

FOR COMMUNIST
UNITY IN THE
REVOLUTIONARY
CLASS STRUGGLE!

THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

WORKERS OF ALL
COUNTRIES
UNITE!

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEFENDING
THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY
(Majority Group)

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2 W. VA. NEGROES ARE LYNCHED

Mob Hangs Two Farmers Seized From Jail

LEWISBERG, W. Va.—A mob of sixty men lynched two Negroes awaiting trial on the charge of slaying two constables. The double lynching took place on December 10.

The victims, Tom Jackson, 26 and George Banks, 27, dressed only in their underwear were seized and hung to the crossbar of a telephone pole on the Midland Trail.

These make fifteen lynchings for West Virginia since 1903.

The two lynchings in West Virginia follow the lynching of Matthew Williams in Salisbury, Md., on December 4.

JONES CONVICTED IN KENTUCKY

Harlan Miner Sentenced To Life Imprisonment

W. B. Jones, Harlan County miner, member of the United Mine Workers of America, was convicted on charges of "conspiring to murder" in connection with the attack of local officials upon a miners meeting in Everts, Ky., early this year. Sentence of life imprisonment was immediately pronounced.

The conviction of Jones marks the success of one of the most brutal frame-ups in the labor history of this country. It will have a serious effect upon the trials of the other Harlan miners now under similar indictments.

FILIPINO PEOPLE REVOLTS ANEW

Tangulan Society In Big Struggle Against U. S. Imperialism

MANILA—A wide-spread and well-planned attempt at an armed insurrection to overthrow American imperialist control of the Philippine Islands has been discovered and suppressed by the Philippine Constabulary (American). The revolt had been organized by the Tangulan Society, a national-revolutionary organization with considerable influence among the peasantry and the lower middle-class elements of the big cities as well as among the workers.

Hundreds of arrests have been made, mostly of poor peasants.

"The really great things in the world today are the gold of France and the United States, Russia's experiment and the half-floated Gandhi." —Rev. Lucius A. Edleblute.

New German Anti-Labor Decrees Cut Wages And Hit Unions; Hitler Bids for Power

Wages Slashed, Prices Slow To Follow; Union Compacts Voided; Hitler Promises Smashing of Unions And Suppression Of Labor Movement

HITLER THREATENS TO SMASH ALL UNIONS

BERLIN—In a series of sensational interviews with the correspondents of the most important papers of Germany and the world, Adolf Hitler, head of the German National-Socialist party (Nazis), boasted of the growing strength of his party, trumpeted forth the intention of his party to take power thru "legal channels," and outlined in an intentionally vague and demagogic manner the program which his party would realize when it would seize power. The whole tone of Hitler's remarks was characterized by the flush of coming victory; indeed Hitler spoke as if he were already head of the German state.

The Nazis, Hitler declared, would come into power without the necessity of a "march on Berlin." The next Reichstag election would give the National-Socialists a "decisive majority"—a majority foretold by the huge increase in Fascist support in recent Landtag and municipal elections and in the present Fascist control of the three provincial diets of Oldenburg, Brunswick and Hesse. Having taken power the Nazis would immediately "abolish" the trade unions as "Jewish abstractions" and would "hang" all Marxists, that is, Communists and Social-Democrats. The repudiation of reparations but the payment of private debts was indicated. The probability of a Franco-German understanding was outlined. Hitler refused, however, to give any definite indications as to his economic and financial programs.

In "reply" to Hitler, Chancellor (Continued on page 2)

BRUENING ISSUES NEW EMERGENCY DECREES

BERLIN.—The most vicious and reactionary set of emergency decrees yet to the credit of the Bruening dictatorship was signed by President Hindenburg on December 8. The decrees order an all-around wage slash of over 15%, bringing down wage standards to the January 1927 level. At the same time drastic cuts in disability compensation and other forms of social insurance are ordered. All collective agreements concluded by the great trade union organizations of Germany with the employers are invalidated after April 1, 1932—thus destroying with one blow the power of the trade unions to defend their members, a power won thru many years of struggle.—The salaries and wages of all government employees from the Reich to the municipalities are to be cut about 10%. The decrees also provide for a 10% cut in housing rents and in the prices of standardized articles: coal, iron and potash, but, as the New York Times correspondent points out, "wages are easier to control and will be lowered faster and more thoroughly than prices." Provision is made for the compulsory lowering of the interest rate, for the reduction of some taxes but for the increase of the turnover tax to 2%, for a cut in physicians' fees, for compensatory taxes on imports, and for the protection of the land-owners against forced auction sales.

A very important section of the new emergency decrees is that providing for the prohibition of all political (Continued on page 2)

HUNGER MARCH IN WASHINGTON

1,619 Unemployed Parade Thru Capital

WASHINGTON.—Unemployed workers to the number of 1,619 marching in four great columns from various parts of the country, converged in time for the opening of Congress. The Metropolitan Police had made extensive preparations and a large force of police and soldiery had been mobilized. Brigadier General Pelham D. Glassford, in command of the police, gave the marchers a long and involved route thruout the city with the obvious purpose of tiring the marchers and hindering any demonstration. Shelter in Salvation Army buildings and Marine quarters as well as food was given to the Hunger Marchers.

Admission to the White House and to the Capitol was denied to the Hunger Marchers or to a committee of theirs; the leaders of the Hunger March thereupon refused to submit any written petition or demands.

After a day in Washington the Hunger March left the city and began to disperse.

The Hunger March was a nationwide procession of unemployed to Washington with the purpose of bringing before the masses of the country the acute misery of the unemployed and the necessity for immediate government relief. It was organized by the T. U. U. (For an estimate of the Hunger March see article on page 3).

LABOR BODIES IN MARINE DEFENSE

Organizations Joining In Committee To Defend Framed Workers

More and more workers organizations are adding their support to the defense of the marine workers framed by the police in a so-called "dynamite plot." This was indicated at the meeting of the committee held on Wednesday, December 9, at 82 East 10 Street.

The International Labor Defense sent representatives with a communication stating that it was willing to help in the defense of these workers but was not willing to join the committee. They stated also that the I. L. D. had instructed its attorney to confer with the prisoners without consulting the committee. The decision of the committee was that "we welcome the aid of the I. L. D." but declare that all phases of the case are to be handled by the Marine Workers Defense Committee and not by any one of the participating organizations.

The Conference for Progressive Labor Action sent A. J. Muste as fraternal delegate but declared that it would have regular delegates at subsequent meetings.

The I. W. W., the General Defense Committee and the International Libertarian Defense Committee of Westfield, N. J., sent delegates who pledged their organizations to full cooperation with and participation in the defense of these workers.

A mass meeting to expose this frame-up will be held early in January. Among the speakers already scheduled are Ben Gitlow, Carlo Trecca, James P. Cannon, A. J. Muste, etc.

ZAMORA ELECTED PRESIDENT

Conservative Chosen As Head Of Spain

MADRID.—By a vote of 362 out of a possible 466 Niceto Alcalá Zamora has been elected president of Spain for a term of six years, by the Constituent Cortes now in session. No real opposition to Zamora developed.

The election of Zamora as president signifies the extremely conservative course the Spanish revolution is taking in spite of the externally radical phraseology of the newly adopted constitution.

Hoover Launches Bitter Attack on Labor in Messages; Congress Meets and Organizes

Hoover Urges Aid For Big Trusts, Banks And Railroads, But Not One Cent For The Starving Jobless; Recommends More Vicious Deportation Laws; Mellon Tax Plans To Hit Workers And All Poor People

MELLON TAX PROGRAM HITS MASSES

A tax program of the most reactionary character, calculated to add tremendous burdens upon the shoulders of the workers, farmers and lower middle class, was proposed by Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon, in his report to Congress.

The two billion dollar deficit is to be made up by a 10% amusement tax on all admissions over 10c, and a 5% tax on passenger automobiles and a 3% tax on automobile trucks, a 2 1/2% tax on tires and accessories, a 5% tax on radios and phonographs, a 2c tax on checks and drafts, a 5c tax on telephone, telegraph and cable (Continued on page 2)

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC; SENATE DEADLOCKS

Washington, D. C. By a vote of 218 for the Democratic candidate as against 213 for the Republican nominee and 5 for the "progressive", Rep. John N. Garner of Texas was chosen Speaker and the House of Representatives organized along Democratic lines. Bertrand H. Snell of New York was Republican candidate, while the third one running was George J. Schneider, "progressive" Republican of Wisconsin. Following the election of the new Speaker the various House committees were all reorganized so as to give the Democrats control. Organization did not proceed so (Continued on page 2)

BITTER REACTION IS SPIRIT OF MESSAGE

Washington, D. C. Unrelieved reaction is the dominant note of the annual Message of President Herbert Hoover to the 72 Congress. The profound economic crisis and the misery of the masses of the American people are taken into consideration only as a point of departure for proposals to strengthen the hold of monopolist trust capital over the economic and social life of the country, as a basis for intensifying the exploitation and oppression of the masses of the people.

The President first comments with satisfaction on the state of U. S. imperialism's war resources and declares that the recent "emergency reductions" in the budgets of the War and Navy departments will have no material effect upon these resources. Under foreign affairs, Hoover remarks on the widespread "revolutions and social disorders" thruout the world, "in nineteen countries, embracing more than half of the population of the world." The acute world-wide financial crisis and its repercussions as far as this country are concerned, are next treated and proposals made for extending Wall Street's hegemony on a world scale. The Hoover Moratorium, long an accomplished fact, is reported and approval asked for. A few lines are devoted to American imperialist ventures in Latin America and to Washington's role in the Manchurian crisis.

When Hoover turns to the domestic situation he is able to comment with satisfaction upon the fact that although chaos and distress are widespread there has been no corresponding movement of unrest or protest of the masses of the working people. The "unity and patriotism of our people" is gleefully noted by the executive agent of America's capitalist class. The country has, he continues, not faced any "acute social disorders" or "industrial conflicts." Any real government relief for the unemployed is again categorically rejected by the "great humanitarian" who extols the "efforts" of "self-help" and charity. "We must avoid burdens upon the government which will create more unemployment in private industry. . . We can now stimulate employment agriculture more effectually and speedily thru the voluntary measures in progress. . . I am opposed to any direct or indirect government dole." The vicious wage-cut offensive of the bosses within the last two years is conjured away with the comment: "A large majority (of industries) have maintained wages at as high levels as the safe conduct of their businesses would permit!" To put a final touch to his insolent attack upon the workers, Hoover proposes that the immigration laws be made more stringent and that the deportation laws be (Continued on page 2)



RAIL WORKERS MEET SURRENDERS TO BOSS WAGE OFFENSIVE

Chicago Conference Gives Officials Complete Powers To Negotiate With Roads On Wage Reductions And Unemployment; Ready To Accept Cut

CHICAGO.—What amounts to practically a surrender to the wage-cut offensive of the railroad capitalists was decided here on December 11 by the conference of shop chairmen representing 1,500,000 members of the twenty-one standard railway unions. Upon recommendation of a special committee it was decided to confer upon the union leaders the right to negotiate with the railway officials with full power to accept any arrangement on wages and unemployment program. This is recognized everywhere as meaning that not only will the "voluntary" 10% wage-cut asked by the roads be granted by the unions but other demands as well.

It should be noted that this is the first time in the history of railway labor that union officials got a free hand in negotiations. Hitherto all negotiations between union officials and management have been tentative and decisions have always been referred back to the membership for ratification. In this case this procedure will be scrapped because it is recognized that too large a section of the railroad workers are opposed to any surrender.

Preliminary conferences of the shop chairmen and the various committees indicate that there will be a sharp resistance at the conference to any "voluntary wage-cut" as proposed by the railroad officials. The 6-hour day with no reduction of weekly pay, will also be favored by a decisive section of the conference. The question of unemployment and the attempt to "stabilize" employment on the roads, will occupy great attention.

HOUSEWARMING ON DEC. 19

New "Age" Headquarters To Be Opened Officially In Reception

Two floors of a big building on the corner of 14 Street and Second Avenue, New York City, in the center of an area devoted to headquarters of labor organizations, make up the new headquarters of the Communist Party (Majority Group), the New Workers School and the Revolutionary Age. The fourth floor is devoted primarily to the National and District offices of the C. P.-Majority Group and to the editorial and business offices of the Age, while the fifth floor is given over to the New Workers School.

A Housewarming and Reception to open officially the new headquarters will take place Saturday evening, December 19, at the new headquarters. There will be a banquet and reception followed by dancing.

The Headquarters of the
Communist Party Majority Group
NEW WORKERS SCHOOL
REVOLUTIONARY AGE

have moved to
228 SECOND AVENUE, (cor. 14 St., 4 and 5 floors)
New York City

To Officially Open The New Headquarters
House-Warming and Reception
Saturday Evening, Dec. 19th

At the New Headquarters
Banquet and Reception followed by Dancing

Herman on "World Menace of Fascism" Dec. 20, 228 2nd Aveune

DEFEND MARINE WORKERS AGAINST THE POLICE "BOMB" FRAME-UP

Appeal Of The C. P.-Majority Group

On Tuesday, November 17, the newspapers of New York carried the sensational story that on Monday the New York police had "discovered" a "dynamic plot for the wholesale bombing of the New York harbor." On the basis of this "discovery" they arrested the secretary and two members of the Independent Tidewater Boatmen's Union, Jack Soderberg, William Trajer and Thomas Banker.

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The drastic reduction of the standards of the German working class, the "adaptation of wages in Germany to the prolonged world deflation," the destruction of the trade unions as organizations of defence of the economic interests of the workers and the suppression of the political activities of the revolutionary proletariat are the chief objectives of the new emergency decrees.

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NEW CABINET FORMED IN JAPAN

The situation in Manchuria remains essentially the same. Japan has achieved most of its original objectives, and perhaps more, with the silent approval of the United States.

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC; SENATE DEADLOCKS

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AMERICAN DEMOCRACY IN ACTION The Lynching of Matthew Williams

by Elmer Smith

On Friday, December 4, Matthew Williams, a Negro worker of Salisbury, Md., was lynched by a mob of 2,000.

The Negro masses are today the worst sufferers of the economic crisis. While ordinarily the Negro is the most exploited section of the working class, today, during the economic crisis, the Negro is even more exploited than ever before.

It was in this atmosphere that Matthew Williams, a Negro worker of Salisbury, Md., who had been employed at the munificent wage of 15c per hour when he had worked for his employer, Elliott, in a fit of desperation after having shot his employer, he attempted to kill himself and then Elliott's son shot the Negro worker.

Lying directly in the background of this case and in many respects parallel to it is the Orphan Jones case. On October 10 or 11, a truck farmer of Snow Hill, Md., Davis by name, his wife and two children were murdered

in bed. There could have been three possible suspects for this murder: an unknown North Carolina Negro with whom he had had a fight and who had shot him in the jaw, a neighbor whose son he had shot at for being in his watermelon patch; and Orphan Jones, whom he had fired two weeks before and to whom he still owed back wages.

The police, however, arrested Jones and exhorted a confession by third-degree methods. He was forced to sign a confession which he could not even read, as his glasses had been taken away from him.

The court appointed Leonard Wallis of Salisbury as attorney. Bernard Ades, the International Labor Defense attorney volunteered as attorney for Orphan Jones; however permission was refused him to see Jones until Jones had been taken back to Snow Hill for a hearing. After this, even the Jones signed the necessary papers appointing Ades as attorney, he (Ades) was not permitted to see Jones, even when he did obtain permission to see his client at Snow Hill, he found "curious" policeman hiding in a cupboard and was forced to talk to him in the presence of the policeman.

It was in this atmosphere that the

LITHUANIAN OPPOSITION BEGINS THE ISSUANCE OF WEEKLY ORGAN

Review And Criticism Of "Naujoji Gadyne"

We have before us the first two issues of Naujoji Gadyne (The New Age), the official organ of the Lithuanian Communist Opposition. The Hungry March is described in enthusiastic terms without any attempt at criticism of its glaring sectarian mistakes. The article by Comrade Pruskauskas on trade union policy practically accepts the official Party viewpoint on the T.U.O.L.U. unions, merely criticizing their incompetent and sectarian leadership.

It must be declared, however, that in the early issues of the paper, there is distinct tendency to treat the struggle of the Lithuanian Opposition against the Party officials and policy as if it were an isolated "Lithuanian" fight. The fundamental political struggle in the American Communist Party and in the Communist International—the struggle between the leadership of the Communist International, the International Communist Opposition and the Trotskyist Opposition—is almost completely neglected.

There is also a tendency visible in the paper to blur the big differences

in tactical questions between the Opposition and the Party leadership—a tendency to conciliationism. The Hungry March is described in enthusiastic terms without any attempt at criticism of its glaring sectarian mistakes. The article by Comrade Pruskauskas on trade union policy practically accepts the official Party viewpoint on the T.U.O.L.U. unions, merely criticizing their incompetent and sectarian leadership.

MELLON TAX PROGRAM HITS MASSES

Mellon's new tax proposals—which is to a large extent a revival of the 1924 revenue act—has already been made the subject of a sharp attack by the Democrats. But here, as in the debate on the Hoover messages, the Democrats are very careful to make clear that they have no "radical" intentions.

Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University and president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and Jane Addams, the famous social worker and leader of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, have been awarded the 1931 Nobel Peace Prize.

BUTLER, ADDAMS GET NOBEL PRIZE

Peace Prize Awarded To Jingo And Pacifist

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HUGE ROY MEET IN BOMBAY

BOMBAY—In the first days of October there took place here a gigantic demonstration under the auspices of the M. N. Roy Defence Committee of the All-India National Congress.

50,000 Demand Freedom Of Communist Leader In Demonstration

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The Stage and Screen

"SECRET SERVICE" AT THE HIPPODROME
The new starting point based on the famous William Gillette play is the current Hippodrome screen feature. The Radio Picture version of one of America's stage classics includes in its cast Shirley Gray, Gavin Gordon, William Post, Jr., Eugene Jackson, Fred Warren, and Nance O'Neil.

AMKINO FILM "STRUGGLE FOR LIFE" AT CAMEO THEATRE
"Struggle For Life," the first motion picture of animals and nature to come from the Moscow studios, is having its American premiere at the Cameo Theatre this week.

Several interesting Russian shorts films, including the famous tight-rope walker of Uzbek, and an exclusive camera interview with Maxim Gorki and Joseph Stalin, will be included on the program.

DANCE ENTERTAINMENT
Tango Exhibition Vocal Quartette under the auspices of DOWNTOWN NEEDLE TRADES UNITS
Communist Party (Majority Group) Saturday Eve, Dec. 26, — 8 P. M. at ASTORIA HALL, 64 EAST 4TH STREET

CAFE EUROPA and Restaurant
317 EAST 13TH STREET New York City near Second Avenue Tel Tompkins Sq. 6-9831.

BITTER REACTION SPIRIT OF MESSAGE

Hoover Urges Help To Bosses, Nothing For Workers

The President's Message was made the subject of a sharp but very vague and largely factional attack on the part of the Democrats in the House of Representatives. Throughout this attack, however, the Democrats made it clear, as the New York Times points out, that "the Democratic party, as represented in Congress, is not inclined towards radicalism."

FINE SCHOOL FORMED IN BALTIMORE

One of the best revolutionary Marxist schools ever organized in this country, and surely the best ever seen in Baltimore, has been established here under the name of the Marxian School by the Workers Educational Society, a group of Communist workers and intellectuals.

The attendance at the various classes is extraordinarily large, averaging 50 or over, composed partly of workers and partly of intellectuals and students (of Johns Hopkins University).

Nevin Bus Lines

Table with columns for destinations (Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Boston, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Los Angeles) and fares.

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TALK ON HARLAN AT BROOKLYN FORUM

Arnold Johnson of the Union Theological Seminary will speak on "Civil War in Harlan, Ky." before the Frederick Douglass International Forum on Sunday, December 20, 4 P. M., at Howland Studio, 1660 Fulton Street, Brooklyn.

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HITLER THREATENS SMASH UNIONS

Issues Declarations In Press Interviews

(Continued from Page 1) Bruening made a radio address on December 8 scoring the "delusiveness and contradictions of Hitlerism."

STUTTGART—A practically 100% increase in Fascist votes marked the elections in the city of Stuttgart on December 6. The Hitlerites received 44,599 votes as against the 23,239 of the year before.

The Fascist menace is now so real in Germany that even the official Communist Party leaders can see it. Only a short time ago, (at the beginning of this year) the eleventh plenary session of the Executive Committee of the Communist International, declared that "the Fascist advance has been checked in Germany."

Amusements

THE GROUP THEATRE PRESENTS 1931 - by CLAIRE and PAUL SIFTON A TIMELY DRAMA OF TODAY Dealing with the Life of the Worker in the Present Unemployment crisis UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE THEATRE GUILD THEATRE, 47th Street, West of Broadway

THE THEATRE GUILD presents EUGENE O'NEILL'S Trilogy "Mourning Becomes Electra" Composed of 3 plays—Hecuba, The Hunted and The Coincidence.

The Theatre Guild presents REUNION IN VIENNA A Comedy, by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD MARTIN BECK THEATRE 45th St. & 8th Ave.

Ingersoll Forum Pythian Temple, 135 W. 70th St. Sundays, 8 P. M. Admission 25c December 20th SAMUEL SKLAROFF Free Will an Illusion

