

FOR COMMUNIST  
UNITY IN THE  
REVOLUTIONARY  
CLASS STRUGGLE!

# THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEFENDING  
THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY  
(Majority Group)

WORKERS OF ALL  
COUNTRIES  
UNITE!

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## RAIL UNIONS TO JOIN WITH A. F. L.

Present Negotiations May Lead to Affiliation  
NEED NEW MILITANCY

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 20.—Negotiations directed towards the affiliation of the four big railroad brotherhoods, numbering about 500,000 members, to the American Federation of Labor are already in an advanced stage, according to A. F. of L. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. The affiliation of these unions would raise the A. F. of L. membership very nearly to the 3,500,000 mark.

The four big railroad brotherhoods consist of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Brotherhood of Railroad Conductors. The difficulties still existing in the way of the affiliation are said to be largely jurisdictional disputes between the four brotherhoods on the one hand and the dozen or more railroad craft unions already in the A. F. of L.

It is rumored that similar negotiations in some form or other are under way for the affiliation of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers to the A. F. of L.

The separation of the railway brotherhoods from the A. F. of L. was always a negative factor for the American labor movement since it set up a wall of separation between the organized railway workers and the rest of the organized workers in the A. F. of L. The affiliation of the brotherhoods will therefore *objectively* be a valuable step in the direction of the consolidation of the forces of organized labor. But the objective value of this step can not be realized unless the conservative leadership and policies of both the A. F. of L. and the brotherhoods are replaced by militant fighting policies and leadership.

## WAKE UP!

One of the greatest dangers for the Revolutionary Age is a false feeling of confidence. The readers of the Revolutionary Age have altogether too much the feeling that since the Weekly is already here, it will maintain itself automatically, and that any worry about the Weekly Age is now unnecessary.

This feeling is absolutely wrong and extremely dangerous. The Weekly Age is not here to stay—unless the \$3,000 Drive is put over! Yes, the Weekly Age is here thru the sacrifices of a few New York comrades. But it will not be maintained unless the comrades and readers all over the country get on the job! To KEEP the Weekly means to put over the \$3,000-Drive!

It is surely not necessary to explain that the Weekly means to the revolutionary labor struggle in this country. Subscribers and readers of the Revolutionary Age realize this well enough. Only—they are lulled to sleep by a feeling of false confidence.

Wake up! The Weekly Age is in danger! It will not continue unless YOU make it possible for it to continue! Put over the \$3,000—Keep the Weekly Drive.

## JOBLESS FACE MISERY, DEATH

Children Battered to Death While Parents Wait On Breadline; Jobless Man Kills Self

NEW BEDFORD, Mass.—At the time that James Solmon, a Negro, and his wife stood on the Salvation Army bread line here waiting for some food, a fire broke out in their house and three of their four children were burned to death.

NEW YORK CITY—A jobless, penniless man who had kept his body and soul together for days on the breadline was found dead by suicide yesterday. His last act was to write a sardonic Christmas message bequeathing his overcoat, the only thing he had, to "some poor man". The man's name is Delcio Discitich. He was 38 years old.

## "Too Much Wheat" - But Millions Starve

*Too Much Wheat: A Great World Dilemma.* It is under this title that the New York Times carries a leading article in the issue of Sunday, Dec. 21, 1930. In the same issue of the same newspaper, we also learn that the unemployed in the United States, Germany and other countries have increased in numbers, and that millions are virtually starving or on the verge of starvation. Can anything more damning to the capitalist system be produced than this simple fact? In the last fifteen years, the world production of wheat—bread—has increased by 32%. The population of the world has increased by only 10%. Instead of leading to a higher living standard for the masses, this increased production has led to a lower living standard. Not only the workers, the consumers of the wheat, but also the peasant and farmers throughout the world, the producers of the wheat, are suffering greatly. The peasants and farmers have produced so much food and the workers have produced so many commodities, that now they must go without them. They must go hungry because there is too much food, naked because there is too much clothing, homeless because there are too many houses!

But if we look on the other side of the medal, we see that those who produce not, but live on the toil of others, have concentrated such tremendous wealth in their hands, that they hardly can devise enough methods for spending it. In the year 1930, the American capitalists spent over five billions of dollars for traveling in foreign countries! All the talk of the government and the capitalists about "relieving" the unemployed and the farmers has but one aim—to arrange things in such a manner that these billions of dollars will remain in the hands of the parasites so they can continue to roll in luxury. The job of the government is to make sure that these billions are not touched in any way. Tax reduction after tax reduction has been effected, saving billions for the big corporations. Not satisfied with this, Andy Mellon has been "refund-

ing" income tax payments to the big corporations at the rate of about \$500,000,000 each year for the last eight years! And after handing all this money over to the big magnates for their relief, the government generously decided to "relieve" the drought-stricken farmers and the unemployed workers to the tune of \$161,000,000 — \$45,000,000 for the farmers and \$116,000,000 for the unemployed.

Of course there is a joker in this "relief" as there is in every measure which the government says is for the benefit of the masses. The money for the farmers cannot be used to feed human beings. If the farmer is hungry, the government can do nothing for him! But if his donkey is hungry, the government will rush in to save the donkey's life!

The joker in the unemployed relief is even bigger. The money will be spent as follows, according to the resolution:

For highways	\$30,000,000
Rivers and harbors	22,500,000
Mississippi flood control	2,000,000
Highways, roads and trails in national forests, parks and unreserved public lands	10,500,000

We see that not a single cent goes directly to the unemployed, and not a single unemployed worker in the large cities will secure employment thru this relief. Now if the worker demands help, the government can proudly tell him to take a walk over the wonderful roads in our national parks and be inspired.

Neither the fake unemployment relief, nor the fake public works, nor the fake unemployment insurance in some countries has any effect in either lessening unemployment or relieving the unemployed. All these schemes are so inadequate, that they but serve as weapons in the hands of the bosses against the workers, and to prevent the workers from taking up a struggle for real unemployment relief and against the capitalist system which causes and perpetuates unemployment.

## RELIGION IN THE SERVICE OF THE BOSSES AND WAR MAKERS

Pope Pius XI Hides War Plans of Bosses; Hits Soviet Union and China Revolt

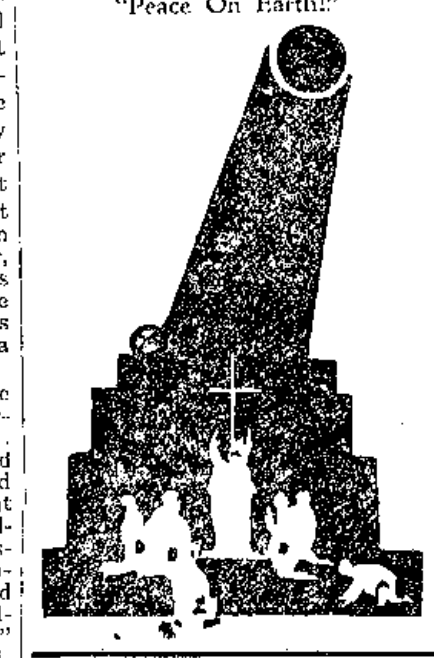
ROME, Dec. 21.—An attempt to hide the preparations for a new world war on the part of the imperialist powers with pious phrases about the "incredibility" of another war and an open attack upon the Soviet Union and the peasant revolution in China, characterized the Christmas message of Pope Pius XI. The Pontiff "expressed his disbelief in the threats of new wars, while peoples still feel so painfully the scourge of the last one." The full hypocrisy of this statement can only be appreciated if we know that not only is the Pope fully aware of the open preparations for new wars being made now, not only was Pius XI the leading spirit in the attempted armed intervention against the Soviet Union last year, but that the Pope will lead and bless the imperialist banners when the armed crusade against the workers and peasant government becomes a fact.

In the same Christmas message he called for "prayers for those admirable champions who in the name of Christ suffer and die in Russia and Siberia . . . and for the brave and valorous missionaries who underwent a real martyrdom in China." The "admirable champions of Christ in Russia" are the Polish and Russian Catholic spy-priests who are acting as paid agents of world imperialism, especially French. The "martyrs in China" are the advance agents of the imperialist robbers and allies of the warlords who met a well-deserved fate at the hands of the revolutionary peasants. The "prayers" that must still be offered up for these worthies are the pious justification for a coming armed attack upon the USSR and for the inhuman murders of the Kuomintang generals in China.

The Pope's message shows only too clearly: *Religion today is the handmaid of capitalism and imperialism; there is nothing too dirty, too inhuman, too vicious, that the church will not bless in the name of Christ!*

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 25.—In his Christmas Message, Archbishop Pascual Diaz of Mexico calls for a struggle against the "Protestant menace" in Mexico. Protestantism, he declares, "is one of the elements with which the powerful neighbor (the U. S. A.) is trying gradually but effectively to dominate and realize its imperialism in our land."

Archbishop Diaz has eyes sharp



enough to see the reactionary imperialist role of the Protestant propaganda in Mexico but he is suddenly struck blind when it comes to seeing the vicious role his own church, the Catholic church, plays as the handmaiden of the reactionary landowners and other native exploiters of Mexico. Nor has he anything at all to say about the not altogether unknown alliance of the Catholic church and the imperialist exploiters of Great Britain. The truth is: *Both Protestantism and Catholicism are bitter enemies of the Mexican masses!*

## ECONOMIC CRISIS GROWS SHARPER

Production Falls, Also Imports; Steel Figures Drop Lower

SOVIET UNION ON RISE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—A systematic decline of production and factory employment accompanied by a slight decline in wholesale commodity prices for November and the beginning of December, was announced in the report of the Federal Reserve Board in its monthly statement of business and financial conditions.

Payroll totals have also declined within the stated period, even more sharply than employment.

Decline in Imports

The decline in American imports in the first nine months of 1930 was rather sharp when compared with the high value records set up in the corresponding period in 1929, according to the report of the foreign commerce department of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in its analysis of American trade in the world.

Production of Iron and Steel Falls

The world's production of iron and steel in 1930 has declined to the lowest totals since 1926, according to a special interview of the industry prepared by *Steel*, formerly *Iron Trade Review*. It is stated that in the production of pig iron the United States receded at only half the rate of the rest of the world, but that in the production of steel the decrease in this country was 27 per cent, compared with 14 percent for the rest of the world.

The Soviet Union was noted as one of the few steel-producing countries in the world which registered a gain in production. The table given in the report follows:

	1930.	1929.	1928.
U. S.	41,320,000	55,650,000	58,687,000
Canada	295,000	1,380,000	1,240,000
Great Britain	7,600,000	9,654,000	8,320,000
France	9,225,000	9,543,000	9,318,000
Belgium	1,325,000	4,067,000	3,872,000
Luxembourg	2,250,000	2,659,000	2,526,000
Italy	1,809,260	2,109,000	1,932,000
Germany	11,600,000	15,986,000	14,285,000
Russia	4,450,000	4,824,000	4,206,000

## YOUTH PAPER HIT BY POST OFFICE

"Young Worker" Declared Unmailable; Other Red Papers Hit

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The *Young Worker*, official paper of the Young Communist League of the United States, announces that the postal authorities have revoked the second class mailing rights of this paper.

This attack upon the *Young Worker* is a part of general offensive against the labor press that was begun a few months ago when the *Revolutionary Age*, the organ of the Communist Party (Majority Group), was refused second class mailing rights, and was subsequently barred from the mail altogether. The next blow fell upon *Vida Obvra*, the Spanish Communist paper, published in New York. Now the *Young Worker* is threatened; the *Daily Worker* and the *Proletariat*, will probably follow.

When the *Revolutionary Age* was first attacked by the Post Office, the CP-Majority Group appealed to the Communist Party for a united front against the attacks of the government. This appeal was repeated in connection with the Fish committee anti-Communist attack. But the official Party bureaucrats either kept absolutely silent or else heaped abuse—not upon the Post Office—but upon the Communists under attack of the government! They refused absolutely to help mobilize the workers against the growing attack upon the workers press. Now the reactionary forces are turning their attention to the official Communist Party papers, but still the official Party bureaucrats refuse to build up a real united labor front against the government's attacks. They are thus leaving the Communist movement defenseless in the face of the bitterest capitalist offensive in years.

The workers should discard the narrow sectarian and clique attitude of the present Communist Party officials and unite in defense of the labor press under reactionary fire. Defend the *Revolutionary Age*, the *Vida Obvra*, and the *Young Worker!*

## Break-up of the Two-Party System Looms

Lucas, Executive of Republican National Committee, Used Slush Funds Against Norris, "Insurgent" Republican; White House Backs Lucas; "Insurgents" Talk Tall

NORRIS REJECTS DEWEY'S INVITATION TO LEAD THIRD PARTY MOVE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—In a letter dated December 27, Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska rejected the invitation extended to him by John Dewey, chairman of the League for Independent Political Action, to leave the Republican party and to "take the lead in the formation of a third party."

Senator Norris declares in his letter that "there is no demand for a third party" and that the hold of the plutocracy upon the Republican party can be broken thru the passage of a constitutional amendment doing away with the Electoral College and providing for the direct election of president.

THE LUCAS DISCLOSURES

Professor Dewey's invitation to Senator Norris to take active lead in forming a third party came in connection with the sharp controversy that has been raging within the last two weeks in the upper circles of the

Republican party. This controversy broke out as a result of the disclosure that Robert H. Lucas, executive director of the Republican National Committee, had actively but secretly tried to defeat Senator Norris in his recent campaign for re-election, altho Norris is technically a Republican. As soon as this was disclosed Mr. Lucas issued a public statement defending his course and reiterating that Senator Norris "is not a Republican" because he supported the Democratic presidential slate in 1928. It was everywhere recognized that such a declaration on the part of the executive director of the Republican National Committee was practically equivalent to expulsion from the party.

THE 40,000 SLUSH FUND

Further fuel was added to the flames when it was disclosed that in his surreptitious fight against Norris, Lucas has used a secret \$40,000 slush fund deposited at the Commercial and National Bank of Washington. Altho it is officially "denied" it is well understood in Washington that the administration stands behind Lucas in his attitude to Norris.

THE INSURGENT TALK TALL

The Lucas-Norris flare-up was made the occasion for a demonstration of the so-called "irregular" Senators against the party chiefs. Senator Smith W. Brookhart of Iowa, who is very "heroic" when it comes to words, declared:

"Mr. Robert H. Lucas says there is a cancer in the Republican party and that it must be cut out. He is right, but doesn't recognize cancerous part. The personal of this cancerous growth is Ar W. Mellon.

"The organic substance of this cancerous growth is bi-partisan financial autocracy, commonly called Wall Street, and lately assuming the benevolent name of co-operation. It sets up a platform of concrete promises to agriculture, labor and ordinary business, to secure the votes of ordinary people, then secretly seeks to defeat every honest candidate who would carry out this platform in good faith."

DEWEY APPEALS TO NORRIS

It was in the midst of this situation that Professor Dewey wrote his letter to Norris. Dewey said that he "agreed with Mr. Lucas" that Senator Norris does not belong in the Republican party since the Republican party is based on "rugged individualism" while Senator Norris is "socially minded." He declared that the two parties are exactly the same in policies and in plutocratic control and that a "third party is inevitable." He therefore called upon Senator Norris to "lead this movement." Norris rejected this invitation and in this rejection he was supported by the other "irregular" Republicans.

Meanwhile the cracks in the Republican party are growing wider and the inner crisis more acute.

Now read the editorial on the last page as well as the article by Ben Gitlow on the same page for a Communist analysis of the significance of the Lucas-Norris controversy, the third party movement, and of the forces making in the direction of a Labor Party.

## JUDGES BUSHEL AND WEIL, FOES OF WORKERS, CAUGHT WITH GOODS

They Preach "Morality" and "Respect for Law" to the Workers But Are Filthy With Corruption and Vice

It was in April, 1929. The cafeteria strike in New York was in full swing. Nearly 1,500 strikers were arrested for picketing, hundreds went to jail, thousands of dollars spent by the union for fines.

The trial of John Taylor, picket, was on. The attorney for the cafeteria was Hyman Bushel. Bushel had been a lawyer for a long time. He was finally appointed to the magistrates bench by the Tammany administration. After he sat on the bench for a week, he resigned to accept the job as attorney for the United Restaurant Owners Association. But before he resigned he helped get out on injunction against the strikers. Then for several weeks he appeared in court every day to do his bit in rail-roading strikers to jail. Then again Bushel was appointed a temporary magistrate by Mayor Walker. But he still retained his job in the service of the hotel owners. His lips always had phrases about "Americanism" and "democracy" and "law and order" dripping from them.

our government. I think, that all of these strikers . . . are a menace to this community. They are undermining and sapping the respect for a mandate of a court, for our judges and our tribunals. In every case possible they should be deported. . . Taylor, if you are going to disrespect our laws, that will mean that we have no government. . . Six months in the workhouse!"

Now in December, 1930. . . Judge Bushel, the heroic champion of "Americanism" and "law and order," is being investigated by the Appellate division because of a fee of \$7,000 that he took in defending a fence and because of shady dealings with a notorious bondsman, "Uncle Nathan" Vladinger! And Magistrate Weil, who spoke so touchingly of "respect for our laws" and "undermining respect for our courts", is involved up to his neck in charges of corruption, bribery and other forms of highly "moral" conduct.

A living lesson for every worker: *Capitalist morality means the systematic suppression of the workers. The pillars of capitalist society who impose the most brutal sentences upon the workers in the name of "morality", and the "interests of the community", are precisely the ones whose hands are filthy with the grossest corruption and vice.*

## "DISARMING" IS VERY EXPENSIVE

A Billion To Raise Navy To Treaty Strength

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—The cost of "disarmament" seems to be mounting. If the United States builds up its combatant units to the strength fixed for it by the London naval treaty, the cost will be about \$1,100,000,000 and if the cost of the air program is added, the total will be \$1,250,000,000, according to the estimate of Admiral William V. Pratt, chief of naval operations, transmitted today to the House Committee on Naval Affairs.

# Get on the Job! Put Over the \$3,000 Drive!

# NEGRO GIRL JIM-CROWED, JAILED

## North Carolina Teacher Thrown Out of Car THEN HELD FOR TRIAL

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Miss Lillian Redding, a young school teacher of Wilmington, Del., who is teaching this winter at a Fairview public school was arrested and thrown into a cell for riding in the front part of a jim-crow street car, which, with the exception of one white man, was occupied entirely by members of her race.

In a statement Miss Redding said that she was told by the conductor, after she had ridden nearly a mile from Biddleville, "Hey, you get back there."

She looked at him, whereupon he said "Yes, you." Upon asking why she was told, "Don't ask why. Just get back there."

She then moved back one seat, and on reaching the square the conductor stopped the car and got a policeman, who came into the car and with his hands forcibly removed her, meanwhile using abusive language.

She was taken in the patrol to the jail, where she was placed in a cell without being allowed to communicate with her friends. After much trouble she was released on \$24 bail.

# REVOLT SPIRIT RISES IN SPAIN

## Organized Labor In Anti-Monarchist Movement SHARP REPRESSIONS ON

MADRID, Dec. 25.—In spite of the suppression of the recent uprising the republican movement in Spain seems to be growing stronger daily, according to observers here. The country is seething with republican sentiment, penetrating especially the ranks of the workers, farmers, petty bourgeoisie and intellectuals. The repressions that have been initiated by the royal government have only had the effect of stimulating the republican movement.

The big part that the organized workers played in the recent republican uprising has now become perfectly clear. The overthrow of the monarchy, it was made clear in the manifesto of the National Confederation of labor, would only be the first step overthrowing the domination of the monarchy.

# BERLIN LOSES HOME RULE

BERLIN, Germany.—The long and bitter struggle of the reactionary forces to destroy the municipal home-rule of "Red" Berlin reached partial fruition on November 27 in the appointment of two financial dictators for Berlin by Dr. Meyer, the provincial governor. The two dictators are von Stein and Dr. Koppen.

The first act of these dictators was to impose two new tax bills directly hitting the workers and lower sections of the petty bourgeoisie in Berlin. One is a citizens tax (a sort of head-tax) and the other is a tax on drinks in restaurants. Further financial measures of this stripe are being planned.

When the two measures were announced at the November 27 session of the House of Aldermen, the Communist aldermen made a vigorous protest which was cheered by the crowds in the balcony. With the consent of the Social-democrats the chairman ordered the removal of the Communists. The Communists naturally refused to leave the house of which they were members whereupon they were brutally attacked by a police squad.

# "NEXT WAR" AT NEW YORK FORUM

## Bert Wolfe Will Speak At New Workers School Forum

Bert Wolfe, author of the series of articles on the "Next War" which have been running serially in the *Revolutionary Age*, will lecture next Sunday night January 4 at the New Workers School Forum, 63 Madison Ave. How war is being prepared, what is bringing it about, how disarmament conferences disarm, what the war will be like, latest inventions in chemicals and poison gases, what to do about it—all are the absorbing topics that comrade Wolfe will take up.

Other January talks include lectures by David J. Saposs on "The Future of the A. F. of L.," by Herbert Zam on "Norris, Third Party, and Labor Party" and Roger Baldwin on "The Land of the Free."

# WHO SAID, HARD TIMES?



# MILLIONS FOR THE BOSSES-- STARVATION FOR MASSES

## Record Year of Dividends for Corporations— Record Year of Breadlines for Jobless

The capitalist system concentrates wealth at one pole of society and poverty at the other. The idlers and spoilers have all the good things of life—the producers and toilers all the hard luck and misery. And the worse conditions are for the latter, the better they become for the former. Nowhere is this horrible conditions more clearly to be seen than in the United States, the "land of plenty."

The last few months have been months of wage-cutting, union-smashing, unemployment and grinding misery for the millions of workers in this country. But in the month of September 1930 American industries paid dividends amounting to \$475,094,394, while in 1929 this sum amounted to \$389,291,264. And the month of September is no exception. If we take the first nine months of the current fiscal year and compare it with the similar period in the previous fiscal year what do we find? 1929—\$2,338,278,581; 1930—\$3,621,104,457 and the year 1929 was a record "prosperity" year.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 23.—A \$9,000,000 dividend has been voted by

the directors of the Midwest Refining Company. The company announced today an extra dividend of \$16 a share. The Standard Oil Company of Indiana owns 99.3% of the Midwest stock. Standard's share in the dividend amounts to approximately 60 cents a share on its outstanding stock.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 23.—George I. Cochran, president of the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company of California, announced today an increase in the annual dividend from \$2 a share to \$2.40.

Simultaneously with the announcement that the regular quarterly dividend of 62½¢ had been declared on the common stock, John D. Ryan and Cornelius F. Kelley, chairman and president respectively of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, issued a joint statement stating that "the copper industry is basically sound."

The Briggs Manufacturing Company placed its stock on a \$1.50 annual basis yesterday and declared an extra dividend of 12½¢, resuming dividends after a lapse of three years.

# BORO PARK YOUTH CLUB HELPS "AGE"

## Offers Many Attractions To Young Workers

### OUTLINE PROGRAM

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Dec. 26.—A group of Boro Club members utilized the Christmas holiday for the support of the weekly *Revolutionary Age*.

On Christmas eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24, a party was held in support of the weekly *Revolutionary Age* in the house of Lillian Gottlieb, secretary of the Boro Park Workers Youth Club.

About 60 workers were present and were addressed by Bernard Broderick of the Club and Herbert Zam of the *Revolutionary Age* staff. Reva Weissman was chairman. As a result the *Age* will get \$30 and the *Arbeiterkampf* \$7.

A New Years party will be held in the Club, at 4109A 13th Avenue, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 31. This promises to be a real affair with a concert, moving pictures, sweet tables, dancing and lot of noise for a very nominal admission fee. On Friday, Jan. 2, there will be a lecture on a timely topic.

On Tuesday, Jan. 6, there will be a debate among the students of the class in "Communism" on the question of immigration.

Club rooms are open every night in the week. Chess, checkers, ping-pong, radio-victrola, reading table and discussions are the week day attractions.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—The practical impossibility of enforcing the tenement house laws in N. Y. City because the poorest families have no place to go except the outlawed tenements, was brought out in the report on the housing situation of the City Affairs Committee, a liberal-Socialist body. The report also contains an analysis of the so-called "limited dividend" corporations (housing corporations limited to 6% dividends) which shows that these corporations cannot in any sense be considered as solving the housing problem. The general conclusion of the report is in the direction of municipal-housing.

# USE RACKET QUIZ TO ATTACK UNION

## Millinery Workers Manager Arrested on Racket Charge

### FOLLOW SIMILAR CASE

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Another attempt of District Attorney Cram to use his so-called "anti-racketeering" investigation as a weapon to smash unions and destroy union consciousness was exposed in the arrest of N. Spector, manager of Millinery Workers Union Local 24, on December 23, on the charge of "racketeering." The district attorney's office informed him that a complaint had been made by a manufacturer (Morris Schechter) that the union was trying to make a "hold-up" on him by refusing to allow the firing of half the workers in his shop and by insisting on the equal division of work instead. Brother Spector was questioned and released pending "further investigation."

This attack upon Millinery Workers Union Local 24 follows a very similar attack upon the International Pocket-book Workers Union, whose manager, Barnet Wolf, was recently arrested on a similar charge of "racketeering."

At the local union meeting that took place on the same evening, Brother Spector reported these events and I. H. Goldberg, organizer of the local, introduced a draft resolution condemning the attempt to bring up racketeering charges against the union. The whole proposal was, however, constructed in a very indecisive and defensive manner and proposed no concrete action, satisfying itself with protest merely.

Brother Goldstock pointed this out and thereupon Brother H. Zukowsky made an amendment in which he brought out the part boss politics is playing in this attack on the trade unions and proposed the calling of a conference of all labor organizations to resist this attack on the labor movement that is parading under the cover of an "anti-racketeering" campaign. Since the meeting concluded without a vote on this resolution, it was referred to the executive.

Since the Morris Schechter shop refused to concede the demands of union a stoppage has been declared there.

# BORO PARK YOUTH FULFILLS PROMISE

The Boro Park Workers Youth Club has made good its promise given at the recent Conference for the Defence of the Labor Press. It has just turned over \$30 raised at a recent affair to the *Revolutionary Age* to be used in the fight against the Post Office Department in its attempt to suppress our paper.

# MAURICE MALKIN OUT OF JAIL

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Maurice Malkin, militant needle trades worker, was released on December 21 from prison where he served almost two years as one of the Mincola defendants.

Because he is a Trotskyite the official Communist party press keeps a deadly silence about the release of Malkin.

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

# Millinery Workers Need Left Wing for Union

## A Letter from a Millinery Worker

On Tuesday, December 23, there took place a meeting of our union, Millinery Workers Union Local 24. There was a report by the manager, N. Spector, on preparations for the coming season. Spector's report consisted of all of the old promises that had been made at every pre-season union meeting for the last five or six years. Meanwhile the conditions of the workers, especially the operators and cutters, have been growing worse and worse and become practically intolerable. There was nothing in Spector's report that would indicate that this time his report would not remain mere pious wishes as in the past. He did not make clear that it was the failure of the administration to carry thru its own promises all these years that has brought the situation to where it is today.

There was a lively discussion following the report lasting late into the night. Early in the discussion, H. Zukowsky severely criticized the manager's report and proposed the following concrete immediate measures:

- (1) The establishment of a committee of the unemployed millinery workers, representing all tendencies, which shall distribute the jobs in conjunction with the executive.
- (2) Jobs shall be given to workers in order of length of unemployment.
- (3) The union shall issue a manifesto putting in good standing all members who are behind in dues more than six months because of unemployment.
- (4) Everyone entitled to a working permit in accordance with the above shall be able to pay out his dues within eight weeks.
- (5) No overtime shall be permitted in any case.
- (6) The union shall insist on week work in all shops, especially in the small and contracting shops which are undermining the conditions of the workers.
- (7) There shall be absolutely equal division of work. No individual workers shall be allowed to work and the others stand idle.

The meeting was protracted until a very late hour and was diverted from a discussion of the report by the Lederfarb-Malinach opposition and the administration. Finally the administration took a so-called vote at a time when everybody was already leaving the hall and refused to put a vote the propositions made made by Zukowsky.

The job of the left wing now is to organize around this program of immediate demands and to win the union for the workers—against the TUUL policy of deserting the union and the workers. — H. Z.

# MUSTE DROPS OUT OF DEWEY LEAGUE UP IN BIG REVOLT

## Resigns from Executive Of Third Party Group FOR A LABOR PARTY

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—As a protest against the action of Professor John Dewey, chairman of the League for Independent Political Action inviting Senator Norris to lead the movement for a third party, A. J. Muste has resigned from the executive committee of the League. Dr. Muste is the chairman of the Conference for Progressive Labor Action, and head of Brookwood Labor College. In his statement on his resignation, Brother Muste declared that there is no place in this country for a third capitalist party today and that what is really needed is a labor party.

"Personally, I cannot in the last analysis see any place for a liberal party in the present advanced stage of American industrialism," Dr. Muste wrote in his letter of resignation to Howard V. Williams, secretary of the League. "Something more drastic and coherent is required."

"Nor can I believe that such a party, no matter how cautious and liberal its program, would have any but the most evanescent success in the face of the powerful Republican and Democratic machines and the certainty that the dominating financial and industrial interests would rally to the support of these party machines if they were seriously threatened. A loosely constructed party, with a nice program built around a few individuals and including groups with diverse economic interests, would get us nowhere. It would make a fine showing for a little while, but it would go the way of similar promising third party movements in the past."

"I believe that we must build our political machinery for a genuine labor party down on the ground first, that the masses of the workers must be ready for it than they are now before it can have success on a large scale, and that parties make leaders, not leaders parties. A soundly built labor party in the process of its growth will develop its own leaders, as have similar working-class movements in other countries."

"This is a very different thing from inviting such figures practically to form a new party. For the present it is of the utmost importance to avoid every appearance of seeking messiahs who are to bring down a third party out of the political heavens."

# DANCE

with us on Sat. Night Jan. 10 at 8 p. m.

# NEW WORKERS SCHOOL

63 MADISON AVE., Cor 27th

Admission 35¢ Jazz King (all colored Band)

# MOVIES

## THE DEVIL TO PAY, with Ronald Colman. At the Gaiety.

In this story of the scape-grace son of Lord Leeland, Ronald Colman gives a very good performance but perhaps George, the wire-haired terrier, really carries off the honors. There are dozens of breezy incidents and amusing sequences but you have to look high and low for a real plot—and then you can't find it. — R. L. S.

## NEW MOON, with Grace Moore and Lawrence Tibbett. At the Astor.

Just one of those time-worn stories of the Handsome Lieutenant and the Beautiful Princess in the "good old days" (for the lieutenants and the princesses) of the Romanoffs. There is absolutely nothing of any value in this picture except the splendid singing. In no way does it compare with the *Rogus Song*.

## The Class Line in Movies

At the same time that *All Quiet on the Western Front* was banned by the Prussian government, upon the demand of the Fascists, because it "is offensive to the national spirit," the picture, *The Flute Player of Sans-Souci* was given semi-official government support in spite of the protests of numerous workers organizations who claim that the picture, idealizing as it does the life of Frederick the Great, is conscious propaganda for imperialism and militarism today.

# CHELSEA BANK CLOSES DOORS

## Broderick Attempts to Blame It On the Reds

### 981 FAILURES IN 1930

NEW YORK CITY, Dec. 21.—The Chelsea Bank and Trust Company was closed yesterday by Joseph A. Broderick, state superintendent of banks, after runs on the main office of the bank and its six branches grew to great proportions.

The Chelsea Bank was a member neither of the Federal Reserve system nor of the Clearing House. A desperate attempt to shift responsibility for the closing down of the Chelsea Bank as well as for the threatened stability of many other banking institutions of this city, was made by Supt. Broderick in his Hamilton Fish-like charge that the "Reds" have organized a conspiracy against the banks and, in alliance with certain short-selling brokers, have "engineered" the runs on the Bank of the U. S. and on the Chelsea Bank and "are engineering new runs on still more banks."

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 23.—Two banks, the Riverside Trust Company of Hartford and the New Haven Bank of Hartford, were suspended today by the state banking commission.

Five more Southern banks—in Miami, Fla.; Richmond, Va.; Bessemer, Ala.; and in Washington, Ga.—were closed down in the past week.

Nine hundred and eighty-one banks in the United States closed their doors in the first eleven months of this year, the Federal Reserve Board reports declare. The number is unprecedented in the history of this country.

# "TO BUILD MERCHANT SHIPS FOR WAR"

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 7.—In laying the keel of the first of the two 30,000 ton vessels to be constructed here for the United States Line, Senator-elect Dwight Morrow emphasized the building up of an American merchant marine as a war measure. "My experience has taught me," he declared, "that the most indisputable interest the United States government has in building up an adequate merchant marine is to erect a secondary defense in time of war."

# STREET FIGHTS IN RANGOON

RANGOON, Burma, Dec. 26.—British machine guns were dispatched today to the Tharrawaddy district, where peasant uprisings have burst forth with great vigor. Further developments are expected within the next few days.

# GALA NEW YEAR'S PARTY

the time: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31, New Year's Eve

the place: NEW WORKERS CENTER, 63 Madison Avenue

admission: THIRTY FIVE CENTS

Good Dancing Good Music A Good Time

Lenin or DeLeon?

DeLeon and Roots of American Communism

by Herbert Zam

On the occasion of the 78th birthday of Daniel DeLeon, (DeLeon was born on Dec. 14, 1862 on Curacao Island near Venezuela) the Socialist Labor Party declared: "As year after year passes by, the great and powerful figure of DeLeon looms larger and higher on the horizon." An examination of the present literature of the Communist Party leads one to the conclusion that this statement of the S. L. P. is justified at least by the fact that DeLeon seems to be acquiring followers in the ranks of the Communists. Some time ago the Revolutionary Age declared that the present Party and Communist leaderships have abandoned Leninist tactics in the trade union field in favor of DeLeonism. Not only has this estimate proven true, but it must be said that along the entire front, the official leaders of the Communist and of the American Party are joining in the adulation of DeLeon which has up to now been the sole monopoly, and incidentally, the sole stock in trade, of the sectarian Socialist Labor Party. It is of course no accident that the sudden discovery of the "revolutionary" virtues of DeLeon should be made at this time. The whole course of the Party leadership today is a departure from the principles of Leninist strategy, in the direction of its direct opposite, DeLeonist sectarianism. No wonder that K. Marmor, writing in the Freiheit on this subject, declares that "the real followers of Daniel DeLeon are today no longer in the ranks of the Socialist Labor Party but in the Communist Party." This is also the main theme of two articles by I. G. Raisky (Red Professor) which appeared in the September and October numbers of the Communist. (A note informs us that these articles are translated from vol. 2 of Problems of Marxism.)

that workers learn primarily through their own experience. The present-day followers of DeLeon would have us think the first view to be revolutionary and the second reformist. The test of the revolutionary character of an organization or individual lies not in its ability to produce revolutionary theories or phrases, or even to write learned dissertations on economic questions, but in its ability to rally the non-revolutionary masses for the carrying out of these revolutionary theories and phrases. By this test must we judge DeLeon and the S. L. P. It is sufficient merely to state the fact that in the last thirty years, fifteen of them under the leadership of DeLeon, the name of the S. L. P. has not been connected with a single outstanding struggle of the workers, with not a single historical revolutionary event. How seriously can such a party be taken as a revolutionary force, despite all its revolutionary phraseology? The Socialist party, on the other hand, which Comrade Raisky warns aside as unimportant, and condemns as "reformist" because he considers it the party of Hillquit and Berger, is connected with numerous outstanding and heroic struggles of the American workers. How does Comrade Raisky account for that? Just as he sees only the revolutionary phraseology of DeLeon but not his deep opportunism, so also he sees in the S. P. only the Hillquits and Berbers, and fails to see the revolutionary workers, who while opposed to Hillquit's opportunism are none the less repelled by DeLeon's scholasticism. Raisky therefore considers that the S.P. and the S.L.P. represent respectively the reformist and revolutionary concentrations in the American Socialist movement. He says: "DeLeon's determination to convert the Party (S. L. P.-H. Z.) into revolutionary vanguard of the proletariat met with resistance within the party, which led at the end of the century to a split between the revolu-

tionary and opportunist elements in American socialism." Besides mistating the causes of the split, Comrade Raisky is absolutely wrong as to its consequences. Any one who is acquainted with the development of Communism in America will recognize this event without making a deep analysis of the differences between the S.P. and the S.L.P. For it was not the "revolutionary" S.L.P. but the "reformist" S.P. that gave birth to the Communist movement. The S.P. produced Hillquit and Berger, but it also produced Debs and Ruthenberg and Haywood. The S.L.P., on the other hand, produced only the scholastic prototypes of Hillquit and Berger, Arnold Peterson and Olive Johnson, than whom there are no greater anti-Communists. Raisky further states that DeLeon "trained valuable Communists in America who had his training in the S. L. P." In the structural difference between the S.P. and S.L.P. Raisky sees an expression of their political differences. This difference, does in fact exist, but it expresses exactly the opposite of what our Red professor sees. The looseness of and lack of discipline in the S.P. made it possible for a revolutionary wing to develop within it, and to secure leadership over the mass of its members, which led to the establishment of various left wing groupings and papers, and finally to the original left wing which became the Communist Party. But the strictly disciplined and centralized S.L.P. made impossible such a development. On the contrary, every new tendency in the S.L.P. was crushed with a by-work. The discipline and centralization were that of Jesuitism and not those of Bolshevism, which permits the greatest inner-party democracy coupled with the firmest unity in action. In the S.L.P. there abounded "unity" of belief but no action. (Two more articles in the series: "Lenin or DeLeon" by Herbert Zam will appear in the Revolutionary Age)

REVOLT IN FRATERNAL SOCIETIES

By Frank Vratario

What the present policies of the Communist Party really mean in the workers organizations is shown by what the Party officials are trying to accomplish in the Croatian Fraternal Union, (CFU), a Croatian workers fraternal society. The present leadership of the Party is openly working in the direction of a split of the CFU, with the objective of "uniting" the split part of the CFU with fragments of other fraternal societies (Jewish, Lithuanian, Russian, etc.) thus making "one big Communist fraternal society" (the International Workers Order). In order to be able to accomplish this splitting purpose, the Party leaders set to work to "reorganize" the Progressive Workers Block (the Party-led left wing of the CFU) into a "Left Wing Block". The Party bureaucrats realized that there would be no play of left wing and Communist workers who would resist the splitting course of the Party. It was therefore necessary to "clean them out." Hence the "reorganization" of the Progressive Block.

traditions of the struggle against the reactionaries in this fraternal society, to call upon the workers to unite in the struggle against the reactionaries inside the organization. This job is a difficult one but it absolutely necessary. Only those who are tired of the teachings of Lenin will take up the policy of split. It is up to us to take up the fight against the reactionaries on the one hand and against any attempts to split the CFU and other fraternal organizations on the other. Why Such Modesty? In the Militant of November 16, Max Shactman (in the article "The A F of L Convention and the Elections") engages in some gentle self-criticism. After analyzing the actual situation and contrasting it with the third-period phantasies of the Communist Party leadership, he declares: "To a moderate extent, the Left Opposition shared this error in the past. That is, it proceeded from the indisputable fact that the premises exist for a deep-going radicalization of the workers and drew the conclusions that the process was well under way." But why so modest, Max? Why don't you tell us that the "revolutionary wave" hallucinations first saw the light in this country in the original and fundamental platform of the Trotskyites, the "Right Danger in the American Party," published in the first few numbers of the Militant? How can we forget the "wide-spread and deep-going radicalization" that formed the joint platform of the Party leadership and the Trotskyites against us? How can we forget how many times we have been called "right wingers" and "social-democrats" by the Trotskyites and the Party bureaucrats for exposing their high-flown surface-revolutionary phrases? The truth is the Trotskyites are now engaged in a "new turn" a la Stalin, in an attempt to crawl out of the ditch without admitting that you have fallen in. . . .

Revolt In Detroit The biggest local of the HBZ is Local 551, Detroit. Here the struggle broke out first of all. In Detroit twelve workers were expelled from the Progressive Block (now the Left Wing Block). These twelve workers came out with a declaration that was printed and widely distributed. Because this declaration of a small group of workers and because the matter first appeared as a local matter, there are some shortcomings to register in this declaration. The declaration, for example, does not sufficiently point out the role of the reactionary and fascist leaders of the HBZ (A. Gazdich, Jonisch). But such shortcomings will be overcome as the movement develops. Also In The Anthracite The destruction of the Progressive Workers Block by the Party, as a preliminary to splitting the HBZ, is not confined to one locality or district. In the anthracite, a mass meeting was held at which Ilijevich, one of the editors of the Rabotnik, spoke. Here he took up the "reorganization" of the block. Ilijevich took it upon himself to appoint the officers of the block, president, secretary, and organizer. Some of the comrades who had been most active in the block protested and demanded the right of election. Ilijevich then declared: The only ones who will be permitted to be members of the block are those who agree 100% with the Communist Party! Here it was very clear that the present leadership of the Party stands in fear of the masses. A work-er asked Ilijevich as to what was the Party line in regard to the HBZ, since there is a fascist at the head of the organization. Ilijevich answered: The Comintern has given its line about fraternal organizations. This line is to split the workers away from the fascist leaders, and in this way fight fascism! An Appeal to Left Wingers Now it has become clear even to the South Slavic workers who could not understand the Party line before, that the Party means to split the fraternal societies. Now it is up to us, Communists, left wingers and progressives, who bear the historical

GERMAN OPPOSITION CONFERENCE

On December 13 and 14, just before the International Communist Opposition Conference, there took place the third national conference of the German Communist Opposition. A full political analysis of this very important conference will appear in the next issue of the Revolutionary Age; here merely an outline report will be given. The conference was opened Saturday afternoon by Comrade Brandler. After greetings by Comrade Mandel, for the Swiss Opposition, by Comrade Koehler, for the Berlin organization, and by the American delegate to the International Conference, the floor was given to Jakob Walcher who gave the report of activity of the National Committee. After this came the report of Paul Boeticher on the political situation. A lively discussion followed. The first point taken up on Sunday was the report on the platform of the Communist Opposition by August Thalheimer. The questions of fascism, of the workers government, of the situation in the USSR and in the CPSC, and of perspective (Party or group were dealt with thoroughly in this report. Important points of view expressed on these questions by rter as well as by the com- took part in the discussion. ing on the thesis, resolu- ments took place.

In the C. I.

SWISS OPPOSITION IS FORMED

NEUHAUSEN, Switzerland, Dec. 1.—On November 29 and 30 there took place here the constituent national conference of the Communist Opposition of Switzerland. There were elected representatives from Schaffhausen, Neuhausen, Zurich and Basel. Comrade Fritsch Hausen was also present as the representative of the German Communist Opposition. On Saturday, Comrade Erb, former secretary of the Schaffhausen Party organization, reported on the situation in the Communist Party, and the condition of the opposition movement. He called attention to the slow development of the opposition movement because of lack of determination and conciliatory tendencies. But, he pointed out, the decisive step has already been taken and the opposition has parliamentary positions in the city and canton of Schaffhausen. Its greatest weapon is the daily paper "Arbeiter-Zeitung" published in Schaffhausen. A full discussion on political and organizational tasks followed in which it was made quite clear that the Swiss Opposition stands firmly on the line of the International Communist Opposition. As the second point of the order of business Comrade Thalman reported on the political situation and on the draft platform of the Swiss Opposition. The conference was concluded with the report of Comrade Hausen on the international draft platform. The conference announced its adherence to the International Communist Opposition and elected Comrade Mandel to the Berlin conference.

THE CRISIS IN THE GERMAN SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

The German Social-democracy finds itself today in a serious crisis which is growing more acute every day. The influence of the S-D party among the working masses is visibly shrinking, largely to the benefit of the fascists. At the same time the struggle within the Social-democracy has broken out with the greatest vigor. Expulsions, reorganizations and disciplinary measures are following one another in rapid succession. Opposition in the Social-democratic party is an old story, but since 1928 the so-called "lefts" have been leading a stagnating and quite legal existence. The occasion for the outbreak of a new left rebellion was the shameless actions of the Social-democratic leadership in its open support of the semi-fascist Brüning government (October 18, December 1, December 6). The solid vote of the S-D fraction (with the exception of Zeigler-Breslau) in support of the Article 48 dictatorship, especially aroused deep protests from the party membership and sympathizers. A special conference of the Berlin district of the S-D party, at which Hilferding and Crispian reported, passed a sharp resolution condemning the official party policy and demanding a special national convention of the party. In Thuringia the revolt of the membership has risen to such heights that local party papers are beginning to talk in very "left" terms. But the real center of the struggle against the course of the Social-democratic party bureaucracy has now become the "Young Socialist League" (Jungsozialistische Vereinigung). (This is an organization of the older proletarian youth and is to be distinguished from the "Socialist Working Youth" (Sozialistische Arbeiter Jugend), which organizes much younger elements. The leading Young Socialists have shown themselves to be outstanding opponents within the S-D movement, of the reformist, class-collaboration policy which is being pursued all along the line. With the Brüning maneuvers of the S-D leadership, the rebellion of the Young socialists became better organized and more conscious. The party bureaucracy immediately proceeded to take "organizational measures"—so serious was the situation. The entire Berlin organization of the JSV was "dissolved" (i.e., the members expelled). A little later the Koenigsberg organization of the SAJ was dissolved. There by no means are isolated examples. The attitude of the old "left" leaders (the political heirs

Problems of the Needle Trades

Appeal to Needle Trades Industrial Union

Letter from the Needle Trade Unity League to the General Executive

Dear Comrades: The full meeting of the GEB, new in session, is confronted with very important tasks which arise from the serious situation in which the needle trades workers find themselves. The conditions of the workers are at their lowest level. Our union is weaker than ever before and is unable to lead the workers in the fight for the improvement of their conditions. Yet at this time we are faced with the fact that the only way in which we can again take the offensive in a fight against the employers is (especially for the dressmakers) thru a general strike. It is therefore necessary for this session of the GEB to examine critically the policies hitherto pursued and the reasons that led to the weakening of the organization and to outline such a course of action that will enable our union again to become a decisive factor in the industry. We, members of the NTWIU, organized in the Needle Trades Workers Unity League, make the following proposals for your consideration, earnestly hoping that you will give them your most serious attention and act in a manner that will again unify our ranks and put us on the road to strength and effectiveness in action: 1. On the coming dressmakers strike. The most serious tasks now are no doubt the coming dressmakers strike and effective mobilization for it. (a) We believe that the demands adopted for this strike by the New York organization of our union will not lead to the best possible mobilization of the workers. The demands for week work and for 35-hour week, while they would unquestionably be valuable acquisitions for the workers, cannot at this time be put forward as immediately practicable demands, at a time when dressmakers are working on the average of 40 hours a week. The masses of the dressmak-

ers feel that these demands are unattainable at the present time and therefore do not take them seriously, thus endangering the strike as a whole. We therefore propose that the demands of the strike should be those which are popular with the workers and yet which are attainable at the present time, that is: the 46-hour 5-day work, guaranteed minimum wage scales, no discharge, unemployment insurance fund, etc. It is true that we had these demands before. The fact is that they are not yet established in the industry and we will have to fight to make them dominant. (b) Another factor that must be considered is how to achieve the unity of action for the strike of all workers in the dress trade. In the ILGWU there are today a considerable number of dressmakers. Their conditions are no better than the general conditions prevailing in the trade and they are as anxious to improve their conditions as any workers. On the other hand, a strike situation in which the members of one union will be out on strike and the members of another union will be working, will tend to demoralize the workers and to prevent the development of effective united strike action. It is therefore up to our union to do all in its power to urge upon the workers the necessity for united action in the strike and to adopt concrete measures to make such unity a reality. We therefore propose that our union invite the New York Joint Board of Dressmakers of the ILGWU to a conference for the purpose of establishing for the coming strike, a united front against the bosses of all dressmakers. We firmly believe that such a step will help greatly to unify the ranks of the workers; whether the reactionary bureaucrats accept this proposal or not the workers will be convinced that our union is genuinely in favor of united action against the employers.

3. The General Situation. (a) In the past two years the struggle against the bureaucracy in the right wing unions has practically been abandoned and the workers left to the mercies of the reformist leadership. It is now time that our union consider measures how again to revive this struggle to rid the reformist unions of the right wing bureaucrats and to transform them into fighting organizations of the workers. We therefore propose that our union leadership immediately devise ways and means for developing a left wing opposition movement in all reformist needle trades unions. It is time that the old policy be reconsidered; the objective conditions demand most emphatically the building of such a left wing movement. Such opposition movements are already arising in the different locals of the International and in other unions (for example, the United Cloak and Dressmakers Progressive League). A change of policy on the part of the NTWIU will help greatly in stimulating this welcome development. (b) The building of a left wing in the reformist unions will provide a basis for the struggle for trade union unity, for one industrial union in the needle trades. The our union is organized on the basis of an industrial union it cannot be denied that the bulk of the organized workers are to be found in the reformist unions. The fight for the amalgamation against craft unionism, and for one union in the industry is therefore most imperative. (c) Large sections of the needle trades workers are still unorganized. Furthermore the shifting character of the industry, where numerous shops continually go out of business and new ones come in, demands a constant campaign for the organization of the unorganized. The complete abandonment of organization drives by our union is a fundamental mistake. The method of gaining membership thru abstract propaganda and individual recruiting cannot replace the method of the organization of shops. We therefore propose that the GEB work out a course of action for the organization of the unorganized based on the immediate conditions of the workers in the shops and, as a means of carrying this thru, for the re-establishment of rank and file organization committees. The lessons of the failure of the 6,000 membership drive must not be overlooked by the GEB. The campaign against the rank and file organization committees, calling them "pulling committees" and trying to create the impression that they are "strong arm" squads, can only be injurious to the work of organizing the unorganized and must therefore be abandoned.

FRUITS OF THE SPLIT POLICY

by D. Razimovich

Even in the best days a suitcase maker does not make more on the average than \$25-\$30 a week (a mechanic's wage), while a helper (and half the trade are helpers) average \$15-\$20 a week. For the last two or three years the standards of the workers have been continually lowered and speed-up, mechanization and section work increased. Well realizing their class interests, the bosses have organized an association and in an organized manner conducted an offensive against the workers and slowly reduced the wages of the workers so that even at the time when the workers do work their wages are not enough to live on. Only a small proportion of the trade is organized and this only in New York, in the Suitcase and Bagmakers Union. The policy of the bureaucrats during this time was based on the excuse that "we can't do much—we have no money—we have to wait for better times, etc.", at a time when every worker knows that the few union shops had only a five to six months season this year the United and the Olympic (open shops) worked day and night. During the last few months the right wing leaders have been defeated at every meeting—in the reinstatement of Aronoff to the executive committee, the election of a shop committee at the "White Luggage" (biggest shop in the trade), etc. This was accomplished because, first, the workers were disoriented, and secondly, there was a spontaneous united front of the left wing and progressive elements in our union. The TUUL Splits the Left Wing Now in the union elections that have just taken place, the right wing carried off the victory. Why did the left wing suffer such a defeat? There can be only one answer: responsible for the victory of the right wing was the split in the left wing forces! Instead of coming united with one slate against the right wingers, as we proposed, two slates were issued and confusion brought into the ranks of the workers. We (the comrades of the CP-Majority Group) called away from the TUUL from the very beginning for a union of all left wing forces which would guarantee our victory. We wrote a special appeal to the TUUL in the form of a letter. (We reprint the most important sections of this letter on this page.) Let the workers see and judge who is responsible for the division in the left wing. That we earnestly meant to have a united front of all left wing elements in our union can be seen from the fact that we withdrew Aronoff and Razimovich as candidates for chairman and secretary in favor of the TUUL candidates in order to make easier the setting up of one united slate against the reactionaries. But the TUUL refused any sort of unity; it insisted on dividing and splitting the left wing. The result was that the right wing slate got about 42% of the vote, the TUUL slate about 30%, and our slate about 27%. Had there been unity the left wing would have obtained at least 60% of the vote and been victorious. As it is, the right wing has made a clean sweep.

No Discomagement! The left wing and progressive elements should not be discouraged. Now more than ever is the unity of the left wing in our union necessary in order to get our union to fight for the betterment of our conditions. The unification of the left wing and progressive forces should take place on the following immediate program of action, in addition to our economic demands: (1) The establishment of a big rank and file organization committee; (2) for the organization of groups of workers in the unorganized shops; (3) for the beginning of an organization campaign out-of-town, namely Philadelphia and Newark.

3. The conditions within our union. In order for our union to do any constructive work whatever, it is necessary that union democracy be restored. The actions of our union leadership towards the membership in the last period have been such as to violate in the grossest manner the most elementary principles of workers democracy. The left wing has fought so long. The attitude of union officials towards members who disagree with them on policies bears altogether too much resemblance to the discredited methods of the right wing bureaucrats. Members have been removed from leading committees, active workers have been prevented from participating in the daily work of the union, slander and misrepresentation as well as frame-up against individual members of our union, have become daily occurrences. The main official activity and propaganda of our union is not directed in constructive channels but consists in attempting to discredit good left wing workers who disagree with the officials as well as the best interests of the union demand. The culmination of such a campaign must inevitably be the Sigman methods of expulsions for differences of opinion. That the expulsion policy is the logical conclusion of the course being followed by our union leadership today is clear from the recent events in the Marine Workers Industrial Union (a section of the TUUL like our union) in which a number of active members have recently been expelled for no more than proposing a line of action which they believed was for the best interests of the union. Such a course is a serious menace to the very existence of the revolutionary unions. Its logical outcome must necessarily be the destruction of the left wing unions as well as the undermining of the morale of the left wing workers in their struggle against the reactionary policies and leadership of the reformist unions. We propose that the GEB go on record publicly against the expulsion policy in our union and in the TUUL and against any practices of discrimination or persecution against workers for varying opinions. We sincerely trust that this session of the GEB will give serious consideration to our proposals and that it will mark a turning point in the self-destructive course that has proved such a menace to our organization. We earnestly hope that the sessions of the GEB will result in such constructive measures as will make possible the most effective execution of our urgent tasks. Fraternaly, Needle Trades Workers Unity League Chas S. Zimmerman, L. Nelson, J. Stenzer.

ATTENTION Shoe Workers Discussion

Because of lack of space, this week's contribution to the "Shoe Workers Discussion" is omitted. It will appear in the next issue.

THE APPEAL FOR UNITY

(Read about this letter in the article "Fruits of the Split Policy" on this page.) To the Suitcase and Bagmakers Section of the TUUL, Dear Comrades: The coming elections in our union make it necessary for all the progressive, militant and left wing forces to take up the question of a united front in the elections against the reactionaries in control of our organization. The reactionary bureaucrats will come to the elections with a united force and will do everything in their power to maintain their grip over the organization. Under no circumstances can we, as left wingers, permit a situation to develop in which the forces in opposition to the reactionaries and their policies will be divided in the coming elections. It is not too late to act to prevent this. In the interests of one slate which shall unite all progressive and militant forces in the coming elections, we propose to you, the officials of the TUUL in our union, the following: 1. That a conference be called of all progressive, militant and left wing forces for the purpose of establishing a united front in the coming elections on the basis of the following minimum program: for a 40-hour week; against piece-work and for weekwork; time-and-a-half for overtime; for a minimum scale of wages; for equal division of work; for the organization of a rank and file committee for the organization of the unorganized; for the reorganization of the union on the basis of shop committees and the shop delegate system; for one industrial union of all leather goods workers. 2. That on the basis of agreement on this minimum program and pledging to carry it out we constitute a slate of candidates for the coming elections in our union which shall be representative of all the left wing and progressive forces and that no one who agrees to this program shall be eliminated from the slate because of his political opinions and affiliations. We urge the speedy consideration of this letter by your group. Comradely yours, MAX ARENOFF CELIA SILVERMAN D. RAZIMOVICH

# Revolutionary Age

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## THIRD PARTY OR LABOR PARTY?

Growing mass discontent and unrest among workers and farmers have again laid the basis for the development of a rift in the two-party system in America. As the discontent grows deeper, and it is bound to deepen in the course of the next few years, it will arouse ever new sections of the American workers, farmers and even sections of the middle class to political activity, to revolt against the two-party system and to growing disbelief in the eternal fitness and rightness of big business government and capitalism. This will lead to the development of tendencies both towards a petty bourgeois or middle class third party and towards the development of a mass farmer-labor party movement.

The Lucas-Norris verbal bombardment in Washington at the present moment is but the opening skirmish in a battle that will likely lead to a third-party movement in 1932. Norris, LaFollette and company are playing a time-honored role. The task of the "progressives" in the Republican and Democratic parties is to keep up the continuous shadow-boxing of mock opposition at all times. But when the political storm-signals are raised, then their method of keeping the rising tide of revolt within bounds is to swing left so as to keep at the front of the left-ward movement, head it off, and when it has spent its force, lead it back into old party channels. For this purpose, the "progressives" periodically leave or are "expelled" from the old parties, as in the case of Roosevelt (1912) and LaFollette (1924) only to bide their time as "outlaws" and make their peace with the official party, of course on satisfactory terms, when the movement is on the wane. Such has been the history of every petty-bourgeois third party movement in the United States. Such is the meaning of the present Norris-Nye-and-Company movement.

The two-party system is one of the most powerful instruments of the American ruling class for keeping back the development of political consciousness and organization among the mass of American workers and farmers. When they are discontented they "punish" the party in power by voting for the other party of capitalism, by turning from Tweedle-Dum to Tweedle-Dee. In this game, the "progressives" in the old parties play the important role of preventing a permanent break in the two-party system and the crystallization of discontent in a party expressing the elementary class interests of workers and poor farmers.

A crying need of the times is the development of a genuine mass party of the workers and poor farmers, under working class leadership which will make a rift, once and for all, in the two-party system, and represent a first step in the political awakening of millions of workingmen and dirt farmers who are politically in the tools of capitalist, two-party see-saw politics. Where can a driving force be found to organize and direct such a movement and prevent control and inevitable betrayal by the "progressive" middle class politicians of the old parties? How can the discontent be directed into channels of genuine radicalization, of genuine political advance? How can we prevent the time-honored "one step forward, two steps backward?" How can the discontent be directed not in the channels of petty bourgeois third party, but into the channels of genuine labor party?

The natural place to look for such leadership would be the Communist Party. But unfortunately the official Party's present criminally false line compels it to fight tooth and nail against such a much-needed development. The false line compels the Party leadership to pretend to believe that the masses (who by the millions follow the old parties and pressed their discontent with Hoover following Democrat.) are already so "radicalized" that a Labor Party would be a "step backwards" for them. The Labor Party is officially attacked by the Daily Worker as "social-fascist".

As to the Socialist Party, its leaders are already arranging to jump onto the petty-bourgeois party of the LaFollette-machine. The best that can be hoped from that quarter is that if the Communists do their duty, some rank and file elements of the Socialist Party will have their eyes opened as to the true role of their leaders and a split in the Socialist Party will result. As to the A. F. of L. leadership, it will continue its "Reward-your-enemies-and-punish-the-working-class" policy.

Hence it falls upon the Communist Party (Majority Group) to take up the Communist task of fighting the new third-party betrayal plot and developing a genuine labor party movement against the petty-bourgeois third-party movement. Naturally it cannot do this alone, but only on the basis of as broad as possible a united front of all left and progressive elements as can be rallied in the fight for a genuine labor party. The task of rebuilding a left wing in the labor movement goes hand in hand with the task of developing a labor party movement. We must speed up and intensify our work on both fronts.

### WHAT PRICE THE NEW LINE?

For over two years the new course of the Communist International has been in practice. From the very beginning, we, the Communist Opposition, foretold the inevitable consequences of this new course. But we were told: "Nonsense; it is only a crisis of growth!" Well, now after two years, it is possible to pass judgement on this "crisis of growth". According to official Comintern figures the organizational "progress" of the parties within the last two years is as follows:

German CP	124,729	124,000
English CP	9,000	3,000
Czech CP	150,000	35,000
French CP	52,376	35,000
Austrian CP	6,250	?
Belgian CP	500	?
U. S. CP	(not given)	8,385

Nowhere any gain! Everywhere loss—even catastrophic loss! What price the new line?

### LESS WORDS—MORE DEEDS!

The critical economic condition and the growing unrest among the workers is making even the reactionary officials of the Central Trades and Labor Council of New York City "talk brave". In a recent resolution on unemployment it declares:

"Unemployment and poverty will be abolished, and our country safe, only when the wages of the workers are increased to a level sufficient to buy back all the necessities of life and commodities produced." Commenting on this, William Collins, A F of L representative, adds: "Of course we admit capital is entitled to a fair return! !"

The New York trade unionists would certainly be more grateful if, instead of spouting phrases which they contradict in their next breath, their leaders would do a little bit to lead the workers in the struggle against wage-cuts and union-smashing—or at least, if they didn't prevent the workers from fighting!

### MILKING THE PUBLIC

The milk companies are boasting a cut of one cent in the price of a quart of milk as a charitable act on their part. But the Health Department reports the true cause—a drop of a million quarts in the weekly consumption of New York City due to unemployment distress. And the price now paid to the farmers of the New York State Milk shed is only 4 to 6c a quart while the price charged by the benevolent Milk trust is 15 to 18c and 25c for certified milk. A 200 to 400% spread between producer and consumer.

# Third Party and Labor Party

## Forces Making for the Break-up of the Two Party System—The Norris Scandal—Perspectives for the Labor Party

By Ben Gitlow

The basis of capitalist political power is the two-party system. Through the two party system the capitalists are able to keep the masses divided as Republicans and Democrats. The big capitalists are either Republicans or Democrats, the smaller stockholders, like the big capitalist, is either Republican or Democrat. The farmer, rich, poor or farm-hand, is either Republican or Democrat. The skilled mechanic, like the professional and the laborer and unemployed worker, is either Republican or Democrat.

### The Two-Party System—Bulwark of American Capitalism

There is no danger of the political security of the big capitalists being undermined so long as the masses can be kept within the two-party system. Whether they go Republican or Democratic does not change anything because to-day the Democratic and Republican parties are like two peas. They are in fundamental agreement as far as service to big business is concerned. They represent the interests of Wall Street, of the big bankers and manufacturers of the United States.

As long as the two-party system of American capitalism is maintained, class differentiation along political lines will develop very slowly. The two-party system has been weakened on a number of occasions. The capitalists, however, have been able to prevent the break-up of the two-party system. Generally the two-party system was threatened during a period of economic crisis. But with the passing of the economic crisis the movement for a third party passed away.

Such was the case of the Roosevelt Bull-Moose movement of 1912. The severe agricultural crisis and post-war deflation gave us the La Follette movement of 1925. The third party movement always represents a rebellion against the political parties of the big capitalists. Its character is distinctly petty-bourgeois, and, because of its reformist platform and appeal to the middle class and workers, it has always succeeded to rally millions of the middle class and of the working classes to its support.

The present economic crisis is again bringing to the fore the threat to the two party system. In Washington the atmosphere is charged with third party talk. This is so because of the economic crisis. The stock crash, unemployment, bank failures, the tightening of credit, the agricultural crisis and the drought have hit the middle class very hard. And to this must be added the losing fight of the middle class against monopoly, which thru the great mergers of recent years is pushing the middle class off the competitive board. One can begin to understand the state of mind that is developing among them. The representatives of the petty bourgeois reflect the dissatisfaction that is present in the ranks of the middle class. Conditions are forcing the middle class to abandon the hope that in the form of the two-party system it can get relief from the blows it is receiving on the one hand, from the monopoly interests and, on the other, as a result of the economic crisis.

### The Movement for A Third Party

The result is that the agitation for a third party is growing in their ranks. It is growing also because the petty bourgeois politicians have their ears to the ground and are listening to the grumblings of the workers who are also caught in the economic crisis. Their discontent is general. Unemployment, wage cuts, speed-up, starvation and impoverishment of the workers are responsible for a deep resentment which is at the bottom of their discontent. This discontent, the petty bourgeois politicians believe can be turned to action in support of a third party movement of the petty bourgeois. The signs of a possible third party movement in the 1932 presidential elections are to be read in the events agitating political circles in Washington. On December 21 the elected officials of the farmer-labor party held a conference with Senator Shipstead to discuss the possibility of a third party movement in 1932.

The Socialist Party of Milwaukee has come to a definite political pact with the La Follette political machine to support and join a third party movement in 1932.

The Lucas-Norris controversy is bringing talk of the third party movement to the fore. Robert H. Lucas, executive director of the Republican National Committee, is accused by Senator Norris of using the funds of the Republican National Committee to defeat him (Norris) in the elections for re-election as senator from Nebraska. Norris was running on the Republican ticket.

The New York Times of December 23 refers to the Lucas developments as follows:

"The Senate's left wing Republicans evidently have determined that Mr. Lucas shall sever his connection with the Republican National Committee, or that the party organization shall take the consequences. What those consequences will be is a matter of conjecture, but an opinion exists that the Lucas incident may be used as the cornerstone for the structure of a new third party, or of an organization

ed rebellion which will amount to a third party."

"The broadside of Senator Cutting, a former Bull Moose, showed that he had definitely allied himself with the Norris insurgents. For several months there have been rumors that Mr. Cutting and Governor-elect Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania were working in accord which gave color to the suspicion that a third party movement was in prospect for the Presidential campaign of 1932."

The letter of Professor Dewey to Senator Norris asking him to take the leadership in the movement for a third party and to definitely break loose from the Republican party is another development from the Lucas-Norris controversy.

Professor Dewey is chairman of the League for Independent Political Action. His letter contains the following appeal for a split away from the Democratic as well as Republican Party.

"The Democratic party stands for exactly the same principles as the Republican party and its machinery is controlled by the same invested groups. If the Democratic party comes into power its insurgents will receive the same treatment from it that you receive from your party. The new political philosophy needs its own incarnation."

The launching of a third party movement is a step forward because it breaks up the political front of the big capitalists, because it will cause a political fermentation among the masses which will hasten the develop-

ment of class consciousness on the political field.

"The dangers in the third party movement is that it will tend to divert the workers and exploited farmers from independent action against the capitalists into the swamp of petty bourgeois reformism. In other words it will make them tail end to the political cart of the petty bourgeoisie, that is to the third party which will be a party of capitalism not against capitalism."

### The Labor Party

The growing sentiment for a third party makes it necessary to bring forward at once the Labor Party in order to organize the workers and exploited farmers on the basis of the class struggle. That is for independent working class political action against all capitalists large and small.

The third party movement will absorb and swallow up the S. P. This is an opportunity for the Communists if they will push forward the Labor Party movement on a class basis, uniting in the Labor Party all the genuine labor party forces who will not go along with a middle class reformist party like the third party will necessarily be.

The Labor Party will thereby afford the Communists a very important bridge to the masses.

The third party movement will cause a serious rift in the trade union bureaucracy and among the trade union masses. This creates favorable opportunities for rebuilding and broadening the left wing.

In other words the third party movement development reflects favorable opportunities for applying correct Communist policies.

# The Youth Movement

## THE YOUTH IN THE NEEDLE TRADES

### Program Proposed by the Young Communist League (Majority Group)

(Concluded from last issue)

Our chief slogan in the struggle to win the young workers in the needle trades must be: unity of the young workers in the reactionary unions, in the N.Y.W.U. and the unorganized young workers for organizing the needle trades youth and to fight for their economic demands. The program of economic demands for the needle trades youth includes:

1. A minimum wage scale for young workers to be worked out for each section of the industry, no wages to be lower than \$20 a week.
2. A 26-hour week for all young workers. Time and a half for overtime.
3. Equal pay for equal work for all young workers.
4. The regulation of apprenticeship by the union; every young worker, after six months as apprentice, shall receive the regular wage scale.
5. Payment of wages for the time spent in the continuation schools.
6. Trade schools to be placed under the control of the union.

1. The left wing must fight for the unrestricted admission of all young workers into the union, for special initiation rates based on wage scales to make it easy for the young work-

ers to join the union. The left wing must fight for the establishment of youth sections in the reactionary unions to fight for the interests of the young workers as against the bosses and the union bureaucrats. The campaign for youth sections as well as the sections themselves if they are established can be made into a powerful lever in the struggle against the reactionary bureaucracy in the needle trades.

The slogan of *One industrial union in the needle industry* must reflect itself in our work of winning the youth. Our objective must be to form a solid fighting front of the young workers in the N.Y.W.U. and to force fighting for youth sections and the demands of the youth in the reactionary unions. Such unity of the militant youth forces, upon our program of struggle against the bosses and bureaucrats, can become a powerful aid to the struggle of the left wing.

## CCNY STUDENTS AGAINST DRILL

### Vote on Military Drill After Christmas

#### COUNCIL VOTES

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—A referendum on the question of military training at the College of the City of New York will be held before the Christmas recess. The students demand that the military training course should be dropped even as an elective course. An unsigned circular originating undoubtedly from the military authorities, defended military training and denounced those opposing it. The Communist students at CCNY issued an appeal for "the complete elimination of military science from the curriculum."

Before 1925 military drill was compulsory. After much agitation in that year, the students voted against compulsory drill. At the present time, military training is elective. The student council, however, recently went on record by a vote of 5 to 2 as opposing the elective course in military science and decided that the question of dropping the course should be submitted to a student referendum.

Several demonstrations have occurred on the campus and two occurred were expelled for statements made at anti-drill meetings.

Relief, strike aid and clothing for the Danville strikers should be sent to J. C. Blackwell, Treasurer, Textile Union, Danville, Va.

## POLICE ATTACK YOUTH IN COURT

### Rumanian Police Bayonet Young Communists

SOFIA, Rumania, Dec. 13.—Police entered the prisoner's dock in the court and brutally attacked seventeen young Communists on trial there with bayonets, falling two.

When agents of the political police entered the courtroom the young Communists cried out: "Turn these murderers over to the hangmen!" The accused then broke out singing the *Internationale*. Upon orders of the judge, the police charged helpless prisoners with drawn bayonets.

### The New Charity

In normal times the wealthy feel impelled to give up some small portion of their booty to charity in order to save their consciences and stave off revolt. The present distress has given them a new scheme to save money. Now they force those who are working (in Municipal employ and in large corporations) to give 1% of their salary for charity. Thus they shift even the burden of charity to the backs of the workers. It's an ill wind.

The farm relief bill stipulates that it is to be loaned for mules and not men. Hoover has won a great victory for the mules.

At Last—A Remedy!  
 "Cardinal Hayes Orders Prayers for Jobless—Supplications to be Made at All Masses Till Situation is Relieved."



THE NEGRO IN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION, by Charles S. Johnson. Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1930.

This book is the most comprehensive, all-around study of the status of the Negro in present day America that I know of. It is absolutely indispensable for any student of Negro questions, no matter from what angle the approach is made. There is a wealth of information presented on every conceivable phase of Negro life. The statistics are very adequately collected and skillfully interpreted.

The book is an outgrowth of a conference held by sixteen organizations engaged in Negro Social work. Chosen to put the book out was Dr. Charles S. Johnson, a former editor of *Opportunity* and former director of research for the National Urban League and today head of the Department of Sociology at Fiske University.

Suited to the obviously fact-finding purpose of the book, the style is solid, patient, precise. It speaks the language of cold facts. Yet, the presentation of these facts is sober beyond comparison the facts themselves literally "shriek". The effect is cumulative, it is a gigantic building, rising laboriously but steadily, stone by stone, buttress by buttress, until the massive structure is complete. And the total picture is sharply etched and three-dimensional—a consistent picture of exploitation, poverty and discrimination which is the lot of the Negro masses under American civilization.

A rapid introductory sketch in the first chapter of certain high points in the past history of the Negro brings us down to the twentieth century from which the study proper begins. Taken as the point of departure is the cause of the larger scale migration of the southern negroes to northern industrial centers. In its treatment here, both in methodology and results, this book tallies very closely with *The Negro Peasant Turns Cityward*, a book recently reviewed in these columns, which forms an excellent companion volume, both books complementing each other exceedingly well. What happens to the negro workers in the North logically follows: their penetration chiefly into unskilled industries and domestic and personal services; discrimination in regard to wages, hours and working conditions, discriminations in the labor movement, (total exclusion from trade unions, Jim Crow locals, other discriminations, the hypocritical role of the A. F. of L. in the dangers for the working class in these practices); miserable housing conditions, discrimination in rents; segregation; the influence of his enforced low economic and social conditions upon birth and death rates, health and disease. (For 1924 the Negro death rate was 48% higher than the white in the U. S. as a whole; for 1925 it was 62.5% higher. It has probably risen since. The rate is still higher for urban population. Here the Negro death rate is 94% higher than the white. It is significant that the disease which takes the greatest toll of Negro lives is tuberculosis. Here the Negro lives more than 100% higher than the white. Respective rates for 1920 are 202 per 100,000 for Negroes as against 85 per 100,000 for whites)—crime, discrimination in educational and recreational facilities, the precarious and starvation existence of the Negro share croppers and tenant farmers of the South; etc.

All this and more with a wealth of statistical evidence which proves its case overwhelmingly. The picture is so stark and unrelieved that the wonder is that the author can maintain his sober and restrained tone throughout instead of pilloving with "eternal invectives" this gigantic blotch on the body social. . . . And yet perhaps it is just as well. There can be no argumentative appeal by apologists against cold facts. As it stands it is a challenge to united and militant action on the part of the workers, black and white.

—JIM-JAM

### A Democratic King

"Best of all I like to drive my two-seated Ford."—King Alfonso of Spain. The Spanish people should free him from his present arduous duties, so that he can devote his full time to the job he likes best.

### An Exciting Winter

A New York society woman busily engaged in helping the "poor dear unemployed" confided her happiness to a reporter. "During the war it was bandages and four-minute speeches. Now I shall be so busy shopping and getting my friends to shop in the buy-now campaign, and arranging bridge and backgammon parties to raise funds, and visiting soup kitchens—life will be more exciting this winter than during the war!"

### Signs of Prosperity

The following have not declined as a result of the depression:  
 Standard Oil Dividends  
 Attendance at Football Games  
 The Quantity of Senatorial Hot Air  
 Hoover's Faith in Rugged Individualism  
 Profits of Apple Trust  
 Number of Human Sardines Squashed into a Subway Car.  
 Hoover Commissions  
 Police Scandals  
 Rackets  
 War Preparations  
 Peace Talk  
 Resentment of the Workers at the War-and-Unemployment - Breeding Capitalist System.

### God and Mammon

"Church Asks Faith in Banks," reads a Times headline on Christmas services in St. Joseph's Cathedral, Hartford, Conn. And this is the church whose object of worship is the man who is reputed to have driven the money-changers out of the temple.

### The Song of Superintendent Broderick

If your sinus is infected, It's the reds!  
 If your business is neglected, It's the reds!  
 If your sweetie has to wait, When you fail to keep a date, Blame the reds!  
 Blame the drought and blame the flood  
 On the reds!  
 Always safe to throw some mud At the reds!  
 Crops that fail and bumper crops, Poison liquor in the schnapps Blame the reds!  
 If your gunman shot and missed him, It's the reds!  
 Blame the whole damn social system On the reds!  
 Rain and snow and wind and Banks that merge and banks fail, Keep the bankers out of jail Jail the reds!



A Christmas Idyll  
 Christmas eve. A cold wind blowing. On Times Square a huge Christmas tree ablaze with lights and bearing the legend: "To All of New York and to the Stranger within Her Gates." The welcome to the "Stranger" calls to mind the bullying of hungry men on the breadline for being from out-of-town. From the base of the tree issue forth numerous Christmas carols from a loud-speaker. Before the tree a long, thin, closely-packed triangle of men and boys. Without overcoats, in worn, torn, chilly-pierced clothing. They wait dumbly. Around them swirls the gay traffic, taxis, autos, fur coats, stove pipe hats, crimson and emerald evening wraps, gait of diamonds, sparkle of laughter—the theatre crowd—the Christmas spirit—full bellies, warm coats, full purses.

"Look at the crowds listening to Christmas carols!" "Christmas carols!" interrupts an apple-vendor bitterly "That's a bread line."

Three hours later, the line is still shivering, the carols still ring out. "Peace on earth, good will to men, glory in the highest."

American prosperity! The richest city in human history! The love of man to man! The glorious capitalist system!

The California Institute for Technology has published an estimate that the limits of creation are 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 light years. If it is hard for our readers to grasp that, it may help them to know that that is the same length of time as it will take Ramsay MacDonald to introduce Socialism in Great Britain.

### Get In Line!

Mrs. M. Kowitz, wife of Hizzoner the Tammany judge, has come to the rescue of the unemployed by the proposal "that wealthy persons donate theatre, opera or concert tickets in an effort to bolster the morale of the younger generation" and the further proposal that a program should be worked out "for the constructive use of enforced leisure of jobless young men and women."

### Saves Babies from Lovestone

Earl Browder has reached the silly season. In a *Daily Worker* article headed: "Babies Are Going Hungry All Over This Land of Prosperity" he writes:

"Perhaps Messrs. Morgan, Hoover, and Lovestone will now explain that it is not banks and bonds, but something else, which is witness to the 'transitory nature of the crisis'."

Maybe Browder remembers Stalin's recent interview with Duranty and will ask him about "the transitory nature of the crisis."

The Humane Society held its annual Christmas Tree celebration at 44 Seventh Avenue. About 700 guests attended including 500 dogs, 150 cats, 10 horses and a bird. The dogs received blankets, sweaters, biscuits, collars, leashes and muzzles. The cats, collars, tins of sardine and salmon and a catnip mouse; the horses, snowshoes of cloth, blankets, chest-protectors, nose bags, feed pails and open bits; the lone canary, bird seed and candy. The horses and dogs when interviewed by reporters had nothing to say. The canary said "cheap." And a parrot who was not admitted because he was not born in New York perched outside and queried: "Ain't capitalism wonderful?"

### The Virgin Birth

John Dewey to Senator Norris as quoted in the Times:  
 "At this Christmas season will you not renounce both of these old parties and help give birth to a new party based upon the principle of planning and control?"

Conceived immaculately by such a virgin and such a holy ghost, it should be a "fighting" party!

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On the reds!  
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### If your gunman shot and missed him, It's the reds!

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