

FOR COMMUNIST  
UNITY IN THE  
REVOLUTIONARY  
CLASS STRUGGLE!

# THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

WORKERS OF ALL  
COUNTRIES  
UNITE!

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEFENDING  
THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY  
(Majority Group)

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## M. N. ROY, INDIAN LEADER, SEIZED

### Arrested in Bombay Under Charges of "Waging War Against the King"

An Imprecator cable dated Berlin, July 21, reports that according to London announcements the great Indian Communist leader, Manabendra Nath Roy, was arrested in Bombay charged with "waging war against the king." Two other Indian revolutionaries were arrested for harboring Roy.

Manabendra Nath Roy has been associated from his earliest youth with the revolutionary movement. After arrest in connection with an attempted insurrection (as a result of which he was condemned to death) Comrade Roy escaped and travelled over the Orient (China, Japan, the Philippines, etc.). During the war he came to America, then went to Mexico where he organized the C.P. of Mexico, whose first secretary he became. He



M. N. ROY

then proceeded to Moscow, took active part in the II Congress (1920) of the Communist International, cooperating with Lenin in writing the colonial theses. He soon became the responsible leader in the Executive Committee of the Communist International for work in the Far East, and in 1927, during the highest point of the Chinese revolution, was Comintern representative there.

Since 1928 M. N. Roy has been identified in a leading position with International Communist Opposition and was expelled from the Communist International by the present leaders because of his uncompromising stand in the struggle against the ultra-left and sectarian course of the Executive Committee of the Communist International.

Comrade Roy has been active in a leading position in reorganizing the Communist movement in India and in mobilizing the revolutionary elements in the nationalist ranks. Thru his efforts and those of the group he has gathered around him the Communist movement has been reestablished in India, numerous papers issued, revolutionary influence strengthened in the trade unions.

The arrest of Comrade Roy upon the very serious charge of "waging war against the king" constitutes a sharp blow to the revolutionary movement in India but it will at the same time make possible a worldwide campaign in defense of the Indian Communist Opposition against the persecution of the MacDonald "Labor" government.

## RALLIES AGAINST WAR ON AUG. 1

### Big Anti-War Meetings On August 1; All Workers Must Demonstrate

Final preparations are being completed in the United States for the big anti-war demonstrations on August 1. These demonstrations, called under the auspices of the Communist Party of the U. S. A., are especially important in view of the growing instability of international relations and the intensification of the danger of a new world war.

The C.P.-Majority Group issued a declaration endorsing the August 1 demonstrations and urging all workers to follow the call of the Communist Party.

## For a United General Strike And Victory in Paterson

### STATEMENT OF C.P.-MAJORITY GROUP

Before the calling of any strike of the silk and dye workers in Paterson and vicinity, the Communist Party (Majority Group) issued a statement embodying its position on the question of a general strike:

"Our position is that the amalgamated unions (the United Textile locals and the Associated Silk Workers) must immediately call a general strike in Paterson. Our position is that this strike to be effective must be a united movement of all the organizations and elements in the industry. It must be militantly conducted for the purpose of improving conditions and organizing the workers. The strike must be based upon the most active participation and leadership of the rank and file workers."

It is very clear from the above statement that our fundamental position in reference to the needs of the silk and dye workers has always been that a united movement is necessary for an effective movement to improve the workers conditions and establish union organization.

It was with this purpose in mind that we agreed to participate in the development of such a movement together with the textile workers organizations of Paterson and the representatives of the Conference for Progressive Labor Action.

At the very start we insisted: first, that it was necessary to start an energetic organization campaign leading up to a general strike of all the workers in the silk and dye factories of Paterson and vicinity; second, that all the organizations should be amalgamated into one organization for all the silk workers, which organization should be affiliated with the

A. F. of L. We were firmly convinced that the maintenance of separate conflicting unions only resulted in the worsening of conditions and in divisions among the workers—all to the advantage of the bosses.

From the very start we have repeatedly insisted that an organization campaign leading to a general strike be started even before amalgamation was achieved. We expressed the view that a united organization campaign and joint strike action was the best method of achieving real unity, amalgamation and effective trade union organization.

Had our proposals for such united action been carried out, had the representatives of the Conference for Progressive Labor Action and the representatives of the U. T. W. and the Associated Silk Workers supported our measures for energetic action among these lines, the present deplorable situation in Paterson of two strike calls—one of the National Textile Workers Union for July 22 and the other of the amalgamated unions for August 3—resulting in confusion and divisions in the ranks of the workers would not now exist.

The necessary delays occasioned in bringing about amalgamation made it possible for the National Textile Workers Union, which has no base in the industry and lacks the confidence of the workers, to inject itself into the situation for the express purpose of creating a situation in which it could divide the workers, prevent an effective organization campaign, and brand all those who refused to follow its premature general strike call, as strike breakers, as scabs.

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## Police Help Boylan Steamroller Opposition At Dist. 1 Anthracite Miners Meet

### Maloney Elements in Majority and Demand General Strike; Convention Marked by Fist Fights as Miners Protest Boylan's Swindles

Scranton, Pa. — After having stolen the recent election in Dist. No. 1, United Mine Workers of America, and made himself president for another term, John Boylan is now proceeding to steal the District Convention, now in session at Scranton, with the help of the Scranton police.

A tense situation prevails in the anthracite, of which District No. 1 is the backbone. Conditions of the miners are getting continually worse. At least half of them are unemployed. Wages are being reduced thru numerous indirect methods, (the five-year contract prohibits direct wage reductions) while in some places (Pittston Coal Co.) the operators have brazenly proposed a direct wage-cut as a condition for opening their closed mines. An attempt is being made to starve the miners into submission by closing some of the mines and keeping others working under these conditions, the miners are filled with resentment and a desire to do something to better their conditions. But they find their officials preventing them from taking any sort of action. The officials are actually working so as to prevent the miners from doing anything to improve their conditions.

The masses of the miners are in opposition to the present administration of the district. This opposition crystallized with the strike of the miners of the Glen Alden Co., which was broken by the district officials who declared it "unconstitutional" and against the five-year agreement. Also disorganized and with weak leadership, a belated attempt was made to put up a slate. A candidate for president against Boylan (Thomas Maloney) was put up and several other offices were filled with nominations. There is no doubt that the election was stolen. Boylan recording for himself just as many votes as he desired. The miners, however, were determined to go to the convention and have the convention decide in accordance with the will of the rank and file. Boylan was determined to remain in control regardless of the will of the rank and file.

For the first three days, the convention was unable to hold a single session, as Boylan was determined not to permit the delegates to run the convention.

After the reading of the convention call, the delegates demanded a division on accepting or rejecting it. The issue was whether all committees were to be appointed by Boylan, or elected by the convention, as the opposition demanded. The convention call outlined the former procedure and therefore the delegates voted against accepting it. On an "aye" and "no" vote, Boylan declared the call accepted, but refused to permit a rising vote on it, saying that as the credentials

had not yet been examined, it was impossible to determine who had the right to vote. But when he tried to proceed with further business, the delegates would not permit it, insisting on taking a rising vote. Several fist fights developed on the floor between miners and supporters of the machine, mainly organizers. This ended the morning session.

When the afternoon session opened, Boylan tried to have the report of the credentials committee (which he had appointed) read. But again the delegates insisted on their previous stand. Nevertheless, the chairman of the credentials committee read his report, amidst the noise of whistles, hoots, boos and banging of seats, with which the delegates completely drowned out the voice of the reporter. When this farce ended, there were some short interchanges in which it was brought out that the chairman of the credentials committee himself was not a regularly elected delegate but was simply appointed by the District office, Boylan, however, decided to put the ques-

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## TEXTILE LEADER TO BE DEPORTED

### Edith Berkman To Be Sent To Poland; Labor Should Unite Against Menace

BOSTON.—Edith Berkman, organizer of the National Textile Workers Union, was ordered, on July 21, to be deported to Poland by the Department of Labor, Mrs. Anna C. M. Tillinghast, immigration commissioner, announced. It is openly declared that Edith Berkman is being deported because of her activities in the recent Lawrence textile strike.

Deportation to Poland for a revolutionary worker such as Edith Berkman inevitably means a long term of imprisonment at the hand of the reactionary Polish government.

The International Labor Defence and other workers organizations are continuing the fight to save Edith from the fate that is held in store for her if the deportation goes thru.

The case of Edith Berkman dramatizes very graphically the menace of the new weapon of the bosses—the labor injunction. Whenever a strike breaks out, the bosses immediately call upon their obedient handymen, Deportation Donk, Department of Labor Secretary, who rushes in his immigration inspectors to pick out the outstanding foreign-born militants for arrest and deportation. This not only removes leading forces in the strike also throws terror and despair into the ranks of the foreign-born workers generally who play such an important part in all American labor struggles. The strike is thereby crippled, if not broken altogether.

The whole labor movement must rouse itself to resist this open strike-breaking activities of the government thru the "Labor" Department. The labor deportation is a menace against every worker, native as well as foreign-born. A united front of labor, without regard to color, creed, nationality, on present political viewpoints, must be created to smash the labor deportation.

## GANGSTERS STAB COMMUNIST

### C. P. Bureaucrats Send Gang of Hoodlums to Break Up Opposition Meet

A group of gangsters ordered by the bureaucrats of the Communist Party to attack an open-air meeting of the Communist Party (Majority Group) fell upon Comrade Tauber, member of the Bronx-Harlem unit of the Communist Party (Majority Group), and stabbed him.

The Communist Party (Majority Group) was holding a successful open-air meeting at Biltmore Avenue and Clarendon Parkway, Friday evening July 24. While Ben Lifshitz was speaking, a gang of rowdies and hoodlums attempted to disrupt the meeting. When they saw the crowd, which had reached to about 700 to 800 hostile to their noise and disruptive tactics, they tried to attack the platform and prevent Lifshitz from speaking. Failing in this they went ahead and about ten of them jumped upon Tauber slugging and stabbing him. Tauber was cut on the face and neck and was taken to the Bronx Hospital for treatment. Four stitches were made and his condition, which is serious is not

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## German Opposition to Tom Mooney

To Comrades Mooney and Billings:  
The membership meeting of the Communist Party (Opposition) of Greater-Berlin, Germany, in session June 26, 1931, sends to you brotherly greetings.

Our members know of your being the innocent victims of a foul frame-up built upon perjured testimony, languishing in prison for fourteen years already, and that your liberation can be affected only when successful in interesting the world proletariat in your fate to wage a fight in your behalf.

With this conviction in mind our membership pledge to do all they can to arouse the proletariat.

Comrades! Hold out! The proletariat of the world will hasten to the rescue and fight for your freedom!

We stretch our hands to you with the slogan:  
Long live proletarian solidarity, and on to the fight for freedom for Mooney and Billings!

K. P. D. (Opposition)  
COMMUNIST PARTY OF GERMANY  
(Opposition)  
District Berlin-Brandenburg



"NEGRO LYNCHED AFTER TORTURE LASTING ALL NIGHT"  
"Oh, say, can you see by the Dawn's early light,  
"What so proudly we hailed at the Twilight's last gleaming!"  
—from The Crisis, February 1915.

## HILLQUIT GOT \$100,000 FOR ANTI- SOVIET CASE; BRIEF REVEALED

### Purpose of Case to Hinder Trade Relations With Soviet Union; Brief Shows Crime of "Socialist" Leader

The Revolutionary Age has learned from highly responsible sources that Morris Hillquit has received a retainer of at least \$100,000.00 for his services as lawyer in the case of the Czarist oil interests against the Soviet Union.

Competent legal observers are also of the opinion that the case itself will not hold water in court in so far as getting any compensation for the complainants as individuals, in view of the very general and abstract charges made in their behalf in the Hillquit brief. The observers are of the opinion that what Hillquit is aim-

## Admit London Conference Failure; German Crisis Grows Sharper

### Meet Turns Into Bitter Fight Among Big Imperialist Powers; German Situation Desperate; Nazis Prepare Big Drive in Prussia and Reich

The London Conference has failed miserably to render even the slightest effective emergency relief for the deepening economic crisis in Germany.

The Conference turned into a sharp fight among the leading imperialist powers, so that the only thing they could agree on was to extend for three months longer the emergency credit of a hundred million dollars. The platonic decision to ask the bankers to loosen up and not pull in short term credits, it is believed, will not help but on the contrary will seriously hurt German finances. This pro-

posal only emphasizes the insecurity and extreme instability of German capitalist economy in showing the absolute lack of credit mobility in the Reich. Brüning has returned "empty-handed" and disappointed because his Cabinet had made big promises on the basis of the Conference. The Conference mirrored the hopelessly unsolvable antagonisms among the imperialist plunderers more sharply than at any time since the struggle over the loot at the Versailles Conference at the close of the war. Extreme bitterness pervaded the atmosphere and especially the relations between England and the U. S., France and England and France and the U. S. All the optimistic talk for the public and all the "satisfaction" announcements of Secretary of State Stimson are just a heavy smoke screen to hide the real fighting behind the scenes.

Thus the London Times, most authoritative spokesman of British imperialism, has fumed against U. S. and France by declaring that the results of the conference are "scarcely worthy of an international conference, however hastily convoked. . . . For the moment both France and the U. S. have succeeded in evading the real issues, but it is plain that they cannot be evaded much longer." Premier Laval, chief French imperialist watchdog, raved on: "London and New York bankers did not lend money to Germany for humanitarian purposes of saving Germany. They lent, as ordinary business and banking transactions, to make a profit. They borrowed a good deal of it from France at a low rate of interest and lent it to Germany at a high rate. There is no reason now why France should assume part of false burdens."

France will not participate in any long term loans for Germany just now. In a futile effort to ward off the blows of French capital in withdrawing funds from London, the British have raised the Bank of England rate to 3 1/2%. In the past three weeks Paris banks have withdrawn from London about \$150,000,000 in gold. British financiers are plainly worried over the French attack on the pound's prestige and stability.

In the meanwhile the German political and economic situation is becoming hourly more desperate. The influential Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, organ of the most powerful heavy industrialists, plaintively states: "Nobody can say what tomorrow will bring, but everybody feels that we are in a revolutionary period." The Liberal Democratic bourgeois "Berliner Tageblatt" concludes: "What is happening now is an earthquake which is shaking Europe's foundations and will topple them if reason does not triumph."

In the Fascist ranks the demand for immediate action to seize power is growing. Disatisfied, with the elements of "watchful waiting" in Hitler's policy of "let Brüning's Cabinet fall of its own disgrace and bankruptcy," eleven high officers, some of the former royalists, have just gone over to the Communist Party.

The Nazis are now preparing the fight for the referendum to turn out the Prussian government which controls two-thirds of Germany, as their next line of battle. Having taken the initiative in this referendum to be held on August 9, Hitler (Continued on page 2)

## PLAN U. S. ATTACK ON MINERS

### Doak to Call Conference of Bosses and Bureaucrats Against Workers

WASHINGTON.—The Departments of Commerce and Labor have issued a joint invitation to the organizations of the operators and miners in the bituminous coal fields for a conference to "stabilize wages and improve general conditions in the industry." The date for the conference is left open but it will be held in Washington. About 125 invitations were issued.

The original suggestion for the inter-fering of the governments in the bituminous coal situation was made by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America. Secretary Doak immediately welcomed the suggestion and the forthcoming conference is the result.

The obvious purpose of the government conference in Washington is to smash the spontaneous mass revolts of the miners breaking out thru the whole bituminous field today. The "stabilization of the industry," which is to be the aim of the conference, means the reduction of wages, the breaking down of union standards and the hamstringing of the workers in their struggle against the operators.

## For the Victory of the German Revolution!

CABLE FROM THE C.P.-MAJORITY GROUP TO THE GERMAN COMMUNIST OPPOSITION

BRANDLER  
BERLIN, GERMANY

WATCHING KEENLY DEVELOPMENTS OF REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES, IN DECISIVE HOURS FOR GERMAN AND INTERNATIONAL WORKING CLASS WE REALIZE URGENCY OF COMMUNIST UNITY AND LENINIST TACTICS AS PREREQUISITES FOR PROLETARIAN VICTORY OVER GERMAN BOURGEOISIE AND SOCIAL-DEMOCRAT AND FASCIST LACKEYS.

CONFIDENT OF YOUR SUCCESS BECAUSE KNOW YOUR SPARTACUS TRADITIONS AND HEROIC ROLE WITH LIEBKNECHT, LUXEMBURG, ZETKIN IN FIGHTING IMPERIALIST WAR, FOUNDING COMMUNIST PARTY, AND IN REVOLUTIONARY BATTLES AGAINST GERMAN CAPITALISTS AND SOCIAL-DEMOCRATS.

GREET YOUR PROGRESS IN THE RESTORATION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY TO A LENINIST POLICY THUS FACILITATING PROLETARIAN VICTORY.

SURE GERMAN PROLETARIAT IS GIVING FIT-

TING ANSWER TO DASTARDLY HOOVER PLAN AND WALL STREETS HUNDRED MILLION LOAN FOR STABILIZING AND PERPETUATING CAPITALISM IN GERMANY. PLEDGE ENERGETIC MOBILIZATION AMERICAN WORKERS TO PARALYZE THE IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY AGAINST GERMAN PROLETARIAT, THE SOVIET UNION, AND THE WORKINGCLASS. TERRIBLE CRISIS MILLIONS AMERICANS JOBLESS HUNGRY PREVENTS SENDING MORE MONETARY SUPPORT EXPRESSING INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY BUT CASHING HUNDRED DOLLARS TOWARD HELPING OVERTHROW GERMAN CAPITALISM, ESTABLISHING PROLETARIAN DICTATORSHIP, SOVIET GERMANY.

REVOLUTIONARY GREETINGS VICTORIOUS STRUGGLE AGAINST BRUENING HUNGER REGIME, BRUTAL FASCISM, TRAITOROUS SOCIAL-DEMOCRACY, DAMNABLE VERSAILLES SYSTEM, HOOVER YOUNG ENSLAVEMENT PLANS AND FOR SOVIET GERMANY, DEFENSE OF U. S. S. R., THE INTERNATIONAL FATHERLAND.

LOVESTONE

# ANTI-WAR RALLY ON AUGUST 1

## Danger of War Imminent; Workers Must Fight Back

Preparations are being pushed forward all over the world by the Communist Parties for monster mass demonstrations on August 1 against the danger of a new imperialist world war and of armed intervention against the Soviet Union. This day has been fixed by the Executive Committee of the Communist International as the day for revolutionary anti-war rallies all in every part of the world.

In the United States the demonstrations will take place under the auspices of the Communist Party of the U.S.A. The Communist Opposition, the C.P. Majority Group, has issued a statement endorsing the August 1 demonstrations in this country and pledging its support. The statement declares in part:

"The extreme instability of international relations which characterizes the present world situation not only does not diminish the danger of war but even accentuates it. Especially is the danger of an imperialist attack upon the Soviet Union, the land of Socialist construction, a great menace to the working class of the whole world at the present time. Therefore the Communist Party (Majority Group) calls upon the workers of this country to rally in masses to the anti-war demonstration called by the C.P. U.S.A. for August 1."

# 4-POWER MEET IN PARIS

(Continued from Page 1)

An effective general strike movement will be taken up there. In the meanwhile the Social-democratic party is straining itself to the utmost to hold the masses back from revolutionary action and to save the tottering capitalist hunger regime of Bruening.

Despite all frantic efforts of the German and international financiers, the world's biggest bankers are becoming more and more hopeless and helpless about the situation which involves capitalism far beyond the German frontiers as well. Thus the president of the Bank of England, Montagu Norman, in a recent confidential letter to Governor Moret of the Bank of France, said in despair:

"Unless drastic measures are taken to save it, the capitalist system throughout the civilized world will be wrecked within a year. I should like this prediction to be filed for future reference."

And the well-known liberal, Lord Lothian, echoing these ruling class sentiments a bit more positively, has just declared:

"I confess that the prophecies of Marx and Lenin about the inevitable development of modern western society are being realized with utmost accuracy.

Among the American bankers and industrialists a similar hopeless feeling prevails regarding the significance of the German developments. Hoover has lost a good deal of his recently gained prestige. The collapse of the Danat Bank tied up with the powerful German textile interests in which Wall Street magnates were heavily involved, has precipitated a further flight of American short-term funds from Germany and has dumpeled all ardor for any further export of capital to Germany."

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# The Struggle of the Communist Opposition THE RESULTS OF THE JULY PLENUM

by Ben Gitlow

The Plenum of the National Council held July 4th and 5th gave very serious consideration to the organization question. The main task of the Plenum was placed squarely in the Plenum resolution when it stated:

"The central task of the July Plenum is to examine seriously the condition of the organization of our group, to devise ways and means of speedily removing the present weaknesses, of correcting mistakes, and ending the organization crisis."

The questions involved in a discussion of the organization question were discussed with brutal frankness and in a spirit of constructive self-criticism. The members of the National Council who were present felt very keenly that the position and influence we had gained to date in the mass organizations made it imperative for the group to function as a more responsible and better disciplined Communist organization.

The Plenum recorded the fact that despite the progress we had made ideologically, despite the fact that we had clarified our position on the most important questions, especially in trade union work, despite the gains we had made in the trade unions and despite the group's growth in political influence and prestige, the organization has not made sufficient headway, has been unable to keep pace with our political progress and is today not in as good a position as it should be.

The Plenum not only made clear the existence of an organizational crisis; it also made an exhaustive examination of the causes, objective and subjective, of this situation.

The Plenum, however, could not avoid recording the progress and successes of the group. We have defeated ideologically and politically the new line of the Comintern and the Party. The so-called "change" in trade union line, the twists and turns of the Party bureaucracy attest to their frantic efforts to cover up and hide the bankruptcy of the ultra-left sectarian line of the Comintern and the Party leadership. Our group has every reason to be proud of the work which we have done on the ideological field especially in the contributions we have made to a Marxist analysis of important questions before the working class.

The tremendous significance to the working class of the application of our line in trade union work cannot be underestimated. Not only have we exposed the character and logical results of the Party's sectarian policy but we have been able to translate into life our policies in the trade unions. We have made the beginnings of left wing organization in the trade unions and have already, due to our correct policies, gained important posts in a number of unions (needle trades, miners, building trades, marine, etc.).

The enlargement and improvement of the New Workers School, the forum lectures and mass meetings held indicate the progress made in these particular fields.

The establishment and maintenance of the weekly Revolutionary Age is an achievement of which the group has every reason to be proud.

The development of our unity program and united front activities from abstract discussion to concrete application as bound in the immediate future to make our group a factor in mass struggles and to materially widen our contacts with the masses.

The out-of-town districts of the group are not in a good condition. The Plenum called attention to this fact and directed the National Bureau to send suitable organizers into the out-of-town districts to improve them and better their functioning.

The Plenum very seriously discussed the International Platform in addition to the situation of the group and its tasks.

The following important decisions were made:

1. To constitute a New York district committee and appoint a New York district secretary.
2. To recommend to the National Bureau to change the name of the group.
3. To reduce the National Bureau to nine members and four candidates.
4. To give full power to the National Bureau to change the name of the Revolutionary Age if it finds it necessary to do so.
5. To establish a literature department which shall start the publication of suitable pamphlets for the group.
6. To tax our membership \$1.00 a year to pay our dues to the International Communist Opposition.

The Plenum viewed the situation in the country as very favorable for Communist activity and for increasing and broadening our activities. The Plenum recorded the fact that the economic crisis would continue and become worse, that the conditions of the masses would become still more unbearable, that the discontent of the workers would grow. The Plenum realized that a period of sharpened class war was before us as evidenced by the marked increase in spontaneous strike action, clear evidence of the rebellious attitude growing in the ranks of the working class. In these conditions the Plenum saw the opportunities for our group to give leadership and to gain influence and power, especially because our line applied in action is bound not only to vindicate our position but to win for us eventually the approval and support of the workers, the best guarantee for the liquidation of the crisis in the Communist movement and its unification.

(Continued from Page 1)

rings today when we observe the worldwide misery created by capitalist greed. In our "free" United States of America, millions of unemployed wage slaves are starving. Insane asylums give up the shrieks of proletarian mothers who break under the strain of bearing their children cry for bread and the cupboard bare. Banks and chain stores are doubling their guards in the faces of famished wage-workers growing daily more desperate. Penitentiaries are crowded with working men who were forced to resort to what the masters call theft as a means of feeding their young.

Prison fare is lean, comrades, and jail beds hard, but countless working men enjoying capitalistic "freedom" in the United States and elsewhere are not as well off as the so-called felon in the matter of food and shelter. And the master class of the United States find comfort in the knowledge that Tom Mooney is not at large to bring home that fact to the legions of suffering wage-workers.

Amalgamate all the prison wardens of the world into one huge man presiding over a vast prison, leave this towering giant of a jailer stand up before the famished millions of the "free" proletariat and shout: "Come unto me all ye who are hungry and homeless and I will give you bread and board. You'll be better off in than out."

That is the sum total of what capitalism has done for mankind.

From my dungeon I listen to sounds from without. My ears are keen from long harkening in my solitude. And now I hear from the outside the drums of the revolution growing louder apace. I hear the fanfare of the red heralds of a brighter day. I hear the call of the Red Cavalier, announcing the approach of the

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# I. L. A. MEETS IN NEW YORK

## Bureaucrats Turn Union Meet Into Democratic Rally

Over 150 delegates gathered in the convention of the International Longshoremen's Association here last week. The reactionary bureaucrats, headed by President Ryan, had complete control of the convention.

President Green of the A. F. of L. harangued the delegates, uttering lots of words about resisting wage-cuts, and "the danger of revolution" if no jobs are forthcoming. He didn't say a word about his pact with Hoover against strikes, his resistance to unemployment insurance and the whole policy of the A. F. of L. Executive Council to sell out workers in struggle.

Ryan and Green tried to turn the convention into a sort of rally for the Democratic party and against the Hoover administration in preparation for the 1932 elections. Senators Wagner and Copeland, notorious Tammany politicians, were brought down to address the convention.

From the mood of the delegates, many of whom were handicapped, it was evident that there is a growing discontent in the International Longshoremen's Association with the policies of the administration in accepting wage-cuts and in worsening conditions. There is great likelihood of spontaneous mass resistance to wage-cuts among the longshoremen in the coming months. So far the bureaucrats have shown only a reckless cynicism towards the workers' militant sentiments, as indicated by the convention's decision to raise the salaries of the officers of the union while the longshoremen's wages are being slashed to the bone.

# TOM MOONEY TO GERMAN OPPOSITION

(Continued from Page 1)

down of a New Era, the day of the triumph of an enlightened proletariat.

And I say to you, carry on, comrades, carry on!

Fifteen years of imprisonment is a bitter dose, but it is easier to endure when I am told that working men the world over have interpreted my punishment as a major expression of mass class barbarity. I have come to symbolize militant labor being flayed by masters who resent a challenge to their greedy and brutal dominance, and that being so, my suffering has served a purpose.

But I do not wish to die in jail. I have a message for the proletariat of the world, and it will sound clearer without the interference of the granite walls.

I want the satisfaction of confounding the sleek labor politicians of California who have been parties to my continued imprisonment and have boasted that I will never get out unless I accept the shackled "freedom" of a parole.

I want to tell the American proletariat by word of mouth all I know about these tools of Big Business cloaked as leaders of labor. I have already exposed these wretches in my latest pamphlet, "Tom Mooney Betrayed by Labor Leaders."

My petition for a pardon is soon to be presented to the new governor of California, James Rolph, Jr. This petition will be more likely to bear fruit if preceded by mass protests at home and abroad against my continued imprisonment.

Anything you can do, Comrade Brandler, to create interest in my case among the workers of Germany and elsewhere will be deeply appreciated by me and my Defense Committee. Let the European news agencies send word to the United States that the European proletariat is concerned over my prolonged imprisonment and my cause will be well served.

With best wishes to my militant comrades of Germany, I am,

Yours for a better day,  
TOM MOONEY

The fraction of the Communist Party in the 43rd Street club became desperate and organized a group in our club. This group carried on a campaign that our club should depart from the policies which have made it grow, that the club should become an auxiliary to the official Communist Party. Of course, this meant a departure from the very principles on which our club exists. In this campaign, this group did not spare slander and name-calling in the usual style of the Communist Party officialdom. They even went as far as supporting the worst elements in the club to gain support, conspired with leading members of the 43rd Street club and worked out plans how to destroy our organization. Despite its constant attempt to break up the work of our club, this group was allowed to occupy important positions in our club, the overwhelming majority of the

club opposed their policies; nevertheless, they were not removed from their positions.

To our astonishment on Friday, June 26th, this group presented a resolution in the form of an ultimatum that the club should condemn the "Loveston" and support the Communist Party officialdom. Members of the club pleaded with them that we postpone discussion on this question for a few days, that it was an important question, and that a special meeting was necessary, in which the entire membership should participate.

But this group, knowing the sentiment of the membership from previous experiences got up, eight of them and walked out of the meeting. Later this group dug up names of members who dropped out of the club (Jack Schneider) and of others who had only been in the club from two to four weeks.

This whole situation proves conclusively the ruinous, spitting tactics of the officialdom of the Communist Party; this shows how the left wing was destroyed in the trade unions and fraternal organizations; it throws light on the general loss of influence and prestige of the Communist Party in all existing mass organization.

Every class conscious worker must fight against these wrong policies of running away from the masses.

The Boro Park Workers Youth Club will remain as before a real non-partisan workers organization.

Executive Committee,  
Boro Park Workers Youth Club

**DEPORTATION THREAT AGAINST STRIKERS**  
(Continued from Page 1)

ly should be called: Department Against Labor) gets on the job, sends down its "investigators" to make raids among the strikers and among the workers in general, pick out the leading and militant elements and hold them for deportation. All important sections of the American working class contain large numbers of foreign-born workers and all strikers and other labor struggles find these workers in the front ranks. For many of these workers (those who come from Italy, Finland, the Balkan countries, etc.) deportation often means long imprisonment or even death. The bosses calculate that by getting their handyman, Deportation Donk, the head of the Labor Department, to arrest the leading elements of any strike movement for deportation, they can throw a scare into the foreign-born workers in general and thus break the ranks of the strike.

The new weapon of the bosses is a menacing one and shows in the clearest

possible way that the government is only the obedient agency of the capitalist class. The deportation offensive is not aimed at the foreign-born workers only; it is aimed against the native workers as well, against every worker and workers organization in this country. It is contrived to intimidate the working class in its struggle for the least improvement of its conditions of life, in its struggle against wage-cuts, against unemployment, against union smashing, against speed-up.

Therefore all workers, organized and unorganized, native and foreign-born, of all religions, races and political views, should make common cause to smash the deportation drive of the bosses before it is too late! A united front of labor against the bosses attacks!

**LABOR AGE**  
Published Monthly by the CONFERENCE FOR PROGRESSIVE LABOR ACTION  
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# The Child Under Capitalism TORTURING FEDERAL CHILD CAPTIVES

## From the Wickersham Committee Report

The Wickersham Law Enforcement Commission report contains a section dealing with the treatment of child prisoners sentenced for violations of Federal laws. It is well worth reading and pondering. It uncovers the full horror of the ruthless trampling of child lives under the iron heel of American capitalism. At the same time, it exposes the disgusting hypocrisy of a government that mouths pious phrases about "child welfare" while it condemns millions of children to murderous toil and subjects its helpless captives to indescribable torture.

A detailed examination was made of prisons in which 2,240 young violators of the Federal laws were confined for the six-month period ending December 1930. All of the 2,240 were under eighteen years of age; some were not yet fourteen years.

Our enlightened Federal "justice" does not recognize any such thing as juvenile delinquency. It treats its child prisoners without any regard to their age—or rather it treats them worse because of their helplessness and miserable condition.

Out of all the reformatories visited only one was "passed" by the examiner as "tolerable." Of the rest it is reported that the "best" are overcrowded, are much given to the infliction of beatings and floggings, have "unsuitable" sleeping and living quarters, are positively indescribable in the Washington State Reformatory, for example, the youthful prisoners are thrown into "dark cells" without light or bedding for such "crimes" as talking in the dining room or laughing in the cell block—for what indeed is there for these children to laugh about?

Another "special punishment" in vogue there is the "drill." Prisoners sentenced to that ordeal are required to "keep moving" about the prison yard for the duration of the time

imposed, interrupting their weary march twice daily for a meal consisting of a slice of bread, a spoonful of potato and some water.

At the Industrial Reform School in Chillicothe, Ohio, three to six days in the "guardhouse" are meted out for such "offenses" as possessing a two-cent stamp, talking in messhalls and concealing an apple in a sleeping-bunk!

And the Wickersham Commission has the brazen audacity to conclude this section of its report with the words:

"The precise nature of legislation required to accomplish this result (change the above-described situation—Editor) will have to be determined by expert legal research."

But it does not require any "expert legal research" to enable rich malefactors, who, by some inexplicable accident, happen to find themselves in Federal prisons, to get transferred from Atlanta or Leavenworth to "fine, roomy, convenient open-air prisons" established on the sites of some old army camps. It does not require "expert legal research" to enable imprisoned racketeers to carry on their extensive activities right from their "cells." No, indeed not! "Expert legal research" is required only in the attempt to eliminate the brutal torture of helpless children by "their" government!

In the Soviet Union, where the workers rule, there are no child prisoners at all! Children who happen to infringe the laws of social conduct are treated as cases of social maladjustment and not as objects of punishment and torture. If, for any reason, they cannot be "cured" in their normal surroundings they are sent to free children's colonies where they learn how to grow up into happy and useful citizens of the Workers Republic.

# Letters from Workers

**The Boro Park Club Stands for Unity**

New York City

It is about a year and a half that the Boro Park Workers Youth Club is in existence. This club was established as a result of the uncomradely splitting tactics of the leadership of the 43rd Street club, by expelling those who built the organization simply because certain members did not agree 100% with the official Communist Party line then adopted.

The leadership of the 43rd Street club carried on a campaign of slander, lies, frame-ups, but did not succeed in relating us from the workers in Boro Park. The Boro Park Workers Youth Club became popular in the neighborhood for its broad non-partisan working class character. All workers regardless of their political beliefs, or affiliations, could belong to the club and express their opinions freely. The club supported the Communist and left wing movement as a whole, without regard to factions. At the same time, the club criticized the officialdom of the Communist Party and left wing when they refused to seat our delegates at conferences called by them inviting all workers organizations (Igor). In a word our club proved in practice that it is a real non-partisan workers organization. During this time the 43rd Street club for the last year and a half stagnated and became a department of the Communist Party, no real activity being carried on, the little work they did carry on was in the form of counter-activities to the affairs of our club. Whenever we arranged an affair or lecture or outing they (the 43rd Street club) also arranged one.

(Future issues of the Revolutionary Age will contain articles on the Independent Tidewater Boatmen's Union elections and on the International Longshoremen's Association convention.)

Like Candy From a Kid

Senator Arthur B. Robinson has informed the University of Chicago that "America won't eat the Philippines" no matter how much they cry for independence. You mustn't give foolish children everything they cry for. If economic difficulties should follow "America would be indicted by every tribunal of the civilized world." No matter how much we hate to do it, we must be firm.

**Elections in the I.T.B.U.**

New York City

Last Sunday, July 9, the annual election took place in the Independent Tidewater Boatmen's Union. The rank and file showed, in no uncertain manner, their attitude towards the belly-crawling class-collaborating policy of the old administration of the Hlyn-Hudson crowd. They gave their answer by rejecting the old slate and electing a

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**FARMERS PROTEST HOOVER RULE**

G. O. P. Press Grumbles at Administration; Farmers Demand Moratorium

A serious revolt against the Hoover administration is breaking amongst the farmers in the Middle West. Wheat prices have been on the toboggan for the last two years and have reached the lowest levels in three decades. The farmers are in such desperate straits that they are glad to sell wheat at 25 cents a bushel. Wheat prices have just reached an all-time low level.

The hostility to Hoover's rule has been so marked that even the official Republican press like the *Kansas City Star* is compelled to do considerable grumbling. The farmers are increasingly voicing a demand for a moratorium on all mortgages and debt payments. There is developing a sweeping opposition to the Federal Farm Board which has so far acted only to serve the interests of the bankers. The farmers are now asking that the bankers should do a little waiting for bills. They demand that the machinery companies should extend them credit or grant them a moratorium. Such stalwart champions of Hoover as Senator Capper of Kansas are plainly worried.

The conditions amongst the great mass of farmers in the wheat belts as well as in other areas is desperate. Farmers are piling the wheat on the ground for storage. In most cases the wheat crop is now mortgaged and the farmers are having their hands full raising funds and borrowing additional funds for harvest. In many cases the farmers are telling mortgage holders: "Come get it out of the fields if you want it."

In an increasing number of cases the machinery companies have tied up wheat at the elevators. Because of this terrific price collapse and the general chaos in industry, starvation is menacing hundreds of thousands of farmers in the Central West and the South. This situation will reflect itself decisively in the 1932 election campaign and the Republican party machine is very seriously concerned in the latest developments in these rural areas.

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The American Civil Liberties Union Report

The Truth About Scottsboro

by Hollace Ransdell

(Continued from last issue)

Negroes Tried in Four Separate Cases

The defense did not ask for severance but were willing to have all nine Negroes tried together. The State, however, demanded that they be tried in four separate cases. For the first case, two of the oldest of the boys were chosen by the prosecution...

St. Atlanta, Ga., 16 years old.

It was brought out in this trial that Willie Robeson was suffering from a bad case of venereal disease, which would have made it painful, if not impossible for him to have committed the act of which he was accused. The case went to the jury at 4 p. m. on Wednesday, April 8, and early Thursday morning, the jury again turned in the verdict calling for the death penalty, received without demonstration in the courtroom.

Judge Hawkins proceeded at once after the convictions returned against the five Negroes in the third case, to pronounce the death sentence on the eight who had been tried. He set the day of execution for July 10th, the earliest date he was permitted to name under the law, which requires that 90 days be allowed for filing an appeal of a case.

In three days' time eight Negro boys all under 21, four of them under 18 and two of them sixteen or under, were hurried through trials which conformed only in outward appearance to the letter of the law. Given no chance even to communicate with their parents and without even as much as the sight of one friendly face, these eight boys, little more than children, surrounded entirely by white hatred and blind, venomous prejudice, were sentenced to be killed in the electric chair at the earliest possible moment permitted by law. It is no exaggeration certainly to call this a legal lynching.

The most shameful of the cases was that of the girl, Ruby Bates, who was accused of having had sexual intercourse with one of the boys. The defense did not ask for severance but were willing to have all nine Negroes tried together. The State, however, demanded that they be tried in four separate cases. For the first case, two of the oldest of the boys were chosen by the prosecution...

let to the last. This was the trial of fourteen-year-old Roy Wright, of Chattanooga, a young brother of another of the defendants. Perhaps because of his youthfulness, the white authorities who had him at their mercy, seemed even more vicious in their attitude toward him than toward the older defendants. They may unconsciously have been trying to cover up a sense of uneasiness at what they were doing to a child. Several of the authorities at the trial assured me later that he was really the worst of the lot and deserved no leniency on account of his youth. But for the sake of outside public opinion, the State decided to ask for life imprisonment instead of the death penalty, in view of the youth of the defendant.

At two o'clock on the afternoon of Thursday, April 9, the jury announced that they were dead-locked and could not agree on a verdict. Eleven of them stood for the death penalty and one for life imprisonment. Judge Hawkins declared a mistrial, and the child was ordered back to jail to await another trial at a later date. He is now in the Birmingham jail. The other eight defendants were kept a short time also in Birmingham, and then removed to Kilby prison, about four miles from Montgomery. I visited them there in their cells in the death row on May 12, locked up two together in a cell, frightened children caught in a terrible trap without understanding what it is all about.

(continued in the next issue)

The Communist Opposition in Canada

TOWARDS WORKING CLASS UNITY!

by W. Moriarty (Toronto)

There are two trade union bodies in Toronto, the so-called "International" (A. F. of L.) movement, centralized in the Trades and Labor Council, and the All Canadian Congress of Labor groups, also having a governing body. The Ontario Labor party is in existence here, comprising mostly the remnants following the split in which the Communist Party played a leading role. A central council covers most of, but not all, the Toronto affiliations to the provincial body. The unions in this grouping are mainly A. F. of L. bodies. During the past year or so, the Canadian unions have been organizing their own Labor party along parallel lines to the Ontario group.

Of course there are the usual run of "ward" groups associated with the Ontario body. They are one or two branches of the I.L.P. (Independent Labor Party) as a tribute to the British origin of many of the local reformists. The present crisis has spontaneously brought into existence organizations on the outskirts of the city, which number several hundred; they have a membership of 600, all being dominated by a "labor complex." A Peoples party, under the leadership of a former warrior, sailor, mountie and steel piggion, adds to the list, which might well be rounded off by a reference to the movement for a "Christian Social Order." College professors and clergymen are its leaders in this spiritual effort. Some of these have even taken to the soap-box.

Official Party Sectarianism

In the midst of this confusion, the Communist Party of Canada pins its faith to the Workers Unity League (the Canadian T.U.U.L.—Editor) and to the National Unemployed Workers Association. Since the former "must be clearly understood" is the center of all revolutionary activity, it follows that it can only maintain an academic (perhaps contemptuous) attitude toward the organizations listed above.

In the past some good left-wing work was carried on in both the trade union and political federated Labor party movements. But since the expulsion of the Communists from the former and their split the reactionaries have had merry old time in leadership. For instance, when Police Chief Draper first began his vigorous campaign for the suppression of the Party meeting, the T. F. L. C. gave him its blessings. When later the police commissioner prohibited meetings to be addressed by Professor Harry F. Ward of New York, Agnes McPhail, Canada's only woman M. P., Ellen Wilkinson, the British Labor M.P., then threatened to resign, Draper was so terrified that he is only traveling the logical road of their reformist map. Unemployment here is widespread. Just how much is not discussed in a special article. The A. F. of L. Council showed its interest in this condition by organizing one mass meeting. Exhausted by this, the T. F. L. C. has drawn into its shell again only to emerge when stirred by the necessity to elect the two delegates to the forthcoming convention of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress.

Similar Bodies Likely to Merge

Past history having therefore proven the value of the united front tactics and local contemporary history having exposed the bankruptcy of the self-satisfied in-movements of the reformists and official Communists alike, the writer, with the support of several progressives, called a meeting, July 10, as a "feeler" to see what could be done. Eighteen organizations were represented by 45 delegates. A surprisingly good turnout, considering the difficulties created by the comrade who was delegated to issue the call prepared for him in detail, completely falling down on the job. All groups were represented. A healthy spirit prevailed. The odd one or two who spoke of being "official" body were combated by their co-delegates. Unity of the working class effort was the keynote of the discussion.

A. F. of L. Unions Moving

Here we must note another disturbing factor. The Pattern Makers Association had simultaneously (and courageously) issued a call to the A. F. of L. unions seeking common action for immediate action for unemployment relief. The matter attended this conference uninvited was courteously given a hearing and seated. The net result being that a delegation was struck off by this body to attend the other conference. Inter-unionism has resulted in further steps being taken to secure unity of the two bodies. It is confidently expected that by the end of July the two councils will be working together. How far the A. F. of L. unionism will go remains to be seen. Some resentment is being shown to the Pattern Makers call, since this union is not affiliated with the Trades & Labor Council because of its refusal to withdraw delegates Jack MacDonald and Fred Peet as its representatives, when those two comrades were debarred from attendance at T. F. L. C. meetings because of their membership in the Communist Party.

United Front Need To Fight Concentration Camps

All possible steps will be taken to establish a broad united front between all the many labor groups on this vital question of unemployment. The authorities are moving as fast as the workers are owing slowly. Provincial governments are all pledging support to the Federal Government proposals for what are in fact concentration camps for the transient and unmarried unemployed. Jail sentences as ungarmed will await those who refuse to go to these military controlled road building camps in the backwoods of Canada. Unemployment insurance is not to be considered by the Bennett millionaire government. Just the Bennett millionaire government. Just the Bennett millionaire government. Just the Bennett millionaire government.

How Y.C.I. Really Grows!

After a long period of silence, we finally hear from the present leaders of the Young Communist International on the status of the movement throughout the world. In the report of Chenodanov to the XI Plenum of the C.I. an attempt is made to show that the regression of the YCI (which is now officially admitted after two years of boasting about successes) has stopped and progress is now being made. The report declares that since the November, 1929 Plenum, there has been an increase from 61,000 to 62,000 members in the legal Leagues. But let us examine this increase. The German League doubled its membership, according to this report, increasing from 20,000 to 40,000. (Another part of the report gives the membership as 50,000. In fact, various figures are given in different sections of the report for the same Leagues. However, we will make allowances and take the figures which seem least contradictory.) The Czech League increased from 3,000 to 6,000. The German and Czech Leagues, therefore, had a total increase of 25,000. The rest of the Leagues therefore must have lost 22,000 members in the period under discussion. Is the regression over?

Furthermore, if the entire YCI has 62,000 members in the legal Leagues, and of these 40,000 are in Germany and 6,000 in Czechoslovakia, that leaves only 16,000 members for all the other legal Leagues, including practically all of Europe and the entire American continent. In other words, with the exception of a few countries, the Young Communist Leagues are dying out. This is progress according to the present pharisee-mongering leadership of the YCI and C.I.

Of course, it is needless to go into the figures and make up our minds that the situation is actually worse than shown. For instance, the figures for the American League are given as 1500. The N.E. C. claims 2,000. But the reporter states that the membership of the League is one tenth that of the Party. Every one knows that the maximum Party membership is 7-8,000, giving the League a membership between 7-800. That, since the V Convention, May 1929, the American League has lost more than 2,500 members. Let the League membership in the U. S. and throughout the world examine these figures and make up their minds whether they will permit the situation to continue until the revolutionary youth movement is entirely wiped out by the present false policies and incompetent leadership, or whether they will follow the Leninist line laid down by the Communist Opposition, the only line which will bring new life into the Leagues.

An Example of the "Change of Line"

The Freiheit of July 21, 1931 flashes across its first page: "Lovestonite Zimmelman Becomes Chairman of Strike-Breaking Committee in Schlesinger's Local 22."

Let the militant trade unionist stop and think! It is of little importance that the "information" is about as "accurate" as Freiheit information is in general. Zimmelman was NOT elected "chairman of the organization committee" in Local 22. He is merely a member of the executive of this committee. But the significant thing is that the Freiheit considers that to be an officer in a union (unless it is a T. U. L. C. "union") is to do strike-breaking work. This means that the unions are strike-breaking organizations—"company unions" in fact!

Where did we hear of the "change in trade union line"?

As against the ultra-sectarian course of the Party officials, we will continue to fight for the Leninist line: to build up the unions into vigorous and militant weapons of the workers to defend and improve their economic conditions and from this viewpoint we shall certainly give all possible aid and support to the organizational activities of the unions.

LONDON.—John Strachey and Allen Young, two of the most prominent members of the recently organized "New" party of Sir Oswald Mosely, have issued a declaration indicating their resignation from the party on account of serious differences in policy. "We have resigned," they explained, "owing to differences of opinion with Sir Oswald Mosely on the question of the youth organization of the party and on the policy to be adopted in regard to unemployment, India and Russia. On all of these questions Sir Oswald appears to us, to be leading it (the "New" party) in a Conservative or a Fascist direction."

The Economic Week

THE midsummer lull and the hopelessly tangled European situation have served to cause a further slackening along the whole front. French trade has fallen more than 20% in the last six months, thus extending the crisis still more. Steel continues its downward course. After a slight zigzag, prices have resumed their decline—0.3% loss during the week. Bank clearings and railroad income of first class roads are much below the corresponding periods of last year. Wages and employment are still dropping throughout the country. The dividend reports due soon will generally be so poor as to cause another fall on the stock exchange and still more gloom even among the optimists. According to F. W. Dodge, contracts for construction last month reached only 62% or the average for the same month in the period 1927-1931. There is no outlook for improvement in the coming months in this field.

Jews in Russia - Negroes in U. S. A.

A Lesson from the Soviet Union

by Will Herberg

The road to real emancipation! Directly or indirectly, openly or covertly, in one form or another, this is the subject that is agitating all elements of the Negro people in this country. It is a subject to which history seems able to provide no clue, for what does history offer to the Negro except a dismal record of disappointment, deception, disillusionment? How many times has the Negro been "saved" already—saved from heathenism by being turned into a slave, saved from slavery by being turned into a serf, saved from the "debauchery of Reconstruction" (it is becoming fashionable to sneer at Reconstruction nowadays!) by being turned into a disfranchised half-man? Is it any wonder that the American Negro is a little suspicious of new dispensations and a little distrustful of new saviors?

Yet history cannot be rejected; it must be understood. History has some valuable lessons worthy of consideration. History can even offer the case of a people, once as oppressed and as unprivileged as the Negro in America today, and yet at present completely emancipated, standing on an equal plane with all others, in possession of all rights and privileges of a free people. Is not such a "miracle" of history deserving of serious study?

Russian Jews and American Negroes

Even the most superficial examination of the position of the Negro in the U. S. A. and of the Jews in the old

United States. The slight racial but very great religious distinction between the Jew and Russian is surely analogous to the slight religious but very great racial distinction between the Negro and white. The Jews were deprived of all civil rights and excluded from political activity by law; the Negro, by law and custom. And, finally, who can fail to see how exactly the "black hundred" organizations and the pogroms against the Jews are paralleled by the Ku Klux Klan and the lynching of Negroes? \*

The Fundamental Point of Similarity

But all of these comparisons are merely the external expression of the close analogy in basic historical source between the peculiar station of the Jews in the old Russian Empire, on the one hand, and the subject standing of the Negro in the U. S. A. on the other. Both essentially reflect pre-capitalist remnants in the economic structure—in fact, definite pre-capitalist institutions. In Czarist Russia the position of the Jews was really a survival of medieval times—exclusion from productive activities, ostracism, segregation in ghettos, etc. In the same manner, the subject of the Negroes in America is directly traceable to the semi-slave status of the Negro peasant in Southern agriculture and to the inferior position of the Negro proletariat in Northern industry. Just as the oppression of the Jews in Czarist Russia was to be associated with the pre-capitalist condition of Russia as a whole, so is the oppression of the Negroes in America to be associated with the incompleteness and distorted character of the bourgeois revolution that took place in the South after the Civil War and that left the Negro peasant in a substantially serf-like position. The fundamental point of historical similarity lies not in external resemblances in special conditions but in the pre-capitalist character of the social status as a whole, in each case reflecting, in specific historical form, the profound incompleteness of the bourgeois-democratic revolution. The caste status of the Jew in Czarist Russia and the analogous status of the Negro in American society are both "relics of feudalism."

The Boot & Shoe Union Executive Meets

THE SHOE WORKERS MUST FIGHT!

by A Shoe Worker

The General Executive Board of the Boot and Shoe Workers Union has just had its meeting. It is the duty of every shoe worker to examine the situation and to see what the duties and the tasks of the union are.

The elementary basis on which union organization is maintained is the protection and improvement of the conditions of the workers in the industry. Union shops with conditions better than in the open shops act as an encouragement and urge to organize workers to fight for the betterment of their conditions and to organize. When a situation develops where the conditions in the union shops become worse than in the open shops, then the general conditions of the workers in the industry are inevitably dragged down.

Such are the conditions in the shoe trade today. Has it been the policy of the Boot and Shoe officials to resist energetically the worsening of conditions and to inspire the workers to resistance? Has it been the policy of the Boot and Shoe officials to organize intensively the open shops, where the protection of the organization is so sorely needed today? Quite the contrary is the fact!

In the case of the Zigman and Cohen shop, on strike under the American Union, the Boot and Shoe Union broke that strike with the result that conditions of the workers became worse than before the strike. Such settlements hurt the confidence in organization. The conditions in other shops are no better. Bosses hire and fire as they please and the union neither says nor does anything. In some shops open job buying goes on under the very noses of the local officials. For instance, the Peerless Shoe Co. collects \$150 from each worker when he is given a job. Union shops are manned by non-union crews while union men walk the streets hungry and in despair.

And what about those who are fortunate enough to work? They put in 69 to 70 hours and get between \$15 and \$30 a week. And the bosses are still not satisfied. They want more and still more reductions. Our Executive Board has piously voted that no reductions were to be granted but just the opposite is practiced. Wherever wage reductions are demanded the officials of our local lodge the issue, passing the buck to the shop crew, and when that becomes impossible, they come out openly in support of reductions.

In the Becker and Friedman shop the crew stood solid for a union shop despite every effort of the local officials to crack the crew. It remained for the president of the Boot and Shoe to do the job. In the presence of the shop committee the president declared that he had never sanctioned any strike in New York and not knowing the conditions in the Becker and Friedman shop in New York, he would not sanction the strike. He

told the workers to go back to work. Is this not helping the bosses?

Our own organizer stated that the Carol Shoe Co. was once "worse than an open shop"—none of the workers paid wages, it was impossible to call a shop meeting, the crew, etc. Then we got in some good union men and started a fight and conditions became better. Then the boss fired the general chairman and a strike broke out. We fought hard for two weeks and had the boss licked and then our officials gave away to the boss all our winnings and now were forced to give the boss a reduction, which means to lose union control in the shop.

If a powerful union is to be built and maintained in New York these policies which drag down the conditions of the workers must be scrapped and must be replaced by a militant policy of struggle against the intolerable conditions existing today. The following proposals are along these lines:

1. The Boot and Shoe Workers Union should immediately issue a call to all existing organizations in the industry for a conference to discuss a basis for amalgamation.
2. An intensive organization drive to be started.
3. For the closed shop. No hiring or firing. No discriminations.
4. Abolition of all security payments for jobs. Resistance to all forms of yellow dog contracts.
5. Develop a general struggle around the slogan of "Resist wage cuts!"
6. Equal division of work. No overtime during this period of unemployment.
7. More control must be vested in the rank and file:
  - a. Regular local membership meetings.
  - b. Regular meetings of shop chairmen.
  - c. Paid and unpaid officials to be elected by the membership. The membership to have the right of recall.
  - d. No arbitration. Settlements to be made directly between the workers representatives with an official.
  - e. Full democracy in the union. No discrimination, suspension or expulsion to, representing differing opinions on economic or political questions.
8. Agreements for the New York shops shall be placed before the membership for approval and when approved, the agreement shall be signed by the New York organizations' representatives.

WHAT NEW COURSE LEADS TO

QUESTION: Where has the new Party policy landed in its sectarian trade union course?

In the Industrial Solidarity (I.W.W. organ) of July 21, 1931, there is an article by F. W. Thompson on the history of the I. W. W. We quote: "The I. W. W. was not addicted to the custom of many other radicals of trying to capture these other unions (the A. F. of L. unions) ... In Solidarity, of November 4, 1911 a campaign was opened to change this policy for that of boring from within. It did not get very far ... The proposal was rejected. Those who favored it withdrew and formed the Syndicalist League of North America. The argument was to go on with Foster and his allies for many years. But the history of the movement in recent years would indicate that the I. W. W. acted advisably, for the professional borers from within are now forced to build up 'dual unions'."

ANSWER: The new Party trade union course leads to sterile syndicalist sectarianism.

United States. The slight racial but very great religious distinction between the Jew and Russian is surely analogous to the slight religious but very great racial distinction between the Negro and white. The Jews were deprived of all civil rights and excluded from political activity by law; the Negro, by law and custom. And, finally, who can fail to see how exactly the "black hundred" organizations and the pogroms against the Jews are paralleled by the Ku Klux Klan and the lynching of Negroes? \*

The Fundamental Point of Similarity

But all of these comparisons are merely the external expression of the close analogy in basic historical source between the peculiar station of the Jews in the old Russian Empire, on the one hand, and the subject standing of the Negro in the U. S. A. on the other. Both essentially reflect pre-capitalist remnants in the economic structure—in fact, definite pre-capitalist institutions. In Czarist Russia the position of the Jews was really a survival of medieval times—exclusion from productive activities, ostracism, segregation in ghettos, etc. In the same manner, the subject of the Negroes in America is directly traceable to the semi-slave status of the Negro peasant in Southern agriculture and to the inferior position of the Negro proletariat in Northern industry. Just as the oppression of the Jews in Czarist Russia was to be associated with the pre-capitalist condition of Russia as a whole, so is the oppression of the Negroes in America to be associated with the incompleteness and distorted character of the bourgeois revolution that took place in the South after the Civil War and that left the Negro peasant in a substantially serf-like position. The fundamental point of historical similarity lies not in external resemblances in special conditions but in the pre-capitalist character of the social status as a whole, in each case reflecting, in specific historical form, the profound incompleteness of the bourgeois-democratic revolution. The caste status of the Jew in Czarist Russia and the analogous status of the Negro in American society are both "relics of feudalism."

These pre-capitalist "relics" upon which the subject position of both Jew and Negro is predicated, find a welcome place in the decaying structure of capitalism in its imperialist-monopolist epoch. The decaying bourgeoisie ... supports everything that is backward, dying and medieval ... (Lenin). The "relics of feudalism" ... serve as sources of super-profits for the monopolist bourgeoisie as well as points of support for its class domination. The social subjection of oppressed nations, races, and peoples thus becomes an integral element of the bourgeois-imperialist system.

Class interests are directly transmuted into class ideology; this is a fundamental social mechanism. The specially depressed status of the subject nation, race or people—so advantageous to the ruling class from the viewpoint of economic profit and social power—is immediately transformed into the corresponding class ideology—racial (national) "inferiority," antagonism, etc. Thus race (national) prejudice becomes an essential constituent of the class ideology of the ruling class. But "the ruling ideas of any age are the ideas of its ruling class" (Marx). Race (national) prejudice develops into an element of the currently accepted social thought and is absorbed by the other classes of the population, i.e., under the influence of the ruling class. Because the Russian peasants and many sections of the workmen were so backward, i.e., so much under the spiritual influence of the aristocracy and the church, they were so anti-Semitic. Because the American working class is so backward, i.e., so much under the spiritual influence of the bourgeoisie, it is so dominated by anti-Negro race prejudice!

How the "Jewish Problem" Was Solved

It was only a Marxist analysis along the above lines that enabled the proletarian dictatorship in the Soviet Union to solve the "Jewish question" completely and definitely. The "Jewish question" was not solved merely by general proclamations on the equality of all peoples, nor even by the very necessary and very effective State measures against manifestations of anti-Semitism in any form. It was the radical extirpation of all pre-capitalist relations, followed by an equally radical extirpation of capitalist exploitation itself, that made possible this miracle. Only the destruction of the economic basis can provide the possibility for the demolition of the super-structure. The general process by which the Soviet power solved the "Jewish question," i.e., destroyed the caste position of the Jews in Russia, may be briefly sketched as follows:

1. The demonstrative proclamation of the equality of all peoples coupled with the demonstrative abolition of all discriminatory laws and customs.
2. The imposition of severe penalties upon all manifestations of anti-Semitism or of national chauvinism in any form. Both of these steps were taken at the very birth of the Soviet republic.
3. The initiation of a vigorous campaign of social education to root out all traces of national chauvinism (as a dangerous form of bourgeois ideology) from the minds of the working masses of the Soviet Union.
4. The systematic transformation of the economic position of the Jewish people with a view to destroying their pre-capitalist economic status upon which their subject social status was conditioned. This implied the planned transference of the Jewish masses from their petty bourgeoisie.

(Continued on page 4)

# Revolutionary Age

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## THE EVENTS IN ALABAMA

**T**HE recent occurrences in Alabama, culminating in the murderous attack of a sheriff's posse upon a meeting of Negro farmers called by the Share Croppers Union in the vicinity of Camp Hill, are developments of profound significance. It is only too indicative of the unfortunate immaturity of social forces in this country that nowhere have these events been appreciated as their deep import would seem to merit.

What really happened in Alabama? In the heart of the Black Belt a Share Croppers Union was organized consisting almost entirely of Negro farmers. This Share Croppers Union called a meeting of Negro farmers to protest against the conviction of the eight Scottsboro boys. As soon as the local authorities (of course all white) got wind of the meeting, they raised a posse and proceeded in the good old lynch fashion to attack the meeting and "teach the niggers a lesson". But it seems that the "niggers" had already learned a lesson of another sort: they put up a brave fight for their rights and did not surrender until outnumbered. One Negro farmer was killed, several severely wounded and scores arrested and maltreated. Two white officers were also hurt.

But what is it—Northern workers might ask—that makes this incident so important? Don't such things happen in the North every week—workers meetings attacked, clashes with the authorities, and so on? But such an attempted comparison only shows how little even the advanced workers in the North understand of the real situation of the Negro masses in the South.

For the Negro in the South is not free, even in the extremely restricted sense in which it is possible to speak of freedom under capitalism at all. The Negro farmer in the South is to all intents and purposes a serf, practically a slave. He is a tenant or share-cropper kept under the heel of the white landlord by law, custom and naked violence. He is a member of a subject race, without rights and without privileges, under the dark shadow of Jim Crow. He is deprived of every civil and political liberty, openly, publicly and legally. He cannot vote, he cannot take any part in politics, he cannot organize to defend his most elementary interests. He cannot play any independent part in social life at all. He must think, feel and act as a "nigger", a slave, or else the heavy hand of "white supremacy", the rope and fagot, descends upon him.

Such has been the position of the Negro in the South for the last fifty years and more—since the days of Reconstruction when, under the leadership of the most advanced elements of the Northern bourgeoisie, the Negro, for a few brief but eventful years, won the first taste of freedom. In dreary decades that followed, the Negro was forced more and more into a helpless and hopeless silence, masking a mute and unformed resentment with sullenness or humility. The comfortable impression began to prevail in the white ruling class circles of the South that the "nigger" had finally "been put in his place" and that any isolated, desperate outburst of blind resentment could be adequately dealt with by the ordinary processes of lynch law. And much the same impression began to spread in the North.

The tremendous historical significance of the Alabama events lies in the fact that for the first time in fifty years the Negroes in the depths of the Black Belt have roused themselves to independent action in open defiance of the white slave masters. They have dared to organize a Share Croppers Union to defend their economic interests against the white landlord. They have dared to challenge white "justice" in the Scottsboro case. They have dared to address a demand to the governor of Alabama, as citizens and as equals. They have dared to speak out for themselves as Negroes and as toilers. And the astonished fury with which the white rulers met this unheard of turn of events is convincing proof of how vitally it hit them.

For the first time in fifty years an authentic voice of freedom from the depths of the Black Belt! The first real outburst of slave revolt in half a century! Is it then too much to say that this seemingly insignificant "clash" in Alabama is the harbinger of a new era in the struggle of the Negro people for emancipation?

To the Communists belongs the inestimable distinction of having served as the instrument of history in these momentous developments. For it was the Communist Party that led the Alabama share-croppers to take a step fraught with tremendous implications. Yet such is the sterility and ideological paralysis induced by the false general course of the Communist Party today that precisely the official Communist press seems least able to appreciate the events in Alabama for what they really are.

Nor do the articulate spokesmen of the Negro people show any deeper insight. From the conservative old-line leaders only blindness is to be awaited but it is really too much to expect the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to recognize that there is more "advancement" for the colored people in the slave revolt in Alabama than in a score of "inter-racial conferences" conducted with all the decorum and decent futility of polite liberalism? Is it too much to expect of the rebellious but aimless intellectuals, real wanderers in the void, in the great Negro cities of the North, to recognize in the slave revolt in Alabama the "inspiration" for which they are always sighing?

The long inertia of the Negro farmers in the South is about breaking. A new era of slave revolts is on the order of the day. But history does not stand still. The struggle of the new emancipation is no longer taking place under the flag of the bourgeoisie which has lost every vestige of progressive tendency and has made common cause with everything that is old, outworn and reactionary; it is proceeding under the inspiration of the revolutionary proletariat, the dauntless champion of all the exploited, of all the oppressed, of all the unprivileged!

## THE DEATH OF MORRIS SIGMAN

**W**ITH the death of Morris Sigman, former president of the I. L. G. W. U., the career of one of the most energetic and bitter enemies of the left wing in the trade union movement has ended.

In some respects—past training, temporary radical affiliations, and certain spurts of energy in momentary resistance to employers attacks during his youth—Sigman's record in the labor movement parallels that of Gompers. As against the cross corruption of the "newer unionism" of the type symbolized by Matthew Wolf, as against the racketeering of the dominant trade union bureaucracy, Sigman stood for the old, simple craft unionism. In this sense he was even prepared for occasional struggles with the employers. In this connection he differed from Schlesinger, Breslau, and Nims upon whose open patrid corruption he looked with some disdain. The other differences he had with them were primarily over policies and plans on how to crush the left wing.

But it is not for this that Sigman's role is to be noted. First and foremost Sigman goes down in labor history as the instigator, director and mainpring of the offensive against the rising left wing in the needle trades movement during 1925-1928. In the drive to stem the tide of the onrushing wave of the left wing in the I. L. G. W. U. Sigman was the general.

In the effort to wipe out genuine progressivism, in the move to uproot all sentiment and forces fighting vigorously in defense of the class interests of the needle trades workers, Sigman was by far the most vigorous and tireless figure.

Let no worker shed tears over the passing of Sigman. It was his driving force that played so prominent a part in momentarily defeating the left wing and thus in paralyzing the I. L. G. W. U. and bringing it to its present condition. Sigman worked feverishly to take all the red blood, to drive all the left wingers out of the union. His fight against the then victorious left wing enlisted the support of the blackest reactionaries in the labor movement. Green, Wolf and McGandy were quick to sense the importance, the potentialities of the left wing in the trade union and labor movement and to come to Sigman's rescue.

No genuinely progressive worker, no militant can have any illusions about Sigman's role as a sworn enemy of the left wing, consequently as a dangerous union smasher. Let the workers write on the tombstone of Sigman: "Here lies a mortal enemy of all that is militant and forward-looking in the American trade union movement. Gone but not forgotten."

# Stalin to the Industrial Executives On the Road to Socialism

by Joseph Stalin

We publish below the speech delivered by Joseph Stalin, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, before the conference of industrial executives on June 23, 1931. The speech deals with impor-

tant problems in the construction of Socialism in the Soviet Union and completely refutes the repeated slanders in the capitalist press that "Russia is going back to capitalism."

## 1. Question of Man Power

First of all, the question of securing labor power for our industrial enterprises. Formerly, no particular effort in the sense of endeavoring to attract and recruit workers to the factories was necessary. This was due to the fact that there was unemployment, the village was breaking up into rich and poor, there was poverty and the fear of hunger which drove people from the villages into the towns.

What was the cause of our "rural depopulation," what compelled the peasant to flee from the village into the towns? He was driven by the fear of hunger, by unemployment, by the fact that the village was a stepmother to him, and he was glad to flee from her anywhere, even into the devil's embrace, if only to secure work.

Such was the situation in the recent past. We have a different picture today. The circumstances have fundamentally changed, so that there is no longer that natural stream of man-power into the industrial centers. What has happened?

First, we have done away with unemployment, with the force which exercised pressure on the "labor market." Second, we have done radically away with the social differentiation of the rural population; consequently, we have overcome the mass poverty which used to drive the peasant from the village into the city. Lastly, we have supplied the village with scores of thousands of tractors and agricultural implements; we have smashed the kulak and organized the collective farms and enabled the peasants to live and labor under human conditions. Now the village can no longer be described as a stepmother to the peasant; the peasant begins to settle in the village, rather than "flee to the town," so that there is no natural stream of man-power.

What deductions must we draw?

First, we can no longer reckon on a natural stream of man-power. We must rather adopt the policy of organized recruiting of workers for our industries. To

do this, there is but one way—the way of contracts between industrial organizations and the collective farms and their members. You know that this way has already been taken up by some of our industrial organizations and collective farms, and experience has shown these contracts to be beneficial both for the collective farms and the industrial enterprises.

Secondly, this means that we must forthwith turn to mechanization in regard to the more onerous processes of labor (the timber industry, the building trades, coal mining, the handling of freights, transportation, ferrous metallurgy, etc.). Of course, this does not mean doing away entirely with manual labor. On the contrary, manual labor will yet play a highly important role in production for a long time to come. But it does mean that the mechanization of labor processes will constitute the new deciding force without which we shall not be able to maintain our tempo and scale of production.

There are still quite a few managers of industry who "do not believe" in mechanization nor in contracts with the collective farms. These are people who fail to understand the new situation, who do not care to work in a new way, and who are longingly sighing for the "good old times" when man-power came into our industries "of its own accord." Needless to say, such managers are as far away from the new tasks of economic construction as heaven from earth. Apparently, they believe that the difficulties as regards man-power are a casual phenomenon, that the shortage of man-power will also vanish "of its own accord," so to speak. This, comrades, is a grievous mistake.

The difficulties due to the labor shortage will not disappear by themselves but only as the result of our own efforts.

To sum up, it is our task to organize the recruiting power by way of contracts with the collective farms, and to mechanize the processes of labor.

## 2. Remuneration of Labor

The recruiting of man-power is not the whole thing. In order to ensure our enterprises the necessary man-power, it is essential to attract the workers to the enterprises so as to turn them into a more or less constant force. There is scarcely any need to argue that without a constant force of workers who have more or less mastered the technique of production and become accustomed to the new mechanisms it is impossible to make progress, to carry out production plans. For, the new worker would have to be trained again, and half of the time would be wasted in this manner and constitute a net loss to production. Can the present staffs of workers in our factories be considered more or less constant? No, unfortunately, such is not the case. On the contrary, we still have a good deal of so-called fluctuation of labor in our factories. In some enterprises this fluctuation of labor is rather on the increase. At any rate, you will find factories where the staffs of workers change to the extent of no less than 30-40 per cent within six months or even within three months.

Formerly, during the period of industrial restoration, when our technical equipment was not complex and our scale of production were not large, it was possible somehow to "tolerate" this so-called fluctuation. Now, in the period of extended reconstruction, when the scales of production have grown gigantesque and the technical equipment has become extremely complex, the fluctuation of labor power has become a scourge to production, disorganizing our industrial enterprises. To "tolerate" it now means to disorganize our industry, to destroy the possibility of carrying out our production plans, to wreck the possibility of improving the quality of production.

What is the cause for this fluctuation of labor?

It is due to incorrect organization of the system of wages, to an incorrect wage scale, to a "leftist" leveling of wages. In a number of enterprises the wage scales have been drawn so that there is almost a total disappearance of the difference between skilled and unskilled labor, between simple and difficult labor. Leveling results in that the unskilled worker has no interest to become skilled; thus deprived of the prospects of promotion, he feels himself somewhat like a "guest" in the factory, working only for some time in order to "earn a little money" and shortly go away elsewhere to "hunt for fortune." Leveling prompts also the skilled worker to migrate from factory to factory, in order to find at last a place where his skill would be properly appreciated.

In order to do away with this evil, it is necessary to do away with leveling and to give up the old wage-scales. The wage-scales should be drawn up as to take into consideration the difference between skilled and unskilled labor, between easy work and hard work. Marx and Lenin say that the difference between skilled and unskilled labor will exist even under Socialism, even after the abolition of classes, that only under Communism will this difference disappear, because even under Socialism, "wages" would be paid according to the work done, and not according to one's needs. However, the levelers among our industrial managers and our trade union officials do not agree with this, presuming that the difference has already disappeared under our Soviet

system. Who is right—Marx and Lenin, or the levelers? We can agree that Marx and Lenin were right in this matter.

In each branch of industry, in each enterprise, in each workshop, there are leading groups of more or less skilled workers who must above all be constant if we really wish to secure a constant staff of workers for our enterprise. These leading groups of workers constitute the basic link of production. To ensure that they are a constant part of the enterprise,

## Jews in Russia—Negroes in America

# A LESSON FROM THE SOVIET UNION

by Will Herberg

(Continued from Page 3)

Solving the "Negro Question" What is the significance of all this for the American Negro? If we are to learn anything from the Soviet experience, then we must realize that the "Negro question" in the United States can only be solved along broadly similar lines:

1. The demonstrative proclamation of the complete equality in every respect of the Negro people with the white, coupled with the demonstrative abolition of all discriminatory laws and customs in any form.
2. The imposition of severe penalties upon all signs of anti-Negro prejudice or "white chauvinism" in any form. A special campaign to stamp out lynching, with the capital penalty for all those guilty of lynching (just as the capital penalty is applied in the U.S.S.R. to all types of pogrom activities).
3. The initiation of a vigorous campaign of social reeducation to root out all forms of race prejudice from the minds of the people in this country.
4. The systematic transformation of the economic position of the Negro people with a view to destroying their peculiar pre-capitalist economic status, upon which their subject status is conditioned. This implies the radical eradication of tenancy, share-cropping, "furnishing" and all other forms of semi-slave exploitation. A transformation of this sort can only be accomplished by breaking forever the power of the Southern landlords, by the nationalization of all land and by the direct holding of the land by the users. Simultaneously there must take place the complete and thorough elimination of all elements of inferiority in the Negro's position in industry (equal pay for equal work, no discrimination in jobs, etc.).

All of these proposals represent merely the demands of consistent democracy. Not one single one of them is a specifically Socialist demand—that is, not one necessarily implies the socialization of all the means of production, etc. Yet so anti-democratic has capitalism become in

its period of decay, in the imperialist epoch, so organically bound up with everything that is outworn, reactionary or decadent, that the realization of these democratic demands in the present historical period is only possible thru the overthrow of capitalist "democracy," thru the concentration of political power in the hands of the proletariat. Thru such dialectical contradictions does history proceed that only the dictatorship of the proletariat can guarantee democracy for the masses and, for the first time, bring real democracy to the oppressed Negro people!

The shattering of the social power of the bourgeoisie and the elevation of the revolutionary proletariat to power will necessarily undermine the ideological power and prestige of the bourgeoisie and its class culture and thereby destroy the social power behind the poison of race prejudice. Race prejudice is an essential and organic element of American capitalist culture and in emancipating themselves from the bourgeoisie, the white American masses will at the same time emancipate themselves from the poisonous spiritual influence of their masters.

The "Russian lessons" cannot be neglected or ignored by the American Negro in his search for the road to emancipation. Because they are not "Russian" lessons; they are the lessons of history, the fruits of experience, the conclusions of a clear and realistic approach to the aching "Negro problem" in America.

JEFFERSON, Ohio.—The closing of Finnish Workers Educational Association's camp near Conneaut received court sanction on July 12 when Probate Judge J. Philip Perry denied an injunction to restrain Sheriff C. H. Blanche from forcing its closing down. The camp had been brutally attacked by the sheriff a few days before. Tear gas and clubs were used against the workers in camp and the children were beaten with leather whips.

The closing of the camp was sanctioned because the camp conducts militant labor educational work especially among children. Irene Dixson, one of the leaders of the camp, has been arrested on charges of criminal syndicalism.



**BOOKS**  
NEW RUSSIA'S PRIMER, The Story of the Five-Year Plan, by M. Ilin. Translated from the Russian by George S. Counts and Nuncia P. Lodge. Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Boston and New York.

New Russia's Primer was originally written by a Russian engineer, Ilin, for use in the schools of Russia for students between the ages of 12-14. His purpose was to explain to the youngsters the basis and scope of the Five-Year Plan and how they could help to make the plan a success. Translated into English by Professor Counts and Miss Lodge it stands as the simplest and best general introduction to the Five-Year Plan yet printed.

Ilin emphasizes thruout the book that the basis of the Five-Year Plan is its plainness as contrasted with the chaos and anarchy existing under capitalistic production. He chooses as his point of comparison the most highly developed capitalist nation in the world, the United States. By examples which are literally fascinating he shows that production based on profit, as in the U. S., leads only to chaos.

Russia's task as outlined in the Five-Year Plan is a gigantic one. Within the small space of five years industry and agriculture must undergo a tremendous transformation. Industry so backward in Russia before the World War must be developed on the basis of the newest and best technical developments. Agriculture, to keep pace with the development of industry, must use forms unheard of under capitalism, huge state farms and the collective farm. Ilin shows clearly that only under a planned economy as concretized in the Five-Year Plan can the material benefits inherent in the machine be realized for all mankind. Capitalism is incapable of establishing a planned economy. For this we need a new mode of production, Socialism.

As one reads this remarkable book one feels that what is taking place in Russia is not merely an industrial revival but a thrilling new era. Labor harnessed to a social purpose loses its drudgery. The taking of raw materials from the bowels of the earth, the conversion of these raw materials into products useful to man, the building of railroads connecting the far corners of the Soviet Union, the utilization of the achievements of science for the benefit of the whole of mankind, the wise and planful development of natural resources are all done so that man can live a better, a more human existence, so that man will have more time to live and develop his individual capabilities. This is the essence and purpose of the Five-Year Plan as told by Ilin in *New Russia's Primer*.

Every worker should possess a copy of this book. It will give him hours of pleasure and a vision of a future which will surely make him want to take his place in the struggle for a new and better world.

## SHARP WAGE DROP IN NEW YORK

Also Heavy Increase in Unemployment, Report of State Labor Dep't.

ALBANY.—The average weekly wage of factory workers in New York state declined 5.2% from May to June, reaching the lowest level since the early months of 1929. In the same period the number of factory workers decreased 3%. This means that in addition to growing unemployment, there has occurred a considerable reduction in wages in the period.

The average June wage was \$26.43 a week, or 62 cents lower than the May average. The number of workers employed in June was 16 per cent lower than in June, 1929, and 35 per cent below the level of June, 1929.

The decrease both in the numbers employed and the wages paid was the most severe that has ever been recorded by the State Labor Department from May to June. The declines were felt in all the main industrial groups except in the food and tobacco divisions, where seasonal influences effected a net increase in employment as compared with May.

Metals and machinery factories have laid off more than 4,000 workmen and cut payrolls \$275,000 since May.

Railroad equipment shops reported gains of more than 8 per cent in employment and payrolls, but the payroll gain was wiped out by heavy cuts in railroad repair shops, which lowered the average weekly earnings of all railroad workers by about \$1.50.

Iron and steel mills laid off more men than they had taken on in May, and slashed payrolls severely.

In the textile groups, knit goods and cotton goods recorded advances, but these gains were wiped out by heavy cuts in other textiles.

New York City showed a 5 per cent loss in employment and a 6 per cent payroll drop.

Binghamton was the only industrial center in the State to report improvement since May, with a net increase of 1 per cent in employment and 3 per cent in payrolls, due to activity in shoe factories.

Syracuse and Buffalo each reported a loss of 4 per cent in employment, with sharp payroll reductions. Employment declined 1 1/2 per cent in Utica and 2 per cent in Rochester. In Albany, Schenectady and Troy the employment loss was 1 per cent, with a 5 per cent decrease in payrolls.



**BETWEEN HAMMER AND ANVIL**  
God's Plan

The flood of new 5, 10 and 15-year plans continues undiminished. Last Sunday Rev. Dr. Clifton Macon communicated a new plan to St. Bartholomew's Church on Park Avenue. Naturally, Park Avenue doesn't get its plans from Marx or Lenin but direct from God himself.

Dr. Macon proposed a national planning commission to study the Bible and report on God's plan, then a referendum to adopt or reject it. The next step would be to invite "Comrade" Jesus down in person, or perhaps invite Father God down himself as this is no boy's business, to realize his 1000-year plan of a Kingdom Come on Earth. I guess we would get as much construction of Socialism from Park Avenue's God as from 1000-year plan by which "Comrade" Ramsay is introducing Socialism in Great Britain.

10,000,000 Would Be Males

Dr. Israel H. Lewinthal, President of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, has come out for the Hoover 20-year plan. He reports a vast army of unemployed rabbis and hopes that Hoover's 20,000,000, or a goodly portion of them, will give some of the jobless rabbis something to do.

Long Island's Ten Year Plan

Now Long Island has its ten-year plan. The next ten years should see 200% more autos on Jones Beach, 1000% more carbon monoxide in Long Island's fresh air, twice as many people standing on each other's toes in the water at Coney Island, 150% more mosquitoes in the salt marshes and sewage creeks, 75% increase in fare times on the Long Island Railroad, three times as many auto accidents, double the number of changes of bed-fellows at the swell colony in the Hamptons, twice as many private beaches and half as many public beaches, 2000% increase in no trespass signs and ten miles added to the length of the Island in the next ten years. Oh, and we forgot—double the number of inmates at Kings Park Lunatic Asylum and a similar increase at Raymond Street jail. Miniature golf courses will decrease in both number and size. So will payrolls and pocketbooks.

Mocking Poverty

At the Hamptons, the swiftest resort on Long Island, their idea of entertainment is to give a "poverty ball" where the guests, wealthy parasites all, were "costumed" in keeping with the spirit of the party in torn and ragged clothes. Two hundred were present at the Devon Yacht Club for this "delightful entertainment." Supper was served at the dance. But there was nothing poverty-stricken about that.

I don't know anything about depression, says J. P. Morgan. To him a depression is merely a dip in the face of fortune.

The cure for depression is less gloom and more backstapping.

A bright idea—especially in the sun-burn season.

Will He Raise Hell?

"We can't help wondering what'll happen when Benito goes to heaven and St. Peter doesn't give the Fascist salute."

Real Freedom

The new decree of "freedom" of the press in Germany has suppressed the Communist papers, provides that all papers must publish government statements in full and without comment till the following day, and that comment must not be such as tends to discredit the government statement or actions. This "should not be regarded as abrogating freedom of the press," it is explained "since there is no intention to suppress constructive criticism."

In other words, you can say what ever you want provided you say whatever we want you to say.

Kellogg Pact Out of Date

Eleven boys and girls are now on a peace mission in Europe. Briand and Hoover, and MacDonald are of course convinced that this children's crusade will make war forever impossible, even the little eleven year old Charles Holtbrook, representing that peaceful organization, the Y. M. C. A., confesses that he hopes to be a soldier when he grows up. Since the Ford Peace Ship there's been nothing so effective!

Pleasures of a Prison Trip

A strange Odyssey is Ex-Senator Fall's trip to prison. He chooses his preferred resort with more care than a millionaire going on his eighth honeymoon; he takes seven years to make up his mind; he has the humidity, noise and dust content of each of Uncle Sam's hotels measured to see what suits his temperament, blood pressure and corpulent count best; he journeys to prison by easy stages with stopovers, rests and side trips by the way; and after he gets there if he's not too tired to leave he will be immediately pardoned as having suffered enough already in his long journey. And all because his accomplices and fellow Teapot Dome crooks are still in high office and out of jail and are scared stiff that Albert B. Fall if he gets excited might begin talking.

Can't you imagine their treating a convicted Communist that way?

B. D. W.