

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)

Vol. No. 44.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1931.

PRICE 5 CENTS

Pound Collapses, Gold Payment Suspended; World Crisis Acute

Pound Falls Sharply; Franc And Dollar Fighting For World Hegemony; Burdens On British Labor Greatly Increased And Leftward Movement Grows

According to latest reports, Sweden, Norway and Egypt, whose currencies are closely tied up with the pound, have suspended gold payments, i. e., have given up the gold standard. Other countries are to follow. It is expected that in the near future only the United States and France (with its financial dependencies, Czechoslovakia and Poland) will remain on a gold basis.

The collapse of the pound sterling, consequent upon the suspension of gold payments by the Bank of England, led to a series of deep-going consequences within England as well as on a world scale. The suspension of the gold standard, first enacted by royal decree the day before, became law just before midnight of September 21, when the bill providing for it was rushed thru Parliament and the received royal assent.

The fall of the pound is of profound historical significance. For many generations, for over two centuries, the pound sterling has been the symbol of capitalist stability. Even the critical war and post-war period could not break the back of the sterling. Today the pound sterling has collapsed, signifying not only the permanent decline of British imperialism as the dominating figure on the world market but also the profound depth of the crisis of international capitalism.

The collapse of the pound has had the inevitable result of raising prices of commodities within England and English goods on the world market as cheapened. The immediate consequence is, therefore, an automatic wage-cut for all workers in Great Britain, amounting to over

COURT SUPPORTS HILLMAN CLIQUE

Orlofsky Ousting O. K.'d By Tammany Judge

According to latest reports, Philip Orlofsky, ousted head of Cutter Local No. 4 of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, has organized his own "union." Reports are also being circulated that Orlofsky is conducting secret negotiations with Woll for the affiliation of his "union" to the A. F. of L.

Judge Irwin S. Untermyer confirmed the decision to oust Philip Orlofsky, Beckerman, Machlin from their offices in Cutters Local No. 4 and denied the injunction asked against Hillman. The latter is immediately appealing the case to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

Max Steuer, of the Tammany Hall Board of Strategy, was Hillman's lawyer. Hillman expressed complete satisfaction with the decision and Orlofsky said he was not "disturbed" because "the membership of Cutters Local Union is still with him and the manufacturers will continue to do business with him."

In his written opinion, Judge Untermyer declared that Orlofsky, Beckerman and Machlin and their associates made no answer and offered no evidence to the charge of their having stolen \$47,863.00 of the union's unemployment relief funds. The judge declared that the G.E.B. of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers had acted within the provisions of the constitution of the union empowering the national administration to make the necessary changes. The judge also ruled that the change in the organization of Local 4 has been approved by the membership of the union.

While the court denied Orlofsky an injunction against Hillman, Magistrate De Luca in the Jefferson Market Court dismissed the charge of disorderly conduct made against him, growing out of

25%. The burdens already placed on the shoulders of the workers and lower middle classes by the "economy measures" of the "All-National Government" are thus terrifically increased. The dissatisfaction and unrest of the British working class is constantly growing and its leftward movement developing at a more rapid tempo. Only the lack of a strong Communist Party, with roots among the masses, today prevents the rapid ripening of a revolutionary situation.

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A Good Start - Now Full Speed Ahead!

OUR call for help is being answered! Friends and leaders of the REVOLUTIONARY AGE and sympathizers and members of the Communist Party (Majority Group) are determined that the WEEKLY AGE shall not die. A comrade in Fort Wayne, Indiana, writes that interest in the AGE is growing among the workers and that it is eagerly read. He sends us \$20 to save the AGE from suspension. From the Anthracite region, where a strike wave is now

UNREST SPREADS ON WATERFRONT

Dealings Between Union Leaders And Owners - To Cut Wages

The workers on the New York waterfront are greatly aroused over the plans of the ship-owners to cut wages of all marine workers. Negotiations have been going on between the committee of ship line executives and the International Longshoremen's Union. The committee at first offered 75¢ an hour for straight labor and \$1.05 for overtime, as against the previous schedule of 85¢ cents and \$1.30 respectively. Fearing the growing strike sentiment, both the ship line executives and Mr. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association, have made certain maneuvers. The shipping companies are now offering 75¢ an hour and \$1.10 overtime. Mr. Ryan is prepared to take 85¢ straight and \$1.25 for overtime but he is also ready to enter a scheme whereby the hours will be lengthened and thus the hourly wages reduced.

The working conditions and wages on the waterfront have been getting continually worse. A high average wage now is \$15 per week. The coming week will very likely see a show down in the negotiations. The workers are much dissatisfied with Ryan's maneuvering and kowtowing to the shipping bosses.

JAPANESE INVADE MANCHURIA

Seize Railroads And Ports U.S.A. In Counter-Move

Sharp fighting between the invading Japanese army and Chinese troops in Manchuria in an "unofficial war" took place all of last week. The Japanese have been generally victorious and have been successful in penetrating far into the territory. China has appealed to the League of Nations and to the Kellogg Pact but this appeal has only proved the hollow ness of both as guarantees of peace.

The sudden military offensive of Japan came as a result of the recent alienation of Chang Hsueh-liang, who has hitherto operated under the patronage of Japan. The straining of relations with Chang, threatening Japanese hegemony in Manchuria, precipitated the military adventure. The "unofficial war" is unquestionably the working out of a carefully prepared plan the primary object of which is to convert Manchuria into a Japanese colony by armed force, just as happened with Korea in the past. The first step is to obtain full control of all Manchurian railroads up to the Chinese Eastern Railway. Japan has already occupied the most important ports and industrial centers of Manchuria.

The Japanese military adventure is a direct challenge to the United States, which, since the eclipse of England, is the dominant force in China. The United States has therefore begun diplomatic maneuvers to block Japanese aspirations.

REACTION SWEEPS LEGION MEET

Plan Of Open Dictatorship Approved; Hoover Hits Misery Relief

By a vote of 902 to 507 the American Legion convention defeated the proposal for the cash payment of the unpaid veterans bonus certificates. By a vote of 1,008 to 394, the convention went on record in favor of a referendum on the prohibition law, for a poll to be conducted by states on modifying the dry law or repealing it.

DETROIT.—A program of all-around reaction, including proposals for "stricter immigration laws", "more stringent enforcement of deportation laws" and for a "vigorous war on Communism", was adopted by the American Legion convention in session here. The resolutions committee also brought in for the approval of the body a declaration urging President Hoover to "declare a national emergency and appoint a council of national defense with war-time powers to end the unrest, indecision and dissatisfaction of the present economic crisis". In other words, to establish an open dictatorship of the capitalist class. The convention (Continued on Page 2)

Wage-Cuts Sweep Steel and Other Industries; Labor Must Resist

U. S. Steel Orders 10% Cut, Other Huge Trusts Follow Millions of Workers Hit; Green Issues "Strong" Statement But Again Hamstrings Action

A new deluge of wage-cuts, involving millions of workers in the most important industries of the country, was started on September 22 with the announcement that the United States Steel Corporation, the world's largest industrial enterprise, would slash wages by about 10%, the low rates to become effective October 1. This decision, directly affecting 220,000 workers, was made at a special meeting of the board of directors of the corporation on September 22, and had been long foreshadowed thru many developments.

Almost simultaneously and in obvious response to a concerted plan, the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, the second largest organization in the industry, took similar action. This decision affects more than 50,000 workers. The Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, another important organization followed soon after. A cut of between 10%-20% was announced by the General Motors Corpora-

tion. The United States Rubber Company, employing about 25,000 workers, announced a 12% wage-cut thru the shortening of the work week without re-adjustment of hourly wages.

The next day the avalanche of wage slashes grew tremendously. The Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation, fourth largest unit, announced a cut of 10%. The Colorado Fuel and Iron Company followed suit. The major copper companies in Arizona have ordered a 9.1% cut in all wages. The Northern Pacific railroad approved 23% reductions. The B. F. Goodrich Company declared a 10% cut. In the oil industry, there is going on "a quiet adjustment of wages to conditions" (New York Times). The Pepper Manufacturing Company of Boston, followed by other textile concerns, has announced an "adjustment of wages" amounting to 10%. And this is only the beginning.

The news of these wage-cuts, which brought misery and foreboding to millions of working class homes, brought cheer and optimism to capitalist class circles.

STOCKS RISE SHARPLY ON WAGE CUT NEWS

HOW THE BOSSES WELCOMED THE WAGE-CUTS From the New York Sun

as evidenced by the reaction on the Stock Exchange. A sharp advance of between 1 and 14 points on the New York Exchange was to be noted as a result of "stimulation" by the overnight announcement of wage reductions in several major industries" (New York Times). So sharply contrasted are the essential interests of the capitalists and the workers!

It is significant that the signal for the new wage-cut drive came from the gigantic steel corporations. Nowhere are the salaries and bonuses paid to directors so incredibly lavish as in the steel corporations. According to court records, the Bethlehem Steel Corporation paid to its officers bonuses amounting to well over \$25,000,000 in the twelve years preceding 1930. The salary and bonus of the president of the Bethlehem Steel in this period averaged \$826,000 annually! The dividends of the steel concerns have also been extremely high.

At the time when the directors of the big steel corporations are cutting wages on a grand scale and thus spreading wholesale misery thruout the country, precisely these same gentlemen are being chosen by the Federal and local authorities as members of "unemployment committees" to "help relieve the misery caused by the economic crisis." On the Federal "relief committee" are W. S. Gifford, a powerful figure in U. S. Steel; Pierre S. DuPont, of General Motors; Myron C. Taylor of U. S. Steel; Owen D. Young of General Motors; etc. On the New York City "Emergency Unemployment (Continued on page 2)

QUOTH THE RAVEN: "NEVERMORE!"



MEN MURDERED IN TAMMANY CLUBS

Startling Facts Involve Ex-Commissioner Whalen

That a double murder took place in the Second Assembly District Democratic club of Harry C. Perry, chief clerk of the City Court and that all police inquiry as to these murders was suppressed by Tammany influence, was made public on September 24 by Samuel Seabury in connection with the charges of large-scale gambling conducted in Tammany and Republican club rooms, under the protection of the police.

NEW YORK CITY.—Startling testimony was presented on September 23 by Samuel Seabury, counsel for the Hofstadter committee, to prove that professional gambling exists in New York City under the protection of the police, Tammany Hall and the city administration. According to the evidence of Mr. Seabury, the local Tammany clubs, under the direct protection of the police, have really been open gambling houses in which big gamblers operated freely. The three clubs mentioned by Mr. Seabury are: the Thomas M. Farley Association of the 14th Assembly District, the Tammany Central Association of the 12th Assembly District, and the Harry C. Perry Association of the 2nd Assembly District. City officials are the heads of all of these organizations.

According to the testimony of Police Captain Lewis J. Valentine, the notorious gambler, George McManus, who was tried in the Rothstein murder case, operated in the Tammany Central Association club-rooms while similar proceedings took place elsewhere. Former Police Commissioner Whalen, the notorious "Red" baiter, is directly implicated in this scandal and will be called before the Hofstadter committee very soon. Republican clubs are also implicated, according to Mr. Seabury. The clubs of Tax Commissioner John R. Crews and of Jacob Rosenberg, both Republicans, are named as known gambling resorts.

HOSIERY WORKERS TO STRIKE

Local Unions Ask Strike Action But Officials Sabotage Move

Delegates and workers from the New York, New Jersey and New England divisions of the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers gathered in Paterson and repudiated the decision of the official union leaders to invite a wage-cut of 30% to 40%. More than 4,000 hosiery workers gathered and denounced the hosiery union officialdom, the leading elements of which are affiliated with Conference for Progressive Labor Action headed by A. J. Muste. The hosiery workers are very much stirred up over the decision of their officials not only not to resist wage-cuts but even to help bring them on. This decision is in line with the program of the hosiery workers union (Continued on page 3)

Paterson Strikers Concentrating Upon Jacquard Shops; Settlements Grow

Grant Mill Is Closed; Strikers Watch for Enforcement Of Settlement Conditions; A. F. of L. Conference To Be Held; Women's Meeting Scheduled

The remaining plain silk shops are slowly settling. The large jacquard manufacturers are still holding out. The Paterson strikers are determined to bring the large jacquard manufacturers into line. Last week witnessed a strengthening of the struggle of the jacquard weavers, a closing of their ranks, and a getting down to effective strike action which resulted in militant mass picketing of the jacquard shops.

The most effective picketing was against the Grant Mill which has been running with scabs, thus defying the union. However, last week the scabs were not allowed to get away with their scabbing. When they left the mill, the automobile escort conveying them out, led by Mrs. Grant, the wife of the boss, was stopped and the scabs given a good lesson in trade unionism. Mrs. Grant became hysterical and fainted away. She tried to get the strikers arrested on framed-up charges and failed. Now the Grant Mill is closed.

In the plain goods shops which have settled a number of manufacturers are attempting to break down the conditions won. These are being fought by the strikers and the workers brought out on strike again.

The general strike committee has served notice that under no circumstances would it permit the bosses to break down the conditions won by the strikers and agreed

to in the settlements. The National Textile Workers Union is prominent by its complete absence from all strike activity. It has given up the strike. Its few members are looking for jobs at any conditions. The union is officially in league with certain bosses, notably the Snyder Shop, to force a breaking of the agreement in order to get the workers to work for 5¢ instead of 6¢ a yard. Before the strike Snyder paid 5 3/4¢ a yard. The general strike committee served notice that unless the agreements were lived up to in the Snyder and other shops they would be struck immediately.

In order to bring about more concerted support and help for the strike on the part of the A. F. of L., the general strike committee decided to call a conference of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L., the New Jersey State Federation of Labor and the national office of the United Textile Workers of America for that purpose. The conference is to take up support of the strike on the basis of the 8-hour day, fight against wage-cuts and for union organization.

On Tuesday night, September 29, a mass meeting will be held to organize the 8-hour brigade to see to it that the 8-hour day is strictly lived up to.

(Continued on Page 2)

MOONEY CONFERENCE MEETS IN N. Y. EXCLUDES I. L. D. DELEGATES

Large Conference Under Socialist Control; Exclusion Policy Cripples Movement; Gitlow, In Name Of C. P.-Majority Group, Appeals To Mooney

New York City One of the largest conferences of labor organizations held in New York in many years came together on Thursday, September 25, 1931, at the call of Tom Mooney to launch a new campaign for his freedom. More than three hundred delegates, from trade unions, fraternal organizations, political organizations and other liberal groups met at the Labor Temple, 243 East 84th Street, and decided to organize a demonstration in Union Square on October 10 and elected a committee to carry on further work.

In spite of its size, the conference was not an expression of the policy laid down by Tom Mooney for a broad united front in which especially the left wing labor organizations were to be represented.

1. The refusal of the Communist Party and its organizations to participate in a united front in which other political organizations are represented.

2. The setting up of a provisional committee of individuals representing only themselves, with these individuals acting in an arbitrary and high-handed manner to exclude from the committee all other groups.

This is but another example of the fact that the Communist Party's ultra-leftism only plays into the hands of the right wingers and bureaucrats and gives them weapons with which to fight the Communists.

4. The election of A. Lefkowitz as the chairman and L. Antonini as head of the credentials committee, thus demonstrating that the extreme right wing would be in control of the conference. The C.P.L.A. representatives acted all thru as assistants of the right wingers.

5. The failure of other left wing groups to come to the conference and mobilize other organizations for it. Only the C. P.-Majority Group and Weisbord's "organization" were represented, and only the C. P.-Majority Group made an effort to mobilize left wing organizations for the conference. The partial success of this work was shown in the vote of 26 delegates for the motion of the C. P.-Majority Group that the delegates from the I. L. D. who had appeared be seated.

6. The conference itself was conducted in a high-handed manner. No questions regarding the organization of the conference and the constitution of the committees, were permitted, the order of business was mechanically rushed thru without any opportunities given the delegates for proposing changes. Discussion on the main questions was almost prohibited.

(Continued on Page 2)

STRIKES FLARE UP IN ANTHRACITE

Loomis Colliery Strikes Expect Movement To Spread Rapidly

The workers of the Loomis Colliery, Local Union No. 2444, District 1, Anthracite region, United Mine Workers of America, have declared a strike to go in effect on September 22 as a result of the dispute between the mine committee and the coal company officials on wage rates. The miners were not making more than \$4.50 a day at the most while the union wages, according to the agreement, call for \$6.74. The dispute came to head on September 19 when the miners refused to enter the colliery.

The dispute involves about 80 men, of whom 30 are miners. The Loomis Colliery is a Glen Alden Coal Company mine. On Monday, September 21, the local union held a meeting and decided to go on strike.

The strike at the Loomis Colliery will probably be the first of a series of strikes in other collieries, very likely involving the entire District 1. The general mine committee of the Glen Alden Coal Company has called a special meeting of all local unions in District 1 for Wednesday, September 23, to discuss the possibility of a general strike.

A Scandal That Points A Lesson

PRIZE "LOYALITE" A POLICE SPY!

Editor Of The Metz "Humanite" Exposed

In all the world there is no official Communist paper more vicious in its abuse, more malicious in its attacks upon the Communist Opposition than the Humanite of Metz in Lorraine. And the most venomous writer on this poison-drenched sheet, has been Eugene Mathis, its editor. The Metz Humanite was the far-flung weapon of the Paris Central Committee of the official Communist Party of France in its fight against the Communist Opposition which controls the whole Communist movement of Alsace and a large part of that of Lorraine. The columns of the Metz Humanite were filled with ecstatic laudation of the C. P. officials and their policies and with unmeasured abuse of the Communist Opposition. Above that, "loyalty to the Comintern" was the altar upon which the very "loyal" Mathis performed his daily devotions.

And now its turns out that Eugene Mathis—and has been for some considerable time—a police spy paid agent of the police.

At the behest of the police and of the employers organization this Eugene Mathis, editor of the official Communist Party organ in Metz, wrote a pamphlet against the Soviet Union. Another champion against the "renegades" fallen by the way-side.

The "New" Turn in France

The "new turn" in France goes on and continues to expose its own hollowness.

1. The Parliamentary Turn We have already called attention (Revolutionary Age, September 12, 1931) to the rumors of a change in the parliamentary tactics of the Communist Party of France. The article of Berlioz, editor of Humanite, in its issue of September 5, throws a little light on the matter. He declares that in certain exceptional circumstances we can appeal to the Socialist workers with united front proposals. On the basis of the acceptance of a minimum program and the common organization of a united front in the factories, it is possible to have the withdrawal of the candidates of the Communists and of the S.P.F. in favor of each other in the second ballot.

And, in prefacing "his remarkable proposal, which, altho it only involves the application of the united front tactics in an incomplete form in exceptional cases, is so profoundly different from the accepted ultra-left course, what does Berlioz say? That the C. P. has lost 60%, 70%, and even 80% of its support in the elections in the provinces and in some places has been wiped out altogether! And furthermore, that this proposal is not to be presumed to interfere with or to con-

REACTION SWEEPS LEGION MEET

(Continued from page 1) Detroit approved this resolution

DETROIT.—In a vigorous oral brief speech—it lasted ten minutes altogether—before the American Legion convention here, Herbert Hoover, president of the United States, launched a bitter attack upon every form of government expenditure for the relief of misery arising out of the present economic crisis and mounting unemployment. Especially determined was he in his opposition to the proposal, insistently urged by a large portion of the delegates to the Legion convention and by an even larger proportion of the membership of the Legion, for the immediate cash payment of the balance of the veterans bonus certificates. Loans or taxes beyond the "minimum necessities of government," the President declared, "would drain the resources of industry and commerce." This "warning" he made clear was directed not only against the bonus demands but against "every other project proposed in the country which would require increased federal expenditures," that is, against any form of Federal unemployment relief or farm aid! The "National Treasury could stand no extra expense," he emphasized, "without grave risks to national stability." According to the President, it would be "folly" to believe that taxes on rich measures; such taxes would "retard this nation in its destiny of leading the world to recovery."

COURTS SUPPORT A.C.W. HILLMAN CLIQUE

(Continued from page 1) the murder of Jacob Kiviat. And it is also reported that Jacob Potofsky, Assistant General Secretary-Treasurer of the Aamalgamated Clothing Workers Union, requested that no arrests be made in the case. Hyman Nemsler, prominent Socialist and member of the C.P.L.A., was in legal battery defending Orlofsky. Magistrate De Luca, in dismissing the complaint, declared that he had no alternative in view of the missing corroborating testimony on the complainant's part.

Nevin Bus Lines

Cheap, Comfortable, Safe RATES FROM NEW YORK

tradict the official dogma of "class against class!"

2. Trade Union Tactics In the Humanite of September 2 we read with astonishment an appeal issued by the C.G.T.U. (Red trade union federation) leadership to the congress of C. G. T. (the reformist federation) calling for a united front in struggle and even for unity, on the basis of a perfectly acceptable minimum program. What has happened? Why the sudden turn? Let us listen to Lovosky in his address to the conference between the R.I.L.U. and the C.G.T.U. minority on August 16:

"We are absolutely at variance with you (with the C.G.T.U. minority) on the question of unity between the C.G.T.U. and the C.G.T. But we do not say 'no' as directly as you say 'yes'."

The A. D. G. B. Congress In Germany

At the beginning of September there took place the fourteenth congress of the German Federation of Labor (A.D.G.B.), the leading trade union organization of Germany, with well-nigh 5,000,000 members. Altho the elections were, for the first time in many years, fairly democratic, the Communist Party of Germany, which claims 200,000 members and which received about 4,500,000 votes in the Reichstag elections, could not elect one single delegate to this congress! The German Communist Opposition, on the other hand, with only a few thousand members and without resources was able to get one of its members (Krauss-Stuttgart) elected—the only Communist voice at the congress.

The C. P. G. O. Makes Big Progress

The Geestbacht local of the Communist Party of Germany, consisting of 150 members, decided to join the German Communist Opposition in a body.

AND THIS IS A "COMMUNIST" PAPER! Says the "Daily Worker" - No Comment Needed

We publish below some characteristic extracts from the Daily Worker, "central organ of the Communist Party of the U. S. A., Section of the Communist International." We feel no comment is necessary; the bare quotations show what depths of ideological degradation this official Party organ has sunk under the corrupting influence of the new sectarian course.

ON PROLETARIAN UNITY

"Lovestone is the peddler of the bourgeois lies against the Soviet Union. . . . The Comintern organizes the workers for struggle of victory. Lovestone contributes to and exults in the defeat of the working class. . . ."

"The 'Majority Group' supports the traitors of the working class. . . . The Communist International and the Communist Party of the United States is the embodiment of revolutionary unity. The basis of unity is its revolutionary program. Workers who accept and support this program have no difficulty in joining the revolutionary unity of the American Communists. ALL THOSE WHO REFUSE TO ACCEPT THIS PROGRAM, OUR PARTY WILL BRING PUBLICLY BEFORE THE WORKING CLASS FOR THEIR UNITY WITH THE CLASS ENEMY OF THE PROLETARIAT; NO CRIES FOR REVOLUTIONARY UNITY ON THEIR PART WILL SAVE THEM FROM THIS FATE."

September 10, 1931.

ON UNITY OF THE FUR WORKERS

"The furriers company union organized a FAKE unity conference for the purpose of carrying thru a FAKE stoppage maneuver similar to the Schlesinger-Hillman FAKE strikes. With this aim the Joint Council of the company union invited all the known traitors and racketeers among the furriers. (Since this was written the 'industrial union' has officially accepted the invitation to attend the conference.—Editor). . . . A committee of five was elected by the registered fur workers who participated in the conference and exposed the whole scheme in conspiracy with these gentlemen, with the bosses."

September 10, 1931.

ON WORKERS SOLIDARITY

"A fine day of celebration for these traitors, who, together with Gitlow, Budenz, Bert Miller and Zimmerman and the smaller fry of Lovestone renegades, are trying to break the strike of the textile workers. Labor Day is a day that symbolizes the attempted sell-out of their militant struggles. It is a day of hatred of the system that makes use of such scum from Green, Woll to Gitlow, Budenz, Muste and the smaller gang of pickpockets, who pose as 'labor leaders.'"

August 22, 1931, I. Amter.

ON SELLING OUT THE PATERSON WORKERS

"Last night at the mass meeting called by the U. T. W. at Roseland Auditorium, Mr. Muste presented a resolution pro-

posing to settle with the bosses on the basis of REDUCING THE DEMANDS OF THE WEAVERS FROM 7¢ TO 6¢ PER YARD. . . ."

"This is the program of the A. F. of L. leaders, of Mr. Muste, Gitlow and Co."

"The N.T.W.U. is mobilizing the Paterson silk workers, including the strikers and workers in the settled shops, the organized as well as the unorganized workers. . . . An effort will be made to organize the widest united front in every mill, to build the N.T.W.U. as the best guarantee for defeating the wage-cutting, speed-up plans of the U.T.W. and Mr. Muste."

"The United Front General Strike Committee will propose to this vitally important mass meeting the question of REDUCING WAGE DEMANDS OF THE WEAVERS TO THE MINIMUM OF 6¢ A YARD OF 60 PICKS and one cent additional for each 8, for compelling the bosses thru united action in the shops to grant this minimum. . . ."

September 10, 1931.

ON THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN PATERSON

"Keller is already doing some work along these lines in Paterson, exposing our active organizers to police reporters, and Lovestone's 'shock troop' in the national office of the C.P.L.A., Bert Miller-Mandel in White Plains, pointed out to the police who are the T.U.U.L. organizers there. It's indeed a blessing that our movement cleared itself from these agents of Wm. Green and on time."

"The A. F. of L. fakers finally carried out the policy of Gitlow, declared a dual strike, mobilized the bosses, their press and the police, threatening the workers with blacklist if they strike under the leadership of the N. T. W. U. . . ."

"The height of degeneration of the renegades in expressed in Lovestone's article in the REVOLUTIONARY AGE of August 29, where he states: 'This is the first strike of any importance waged by the A. F. of L. unions in many months which Green has at least outwardly and temporarily not denounced and to which he even pledged support.'"

"This strike has proven that not only is there no difference between Lovestone and Muste, not only does Lovestone tell the workers who have confidence in the A. F. of L. Council of the Greens and Wolls, but Gitlow even brazenly stepped on the red flag and raised high the U. S. flag. It was a pleasure to see Gitlow carrying a big American flag, and Lifshitz and Zimmerman carrying little flags."

John Steuben, September 12, 1931

ON THE C.P.-MAJORITY GROUP MEETING IN PATERSON

"The renegades from Communism and open strike breaking allies of Tom McManis, Bill Green and Matt Will called a mass meeting on the same night. Their crowd, recruited from among the most notorious scab elements in Paterson, like Friedman, Laks and Co., listened to some of the most hypocritical, counter-revolutionary laudations of the A. F. of L. and attacks on the N. T. W. U. which is in no way different from what the police and the bosses have to say about the only militant revolutionary union of the textile workers."

September 22, 1931.

Antics of "Loyalites" In Local 1

New York City. On Tuesday, September 15, 1931, there took place a regular local meeting of Local 1, L.L.G.W.U. There came up the report of the investigation committee that had been appointed the previous meeting to examine the report of the organization committee. This investigation committee had been appointed at the insistence of the self-styled "Left Group" (the T.U.U.L. group) and members of this group were on the committee. They came before Levy, the manager of the local, and instead of conducting the investigation according to the decision of the local, they made the following "modest demands": (1) that they be allowed to investigate all local affairs, all affairs of the union in general; (2) that they be given the names and private addresses of all shop chairmen; and (3) that they be allowed to call meetings outside the union! Naturally, the local manager refused to consider these "demands"—which, in fact, implied the liquidation of the union itself.

At the local meeting there took place the report of this committee. By an overwhelming majority the action of the local manager was upheld. It is interesting that the Student group (the extreme reactionaries) split on this issue, and a good section voted with the so-called "Lefts". The Shelley group, standing in close contact with Schlesinger, voted solidly with T. U. U. L. group.

Then a motion was made that the "investigation committee" be discontinued. There were two speakers, one for and one against. For spoke Levy, the manager; against, (that is, for the T.U.U.L. viewpoint) spoke Student, the leader of the reactionary clique! Altho the Student group and the Shelley group both voted solid with the "Left Group", the disruptive committee was abolished.

More and more does it become clear that the T. U. U. L. forces in Local 1 are forming a working alliance not only with the Shelley people but even with the reactionary Student clique.

A Needle Worker.

MOONEY CONFERENCE MEETS IN N. Y.

(Continued from page 1)

This conference showed that neither the Communist Party leaders, nor the organizers of the conference, were really desirous of establishing a real united front on behalf of Mooney. Some empty gestures were made on both sides.

Instead of a united front, there will be two movements, one under the hegemony of the Communist Party and excluding all those who disagree with it and the other under the hegemony of the Socialist party and right wing trade union officials, with a cover of liberalism. The C. P. Majority group will work for the policy laid down by Mooney—for a broad united movement including the revolutionary organizations. It will try to use its influence to unite the movement, regardless of the stupidities which the Communist Party leadership is committing, and regardless of the slanders directed particularly against its own members, not only by the Socialist party and right wing leaders, but also by the leaders of the Communist Party. This is the only way in which the wishes of Tom Mooney can be carried out and a powerful movement to free Mooney established.

The struggle of the C.P.-Majority Group to prevent the destruction of the movement by the exclusion policy of the C.P.L.A. and S. P. leaders against the official Communist Party and the I. L. D., was begun immediately after the conference. In the name of the C.P.-Majority Group, Benjamin Gitlow, who had been named by the conference to the arrangements committee, sent the following telegram to Tom Mooney thru the San Francisco Tom Mooney Molders Defense Committee:

CONFERENCE DISREGARDED MOONEY'S CALL RAILROADED EVERYTHING THRU. WENT ON RECORD TO EXCLUDE DELEGATES

OF BRANCHES OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE. WENT ON RECORD TO EXCLUDE OFFICIAL COMMUNIST PARTY AND INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE AS ORGANIZATIONS. KELSO RAISED NO OBJECTION. I HAVE BEEN ADDED TO COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS. I HAVE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO YOUR INSISTENCE THAT MOTION OF EXCLUSION OF COMMUNIST PARTY AND INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE DELEGATES BE RESCINDED. MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE IS ON TUESDAY EVENING. IF SUCH DIRECTIVE FROM YOU IS NOT RECEIVED I WILL BE FORCED TO LEAVE THE COMMITTEE BECAUSE WE ABSOLUTELY OPPOSE EXCLUSION POLICY WHETHER FROM RIGHT OR FROM LEFT. GITLOW.

PALACE RESTAURANT 5 EAST 28TH STREET near 5th Ave.

Club Breakfast - 25c. Club Dinner served from 11 A. M. to 10 P. M. - 55c Large and comfortable Dining Room Famous for Good Food Since 1915

SPECIAL EXCURSIONS to SOVIET RUSSIA for the celebration of the 14th Anniversary of the Revolution leaves October 23 on the largest ocean liner MAJESTIC Return trip \$208 all expenses The tour includes transportation both ways, a Soviet visa, seven days hotel expenses in Leningrad and Moscow, visit to museums, sight-seeing, etc. GUSTAVE EISNER Official Steam-Ship Agent 1133 BROADWAY, CORNER 26th STREET Tel.: CHelsea 3-5080.

The Degeneration Of The S. P.

"SOCIALIST" PROVOCATORS AT WORK!

What Have The "Militants" To Say To This?

In the New Leader for September 12, 1931, there appears an editorial entitled "Communist Madmen". In the body of this editorial we read the following:

"Now the Communist International sends orders to each national section to plant cells and on every occasion to perform acts of sabotage in order to disorganize food supplies and other essential public services. Communists are ordered to form 'combat groups' and instructions to these groups include acts of terrorism such as assassination of hostile politicians, police heads and all other leaders considered dangerous enemies of the working class."

Only an unsigned dispatch in the bourgeois press is used as authority for these "quotations" which the New Leader is so ready to use. In the complete absence of any proof that such a document, or such instructions, really emanated from the Communist International, this editorial can only be characterized as the work of a provocator. Anyone who is in the slightest interested in the truth regarding Communist theories, certainly one who wrote a "History of American Communism", should know that the Communists have always been and are today opposed to all acts of individual terror and violence as a means of struggle. The capitalist class has made many efforts to lay acts of terror at the door of the Communists. We can cite for example the Wall Street explosion in the United States or the Zinoviev letter in England. But such efforts have always proved fruitless, even with the tremendous forgery machine and frame-up system at the disposal of the capitalist government. But the failure of the government has always spurred on the Socialist leaders to try to do a better job. Who does not remember James Onal's denunciations of Communists in 1919 and 1920 when they were hunted by Palmer and his agents? Who does not remember Seymour Stedman's "Red Raid" in Detroit at the same time? Have not the Socialist leaders denounced Communist workers to the police in Poland, Hungary and other countries? And if any Socialist workers believe that these provocative acts on the part of their leaders are only factional moves against the Communists, let us recall the Zinoviev letter in England, which was used not only against the Labor Party and the entire working class movement. All such acts of provocation inevitably react against the workers as a whole.

Relief Committee" are to be found: G. F. Baker, of United States Steel and of General Motors; W. S. Gifford, of U. S. Steel; Wm. C. Potter, of Bethlehem Steel; Seward Prosser, of General Motors; Alfred S. Sloan, president of General Motors; Myron C. Taylor, U. S. Steel; C. M. Woolley, General Motors; Owen D. Young, General Motors. Truly the right hand does not know what the left hand is doing. . . .

Nor should it be left unmentioned that precisely the corporations that are slashing wages today are those that benefit most from the tax refunds of the Federal government. The United States Steel, for example, received a tax refund of \$33,000,000 last year and a total of \$98,000,000 in the last fourteen years. Steel is also the industry most heavily protected by the tariff policy of the government.

The announcement of the deluge of wage-cuts succeeded in evoking a formal statement from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Green sharply condemned the wage-cuts as a "blow to the effort to bring back prosperity." He charged that this act of the big corporations constituted a violation of their "solemn pledge given to President Hoover to maintain wages." He omitted to mention, however, that this "pledge" had been broken the morning after it was made and that the wage-cut drive had been initiated before the ink on the "pledge" was yet dry! As a matter of fact, the only one who abided by the "pledge" was Mr. Green himself who used all his power to restrain the A. F. of L. from resisting the wage-cut offensive by striking. Even in his recent statement, as the New York Times points out, "no threat of action by organized labor was contained, however"—that is, no indication that Mr. Green is going to allow the A. F. of L. unions to fight wage-cuts in the only effective manner, by striking against wage-cuts!

Over half a million dollars was "earned" in the year 1929 by the notorious gangster Peter De Vito by breaking strikes for such large corporations as the Standard Oil Company of New York, the American Can Company and the chain grocery stores, it was revealed in the examination of De Vito's finances resulting from a charge of filing improper income tax reports.

The evidence also pointed to the fact that De Vito operated in his strike-breaking activities under the open protection of the police and under the patronage of the city officials.

The menace that the newly initiated wage-cut drive holds out to all workers, skilled and unskilled, organized and unorganized, native and foreign-born, cannot be over-estimated. Determined resistance must be the answer of labor and for resistance unity is necessary. A united front of labor to defeat the offensive of capital!

During the week over twenty-five arrests were made of strikers. But these arrests are not deterring the strikers from carrying the strike to a victorious conclusion.

The Board of Management of the Associated Silk Workers appointed Frank Schweitzer of the United Textile Workers as general organizer of the Associated.

The large number of settle shops make it necessary for the Associated Silk Workmen Union, in the opinion of many members, to get the members of the union together to constitute committees and elect the officials so that the union can begin to function and consolidate the gains of the strike.

SILK STRIKERS HIT JACQUARD SHOPS

(Continued from page 1)

The women will hold their mass meeting on Thursday, October 1, for the purpose of organizing a women's auxiliary of the union. Prominent women will address the meeting including, Kate Gitlow, Minnie Lurye, and Vivian Miller of the Communist Party (Majority Group).

More and more does it become clear that the T. U. U. L. forces in Local 1 are forming a working alliance not only with the Shelley people but even with the reactionary Student clique.

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NEW WORKERS SCHOOL OPENS

Jay Lovestone will be the first speaker at the Forum conducted by the New Workers School every Sunday evening at 63 Madison Ave. His subject, one which is of tremendous interest to every worker in the United States, will be "WHITHER ENGLAND". He will speak on Sunday evening Oct. 4. In this lecture he will discuss the causes and lessons of the fall of the MacDonald "Labor" government and the establishment of the "National Government", the role of Wall Street, the break-up of the British Empire, the situation of labor, and the tasks, problems and mistakes of the Communists in England, as well as the duty of the workers throughout the world. The speaker, the subject and the importance of this question at the present time are all good reasons why the hall should be pecked on Sunday evening, Oct. 4. Workers who realize the importance of clarifying the questions involved should bring their shop-mates, friends and fellow union members to the Forum.

Further lectures at the Forum, which will continue every Sunday evening beginning October 4, will include the most important aspects of the labor movement and the problems confronting the workers.

On October 11, Sterling Spero, co-author of "The Black Worker" and an outstanding authority on Negro questions, will speak on "The Negro and the American Labor Movement."

On October 18, Bertram D. Wolfe, the director of the New Workers School, will speak on the subject of racketeering. The title of the lecture will be "Only Saps Work. A Study of the Social Basis of Racketeering."

On October 25, Frank L. Palmer, at present of the Federated Press, and formerly editor of the Colorado Labor Advocate will speak on "Combating the Labor Spy." The speaker is an authority on this question, having written a book "Spies in Steel" which exposed the spy activities of the steel trust. He will discuss the methods of the labor spy and how to combat him.

Future subjects and speakers will be announced in the Revolutionary Age. Various questions will be discussed and many points of view will be presented. There will be questions and discussion at each lecture. Admission is 25¢ for a single lecture, or \$1.00 for a series of any six. All are welcome.

FALL OPENING New Workers School - REGISTRATION NOW GOING ON - SCHEDULE OF COURSES IN FALL TERM LABOR MOVEMENT TODAY - Jay Lovestone Popular lecture course, Fridays-8:30 P. M. FUNDAMENTALS OF COMMUNISM - D. Benjamin Mondays-7 to 8:30 P. M. COMMUNIST STRATEGY AND TACTICS - H. Zam Mondays-8:30 to 10 P. M. SOCIAL HISTORY OF THE U. S. A. - Jim Cork Tuesdays-7 to 8:30 P. M. MARXISM-LENINISM I - B. Herman Mondays-7 to 8:30 P. M. MARXISM-LENINISM II - Will Herberg Tuesdays-7 to 8:30 P. M. MARXIAN PHILOSOPHY - Bert Wolfe Tuesdays-8:30 to 10 P. M. English, Advanced and Elementary, once and twice a week. Details on request. - Max Weber and others Send name and address for free bulletin on courses to New Workers School 63 MADISON AVENUE Cor. 27th Street

A Review of Prof. Cohen's "Reason and Nature"

The Scholar Views the World

by Jim Cork

REASON AND NATURE, by Morris R. COHEN, Harcourt, Brace and Company, New York, 1931.

This book may be described in the most general terms as a hymn of praise to reason and science. This fact alone would make it significant in this age of monument-building to everything else. Some of the most distinguished scientists of the sacred hearth of reason, the scientists themselves, are worshipping at other shrines.

The author is one of the most erudite of living men. The scope of the book is tremendous, dealing, as it does, with most of the natural and social sciences. It is, therefore, obviously impossible to do full justice to a book of such scope in a mere review. Criticism must of necessity be of the most general kind.

In general we may say that there are riches scattered throughout this book for the Marxist. Perhaps the most brilliant chapter in the book is the one on biology, especially that part containing the criticism of vitalism, the case for mechanism and the drawing of the balance sheet. Students of dialectical materialism have much to learn from the critical examination of the intuitionism of Bergson and his followers, of Kant, and especially of the empirico-critics of the school of Mach. There is a pithy analysis of Einstein's theory in which the conception that relativity supports anti-materialistic subjectivism is thoroughly exploded. The weakest part of the book is surely that dealing with the social sciences, especially history. The vices of an eclectic rationalism are here most in evidence.

Old La-briola once had a neat take-off upon John Stuart Mill in essence, that the latter was always suspended in mid-air between a "yes" and a "no"; between an "on the one hand" and an "on the other." It is a case in point here. The old "plurality of factors" theory is much in evidence. Of Marxism the professor gives us a travesty—but of that later.

In the various critiques above noted the author's positive stand on the basic philosophical questions (materialism vs. idealism, etc.) is more or less developed. The existence of an independent objective universe with its own sequence and order is maintained. Physics is put squarely upon a materialistic basis.

... what may be called the postulate of scientific materialism, viz., that all natural phenomena depend on material conditions, is not merely a well-supported generalization, but the requirement of an orderly world, of a cosmos, that is not a chaotic phantasmagoria.

Those who read the author's description of himself in the preface will not be surprised, however, to find this general agreement with the postulates of basic materialism eclectically vitiated by the Platonic idealism of eternal ideas and abstract universals. This becomes transformed into the mathematician's search for the "element of permanence" in the mathematical relationships.

... that the logically necessary relations which hold between mathematical expressions hold of natural phenomena themselves.

The cart-before-the-horse point of departure from universal laws has its further effect in the discussion of the theory of Charles S. Peirce, the real ground-breaker for pragmatism. The recognition that "universal laws do not express with absolute accuracy the actual behavior of things" leads to a doubt "whether everything does, happen in accordance with universal laws—an absolute fallacy in logic. A transitional stage in the development of knowledge is here raised to an eternal principle. As science progresses and man develops keener instruments of research, laws approximate more and more closely the actual behavior of things." Einstein's advance over Newton is a case in point.

Professor Cohen even questions the uniformity of nature and the similarity of order in the yet "undiscovered" parts of the universe.

"The laws (of nature) are known to be true only within the limits of observation and may perhaps not prevail outside of the infinitesimal part of the universe whose surface we have scratched. We cannot be sure that these laws held true in the distant past more than we can be certain that they now hold in the more distant parts of space not available to our instruments"

One would like to analyze more extensively than is here possible the author's "Principle of Polarity" defined as follows:

"By this I mean that opposites such as im-mediacy and mediation, unity and plurality, the fixed and the flux, substance and function, ideal and real, actual and possible, etc., like the north (positive) and south (negative) parts of a magnet, all involve each other when applied to any significant entity."

This represents a definite partial approach toward dialectics. The author correctly appreciates that "the indetermination and consequent inconclusiveness of metaphysical and of a good deal of sociologic discussion results from uncritically adhering to simple alternatives instead of resorting to the laborious process of integrating opposite assertions by finding the proper distinctions and qualifications," it must be said that the "Principle of Polarity," as developed, seems a

mere eclectic combination of the Aristotelian and Hegelian logics, with the former trying to drown the latter. The too great insistence upon the principle of contradiction hampers the theory as a working method. The very verbal adherence to simple alternatives, so decried by the author, is not escaped. The heart, the vital core of dialectics is not there, the relation of the clash of opposites to the mechanics of development.

Of Marxism the author gives us a travesty. His conception is that: "... under the influence of the Marxian political program socialism ceased to be really revolutionary. As a political doctrine it no longer asks its adherents to do anything to bring about the social revolution, but only to keep the faith and wait for the catastrophic day of judgment—a political quietism like the Lutheran or Calvinistic distrust of good works and an abounding faith in the omnipotence of the economic deity."

"Further, Karl Marx shares in common with Hegel and Schopenhauer... the romantic distrust of human reason which denies that reflective thought can aid in the transformation of rural and political institutions."

This has been one of the cheapest and emptiest diatribes against Marxism, shared alike by every stamp of revisionist and critic inside and outside the ranks. It is significant enough that so erudite a professor finds himself in such questionable company. But it can't be attributed simply to the "ignorance of the erudite" or to the coarseness of professors. The reasons are perhaps deeper.

Science and philosophy, like other fields of thought, do not develop only thru an inner rhythm of their own. They are conditioned upon the development of society and change as society changes. Even into these holy chambers, supposedly most removed from the "brawls of the market place," do the antagonisms of a society subtly penetrate. The abstract category of "inevitability" has an

A Populist Revival In 1931 WHITHER THE "LIBERTY PARTY"?

by Hal Long

The convention in Arkansas that took place in August and launched the new "Liberty Party," was no doubt a great disappointment to the leaders of the movement. Far fewer delegates than had been expected showed up, despite the fact that anybody who had read the theoretical program, The Book, could be a delegate. Nevertheless, the movement deserves some attention. It is a significant expression of the unrest among the masses and also of their political backwardness.

The Program of "Coin" Harvey The movement is led by W. H. Harvey, or "Coin" Harvey as he calls himself. Years ago he was active in the Populist movement and wrote "Coin's Financial School." Recently, he wrote The Book, mentioned above. One of its first pages, this work declares that it presents the only program that can save our present-day civilization.

Salvation is to be brought about by the abolition of interest on money, "usury," as it is termed. There is to be free coinage of gold and silver, with a ratio between their values of 1:16. Foreign exchange is to be abolished with the object of preventing export of capital—thus "making war impossible." Further, all corporations are to be made illegal, likewise all partnerships with invested capital above \$300,000. All fortunes are to be limited to a maximum of \$50,000 and size of farms to 100 acres. Thus, as many as possible are to be made em-ployees. Industries that cannot be suitably managed within these limitations are to be operated by the government.

This program, representing as it does the dreams of the lower middle-classes, and the debt-ridden farmers, both fighting a losing battle against the big capitalists, has apparently also gained the support of quite a strong working class element. This is only natural here in America where the strength of capitalism has impressed itself most strongly on the ideology of the workers. Their main organization, the A. F. of L., is led according to principles of 100% capitalism. The Socialist party is mainly a propaganda circle of intellectuals and the Communist Party is divided and weak, with its official section sectarian and isolated.

Therefore, when the present depression hits the workers like a bolt from blue skies, many workers naturally tend to flock to the banner of anybody suggesting a "remedy," without resorting to such un-American things as "Socialism" and "Bolshevism."

The Road of Decay The question is now to what extent will the new party be able to assume significance in the political struggles of the country and what part will it eventually play. The history of similar movements in Europe and America suggests three different roads that the movement may follow.

The party may lose itself in working out details about the distant future, may become a hobby for a few leaders, and die out as a sterile and insignificant sect. Many movements have gone the same way before. They worked out detailed schemes that would cure all social ills overnight. They expected everybody to accept these schemes out from pure reason. They failed to grasp the dynamic character of society, failed to understand that society is developed thru the struggle of the different social classes and that

immediate and terrifying concreteness for the bourgeoisie in a world tumbling about its ears. The exorcism of the dread spectre is the dominating motive in all fields of bourgeois thought today. The sharp tendency toward anti-causality, in determinism and idealism in science today is only a more subtle manifestation of the same pressure. Professor Cohen is too honest to forsake the scientific bed-rock for the fantasies of mysticism and religion peddled by the Jeans and the Edingtons. But he is also "out of step" with the terrific dynamics of present day society. He doesn't belong.

It is a classic example of the liberal dilemma. "The author (he writes in his preface) seems out of touch with everything modern and useful, and makes no whole-hearted plea for the old... does not line up with either the orthodox or revolutionary party in politics, morals, or religion, he writes on these themes. He offers no practical message to the man engaged in the affairs of life, and seems to be satisfied with purely contemplative surveys of existence."

Pure contemplation! Escape! That's it! We must cultivate the "cosmic vision" that ennobles the pathetic faculty of our daily crucifixions. We need "wise resignation" to learn to live in a world that is not formed just for our comfort.

What a message for a society in the agony of death! It's a far cry from Marx's "The immediate task of philosophy, when enlisted in the service of history, is to unmask human self-alienation."

With the professor, the divorce of thought from life is complete. One is reminded of old Hegel's complaint that philosophy comes too late to save the world. We answer these gentlemen with Marx's gloss on Feuerbach: "Philosophers have hitherto only interpreted the world (and escaped from it—J.C.) differently, but the point now is to change it."

Detroit, Michigan. Over 1,500 workers attended the debate on the subject: Communism—Anarchism—S.L.P., that took place here on Sunday evening, September 13 at the Grand Circus Park. William Miller, head of the Detroit C.P.-Majority Group spoke for Communism. A large number of Ages were sold.

The Detroit C.P.-Majority Group is planning to organize an Open Forum under its auspices. The forum will begin on October 4 and will continue until April 1931. It will take place at 333 Grand River Avenue. Prominent speakers have been scheduled.

Marxism and the Science of Today

A short time ago there took place in London a congress of scientific societies on the subject: "The History of Science and Technology". To this conference the Soviet Union scientific organization sent a delegation headed by the world-famous Marxist scholar, N. Bukharin. In speeches and especially in a printed report "Science at the Crossroads", the Marxists presented their views point to the unbonded astonishment of the bourgeois scientists. The impression that the Marxists made upon the best of these bourgeois scientists is shown from the following remarks of Professor R. Bernal of Cambridge:

"What was impressive about the discussion was not the antithesis of the importance of the individual and the mass—that we were familiar enough with—but the totally different attitude displayed towards the history of science. It was quite apparent that on the English side both the historians and the scientists were, as far as the history of science was concerned, essentially amateurs. Primarily each pursued his own branch, with occasional attempts at correlating them. The Russians proceeded quite differently. The history of science was plainly, vitally important to them; it was not only an academic study but a guide to action. They proceeded integrally with the social aspect dominant, in the past as in the present. There could be no effective argument. They had a point of view, right or wrong; the others had never thought it necessary to acquire one.

"It will take some time to appreciate the effect of this first contact between the thought of the U.S.S.R. and the western world. In an immediate sense it was a failure. The time was too short, the gulf between the points of view too great, for there to be any real understanding. The Russians came in a phalanx uniformly armed with Marxist dialectic, but they met no organized opposition, but instead an indisciplined host, unprepared and armed with ill-assorted individual philosophies."

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KEEP OPEN Saturday, November 7th for the celebration of 14TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION and the 2ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

The "Liberty Party" and the Workers However, the workers of America may also perhaps be able to use the movement in their own favor in fighting for better living conditions and for freedom. This will require a fundamental revision of the theoretical program, a point to be treated in a later article. Such an ideological clarification is at best a rather slow process; the real immediate test of the class content of the new movement will therefore be what stand it takes on all everyday questions that concern the working class. If the working class element within the party want to turn it into a powerful tool in their struggle against the capitalists, they must demand the party's support in any struggle they may wage against the bosses. When there is a strike some place, the party must be requested to send its members on the picket line and to help raise funds for the striking workers and their families. The party must be requested to support demands for higher wages and shorter hours, for unemployment insurance and other working class demands—also to support demonstrations favoring these demands, May day demonstrations, anti-war demonstrations, and so on. The working class element must further demand that the party comes out for the release of working class champions held in jail by the ruling class, such as Mooney and Billings, the Centralia victims and others.

This must be the first and foremost task of the working class element within the movement: To make it show in action that it favors the oppressed classes against the rulers of the financiers and lords of industry.

It is perhaps possible that the "Liberty Party" may be the embryo of American fascism. Many of the tendencies mentioned above will be easily recognized in The Book. Thus, Harvey has great faith in the possibility of a government standing above classes. Also note the severe condemnation of interest and the rule of the financiers, as a common trait with the fascist movements of Europe. It is true that The Book does not attack the working class movement, such as the fascists do, but it must be remembered that the working class movement of America is still very insignificant, compared with those of most European countries. And the fact that the Ku-Kluxers have in some localities tried to gain con-

rol of the new party shows that the reactionary forces are at hand.

The Economic Week

THE collapse of the pound and gold standard in England, the subsequent shutting of practically all the bourses in the world, the debacle on the New York stock market, the slashing, in one day, of the wages of over a million workers, etc., have all combined to make this week the most important one in the present crisis since the crash in Wall Street two years ago. The weekly business index has reached new lows. Freight-car

A Searchlight on the "Great Humanitarian"

Herbert Hoover and the U S S R

by Saul Held

Hoover has long been an active foe of the Soviet Union. Let us go back to the years of the World War. In the few years preceding the entrance of the United States in the World War, the basic industrial and financial houses were reaping vast profits from their sales of commodities, war supplies, etc. to the Allies. Confining ourselves to Russia, we find the following significant increases of American exports to Russia:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Amount. 1914: \$ 27,956,337; 1915: 169,933,904; 1916: 470,508,254

The Allies were unable to combat the Central Powers without finances and supplies from America so they turned to Wall Street. And Wall Street obliged—with the view in mind, naturally, of reaping vast interest at the termination of the war. From May 1, 1915 to December 1, 1916, millions of dollars were obtained by the Czarist regime by issuing bonds thru J. P. Morgan & Company and the National City Bank. "American investors... held about \$86,000,000 worth of unredeemed Russian Government war bonds when the old regime came to an end." With the abdication of Nicholas II and the appearance of the weak Provisional Government on March 15, 1917, the American ruling class felt that the disastrous condition of the Russian armies at the front and the instability of the new government plus the growing economic chaos, demanded that something substantial be done to keep Russia fighting and to check the progress of the "German agents" (Bolsheviks). The representative of the Provisional Government, Ambassador Bakmeteff, was in the United States, busy buying war supplies and getting millions to bolster the tottering government. In 1917, from May 16 to October 12, credits totalling to \$325,000,000 were obtained in America. Of this amount, \$187,729,000 was actually received. Small wonder then, that on November 7, 1917, when the Soviets

seized power, fear gripped the American rulers—fear for profits, investments, and what they thought would result in a strengthening of Germany's position! When the Soviets began confiscation of property they blazed with anger, for the International Harvester, Otis Elevator, New York Life Insurance Companies, etc., had approximately about \$38,875,000 invested in Russia. From then on, the wolves of Wall Street swore revenge and eternal hatred to the Soviet Union and Communism.

Hoover and Intervention in Russia But where does Hoover fit into this picture? That Hoover had huge personal investments in Russia is a matter which has remained in the dark for almost a decade, only recently being brought to light. In 1916, we find that Hoover had interests in the following companies, having properties and investments in Russia: Inter-Siberian Syndicate Limited, Kyshtim Corporation Limited, Russo-Asiatic Corporation Limited and the Tanalyk. Some of these holdings were located in the region of Murmansk, the Southern Urals and on the plains of Siberia. The real power behind all these Russian enterprises was a Scotch mining capitalist, Mr. Leslie Urquhart. In 1912, Urquhart had Hoover appointed as one of the directors of the Russo-Asiatic Corporation because Hoover had gained quite a reputation with the Bedick-Moreing Mining and Engineering Company (a British concern); moreover, he had ready access to the clients of this organization. Hoover's reputation as a valiant servant of this organization in Australia and China, particularly in promoting imperialist penetration must have been attractive to Leslie Urquhart. (In 1905, in the case of Chang Yen Mao, V. Moreing and others, tried in the High Court of Justice, London, before Mr. Justice Joyce, it was revealed that Hoover, had obtained control for Bewick-Moreing of the Chin-

ese Engineering and Mining Company. Justice Joyce in his decision on the case declared that "it appears by a letter of Mr. Hoover of March 22, 1901, that he actually took possession of some of the title deeds of the property by main force") Little wonder, then, that Hoover should join the pack when the Wall Street pirates decided on armed intervention in the Soviet Union, for when the Soviets seized power the Bolshevik authorities confiscated the leases on which the Urquhart operations were based. On this matter, John Knox in his book on Hoover, The Great Mistake, contends:

"When the Carr's government collapsed in the Bolshevik Revolution... Urquhart, being a canny Scot, sat down to wait for time to operate in his favor. Hoover, it is said, lacked the patience of Urquhart and, moved by fears for the safety of his own investments, persuaded President Wilson to send a part of the American Expeditionary Force on the ill-fated campaign to Archangel and Murmansk. Russian authorities insist that Hoover was responsible for this flank attack on the Soviet Government and are reported to have told Urquhart that any restoration of the Kyshtim and Tanalyk properties to the stockholders." (pp. 98-99)

Prof. Frederick L. Schuman in his American Policy Toward Russia Since 1917, concludes, after a careful examination of facts, that:

"Substantial material assistance was extended to elements engaged in rebellion against the Soviet Government. In the civil war which ensued every effort was made to bring about the victory of the White Armies and the overthrow of the Bolshevik dictatorship in Moscow. "In North Russia American troops waged war against the Red Army. Subsequently, the United States Government not only permitted the Russian Embassy in Washington to send supplies and munitions to Kolchak, but dispatched military stores to his forces on its own initiative and employed its troops in eastern Siberia to facilitate their shipment to the front."

This course was the activity of Wall Street collectively. In reporting to President Wilson on the sums spent for European relief, Hoover declared that 22,472 tons of food had been delivered to the "government of Northwest Russia" (the army of the monarchist Yudenitch) at the time of their drive toward Petrograd. Further, he reported 844 tons delivered to the "government of South Russia," which was the army of Denikin. These are unshakable facts. Hoover publicly voiced his intentions in no uncertain language when in 1919 he stated to the press in support of the reactionary scheme of Dr. F. Nansen for "Russian Relief": "The newly born democracies of Siberia (Kolchak and Yudenitch—S. H.), Finland, Estonia... and other nationalities which surround Bolshevik Russia must have a breathing spell to build up some stability."

Hoover and Communism Thus we find Hoover not only supplying aid to the counter-revolutionary forces in Russia but fighting Communism throughout Europe. Prof. H. H. Fisher of Stanford University, one of Hoover's "Stanford boys," writes bluntly of Hoover's attitude toward Bolshevism at this time:

"With regard to Bolshevism in 1919, Hoover's attitude needs no analysis. He fought it with all his strength. Every pound of flour, every tin of milk, every ounce of fat that he drove thru the blockade into Germany or distributed in the north forested areas, was a nearly more effective weapon against Bolshevism than the machine guns and tanks delivered to the counter-revolutionary armies of Russian Whites." (Hoover emphasis).

Hoover, the imperialist, waged war on Communism by material aid to the counter-revolutionary forces within Russia, by helping to strangle the revolution in Hungary of which Rose Wilder Lane's The Making of Herbert Hoover boasts: "It was Herbert Hoover in Paris and his man Captain Gregory on the ground who made the counter-revolution in Budapest made it with their tremendous power of food control and a skillful handling of the political situation," by flooding the press with hypocritical appeals for aid to save the "lives of children" while at the same time raging at Communism and proclaiming the inevitable collapse of Communism in Russia.

How "anxious" Hoover was to save the "lives of children" was recently revealed by Benjamin Marsh of the Peoples Lobby whose conversation with Hoover was thus reported by the San Francisco Daily Times:

"President Hoover I know very well. One day at the Department of Commerce, I had an interesting talk with him. The subject of Russia came up. Hoover said 'To tell the truth, Marsh, the ambition of my life is to crush out Soviet Russia.' "I said, 'Even if you starve the women and children?' "Hoover said, 'Yes!'"

The above facts call for no further comment—they show their significance to the very sky.

HOSIERY WORKERS TO STRIKE

(continued from page 1)

buocracy to "stabilize the industry." The meeting declared that its decision meant that the 6,000 workers represented there had gone on strike and that this strike action would be followed by similar strikes in cities as far west as Milwaukee, thus bringing up the total to 11,000 workers. About 300 hosiery workers have joined the strike at Washington, New Jersey. Strong efforts are being made to have an effective strike in Philadelphia.

As soon as the meeting was over the bureaucrats of the Federation took steps to prevent the workers from carrying out their strike decision. Emil Rieve, international president of the Federation, is working overtime to prevent the strike from spreading and to break the backbone. He refuses to give sanction to the strike or grant it any support.

Problems Of Socialist Construction

WAGES AND PIECE-WORK IN U. S. S. R.

by V. Degot (Moscow)

Having smashed the class enemy within the country, having accomplished a complete revolution in agriculture, having stamped out the kulaks as a class in the village, having built up a state and collective farm movement embracing now over 50% of agriculture, having done away with unemployment—the working class in this country is now confronted with the all-important task of securing enough skilled as well as unskilled manpower for the gigantic industrial plants to be set into operation during the current year. It is also necessary to train sufficient numbers of engineering and technical forces. For this purpose, hundreds of day and evening universities are being opened in which young workers and peasants are gaining knowledge. Hundreds of thousands of young workers are being trained in the factory, apprentice schools, while scores of thousands of workers are gaining greater skill in their respective occupations.

With all this, there is nevertheless an ever-growing shortage of man-power in this country, especially of skilled workers. On the whole, our Socialist construction has been accompanied by steady increases in the wages of the workers, but the increases have not been uniform for all the branches of industry. Thus, according to data published by the State Planning Commission of the U. S. S. R., the average monthly wages of an individual worker in the first quarter of 1931 amounted to 87 rubles and 82 kopeks, yet in the coal mining industry the averages was only 83 rubles, 77 kopeks whereas in the printing trades it was as high as 104.58 rubles, in the boot-making trade 97.16 rubles, and so forth. The highest pay in January 1931 prevailed in the rubber trade, the average individual monthly wages being 111.28 rubles. The wages of the metal workers occupied sixth place after the rubber workers, and the coal miners were in the ninth place.

It was absolutely abnormal situation when workers in the coal industry were getting less wages than leather workers, etc., while the coal output is of essential importance to the economic plans of the country, or when the metal workers were getting less than rubber workers, and so on. It was therefore decided by the trade unions to introduce a system of piece-work remuneration to the extent of 70-80% in all branches of industry, while doing away with rigid "leveling" and raising the earnings of the more skilled workers.

The Progressive Piece-Work System However, the organization of brigades and communes led to a distortion of the piece-work system and to a return to the policy of "leveling", in the sense that

all the earnings of a given brigade or commune were shared out alike, irrespective of individual skill and earning of the workers. It was then decided by the trade unions to do away with the system of remuneration by brigades, so that each individual worker might be remunerated in accordance with his actual earnings. This led to the introduction of the system of progressive piece-work rates which are at present gaining wide currency in the Soviet industries.

The situation in the coal mining industry is furnished as an illustration of the effect of wage leveling in discouraging the workers from doing their utmost. The fixed rate of wages regardless of qualification and skill resulted in constant changes of occupations by the workers in the pits. The introduction of progressive piece-work resulted in rapid improvement of conditions in the coal pits, as well as in other industries where it was put into operation. The principle of progressive piece-work remuneration can be illustrated by the following example from the coal mining industry:

In the "Komsomolez" pit in the Lisichansk district the progressive system was introduced on July 10 and it gave good results already during the first month of operation. The quota for the individual coal hewer was set at 6.5 carloads, the remuneration being 66.9 kopeks per carload. For the first carload above the quota the coal hewer gets 75 kopeks, for the second carload 85 kopeks, for the third 1 ruble 10 kopeks, for the fourth carload 1 ruble 15 kopeks and so on.

The introduction of progressive piece-work resulted in considerable increase of wages. Prior to the adoption of the new system of remuneration, the average earnings of a coal hewer are 4 rubles and 6 kopeks per day; after the introduction of progressive piece work there was an increase in productivity and hence increased wages to 6 rubles and 21 kopeks per day for the majority of the coal hewers.

Another big drawback in the old system was that no discrimination was made between wages paid in essential occupations and comparatively secondary occupations. For instance, at the "Red Banner" knitting works, drivers and porters would get higher pay than skilled workers in the mills, and there were also cases where workers of the same category were paid according to different schedules in the different mills. This was also done away with thru the introduction of the system of progressive piece-work.

Engineers and Technicians An important decision was made by the Party and by the trade unions concerning the raising of the level of pay for the engineers and technical grades, especially of the lower categories. There were cases, for instance, where in a number of factories the highly skilled workers were getting 356 rubles a month while an engineer of the lower category was getting only 200 rubles. It was decided to place the engineering and technical grades on a level with skilled workers as regards the steady rise in wages. At present in the Soviet Union the engineers and their children enjoy the same privileges as the workers and their children. The result is that the engineering and technical forces feel that the Soviet state is doing everything to improve their living and working conditions.

(continued on page 4)

Revolutionary Age

Published Weekly by the Revolutionary Age Assn., 63 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y. JAY LOVESTONE, Editor... WILL HERBERG, Managing Editor... BEN GITLOW, Secretary

Subscription rates: Foreign \$3.50 a year—\$2.00 six mos.—Domestic \$2.50 a year; \$1.50 six mos.; 5 cents a copy.

Vol. II, No. 44. OCTOBER 3, 1931.

The assertion that the American Communists work under "orders from Moscow" is absolutely untrue. There are no such Communists in the world who would agree to work "under orders" from outside against their own convictions...

A "NATIONAL GOVERNMENT" FOR AMERICA?

THE other day Lord Hugh Cecil, world-renowned banner-bearer of British imperialism, declared: "Capitalism is the only ship to be saved." This is the burden of the song of all defenders of the present order...

Tho the U. S. is still relatively the strongest imperialist country, it is itself in its severest crisis, is becoming increasingly subject to the complications of world capitalism in decay, and is becoming more involved in the European chaos.

It is this situation which explains two very significant recent events. The U. S. Steel Corporation, the biggest industrial concern in the capitalist world, fired the opening gun of the most powerful wage-cutting drive in the history of the country.

Of course, the ruling class in the United States doesn't expect the workers to take this blow meekly and thankfully. Despite the energetic strike-breaking activities of Green, Woll and Co., despite even invitations to wage-cuts, such as made by the official leaders of the American Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers Union...

In the light of this situation, too much importance cannot be attached to the decision of the Resolution Committee of the American Legion Convention to demand that there be declared a "national emergency" in this country, that a sort of martial law be enforced.

In the United States where the working class has not yet reached the stage of independent political development as in Germany or England such a "National Government" would, of course, be a coalition of Republicans and Democrats.

For the workers only defeats and disaster are in store unless they take a page out of the book of the boss class. The exploiters are uniting, closing their ranks. The working class must learn the lesson of unity and pit their own class unity and militancy against the capitalist class unity and offensive.

ANNUAL DANCE of the NEW WORKERS SCHOOL SATURDAY, OCTOBER THIRD, 1931—8 P. M. NEW WORKERS CENTER 63 Madison Avenue, New York

Capitalist "Planning" and Socialist Planned Economy

Some Capitalist "Plans" Examined

by Jay Lovestone

Marx once said: "Even a blind sow can find an acorn, and even a bourgeois economist can sometimes speak the truth."

Some bourgeois economists have a conception of the present crisis scarcely more profound than that of a blind sow. Yet, in looking for "prosperity plans," they have more or less stumbled on some painful truths regarding the capitalist system.

AN EPIDEMIC OF "PLANS"

There has been proposed a large number of plans to save capitalism from collapse. It will suffice, at this moment, merely to mention some of the principal plans for capitalist prosperity. They are the Chase plan, the Beard plan, the Dean Donham proposals, the LaFollette bill, the Swope plan, the Farm Board and its grain and cotton stabilization ventures, Woll's proposal for a Business Council, the McGraw-Hill American plan, Irving Fisher demands a stabilized dollar, Foster and Catchings insist on government control of purchasing power...

"What has been lacking in planning, is the kind of planning which will prevent and not stimulate overproduction."

TYPES OF PLANS

All of the "plans" and proposals fall into four main categories:—

A. The Stock Exchange itself is an outstanding example of capitalist "planning and regulating" of production and exchange. This institution has been repeatedly hailed by the bourgeois economist as a sort of a "great economic mechanism" for the whole capitalist engine of production, as a source of regulator, as a stabilizer, as a source of guidance for planning production and exchange.

B. Then, we have efforts at regulation, at "planning," made by private individuals or corporate organizations. We have what is known as "scientific planning" in certain industries in order to overcome the chaos of capitalist production.

C. There are also to be noted increasing efforts by the capitalists to "stabilize" prices, to prevent the fall of prices of certain commodities by utilizing various state capitalist enterprises like the Federal Farm Board.

D. But the highest point reached by the American "stabilizers" of capitalism came in the Hoover Conference of 1929 and its formation of the National Business Council.

Most of the "plans" now being pushed are blueprints for such an institution. Let us look into the outstanding plans thus proposed:—

1. Stuart Chase's "Way Out."

Mr. Chase proposes the establishment of a "Peace Industries Board," patterned after the War Industries Board. This Board, operating on a ten-year plan, would strive to co-ordinate the various industries supplying raw materials, the prime essentials, and reasonable comforts, so that the minimum income per family would be \$5,000 by 1943.

The "Peace Industries Board" is to consist of not more than ten members representing "Government," "Labor," "Industry," the "Farmer," and the "Professions," including at least one engineer—preferably as chairman.

Mr. Chase's "plans" are to be replaced, profits are to be regulated by "a more equitable" distribution of income and an excess profits tax. Front-page newspaper publicity of the findings of the referee will be used against all business men violating rules and decisions of the Peace Industries Board.

Dean Donham of the Harvard School of Business has received considerable publicity for his plan. Its main proposals are: The government is to establish employment agencies co-operatively maintained by Federal and State governments, to start public works to take up the slack, to establish a minimum wage so as to remove "the incentive to loaf."

What is the "plan" of the "Congress" end the existing chaos. The "Congress" is to aim for "the creation of a democratic political structure." It is to be composed of representatives of all forms and characters of industrial organizations. This body is to ascertain and evaluate all essential economic and industrial factors, to estimate the probable and normal industrial and commercial growth for the next ten years, to seek co-ordination for the promotion of industrial balance, to direct the tendency of new fields of industrial activity and changes "within out legal enactments necessary and convenient to remove obstacles and to facilitate the operation of such a program."

In explaining his "plan," Woll concluded with a denunciation of the Russian Bolsheviks whom he charged with having "vitiated and perverted the idea of economic planning... and turned it into despotic planlessness."

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is to maintain wage scales, "equalize employment by adjustment of hours" (the stagger plan of disemployment, really), maintain stable prices, build surpluses to pay dividends in slack times, and "nationalize" industry. "Labor" is to cooperate with business in keeping the government from assuming social responsibilities or regulating business and to arbitrate all differences with employers so as to promote stabilization.

This plan only suggests a broader cooperation thru existing business organization, and aggressive action by the government to maintain private industry at home and extend capitalist trade abroad.

3. Beard's Five-Year Plan.

Beard also wants a National Economic Council under authorization of Congress "to represent" the fundamental industries of the country, including agriculture, wholesaling and retailing, labor, etc. to achieve co-ordination. The Sherman and Clayton anti-trust laws are to be repealed. All industries affiliated with the Council and others approaching a high degree of concentration are to be declared public service enterprises, "subject to the principles of prudent investment and fair returns." A Board of Strategy and Planning is to be formed to survey the resources and productive capacities of the country.

Profits are to be limited. Surpluses arising due to unexpected efficiency are to be divided into two parts: one to go to bonuses, and the other to a "contingency reserve" to be used for accident, crop, unemployment insurance, and machinery and capital replacement. Dividends are to be guaranteed on the basis of efficiency in operation and distributed among the directors, managers and employees of the corporations. A syndicate of exporting and importing corporations is to be formed.

The plan is, on the whole, among the most utopian and fanciful of all—being a hodge-podge of all species of schemes of class-collaboration, profit sharing, etc.

4. Woll Wants Capitalist Stability

In the name of the notorious open-shop organization, the National Civic Federation, Matthew Woll has proposed to organize an Industrial Congress to adopt a ten-year plan to balance output and demand, to create a "democratic political structure." It is to be composed of representatives of all forms and characters of industrial organizations. This body is to ascertain and evaluate all essential economic and industrial factors, to estimate the probable and normal industrial and commercial growth for the next ten years, to seek co-ordination for the promotion of industrial balance, to direct the tendency of new fields of industrial activity and changes "within out legal enactments necessary and convenient to remove obstacles and to facilitate the operation of such a program."

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5. Donham's Plan for Capitalist Foresight

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trade and proposes rather to concentrate on the domestic market. He fears that the aggressive foreign trade policy by the United States would ruin Germany and England in the world market competition and thus drive them and all Europe to Bolshevism. Tariffs are, for this reason, to be generally lowered. Exports should primarily be limited to those commodities which the United States makes most efficiently—capital, management and technical service. Donham says: "I believe acceptance of a considerable limitation of our business to our own market is the only way to maintain our profits, the only way to maintain our standards of living, and the only way to give other great industrial nations a chance."

Professor Donham doesn't offer any suggestion how to meet the ever-widening gap between the productive capacities and marketing possibilities. Instead he proposes to limit still further the American marketing possibilities by strictly limiting exports.

6. Swope Proposes a New Set-Up

Of all the "plans," the one proposed by Gerard Swope, president of the General Electric Company, has received the strongest approval in Wall Street. Mr. Swope thus recently outlined his plan at a dinner of electrical manufacturers in New York: Every company dealing in articles of interstate commerce and employing more than fifty workers is legally bound to join the trade group in its own industry. Each industrial group is to have a dictator or czar to rule the industry. Each industry is to have its own supervisory commission to gather statistics on employment, production, consumption, prices, etc., to be made available to a government commission. All of this activity is to be under Federal supervision. This Federal supervisory body would be charged with testing the soundness of rules and practices of the trade associations which are to submit quarterly and annual financial statements. All implicit and explicit restriction is to be placed upon industrial integration by the Sherman anti-trust law are to be replaced. Thru this terrific concentration of industry and the mass fusion of its apparatus with the machinery of government, pricing will be established and maintained.

The company union now in force in the General Electric Company, and for years condemned by organized labor, is to serve as the model for the "industrial democracy" on a national scale in all industries. Limited unemployment insurance and pensions are to be enforced and the workers and bosses are to contribute equally towards this fund. Insurance paid is to be up to a maximum of \$20 per week. In order to stimulate foreign trade, exporters are to deduct from their Federal income taxes certain amounts in proportion to their export sales.

In putting forward his plan, Swope frankly says that he has done so in order to forestall legislation threatening the fundamental structure of American business and the cherished ideals of American society. Generally, Wall Street bankers have hailed this "plan" as "a step in the right direction." And Mr. Swope has swept aside all Wall Street doubts about his proposal with a declaration that: "It is utterly different, of course, from the state planning system in Russia... For its basic idea I took our own American development of the trade association." To allay the fears of the petty bourgeoisie that his plan means more absolute control by big capital, Mr. Swope asks: "What, in a democracy, with the U. S. government still functioning?" Mr. Swope meant to be serious here—for the "public."

All in all, these examined six plans are the best known and most complete and contain all the essential features of all the planning proposals put forward by the "best minds" of capitalism in the United States in order to secure "economic equilibrium and stability" in the present economic system, the system of capitalist chaos.

New Workers School Forum

SUNDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 4TH—S. P. M. 63 Madison Avenue, cor. 27th St. — Entrance on 27th St.

JAY LOVESTONE Editor, REVOLUTIONARY AGE

WHITHER ENGLAND?

The fall of MacDonald—The collapse of the Labor Government—The Mutiny in the Navy—The breakdown of the pound sterling—Where is England headed?

Admission: 25 Cents

OCTOBER 11, 1931 Sterling Spero Author, "The Black Worker" "THE NEGRO AND AMERICAN LABOR"

OCTOBER 18, 1931 Bert Wolfe Director, New Workers School "ONLY SAPS WORK" A study of the social basis of Racketeering

OCTOBER 25, 1931 Frank L. Palmer Editor, Federated Press, and Author, "Spies in Steel"

"SMASHING THE LABOR SPY" How the industrial spy operates and how to combat him.

BOOKS

BETWEEN HAMMER AND ANVIL

MAYOR HARDING OF NEW YORK, by Stephen Endicott. Mowhawk Press, New York, 1931.

During the last few months, we have been treated to a picture of graft and corruption which has shocked even the most hardened New Yorker. Apparently no form of graft, no matter how petty, was overlooked by the so-called guardians of our city.

The framing of innocent girls by the "world's cleanest police," in collusion with respectable lawyers and honorable judges, has brought a blush to the cheeks of the underworld itself. The capitalist press would have us believe that once the guilty are driven from public office, New York City will again become the cleanest city in the world. But people are beginning to realize that the ethics of capitalism is but a reflection of the ethics of capitalist business. The two stand and fall together. Just as the business man does not care what he sells and how he sells as long as he can realize profit, so the politician is indifferent to the means used to secure his graft.

Every once in a while this daily traffic in contracts, jobs and humans is revealed to the public and we have what is known as an exposure. The "whip up" on an election campaign against the "ins" and the press waxes indignant. A commission is set up which, after a year of work, actually succeeds in jailing a minor official and ousting from office a judge or two. But the merry farce continues, the grafters merely becoming more cautious and more subtle.

Every "exposure" gives birth to a number of works describing and explaining the shocking conditions brought to light. Mayor Harding of New York by Stephen Endicott is one of the first books published to concern itself with the scandals under the Walker administration. Mr. Endicott's novel deals with the events leading to the Seabury investigation. The characters are thinly disguised and easily recognized by one having a slight knowledge of New York City politics. We meet such well known figures as Smith, Walker, Whalen, Warren, Curry, Vitale, Crain, Mulrooney, Seabury and others. The author takes us behind the scenes, into the inner circles of Tammany Hall where the city is really run. The decision of the inner council is law and failure to obey may mean political and even physical death. Mayor Harding (Walker) is but the sliver-foreskin of these leaders. He seems happy as a pig in mud and boozes and visits night clubs. We learn that Police Commissioner Crandell (Warren) was instructed to bungle the Rothstein case because many "respectable and honorable politicians" were in debt to the gangster. The honorable Judge Kendall (Crater) disappeared because he feared the world would learn of his affairs with common prostitutes. We get a picture of our city run by a pack of thieves who stop at nothing to augment their bank accounts.

Yet Mr. Endicott's novel, the highly interesting and informative, is a superficial piece of work. All he has done is to take newspaper reports plus "inside information" and rework these into a novel. Thus we get a story completely divorced from the social system which makes graft and corruption possible and inevitable. Mr. Endicott would have us believe that New York City is run by a group of corrupt individuals. He fails to see that under capitalism graft and corruption are normal and natural.

Had Mr. Endicott brought to his work the burning indignation of the muckrakers like Sinclair, Norris and Steffens, had he written his story upon the background of a social system which breeds parasitism, graft and corruption in office, gangsterism, racketeering and an insane thirst for money, he would have written a really important and significant novel. As it is, all we have is a rather colorful but superficial and inconsequential story of graft in New York City.

J. S.

PIECE-WORK & WAGES IN U. S. S. R.

(Continued from Page 3) Some Results

The abolition of "levelling" and the introduction of progressive piece-work has already yielded outstanding results thruout the Soviet Union. It has resulted in increased productivity, in better organization of labor, in more rapidly carrying out industrial plans, in greater attachment of the workers to the enterprise with which they are connected. At the same time there has been a decided increase in the earnings of all categories of labor due to greater exertion on the basis of individual remuneration.

During August and September a campaign is being carried out thruout the Soviet Union for the checking up of the fulfillment of collective agreements. This is done at mass meetings of the workers in the factories, at which the fulfillment of the obligations of the workers and of the management are reviewed. Of vital importance among these obligations is the elimination of wage levelling and pooling and the introduction of progressive piece-work remuneration. On the part of the workers the most essential obligation is to do their utmost in carrying out the financial-industrial plans of the country, and in this respect the rewarding of individual skill and exertion has resulted in greater interest being taken by the individual worker in speeding up the fulfillment of the plans. While endeavoring to acquire greater skill the workers have shown their enthusiasm thru socialist competition and shock brigades, which resulted in a general acceleration of the tempo of production.

Petty Bourgeois Belly-Ache We reprint below the letter of a doctor to a medical journal, explaining why he has failed to renew his subscription.

I wish to inform you that the present shattered condition of my bank book and account makes it impossible for me to send to you my check in response to your request. My present financial condition is due to the effect of the federal laws, state laws, county laws, incorporation laws, by-laws, brother-in-laws, and out-laws, that have been foisted upon an unsuspecting public. Thru these various laws I have been held down, held up, sat on, walked on, flattened, squeezed and broke until I do not know what I am, where I am, or why I am.

These laws compel me to pay a merchant tax, gas tax, light tax, water tax, cigar tax, school tax, syntax, liquor tax and carpet tax.

In addition to these taxes I am requested and required to contribute to every society and organization that the inventive mind of man can invent and organize: To the Society of St. John the Baptist, the Woman's Relief, Navy League, the Children's Home, the Policemen's Benefit, the Dorcas Society, the Y.M.C.A., the Gold Diggers Home, also to every hospital and charitable institution in town, the Red Cross, the Black Cross, the White Cross, the Purple Cross, the Flaming Cross and the Double Cross.

The government has so governed my business that I do not know who owns it. I am suspected, expected, inspected, and disrespected, examined, reexamined, informed, required, commanded and compelled until all I know is that I am supposed to provide an inexhaustible supply of money for every known and unknown desire or hope of the human race, and because I refuse to donate to all and then go out and beg, borrow or steal money to give away, I am ousted, cussed, discussed, boycotted, talked to, talked about, lied about, held up, held down and robbed until I am just about ruined.

The only reason that I am clinging to life at all is to see what the hell is coming next.

Very respectfully, Americanization

It has been an easy fashion to blame crime in America on the foreign-born—an un-American importation. But it is an explanation that does not explain. The Wickham Report statistics reveal: (1) That the crime is less in foreign countries than in the United States. (2) That there is less crime among foreign-born Americans than among natives.

It is only after they have been in the great "purifying" melting-pot and have gotten proper respect for such honored American institutions as graft, prohibition, racketeering, speculation, political corruption, and rugged individualism, that the second generation, native-born, is sufficiently Americanized to go in for crime on a large scale. As Herbert Hooper says: "There is something ennobling in our institutions, something precious and fine, which we must not lose."

The Wisdom of Our Rulers "I don't know anything about banking because I have not enough ice-water in my veins."

Catholics, Contraceptives and the Crisis Dr. E. Roberts Moore, chairman of the Committee on Population Decline and Related Problems of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, has found a Catholic cause and remedy for the depression. The cause is underconsumption. Underconsumption is due to birth control, which means that there are not enough people to do the consuming. If there were more people there would be less jobless. The logic is flawless.

And last week we read a declaration by the National Birth Control League which proved that the depression was due to lack of birth control. Too many people born—more than there's jobs for. Again the logic is flawless. I'm getting dizzy!

But the Farm Board says everybody is starving because trehe's too much to eat and if we burned half the wheat and cotton we'd be better off.

The A. F. of L. Executive Council says it's light wines and beers we need to give the brewers work. But then we'll have to put the bootleggers and beer gangs on the dole.

And Hoover says the chief danger to the unemployed is that the government might be persuaded to feed them and thus rob them of their rugged individualism. But the unemployed are too hungry to appreciate his brand of humor.

Hoover Wipes Out Poverty The administration has relieved three-fourths of the distress by publishing a new estimate reducing the number of sufferers for next winter down to "two to four millions." One more reduction and there'll be no depression at all.

God Not Guilty The Red Cross, which helps only "victims of acts of God" such as floods and earthquakes (wars are also acts of God?), has decided to dispense charity to the depression victims even tho "it is not an act of God." Our readers will be relieved to know that God has been exonerated.

This country is suffering from a gold glut—over five billions and more coming. We record the fact in case some of our readers shouldn't have noticed it themselves.

B. D. W.