neighborhood Center, 3109 B'way, near 124th St. Speaker to be announced.

March 6—All out for the huge "Keep US Out of War" rally at the N. Y. Hippodrome, 43rd St. and 6th Ave. Doors open at noon. Speaking at 2:30. Tickets at 242 E. 14th St. Phone Chelsea 2-9174.

March 9—Midwood Branch Forum—Opening Lecture—Norman Thomas: "Must History Repeat Itself? Must America Go to War?" at Kings Highway Community Center, between Kings Highway and Quentin Rd.

March 18—East Bronx "Keep US Out of War" rally, auspices S. P. and YPSL, at Morris High School, 166th St. and Boston Rd., Main. Speaker: Norman Thomas.

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ADDRESS

Socialists Added To Lawyers Guild Executive Staff

WASHINGTON, D. C. — At the recent national convention of the National Lawyers Guild, organization of liberal lawyers, held in Washington from Feb. 19 to Feb. 22, four members of the Socialist Party were elected to high office. S. John Block, recent Socialist candidate for City Councilman in New York City, was elected a vice-president. Marion L. Severn of New York City, Felix S. Cohen of Washington, D. C., and George E. Duemler of St. Louis, were elected to the National Executive Board.

There was substantial unanimity among the delegates on issues concerned with civil liberties, extension of legal services to benefit the lower income classes, regulation of public utilities and labor legislation.

The chief interest at the convention centered around various resolutions dealing with neutrality and international problems, which brought into sharp focus the question of: "war or peace?" The high spot was a spirited debate on a resolution along the lines of the original Ludlow amendment, denying to Congress the right to declare war unless authorized by referendum vote of the people.

Demos and C. P. Unite

The fight for this resolution was led by the Socialist delegates and considerable liberal support was aroused. But the opposition consisted of a united front of New Deal "liberals" and Communists, and the resolution was defeated by a vote of 70 to 28. However, 40 of the 100 delegates immediately signed a petition for a referendum of the membership of the Guild on this question, and the National Executive Board authorized such a referendum. (President Roosevelt's opposition to the Ludlow amendment was the principal reason for the defeat of the resolution.)

There will also be submitted to referendum several resolutions dealing with the present neutrality law and the general question of international relationships. The Socialist delegates introduced resolutions embodying the position of the Socialist Party, for independent workers and consumers action against fascism, tied up with neutrality on the part of the U. S. government. The demand for "collective security" is embodied in another resolution presented by Communist delegates, which will also be voted upon. These resolutions were not debated at the convention.

Denounce Hague

Among the many other resolutions passed at the convention was one vigorously denouncing the Hague dictatorship in Jersey City and calling for investigation by the LaFollette Committee. Five resolutions presented by Socialist delegates were adopted. The most important were two calling for constitutional amendments to establish direct elections of the President and Vice-President, and to prevent disfranchisement of voters by means of poll taxes, "grandfather clauses" and literary tests. A third resolution, establishing Congressional control of all elections for these offices and for members of Congress, in order to render state dictatorship less likely, was held up, but will be acted upon by a committee of the Guild.

This second annual convention of the Guild indicated that the rapidly increasing membership of the Guild can be persuaded to act as a pivotal force in the formation of a strong, educated public opinion, which will combat reaction in a field where the opposition had hitherto been lacking.

COLLECTIVE SECURITY — FOR WHOM?



United Front Backs Ludlow Referendum

ELIZABETH, N. J.—Meeting in the auditorium of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' February 20, members of Elizabeth's trade union and liberal organizations set up the Union County Committee for the Ludlow Amendment, designed to support the passage of the Ludlow Bill, which provides for a referendum before war can be declared. Those present represented both CIO and AFL unions, as well as church and fraternal groups.

Perspectives, as stated by the chairman of the committee, lie in the direction of a public meeting, to be held in Elizabeth, to demand the passage of the Ludlow Amendment, the withdrawal of troops and ships from China and an end to the armament program. Possible speakers mentioned include Oswald Garrison Villard, Jeannette Rankin, Harry Laidler, Joseph Schlossberg and others.

Issue Memorial

The committee has issued a memorial directed to congressional members, which recites the Panay incident, and Professor Charles Beard's opinion that the present naval bill is designed for offense and not for defense.

"We feel that American troops and ships have no place in China," says the memorial. "We are particularly unable to discover why the Panay, which was bombed by Japanese planes, should have been escorting Standard Oil tankers through the Chinese war area."

Cite 1917

"We remember only too well," recites the memorial, "the 1917 slogans that read to the effect that we were to 'Save the World for Democracy.' And yet a glance at the map will show that the World War produced as cruel a crop of dictatorships as any known to prewar Europe. Further, we feel that the entrance of the United States into a war will result in military Fascism at home, under some variant of the Sheppard-Hill Bill."

The memorial sums up with a request for the reconsideration and passage of the Ludlow Amendment, the withdrawal of

SOCIALIST PARTY FLAYS WPA ARMY RECRUITING PLAN

NEW YORK CITY.—The Socialist Party of New York City assailed proposals to use the relief and WPA rolls for military recruiting purposes, in a statement issued Feb. 25, by Jack Altman, executive secretary.

The statement denounced the plan "as another step on the government's road to war," and urged public protest.

The attack against army recruiting followed a conference held Feb. 24 in New York which was attended by Col. L. B. Magruder, acting recruiting officer of the Second Corps Area and WPA officials. Col. Magruder disclosed that the conference had discussed plans to transfer young men from WPA rolls to service with the army, navy or marine corps.

"For the first time in our history, without recourse to normal, democratic legislative processes, but through the devious method of administrative fiat, compulsory military service in peacetime is to be introduced into American life," the statement warned. "It may prove to be for us, as it has been in many a European country, the first step in the direction of fascist dictatorship."

"The Socialist Party, which is opposed to American participation in any of the imperialist wars now brewing in the cauldron of international capitalist rivalries, calls upon the citizens of New York to make known their determination to block the militarization of the most vulnerable section of the workingclass, namely, the unemployed. The military juggernaut must be stopped before its wheels begin to roll."

troops and ships from China, and the end of the rearmament program and diversion of military funds to "social reconstruction."

The committee has announced that it will meet again on Sunday, March 6, at 3:30 p. m., at the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Auditorium, 2 Jefferson avenue.

Miners Plan Big Meeting For Mooney

GILLESPIE, Ill. — The coal miners of this area and their friends are calling a big rally here March 6 as a means to intensify the fight to free Tom Mooney who has been in prison for more than 21 years.

The affair will be held under the joint auspices of local unions 1 and 84, Progressive Miners of America. The committee in charge has invited U. S. Rep. Frank Fries, Carlinville, Ill.; Paul Porter, editor of the Kenosha, Wis., "Labor"; Gov. Henry Horner and a representative of the state office of the P. M. A. to speak.

Jack Battuello, militant left wing miner and chairman of Local 1, will preside.

Tom Mooney has solid friends among the miners. For years they have vigorously professed their faith in his innocence and they have repeatedly petitioned the various sections of government for his freedom. In the past several years the miners of this immediate area have donated around \$5,000 for Mooney's defense.

Santa Barbara Strike

SANTA BARBARA, Calif.—The National Furniture Warehousemen's Association, meeting here recently, had opportunity to witness the effectiveness of the Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs.

A three-day strike at the local plant of the Bekins Van & Storage Company, carried on by the teamsters, during which pickets were used, brought a union contract.

The agreement secured put the local employees under the wage contract now in effect in all other units of the Bekins chain, as well as most other storage companies in this territory. The firm also complied with the union's demand that linen, owned by the company and worn by the men, shall be laundered in a union laundry.

SHARE CROPPERS WEEK PLANNED IN 20 CITIES

By A Special Correspondent

NEW YORK CITY—In nearly twenty cities throughout the nation National Sharecroppers Week will be observed March 6th to 13th, Harriet Young of the Workers Defense League has announced. Norman Thomas is honorary chairman of the Week.

Sponsored annually by the Workers Defense League and the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, National Sharecroppers Week has for its principal purpose the focusing of public attention on the miserable conditions of the men and women who work on the cotton plantations of the south.

This year's observance of the week has been considerably broadened over the activities of previous years. Meetings, lunches, radio broadcasts, and theatre benefits will take place in New York, Chicago, Newark, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Louisville, Ky.; Cincinnati, Columbus, Delaware, and Cleveland, O.; St. Louis, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Madison and Milwaukee.

Speakers

At all meetings and gatherings featured speakers will be sharecroppers themselves and officials of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union. In the New York area they will be H. L. Mitchell, national secretary of the S. T. F. U.; O. D. Whitfield, organizer; Otis L. Sweeden, state secretary of the Union in Oklahoma; E. B. McKinney, Negro member of the union's national executive committee; D. A. Griffin, N. E. C. member; and Mrs. Henrietta McGhee, Negro sharecropper and volunteer organizer for the Union.

Howard Kester, national organizer for the union, will speak at meetings in Louisville and Ohio cities, while J. R. Butler, president of the S. T. F. U., will speak in Chicago and the Missouri, Wisconsin, and Minnesota cities.

Bitter Struggles

All Socialists are familiar with the heroic struggle conducted during the past six years by the S. T. F. U. to remedy the conditions from which sharecroppers suffer. They are also familiar with the feudal autocracy of the planter which has resisted with guns, whips, and lynch rope all efforts of the union to organize these workers.

This year the plight of the sharecroppers is even darker than last year. The shifting agricultural economy of the Cotton Belt has resulted in the wholesale eviction of sharecroppers, estimated by competent authorities during the last year at 500,000. Those who did make a crop in 1937 earned less than half of what they made in 1936. At the same time the planters have maintained their record of violence and terror.

Legal Defense

For the last two years the Workers Defense League has been the authorized defense agency for the Union. A large part of its activities has been devoted to the legal work of the Union and to raising funds for legal expenses. One of the purposes of Sharecroppers Week is to raise the money necessary to finance the sharecroppers' fight in the courts to establish justice and democracy in the Cotton Belt.

All Socialists living in cities where Sharecroppers Week is being observed are urged to participate in its activities. Those who want to make contributions may do so by addressing National Sharecroppers Week, Room 302, 112 East 19th Street, New York City.