A Paper Defending the Interests of the Workers and Farmers

Vol. 2. No. 19.

NEW YORK, N. Y. SEPTEMBER 1, 1933.

PRICE 5 CENTS

fully the role of the various forces in the strike. But it is clear that

the strike served as a test on a

large scale of the policies and tactics advocated by the Communist Opposition, on the one hand, and the official Communist Party,

on the other. The correct course of

the Communist Opposition, the policy of working within the mass

unions in a constructive manner,

to make them better fighting

weapons of the workers, made the Communist Opposition into a guid-ing and leading force in the strike

and greatly increased its influence

among the workers. On the other hand, the policy of sectarian dual-ism and the splitting, disruptive activities of the official Communist

Party and its auxiliary, the Needle

Trades Workers Industrial Union, turned them into a destructive and

demoralizing factor in the situa-

tion and made them the object of the hatred and indignation of the

masses of the dressmakers. Thus,

in a situation in which scores of

thousands of workers were involv-

ed in struggle, the official Com-munist Party, instead of playing

the role of Communists and becom-

ing the vanguard of the movement, shrivelled up even more into an isolated sect, earning the contempt of the masses. It is to be hoped that this experience will serve as a lesson to the Communist Party

a lesson to the Communist Party

# The Great Dress Strike in New York

The general strike of the aress-makers of New York City and vicinity, just concluded, will go down in history as one of the most brilliant struggles ever carried thru by a labor union. The dress-makers have a record of many vigorous struggles and are known to be militant strikers; yet never before was there such a tremendous response on the part of scores of thousands of workers in the trade. The industry was completely paralyzed. The strikes of the past were confined chiefly to Manhattan; this time the giant strike wave engulfed the outlying districts, all parts of Brooklyn, Harlem and Bronx, as well as the out-of-town sections, New Jersey, Connecticut and so on. The enthusiasm, militancy and determination of the dressmakers surpassed all previous records and brought about a speedy victory.

It is still too early to make a complete analysis of the strike and to draw all the lessons from it. At this time, only one day after the settlement, I want only to indicate what led up to the strike and the

Why The General Strike

In the last few years, the conditions of the dressmakers sank to such a low level that it was impossible for the workers to exist. Althe thousands were unemployed, other thousands slaved as much as

## SILK WORKERS IN STRIKE MOVE

Paterson, N. J.

Close to 8,000 silk workers here are determined to wipe out sweat-shop conditions in the silk industry. For three years the silk manufacturers have taken advantage of the great unemployment and the disorganization of labor, with the result that wage cut after wage cut was put into effect.

Recently the silk industry again started to run full force and the alk workers realized that this was their chance to improve conditions. A wave of shop strikes set in. The Associated Silk Workers, affiliated with the A. F. of L. imme ly started a campaign to organize the unorganized, with the result that about 1,000 workers have joined the union in the broad silk and jacquard departments.

Now the union is in a position to declare a general strike in the industry. The silk workers of Paterson are enthusiastic about the coming struggle. Eli Keller and Frank Schweitzer are in charge of this campaign. The following are the demands put forward: (1) the recognition of the union, (2) the 30-hour week, (3) the \$36 weekly minimum wage, (4) the abolition of night work, (4) the abolition

of the two-shift system.

The National Textile Workers
Union, the Communist Party-controlled organization, is out of existence altogether. Some of the workers who, until recently followed it, have joined the A. F. of L. union. In Paterson now there

will be no dual strike. It is expected that the strike will be fought militantly and the silk workers will this time improve their conditions.

## Its Background and Its Lessons

50 to 60 hours a week for a miserable wage, frequently not even reaching \$10 a week. At the same time the workers were forced to submit to the most inhuman treatment. The sweatshop was rapidly returning, not only out-of-town but even in New York City. The union, the Dressmakers Union of the I. L. G. W. U., was weak, embracing only about 20% of the workers in the trade; it could not therefore protect the workers and enforce union standards.

In view of this situation, raised the question, during the past two seasons, of the need for a general strike as the only way of unionizing the industry and reestablishing decent standards in the trade. At the beginning of this season (June 1933), when an upturn became noticeable, the union began a campaign in the shops, among the non-union as well as union workers, to increase overcrowded wages; at the same time, it began preparations for a general strike when the season would be in full

When the Recovery Act was adopted, there were many who thought that this would automatically solve the problem. But the union pointed out that, in our inforce a favorable code, to get any ings, paralyzing any attempt to improvements in wages and working conditions and to unionize the trade, was thru a general strike. The employers in the industry, particularly the big open-shop manufacturers and jobbers, organized the National Association of Dress Manufacturers with the object of maintaining the open shop in the industry and of having a code adopted on the basis of the open shop. The union very successfully exposed the intentions of the sweatshop employers and con-centrated its entire fire against this dangerous plan. The union also realized that, in order to frus-trate the schemes of the open shoppers, it was necessary to call recognition of the union and the

by Chas S. Zimmerman

code hearings began so that it could come to these hearings with an accomplished fact, the agree-

The general strike call was issued Wednesday, August 16. The spontaneous and enthusiastic response on the part of the scores of first declared that with them the thousands of dressmakers, in the open shop and the refusal to reopen shops as well as in the union shops, surpassed all expectations. In New York City alone nearly 40,000 came out on the call of the union and the total, including outof-town, reached 50,000. Thousands of workers, who had never before been union members, Spanish, Italian, Negro, native American, Jewish workers, all streamed down to the halls as one enthusiastic whole. The many strike halls prepared by the union were soon overcrowded and thousands of workers waited outside, unable to get in. The various hall chairmen had to ask the union shops to leave and congregate on the sidewalks so as to give preference to the open-shop workers coming to register. Every picket line was a huge demonstration, in spite of con-tinuous rain. They formed steel rings around the garment build-

Another new and characteristic feature of the situation was the simultaneous walkout of the truckmen deliveringdresses. For the first time these men were organized into a local of the I.L.G.W.U., thus forging the solidarity of the workers all around.

Under these circumstances, it was out of the question for the NRA to attempt to interfere with or stop the strike. There had been or stop the strike. There had been talk in the beginning of some sort of "temporary truce" until the code hearings but the inspiring demonstration of the determination of the workers compelled the the general strike before the dress negotiation of a permanent agree-

ment. In all these proceedings the NRA could act only as a mediator.

The Big Issues Of The Strike And The Agreement

The big issues in the strike and in the negotiations were the re-cognition of the union and the establishment of union standards. The open-shop manufacturers at cognize the union were questions of principle. But they soon enough came to realize that, if they want-ed to resume production during this season, they would have to come to terms with the union even to the point of recognizing it. This they did on the second day of the strike. After continuous conferences, lasting three days and three nights, an agreement was finally reached between the union and the employers organizations.

The agreement that came out of the general strike constitutes one of the biggest achievements made by organized labor in recent years. Besides union recognition, it includes guaranteed minimum wage scales, representing a considerable increase in earnings of the workers, a provision for jobbers responsibility for conditions in contractors shops and the 35-hour maximum working week with no overtime. Thus, the Dressmakers Union was the first union to achieve the 35-hour week thru a strike, even before code hearings.

The significance of the strike is to be measured not only by the favorable character of the settlement. It must be remembered that it was undertaken and carried thru at time when there was a virtual ban on strikes under orders of the Federal government, with the consent of the leading officials of the A. F. of L. The dressmakers strike is certain to play a big role in inspiring and guiding tr union action in all industries.

A Test Of Policy It is not yet time to evaluate

### members and that they will have (Continued on Page 4) NRA TO RESTRAIN **PICKETING**

New York City

The right of labor to picket the establishments of employers who have signed up with the NRA and who have been awarded the Blue Eagle is to be "suspended" under the Recovery Act, 'according to a statement issued by Grover Whalen, head of the city's NRA forces, on August 26. He has requested Chief Inspector O'Brien to make an arrest so that a test case could take place establishing the power of the NRA to suppress picketing.

When informed of Mr. Whalen's plan, Chief Inspector O'Brien as-serted that the police took the view that "any interference with the Recovery Act (including picketing) was in the nature of a conspiracy against the United States government. Wherever evidence is available, arrests will be made.

The threat of the NRA to out law picketing is one of the most ter will contain a photograph of brazen attacks upon the labor one of the panels of Diego Rivera's movement that has yet been made murals, which he is painting at the under the "New Deal." If an emheadquarters of the New Workers ployer signs up under the blanket code, "modified", of course, to suit his taste, the workers are to increase in their bundle order and a report of efforts to get renewals ers Age" will feature a special ser- and picketing for better conditions! Does this not mean, then, that the starvation minimum wage under the NRA will inevitably become the prevailing wage and even the maximum wage? If Whalen's edict is allowed to go thru, it You | means not only a serious degradation of the standards of the workers but a veritable death-blow to trade unionism. In the beginning, Whalen may pretend he is aiming only at the "Red" unions but every (Continued on Page 4)

## Build and Boost the "AGE"!

York was not only a fruitful task but a welcome one. Close to one thousand "Ages" were sold and distributed in the strike halls.

Here's a boost to the boosters of Workers Age"! Philadelphia and Montreal are tied for first place! With the election. of "Workers Age" agent in Philadelphia, things are humming! First we got a check for \$13 for the Summer Sustaining Fund of "Workers Age". Within a few Branch ran a picnic on August 27 and all proceeds go to Age"! 'Workers

a check paying in full for bundle copy! orders of "Workers Age"!

But Montreal is right on their Eighteen dollars for the Summer Sustaining Fund! An increase in their regular bundle order of the "Age"! Now, how about an affair for "Workers Age".

From Chicago comes \$5 for the Summer Sustaining Fund! A big

Boosting the "Age" during the went way over the top in fulfilling In fact, many Proletarian Party huge dressmakers strike in New its quota and to top it all off we get members ask for more than one

SPECIAL!

Every issue of the "Age" hereaf-

and sell the "Age." In fact, Comies of articles by Jay Lovestone rade Lawrence sold all she had at on his personal impressions of the days, we get another \$5 making one meeting last week! Keep it labor and Communist movements of various European countries, Germany, Spain, France, England, etc. came requests for No. 16 of the Spread the news! The articles will "Age", particularly because of the be immensely interesting! You Philadelphia article on the Proletarian Party. can't afford to miss 'em!

'Revolution and Reaction in Europe' Lovestone SEPTEMBER 16, 1933, IRVING PLAZA

## A Year of Jobless Struggle In Hartford, Conn.

by G. Phillips & D. Grey on aid one dollar a week for food. This food allowance cannot be se-

organizing the unemployed. For two years the official Communist Party had its Unemployed Countail stores. If the reader will bear Party had its Unemployed Council and its Unemployed Council. Now and then this Council in mind that no provision is made would make an appearance before the workers, somewhat in the manner of a capricious prima-donna. The provision is made to make an appearance before the workers, somewhat in the manner of a capricious prima-donnal provision make a policy of the unemployed and that new passing out the poorrest quality the Federal government. Here the food which means retter means the provision is made to make an appearance before the workers, somewhat in the manner of a capricious prima-donnal provision is made to make an appearance before the workers, somewhat in the manner of a capricious prima-donnal provision is made to make an appearance before the workers, somewhat in the manner of a capricious prima-donnal provision is made to make an appearance before the workers, somewhat in the manner of a capricious prima-donnal provision is made to make an appearance before the workers. The provision is made to make an appearance before the workers are provision in mind that no provision is made to make an appearance before the workers. Except to the blind and self-deluded party members, the following facts were evident. The Council had neither membership nor following facts were evident. The Council had neither membership nor following the membership no tent of unemployment, methods of ganization could take care of. local relief and the needs of the unemployed worker and his family in this city. The party and the Unemployed Council had no roots

How were we to proceed? Our have the financial strength and sible to do anything except in a support of the cold-storage sympathetic organizations which the of-

As Communists it is, of course, our duty to develop class and po-litical consciousness among the workers. But this we must do carefully and thru the logic of experience. Otherwise we would fall into the same morass in which the Unemployed Council lies buried. Furthermore, the organization must seriously fight and take care of grievance cases against the city welfare administration. We must show the jobless worker that the organization fights for him in an immediate material way. This was the general perspectiv

Several preliminary attempts District 4 convention closed, Cappellini and Maloney issued a call for a rump convention which opened on August 7, 1933 in Scranat organization made very little headway. Finally, working together with the local organization of the S. P. and the Y.P.S.L., a meeting of unemployed as well as employed workers was held to discuss the possibilities of organiza-tion. At this gathering, which took place in September 1932, the fountion. At this gathering, which took place in September 1932, the foundation of the Hartford Association of the Unemployed was laid. To correctly estimate the character and growth of this Association, the land growth of the reader should know a little about others. They declared themselves without any changes in the inter-unemployment and forms of relief 100% in favor of the NRA. They

the shoulders of the workers themselves. One of these plans was the claimed that there were present "made work" program. Under this 304 delegates representing majorischeme the men received \$1 a day ties in 55 locals. The first point and some groceries. Resentment at the first session was the elecagainst this ran so high that a tion of the executive board! A spontaneous strike for higher wag-delegate from Local 311 opposed

grievance. It stirred and angered at all of the other districts. Some those unemployed on city aid. Of- fraternal delegates from District ficially, the city allows each person 9 were present and Cappellini tried

# The Paris Congress of the S. F. I. O.

# French Socialism in Crisis

Hartford, Conn.

Just about one year ago, following the reorganization of the Hartford branch of the Communist Party (Opposition), we began to consider seriously the problem of organizing the unemployed. For This store, inconvenient the commission of the Haymarket, as the commissary is commonly called, are the common of the National-Socialist of France. The manifesto the commissary is commonly called, are the commissary of France. The manifesto the commissary is commonly called, are the commissary is commonly called, and the commissary is commonly called, the commissary is commonly called. The letter below was written on called and call the commissary

food, which means rotten meat basic specific demand is unemploy

lowing. The party Council had no desire to find that hundreds of cases of grievout the facts relative to the exgrowing organization was able to obtain the use of schools and

churches. And here we must emphasize that it was because of the had no roots mployed.

For some time the organization on-political character of the organization was impeded by lack of headquarters. Without a center to which workers could come, it was impossible. An open which made this possible. An open

ficial C. P. has. Yet it was our duty as Communists to tackle the problem. Furthermore, here was a chance to prove the correctness of our policy for mass activity.

Before starting we laid down this general rule: An organization of unemployed must be broad enough to appeal to and include the most backward worker. It ficial C. P. has. Yet it was our Association would die on its baby ty. Last, but not least, the grievenough to appeal to and include most backward worker. It is a "self-help" organization. And the most backward worker. It in this respect it was necessary for our comrades, and most of the tisan. We must not make it a tail to their kite. Socialists were in agreement with allow people of other political opinations to make it a tail to their kite. The answer given to this companion to make it a tail to their kite. The answer given to this companion to make it a tail to their kite. The answer given to this companion to make it a tail to their kite. The answer given to this companion to make it a tail to their kite. The answer given to this companion to make it a tail to their kite.

the German Social-democracy;

Party.—Editor. Paris, France. party with strong parliamentary representation, a National-Socialist declaration of faith."

leading organ of French big capi-tal, characterizes the manifesta-Radical-Socialist ranks (bourgeois tal. characterizes the manifestation of the right wing at the Paris parties of the left). It is the atcongress of the French Socialist Party, section of the Socialist and Labor International (S.F.I.O.), Fascism by accommodation to it—an which took place from July 14 to July 17 here.

among some liberal ministers before it could even gain foothold in
the organization. The Association months over 400 cases have been that it is the answer of the strongIt is not satisfied with the existing decided to see to it that those successfully handled. est Socialist party in existence in agencies already in existence func- (Concluded in the next issue) Europe today, after the collapse of

must not be forgotten that the S.F.I.O. has 135,000 members and obtained about 2,000,000 votes in The answer of the right wing,

"rejuvenated" and to the Fascist outlook. It goes far speaks with approval of the Fascist beyond anything visible in the conception of the corporate state. It has already launched a savage the Fascist triumph. The right wing went so far that, even at the congress, there was some specula-tion as to who of this faction The great issue at the congress is astounding is the suddenness

reorganized as a strong agency to control economic life." Marquet, Renaudel and others emphasized

gram on two points: (1) the right to participate in coalition govern-ments and (2) the right to apover under the Cappellini "new when it includes military expenses. tional unity" can save the day.

ted he was allied with the Com-munist Party and he was put out and Renaudel's resolution decisively defeated, he read a public declaration in the name of his fraction. The declaration stated quite openly that the right wing group could not accept the decision of the con-

The Collapse Of The Left The brazen demonstration of the country, the throwing overboard the congress was accompanied by

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued on page 3)

and "national defense" in the very forefront of its program. It declares itself in favor of democratic clares itself in favor of democratic tion, represents a definite approach to the majority of the Chamber fraction, represents a definite approach to the control of the contr

would become the Mussolini of "Yesterday, for the first time in France. It should not be forgotten france, there was presented from that Mussolini himself came from he platform of a great organized the ranks of the Italian Socialist Party. In this development there is nothing essentially new. The right wing Socialists are here part of This is how the "Temps," the a broad stream that has swept tempt, not unknown in Germany, into the hands of Fascism!

> party groups; it wants something new. Parliamentarism must be regenerated and the state must be

The Anthracite Union Split Renaudel and others emphasized the same ideas.

Renaudel demonstratively demanded the revision of the promanded the proma

The new union has already can lead the miners to success in of the Communist Party of Francleaning out the corrupt officials from the union.

ce) has eagerly seized upon these events to confirm its theory of "social-fascism." But actually it is obvious that the facts prove just the opposite. For consider the following: (1) in spite of its support by the Socialist deputies, the Re-naudel tendency represents a weak minority in French Socialism; (2) it raised its program against that of the Socialist Party, realizing

semi-Fascist Renaudel faction at

### The "New Deal" and the Working Class

# Politics of the "New Deal"

With this article we conclude the series by Jay Lovestone "The New Deal and the Workers."—Editor.

1. Reconstruction of the government. The Roosevelt Administration has launched a drive to reconstruct the American government, to bring it up to date with ment apparatus with the big busiindustrial development, to make the government structure much more fitting to the economic structure. It is here that we find the sevelt Administration. However, wonder that the Republican Parture. It is here that we find the reason for the reversal in the source and direction of legislation in the last few months. In the past legislation emanated, at least out. The Roosevelt Administration is the Roosevelt Adm wardly, from Congress and then process in the United States. From gins", says: "For on the adminiments all over the country that New Dealer, the process was something different, something like this: The President wanted a law. Virtually makes President Roosethis: The President wanted a law. He called on his Brain Trust for a draft. The Brain Trust complied. The President sent the bill to the The President sent the balance is deducted by the But the But the But the But the States. But the Bu House and Senate. Both our Houses talked a bit. Soon the debate ended. The President signed his Bill.

This noticeable trend towards the centralization of power in the Executive arm of the government, is a reflex of the already marked trend towards a centralization of power in industry, thru the concentration of ownership and control. This reversed process in the direction of legislation was evidenced especially when Congress extended to the President the power to depart from the gold standard, to confer upon him the power of inflating the currency, to enable him to fix the prices of processors of farm commodities under license as well as to grant the New Dealer the power to license industry in general. Truly, it can be said that, as the present process of governmental reconstruction proceeds, as the modernization of the government apparatus continues, the President

#### THE CRISIS IN THE FRENCH S. P.

(Continued from Page 2)

characteristically weak and compromising conduct of the left wing around Faure and Leon Blum. Faure shouted to the right wingers: "You are reformists withou reforms!", Grumbach replied for his faction: "And what are you? revolutionists without the revolution!" Both were right!

The left group was extremely heterogeneous, consisting of those who had taken a consistently characterless. Its spokesmen were eager to gloss over the differen
1. As you have my name on the progressive elements who are ex
bor Action." etc. ces of principle manifesting them- printe d announcements, the im- pected to work towards more proselves at the congress. They went pression is created that it is there gressive labor action. out of their way to deny any revolutionary imputations. Declared Council of the Boston District of 4. In view of the above, We know as well as anyone that I consented to the use of my name, that I cannot, for the reasons givulation is a thing of the past. We organization did not wish to partition above, conscientiously particiknow quite well what two cipate in this conference, that 1 pate in the activities of this con- they are hounded, removed from hundred machine guns in the hands had no authority to commit my orof the government can do. We stand for another viewpoint alto-gether." As the right wing speak-fore, I was acting as an individual ers and the "Temps" editorial only. writer pointed out, what Faure 2. But what is far more serious and his friends were rejecting was is the fact that, on examining your the revolution itself!

gulf which no amount of unprin-cipled concessions can span. The "unity of the party," which Vandervelde and others invoked so feel- gram. ingly, is only a deceptive phrase under which the right wing facwork a little longer. A split is

### by Jay Lovestone

ness apparatus. This tendency had already been noticeable for a numical organization."
Mr. J. S. Trittle, President of

the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, the other day hailed history's righting a wrong, as it were, when he referred to the "trust busting" proclivities of Theodore Roosevelt as President and emphasized that "now that another Roosevelt is in the White House, it is quite possible that future generations will look back to him as sponsor of a united front on the part of industry and government.Symbolic of the whole trend

the back stage power mobilized by that superb showman, Franklin D. for the wartime draft. Bernard Mannes Baruch, George Nelson Peek of the Moline Plow Company,

ber of years, even before the Roo- than in front of the audience. Small the lowering of the initiation fees. to the President for approvthe "Magazine of Wall Street" we stration of the statutes, far more Under the leadership of the Cull this significant and interest have to be paid in full stration of the statutes, far more than on its terms, depends the statuters because here there amount of the loan is greater than 3. Giving up faith in democracy.

> have emphasized as characteristic of the New Deal indicate a definite 4th. In this factory the girls do tendency towards giving up faith niece-work. They are not allowed tendency towards giving up faith piece-work. They are not allowed in parliamentary democracy and to make over 250 cigars a day and towards discarding the doctrine of | for this they get from two to rugged individualism. Dean John seven dollars a week. T. Madden of New York University of Commerce, Accounts and Finance, spoke of this with great sent to the factory doctor and two clarity before the New York State
> Bankers Association when he redollars for a home visit before six cently told them: "The country P. M. and six dollars after that Roosevelt, is the company he has has seen the end of the laissez- time. If they faint or become ill gathered for the performance of the New Deal. General Hugh Johnson, who organized the machinery the rugged individualism and equal. the rugged individualism and equal are only three hydrants to wash walked out of the factory sponopportunity for all. (Concluded in the next issue)

# Strike in San Antonio

The Cigar Factory Workers

We publish below a very inter- with their clothes reeking with periodical "Time" was very proper-ly prompted to characterize this esting letter from San Antonio.

While the course so far followed to the proper their distributions of the course so far followed to the proper their distributions. \* \* \*

shamelessly boasts.

The political trends which we ed out on strike Friday, August

> Conditions Of Slavery the implements and only ten minutes is allowed for the 435 roll-

more, Lerfunctorily of course, its performance thus: "With his man performance thus: "With his man Peek running agriculture and his man Johnson running industry, man Johnson running indu Washington's greatest backstage Power." And in politics as on the legitimate stage there is usually much more doing behind the scenes L., fighting, at the same time, for the work they do. The general manager, besides

ers to clean their instruments. They are not allowed to change at

lunch time and are forced to eat

managing the factory, is a loan shark. He lends small amounts of money to the unfortunate girls,

Credit is to be given the 435 cigar rollers of the Finck Cigar Factory who spontaneously walkare told by the foreman to make so many extra cigars as penalty. Not a day goes by but that each girl has to make from 12 to 120 extra cigars as penalties a day. If the boss happens to be walking around and sees even one bad cigar at a girls' table, he tells the foreman to "clean her up." The foreman takes as many of the cigars as he wishes, usually all of them, with which he does as he pleases.

#### The Strike Begins

The penalty of three cigars for that broke the camel's back. On the fourth of August, 350 rollers taneously. They had no experience in conducting a strike. On the following Sunday, the A. F. of L. would try to organize them into a union but they left them to their own fate. They admitted they knew of the condition prevailing in this factory for thirty years but never before did they endeavor to organize these girls. Monday morning we noticed that there was no nicketing at the factory, so we no picketing at the factory, so we called a meeting with about 75 strikers and their leader, Mrs. W. ty League. I think that I am safe H. Hernest, being present. A member of the International Workers Order cooperated with a few memunion. The strikers became very enthusiastic when we formulated plans for carrying on the strike. ed. It was a difficult proposition to persuade the girls to go picketing but Mary Lewis took a group of

> Our tactics of advising the girls to have only American citizens on the picket lines, as Mexican aliens peacefully.

All this time the A. F. of L. The meeting of the Communist leaders did nothing whatsoever to Opposition was an example of how a discussion should be carried on. leaders did nothing whatsoever to help the girls in their strike but only boomed the big meeting they Unlike the party membership were to have on Sunday, August meeting, where Browder, Krum-bein, Winters, Ford and I. Her- girls that if they would sign up man all made lengthy reports to and pay the dollar initiation and the membership and then adjourn dollar a month dues, they would ed the meeting without discussion organize their union and help the Communist Opposition opened them with their strike. With their the floor for discussion after a wages what they are, the girls one-hour report by Comrade Wolcould not do this. One of the politfe and, for an hour and one half, icians, Paul Jones, employed at party members, sympathizers, the City Hall, won their confidence Trotskyites and C.P.O. members by the clever subterfuge of playdiscussed various phases of the ing on their nationalistic and question. The discussion was on a religious emotions. Most of the high level. Despite the extreme Mexicans are devout Catholics.

(Continued on Page 4)

# paratus continues, the President and his experts will do more and more of the writing of legislation and Congress will give more and A Militant on the Cleveland Conference

Iference or of the Trade Union Uni-We publish below a declaration sent by Paul Salvaggio, a leading militant in the National Shoe by Paul Salvaggio

U.L.—Editor.

literature on the conference and But it will do them no good. Be-tween the near-Fascists of the right wing and the Socialist Party be a controlling body at the conferthere is already an unbridgeable ence, I find myself totally at var-

3. It seems to me that the backbone of your policies is actively to tion can carry on its destructive encourage and foster dual unionpractically inevitable as is also the participate in the organization and independent organization of the development of groups of progres-Renaudel people in a National-sive workers in order to instil a greater degree of militancy into

### Jay Lovestone

#### REVOLUTION AND **REACTION IN** EUROPE

175 St. and Irving Place

in assuming that removing my

their posts and expelled."

Age" brought the splendid response

NEW YORK OPEN MEETING (Continued from Page 2) are very easily deported, met with of the fight for a Labor Party, a great deal of favor. Quite a few Paul Faure: "I want to be understood. There must be no illusions. ciation. As a matter of fact, when
We know as well as anyone that
I consented to the use of my name,
that I cannot, for the reasons giv
The light for a Labor Farty, a great to remove my name from any
committee, for you will readily see
that I cannot, for the reasons giv-

heat, no one left the hall until the meeting was adjourned. An appeal for subscriptions for the "Workers them. There we helped them complete the formation of a union. A

spontaneous strike for higher wages broke out among the workers at the aviation field. Later on, the whole scheme was abolished. From day to day, the number of families on city aid was growing. Today there are about 17,000 works are registered at the Community of the district and to oust the officials of the U.M.W.A., and declared that if a new union was go-

Wilkes Barre, Pa.

Just as the regular U.M.W.A.

ton, Pa. Before and at the open-

guard themselves against any op-

The Association Begins Work

ers registered at the Community ing to be organized then they, the Chest Employment Service Buro, delegates, were there under false Four thousand families are on city aid and an almost equal number and shouted: "We don't want you are cared for by private charities. here!" No difference between this (The population of the city is 178,- convention and the regulation Lew-At first, the families on is convention. Then they proceedcity aid received cash; then a form ed to the election of an executive of redeemable scrip; and finally board, choosing Maloney as presithe local politicians discovered a dent, Morgan as vice-president, very good way to increase their chouster as secretary, and so on private treasuries— a city commissary was opened.

From the very beginning the city store has been a point of District, without any consultation

showr. how it can "cooperate" with operators in the regular from the union.

Lewis style. In the Pennsylvania Coal Company mine (Pittston, Pa.)

### The New Workers School

labor movement, etc.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE 51 West 14 Street New York City

Dual Unionism Only Helps the Lewis Clique!

Fall Term To Open **SEPT. 25** 

ory and problems of the

by F. V.

over under the Cappellini "new deal."

The Communist Party-controlled "Rank and File" group had some delegates at the convention and engaged in their regular old tactics, issuing leaflets without respanding himself and had the serger to the situation and so on.

On the lest day the leader admit to the cappellini "new deal."

When it includes military expenses. Deat, the theoretician of the right wing, spoke long and vigorously, laying down the full program. In the struggle against reaction you cannot rely upon proletarian unity, he said, because after all the working and the cappellini "new deal."

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two secession leaders, in order to geant-at-arms remove him.

# a wage cut has already been pu

Courses in Marxist theory, hist-

On the last day, the leader admit-

Against Dual Unionism! The miners of the Anthracite reader snould know a little about unemployment and forms of relief in Hartford.

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The Relief Situation In Hartford As the crisis grew from bad to worse, the city officials invented the usual galaxy of schemes to shove the burden of relief onto the shoulders of the workers themselves. One of these plans was the claimed that there were present selves. One of these plans was the condenses and the condense of the NRA. They further declared that those present at their convention would have to sever themselves from the U. M. Workers of the Anthracite Field.

The Rump Convention

According to the role call it is claimed that there were present of the condense of the miners. Even the appointive power was retained as in the union and have the interests of the miners. Even the appointive power was retained as in the union and have the interests of the union of those who are sincere in the union and have the union of the union o

### C.P.-OPPOSITION IN BIG OPEN MEET

New York City. The profound crisis and sharp decline of the Communist Party in this country was explained at an open meeting of the Communist Party (Opposition) with Bertram D. Wolfe as speaker, on August 4, at Irving Plaza. Over 250 work-lers attended many of them party ers attended, many of them party members and sympathizers. Comrade Wolfe pointed out that the cause for the Extraordinary Party trine of "social-fascism" could be Conference and the Open Letter desired than what has must hapwas the complete bankruptcy of the party policy in the trade French Socialist Party. union movement, the incorrect application of the united front tactics, the lack of inner party democracy, the absolutely incorrect estimation of conditions in this

Workers Association, to the New existing organizations and to fight name from your committee will Workers Association, to the New extension of the Trade against those who actively seek to Union Conference for United Action (the so-called "Cleveland conpart of the workers. But I cannot here in New England as well as those who actively seek to discourage such militancy on the since your most active workers the girls into an independent here in New England as well as the strikers became very tion (the so-called "Cleveland conference" organized by the T.U.U.
L.). We are especially glad to publish this letter because it contains a telling criticism of the trade union policies of the official Communist Party and of the T.U.

U.L.—Editor.

part of the workers. But I cannot here in New England as well as escape the conviction that the creation of little isolated competing twinions" is extremely harmful to ference are equally actively engagethe workers because such organications of the workers because such organications of the two workers because such organications of the tranks of the workers.

U.L.—Editor. ers. As you well know, divisions betrayers of labor on your top workers to the factory, pinned on

just back from Europe will speak on

SAT. EVENING, SEPT. 16

IRVING PLAZA

## Workers Age

Published Twice Monthly by the Workers Age Pub. Assn., 51 West 14 Street, New York, N. Y. Phone: GRamercy 5-8903

Organ of the National Council of the COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U. S. A. (OPPOSITION) Subscription rates: Foreign \$1.50 a year. \$1.00 six months. 5 cents a copy. Domestic \$1.25 a year. \$0.75 six months.

Vol. 2. No. 19.

September 1, 1933.

#### THE NRA AND THE TRADE UNIONS

THE "diplomatic" declaration of General Johnson, "clarifying" Sec tion 7a of the Recovery Act, should convince even the most hardened union official that it is neither the object of the N.I.R.A. nor the intention of the administration to encourage trade unionism or even to protect gains already achieved. To grant the employer the or even to protect game and any terms of the protecting the make "individual agreedments with those who choose to act individually" is to grant the employer the right to maintain the open shop under the threadbare pretext of "protecting the freedom of contract of the working man." To recognize the company union on exactly the same level as a real labor union, whether directly or thru the subterfuge of an "impartial" referendum, means to confirm the position of company unionism where it exists and even to stimulate its spread. To "abolish" the terms "closed shop" and "open shop" from the NRA vocabulary, is not a mere shabby evasion to "please both sides"; it is a well calculated move to rule out the union shop (the closed shop) and thereby make the open shop universal, even the the name may not be uttered in the dread presence of General Johnson. These are facts which the labor movement will have to take into immediate account.

But fortunately not all of General Johnson's deliverances from on high can change the inner logic of the situation. It has been evident for some time that the Recovery Act is having some indirect consequences

far from intended by its sponsors and even less welcome to them.

1. Supplementing the effects of the turn in the economic situation, the N.I.R.A. has undoubtedly helped unleash a wave of strikes and labor struggles thru all parts of the country that has come as a breath of fresh air in the stagnant atmosphere of recent years. The mere wording of Section 7a, fortified by some of the early demagogy of the NRA, has naturally enough created the impression among the workers and sympathetic elements in the lower middle class that strikes and labor unionism are now "respectable", "legal", "guaranteed by the NRA", "supported by President Roosevelt" and what not. The pent-up resentment of years of bitter crisis is at last breaking thru

2. For the same reasons the last few weeks have witnessed an almost phenomenal growth on the part of many of the A. F. of L. unions, resulting from vigorous and widespread organization campaigns. The spread of the U.M.W.A. in the non-union fields of Western Pennsylvania and the Southern regions and the spectacular success of the New York York dressmakers in organizing the trade are only outstanding examples; perhaps as significant is the sentiment for unionization so keenly felt among large sections of the backward workers.

3. The very vigor of the movement has demonstrated the hopeless bankruptcy of craft unionism in the face of modern mass production industry and the overwhelming advantage, even absolute necessity, of industrial unionism. Not only are those unions that have made the greatest advance, such as the U.M.W.A. and the I.L.G.W.U., either completely or partly industrial union in structure but there is a very strong tendency to industrial unionism even in those fields where craft unionism has reigned supreme to wreak its havoc, in the auto industry and the metal trades, for example. The movement has even proved strong enough to break thru the hide-bound tradition of the A. F. of L. That this tendency is to be heartly greeted and encouraged goes without saying.

4. Most significant of all is the powerful drive towards the A. F. of L. and towards unity in the trade union movement in general. The pact between the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the United Garment Workers and the probability of the former joining the A. F. of L. are important indications; it is even rumored that the railroad brotherhoods are contemplating a similar move. In the barest interests of self-defense under the Blue Eagle unity within the A. F. of L. is vitally necessary; never was dual unionism so dangerous to the interests of labor as today, dual unionism either of the "revolutionary" T.U.U.L. variety or of the conservative type found in the Illinois soft coal and Anthracite fields. Dual unionism is now more than ever, playing the game of the bosses

#### WELCOME—THE "ARBETER-KAMF!"

HE reappearance of the "Arbeter-Kamf", the Jewish paper of the Communist Opposition, is an important event in the revolutionary movement of this country, extending its influence far beyond the limits of the so-called Jewish labor movement.

For historical reasons that are clear enough the Jewish workers in the United States, especially those in the larger cities of the East, have for many decades stood in the front ranks of American labor. Under conditions of the most merciless exploitation, they yet proved able to forge powerful trade unions, build up strong fraternal societies, and raise themselves to the level of human beings fighting for a better future. The great class struggles conducted by the Jewish workers more than once served as sources of deep inspiration of the whole labor movement.

It is precisely among these workers that the official Communist Party has discredited itself in the most hopeless manner. Its dualist trade union policy has converted its followers in the needle trade unions into a destructive and sectarian clique, hated and despised by the workers—as the recent dressmakers strike so strikingly proved. In the Workmen's Circle its mad course of splits has isolated it most completely from large masses of progressive workers. Its paper, the "Freiheit", has become a by-word for partisan lying and factional distortion.

The Communist Opposition, on the other hand, has been gaining prestige and influence in precisely the same circumstances. generally correct course repeatedly confirmed by experience, its determined policy of unity and constructive work in the unions and labor organizations, have not been without result. All the more therefore did there begin to be felt the pressing need of a Communist Opposition paper that could most effectively reach these sections of the working class, while at the same time the basis for the support of such a paper was constantly broadening. The new Jewish "Arbeter-Kamf" are ready and anxious for strike will have a great role to play from very first day of its appearance.

With great enthusiasm does the "Workers Age" welcome its brother action. The necessity of unionization to unite all forces to fight

paper in the struggle for the rehabilitation of the Communist move- ing the shops and building up a for the class independence and ment in the United States and thruout the world—the "Arbeter-Kamf!" strong union is of the utmost im-

### THE THIRD RIVERA MURAL AT THE NEW WORKERS SCHOOL



# N. Y. METAL WORKERS ON STRIKE

\$15 for the unskilled workers and a

will be successful. Despite rain almost the entire shop turned out on the picket line, organized a march before the building to show the boss their determination to keep out scabs and to fight for their jobs at a wage and under conditions that will at least provide them with their most elementary necessities

The Metal Trades Council of the American Federation of Labor has agreed to the organization of a plant union which will function as a section of the Metal Trades Council.

The workers of the Sagamore are determined to stay cut until the gains of the strike. It is part- the most part (in so far as its grants their demands

A number of other metal shops have gone on strike in recent weeks, under the leadership of the Metal Trades Workers Industrial Union, the T.U.U.L. organization. Some of the settlements that have been made are positively shameful. The M. T. W. I. U. has, according to reports in the "Daily Worker", permitted shops to go back without recognition of the union, with clauses in the agreement excluding those workers "who have violated law and order during the strike" which of course means the exclusion of all the militant workers. The T.U.U.L. union has settled on a \$12 minimum wage. The setting up of a dual union to the Metal Trades Council of the A. F. of L. is creating division and rifts in the ranks of the workers which helps only the bosses.

New York City.

A hundred and seventy five workers walked out of the Sagamore metal plant on Thursday, August 17, on strike for a 35-hour week and a minimum wage \$15 for the workers. The solidarity, militancy and 100% response of the workers are the best guarantee that the only guarantee that the solidarity and maintained.

#### THE GREAT DRESSMAKERS STRIKE IN NEW YORK (Continued from Page 1)

the courage to recognize facts as they are and make an end to the policies that are doing such untold harm to the Communist move-

The general strike of the dressmakers, just because of its success, has brought great problems to the union, primarily the problem of consolidating the ranks of the newly organized workers, strengthening the union to make it a real, problems facing the union are successfully solved!

#### THE CIGAR MAKERS STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1) strike committee and a relief committee were elected as many of them are starving. This Paul them are starving. This Paul Jones brought in another politician, Pat Viola, who led the right wing section of the veterans to Washington last year. These two came and offered their assistance to the union At present, our group, altho not in control, is still very influential with the union.

#### NRA TO BAR PICKETING (Continued from Page 1) worker knows that, once he is successful there, all unions, even the most conservative, will become his

Labor must tolerate not the slightest restriction of the right

victims.



ATOMS AND COSMOS, by L. Reichenbach. The Macmillan Co. New York, 1933.

This book is to be recommended as a clear and simple introduction to the involved mysteries of modern science. The author has an instinct for realistic materialist formulation and approaches the idealist interpretations of modern science (i.e., in regard to the theory of indeterminacy and related questions) with commendable caution. Nevertheless, in trying to steer a middle course, it is to be expected that the author does not come off quite unscathed. Idealist formula-tions crop up here and there inevit-ably, and willy-nilly the author gives objective support to the idealists. However, he never descends to the crass formulations of a Jeans. All that notwithstanding, and in spite of a decided superfiliving and militant weapon in the ciality in philosophical questions hands of the workers to enforce this book is decidedly better for determined to stay cut until the gains of the strike. It is proposed to the most pair than most books in the field, giving the layman an insight, as far as possible without the language ofmathematics, into the modern conception of space - time - motionenergy - light - atom - molecule electron - proton. JIM CORK.

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