

# TO THE FLINT STRIKERS

AN EDITORIAL

Men and women of Flint! For what are you fighting?

A living wage? Yes!

The right to your job? Yes!

Human hours and working conditions? Yes!

And union recognition — to make sure that when you win these things on paper you don't get gypped out of them in practice? Also yes!

But, men and women of Flint, you are fighting for something much bigger.

Win your fight, and you will be saying to every worker in America: "We've got the bosses on the run!"

But if your bosses take an easy victory, a body blow will have been delivered to the American workers.

### Flint Is the Center

Men and women of Flint, your city is today the center of the United States for every honest and self-respecting worker. In that city of Flint the big bosses of America have ganged up against a handful of courageous men and women.

The Morgans and du Ponts, the bosses of GM, are the bosses of a dozen giant industries in this country: the chemical, metal, refrigerator, ammunition, and side industries. Through the Morgan banks, these auto bosses are dictators over more factories than we can recount.

But with all their show of title and fame, they fear you. They fear you because they know that you are a spark in a keg of dynamite. They fear you because if you can create enough heat by your fight, you can set off an explosive that will blow their financial dictatorship to Hell.

### Their Weapons

That's why they roll out all their guns to the battle. The courts to lecture you! The injunctions to be recited to you! The white-haired boy Mayor to act as comic opera Hitler over you! The company thugs to threaten you!

Day by day, they grow more desperate. Because all their little tricks and stunts, all their little toys to bribe you into quiet, are trampled underfoot by your militancy.

These wise men know how to do everything but one—they don't know how to make autos while you hold the factories.

Hold them, brothers! Hold them, as long as you can!

### Hold the Shops

Hold them in your grip tightly, because the tighter you squeeze them the more you'll get.

And the bold outlines of your knuckles wrapped around your factories is a signal for the workers of America to clench their fists, to crack a few gold-filled teeth out of the miserly maw of America's bosses.

Flint, Michigan, is today the Hindenberg line of the big bosses of America.

Men and women of Flint! The eyes of millions and millions of workers in this country are fastened upon you. You are not just conducting a fight for yourself or your shop mates. You are making history!

In all your actions, don't forget it—you are fighting the fight of your whole class.

The organized workers will stand solidly behind you. And if there be some who waver, they, like the auto bosses, will come to you most quickly when they see the power of your direct class

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# Socialist Call

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# AUTO MEN WON'T GIVE UP PLANTS

The delegation of dictatorial powers to Mayor Harold Bradshaw, stooge official of General Motors in Flint, has not broken the determination of the strikers to hold their factory fortresses. The sit-downers have announced their decision to stay-in against all odds and all orders.

## A Flint Street Scene



Scenes like the above are seen in Flint as the GM bosses stubbornly refuse to recognize the right of the workers to organize into unions and bargain collectively.

## How The Union Took Chevy Plant No. 4

By JOHN MONARCH  
Organizer of the Socialist Party

### "WIN ONE PLANT LOSE ANOTHER"

This was the headline used in newspapers throughout the country when they reported on how Chevrolet No. 4 in Flint was captured by the members of the United Automobile Workers. But as usual the newspapers were wrong. The complete story is told here for the first time.

Union man after union man had been discharged from Chevrolet No. 4. The superintendent in charge had refused to meet with a committee of the union. Something had to be done to meet the intimidation of General Motors.

#### Seven People Knew

The plans as worked out in conference and carried out in action were known only by seven people. It was obvious that in addition to the immediate grievance, something dramatic was needed to bolster up the morale of some of the strikers who were beginning to

It was also necessary to show General Motors that the union had not exerted all its power and influence.

Chevrolet No. 4 is a key plant. All Chevrolet motors are assembled in this plant. A hundred feet from this plant is the personnel building, the headquarters of the 250 company police and hired gunmen from Chicago and St. Louis, who patrol the 80-acre tract and the seven buildings located there. It is well known that the building is a virtual arsenal, containing tear gas, vomiting gas, guns and ammunition.

A road attack on No. 4 would

While negotiations are going on in Detroit between John L. Lewis and Homer Martin, and William Knudsen, the Flint auto strikers are not only holding their lines tight but are consolidating and expanding their organization.

Union machinery isn't large enough to enroll all those who are trying to join daily. A spirited contest is going on among union members as to which of them can bring in the most new members. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

## Thomas Flays Gadola

The following wire was sent Gov. Frank Murphy by Norman Thomas, Socialist leader:

"If Judge Gadola's drastic anti-labor injunction rests on correct interpretation of Michigan law in forbidding every orderly method of conducting strikes that law should be changed. I understand that you, when you were judge, did not so interpret anti-picketing law. Now urge you as governor to declare your attitude toward enforcement of such an extreme injunction and proper revision of law.

"NORMAN THOMAS,  
Chairman,  
National Affairs Committee,  
Socialist Party."

## SLOAN'S LINIMENT

General Motors, a New York Times correspondent reports, is considering rebuilding its plants in the form of penitentiaries, with moats, machinegun emplacements and remote control of light, power and heat.

All, no doubt, to protect the right of the individual worker to bargain with Papa Sloan man-to-man without interference on the part of any union.

have meant the lives of scores of men and women.

### Sham Attack

After two days and nights of consultation it was finally decided to make a sham attack on plant No. 9, a ball bearing shop, which would force the company police and gunmen away from No. 4 to No. 9, which is in the far northeast corner of the tract. Everything was timed to perfection.

At 3:00 P. M. a mass meeting was being held in the Pengeley Bldg, ostensibly to protest against the injunction obtained by General Motors. At 3:20 a note was handed out by Tom Travis, chief union organizer in Flint, who was chairman of the meeting, who announced to the crowd that there was trouble at No. 9. This announcement was

Continued on Page Eleven.

"The contest is going better than we had hoped," Robert Travis, chief organizer for the United Automobile Workers in Flint, said.

Augmenting the UAWA staff of organizers are CIO organizers Powers Haggood, and Adolph Germer.

The strikers are confident that any settlement made will be in their favor. The reasons they give are as follows:

1. This is the first big test of the CIO and industrial unionism. Lewis can't afford to make a bad settlement.

2. General Motors and the union negotiators know that the sit-downers will not leave the plants unless they are satisfied with the agreement.

3. General Motors will have a revolt among its stock-holders unless production starts soon.

"While negotiations are going on we've got to be on the job here," Roy Reuther, union organizer, said. "Every member of the union must be a voluntary union organizer. There are still hundreds who are too timid to join themselves but will join if properly approached.

"We want them to know that while it is of the utmost importance to win this strike, there are still greater battles ahead. We want these men to be progressive unionists. They should know what industrial unionism means and that the battle on the economic field is only part of the fight; that labor must also win its battles on the political field through independent working class political action. With that kind of membership we can forge ahead."

That the workers are beginning to realize this was evidenced by the tremendous ovations given Le Krzycki, CIO organizer and former national chairman of the Socialist Party, when he spoke to the strikers about building a workers world where the workers would now the means of production and distribution and would produce for themselves instead of the corporations. He was cheered when he talked about the need for labor to control and run the government

# JOHNSON HITS GM

## Sick Letters Faked, Warns Sit-In Chief

General Motors was "hitting below the belt" in an effort to break the solidarity of the sit-in strikers in Chevrolet Plant No. 4, Kermit Johnson, chairman of the striking plant committee, charged in a public statement. Johnson accused the company of faking "sick messages" to men in the plant in an effort to induce them to leave.

Johnson's statement follows: "Direct evidence has been uncovered here within Chevy Four of a very shrewd and, of late, effective way to weaken our forces which is at present being used by the company.

"The company called a special pay-day February 4. Those who called for their checks were non-sit-downers. Those who did not call for their checks of course were sit-downers.

"This effective method of checking our ranks by the company has made possible their latest underhanded policy. They are sending out bosses and stools to the homes of fellows here and telling their wives that the men are fools to remain inside the plant any longer.

"They also, and this is the direct evidence of which I spoke, are causing letters to be sent in, which carry messages of sickness etc. to the men.

"At first we suspected nothing from these letters, but now our special investigating committee has turned up several cases of letters that are absolutely false.

"On top of these, several of the wives of the men have sent in word of visits being paid them by company men trying to influence them to bring pressure to bear on the men inside, to seek a pass out on some pretext or other.

"We have taken steps here to check this rotten activity, and with the aid of outside checkups we will ask each man who receives an emergency call to wait an hour or so until the boys at headquarters check the reliability of the message.

"The boys would like very much to see this thing exposed."

### STAY-IN MUSIC

The auto strikers have taken much of the educational work into their own hands. They have written numerous songs and skits. They have organized an orchestra and in Standard Cotton they have a harmony group of mountaineer singers.

## Knuts to Knudsen



Shouting "Knuts to Knudsen" and similar praiseworthy appellations, strikers wearily booed as Sheriff Wolcott read the dispossession injunction with its ancient legal terminology!

## Norman Thomas:

Greetings to the automobile strikers, the Automobile Workers of America, and the CIO! The struggle now in progress is of enormous importance to that organization of the workers of America upon which so much of the future depends.

It is upon themselves that the workers must depend for victory. The excellence of their own organization, their self-discipline, the justice of their cause, and the persuasiveness with which they make their fellow workers see that their only hope of escape from slavery to the speed-up system, to inadequate wages, to recurring unemployment, must lie in building their own organization.

We must not lose sight of the main issues in the discussion of such details as the legality of the sit-down strike. Under capitalist law the sit-down strike is an occupation of private property and as such today illegal. It challenges the presuppositions of capitalism. But it is precisely those presupposition which labor must challenge to win a decent world.

The sit-down strike, properly managed by a disciplined union, is an enlightened and relatively peaceful method for the workers to use. The fundamental question is not capitalist legality, but the end of industrial slavery through collective bargaining and the winning for the workers as against absentee owners of a large share of the income and leisure that great machinery makes possible in the automobile industry.

# A Day With The Striking Auto Workers In Fisher Body Plant No. 1

By HY FISH

Although I had a pass duly signed by Robert Travis and Roy Reuther, I was thoroughly "frisked" by the two strikers standing guard inside the entrance window of Fisher No. 1 in Flint. And with an "O. K., brother" I was given the freedom of the plant.

Crossing assembly line tracks I came into a dim part of the plant where some of the strikers were luxuriously sleeping on over-stuffed auto seats. It was explained that they were off duty.

"They don't sleep much around here—not more than usual, anyway," my guide told me. "Every guy is assigned to some duty. We take turns in the kitchen, on the clean-up squad, doing guard duty and the other things that have to be done around here."

The condition of the plant bears eloquent testimony that this work is well organized and that the men are doing their duty. The auto bodies left on the assembly belt are protected by covers. Everything else is neatly stacked away in boxes or in corners.

### A Socialist "Sheriff"

A strong discipline exists in the plant. A "police force" keeps order. Phil Wise Sr., veteran Socialist, is the "sheriff." If any

one shirks his duty or breaks one of the rules, he is jerked before a kangaroo court. If found guilty he is sentenced to do extra work. Wise presides.

"Phil is fair," my guide said. "If he was the judge in the Circuit Court, GM wouldn't find it so easy to get an injunction."

In several places a group of ten to twelve men were seated under lights making souvenirs out of leather.

In the basement the lights are brighter. The ping pong tables provided by General Motors, which the men never had much time to use, are now in constant use. Several card games were going on. A number of the men were reading.

There is a certain peaceful at-

mosphere around the plant—a feeling of the correctness and the justice of their demands. The men KNOW they are going to win. Not one to whom I spoke gave any sign of weakness.

They know they have the upper-hand as long as they remain in the plant. And they intend to stay in the plant until they are satisfied with the settlement and an agreement has been signed. They are ready for any surprise move on the part of the vigilantes or the GM police or the national guard. Every entrance is carefully guarded and barricaded.

The men aren't allowing themselves to get soft. Every day they go through strenuous exer-

cises. Each man knows exactly what he has to do if any attack is made on them.

They've been in since December 30, and I'm convinced that they are willing to stay in until next December 30 if their demands are not granted.

### CONTRIBUTE TO CIO

WASHINGTON.—A donation of \$50,000 to the Committee for Industrial Organization was voted here by the American Federation of Hosiery Workers as it adjourned its nearly two weeks convention. The donation is in addition to the \$1000 a month contribution voted by a recent meeting of the United Textile Workers executive council here.

## Recreation Time in a Sit-In Plant



Twenty-four hours with the sit-in strikers reveal them living normal lives, eating, sleeping, playing. They have even set up their own "police" force and their own "courts." Above is a picture of sit-in strikers playing cards during a recreation period—it was taken during an earlier sit-in in the Detroit Cadillac plant.

## THE LEAGUE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY

Cordially Invites You to Hear  
MONDAYS, AT 8:30 P.M.

ROY WILKINS—Without Due Process of Law FEBRUARY 15  
Vigilante Rule—The Ku Klux Klan

GERHART SEGER—Empire Building and War FEBRUARY 22

MARY DONOVAN—Do We Need a Farm-Labor Party? MARCH 1

ORIOLE HALL, 138 Second Avenue, Flint

The L. I. D. urges Flint automobile workers and Flint citizens to read

The Automobile Industry and Organized Labor

If you want to understand the financial set-up of General Motors and union development in the industry to the time of the historic sit-down strike, read this pamphlet.

PRICE, 25c

League for Industrial Democracy, 112 E. 19th Street, New York City



# Sharecroppers Hit Hardest By Flood; Planters Bar Aid

By AARON LEVENSTEIN

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—A hasty automobile trip into Eastern Arkansas, cut short by the increasing lapping of flood waters over the highways, showed the picture of a people in exodus carrying the most miserable household goods that human beings ever tried to salvage out of disaster.

The poorest of America's population, the sharecroppers of Arkansas, are desperately trying to rescue their broken-down sticks of furniture from the ravages of the flood. And in some cases, they charge, the planters are blocking their efforts.

Refugees from the towns of Edmondson and Louise, bound for the city of Memphis with none of their humble belongings, told this correspondent that planters, after sending their mules to high ground, were stopping trucks hired by sharecroppers. They said that the drivers were being turned back at the point of a gun and threatened with death if they attempted to move the belongings of tenants.

### Efforts To Escape

Shod in waist-high rubber boots, a Negro refugee from Edmondson described the efforts of croppers to escape the menace of the rising waters in the bayous fed by the St. Francis River.

"The planters have sent out all the mules already," he said, "but they won't let the folks out. A truck that came for us from Memphis was stopped by the Boss Man with a shot-gun, and he told the driver to git. The planters want their mules out of the way because they can bring them back, but they're afraid if we get away we won't go back."

A number of refugees from Edmondson and Louise who succeeded in making their way to Memphis, told similar stories of how they were compelled to leave their property behind. Members of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union complained that while planters are helping some people to flee, they refuse to give aid to union members, saying, "Let the Union move you."

### Shacks Flooded

The inundated section of Arkansas through which we passed is one of the strongest areas in which the Southern Tenant Farmers Union is organized, being inhabited by some 15,000 of its members. Throughout the section, stretching on both sides of Highway 70, the wretched shacks, whose gaping holes have been open to the wind all winter, are now filling with water.

Here and there, the cabins are isolated as the hated cotton fields lay submerged under accumulations of surface water or backwaters of the St. Francis that have flowed out of their banks. At one point, a farmer's wagon, freighted only with a load of hay, was being dragged along an unseen pathway by two mules, their bellies frosting at contact with the icy water. A cow hitched to the rear balked in its course.

All along the route, men and women were preparing for evacuation. Shawl-clad women sat by the roadside on their bedding, waiting for the ram-shackle truck that is Noah's Ark to them and waving dreadingly to mule-herders driving dozens of beasts to safety and pasture.

### Refugees Pour In

In Forrest City, we found activities under way for the housing of refugees, in a large cotton compress. At every moment new arrivals poured in, bringing with them their "property," their children, a few chickens, a dog and in one case a goat. As the newcomers pulled to a stop in

fimsy model-T Fords or tottering trucks that had been hired for the purpose—as one painted legend revealed, from "Frank, the poor man's friend"—the earlier comers pitched in with zest to aid in the unloading of a bed-spring, a patch of mattress, an old wood-stove, a rickety kitchen-table.

With news that the waters were rising rapidly, we turned our car back for the 40-mile trip to Memphis, finding in some places that we had to wade through a half-foot of the St. Francis River's backwaters swirling across the highway. The journey to Forrest City, if taken now, would require a round-about route over some 250 miles.

Since the crest of the flood has not been reached yet in this area, thousands are still clinging to the few planks they call home, praying that the currents will not sweep the levees away.

## Debs Brigade Committees Form Locally

The formation of several local committees of the Friends of the Debs Column was announced by Hal Siegel, executive secretary. These committees are being initiated through the efforts of Socialist Party locals in Minneapolis, Minn., Philadelphia, Pa., Chicago, Ill., and Lynn, Mass.

Indicating the widespread appeal of the Debs Column was the receipt of a Five Dollar contribution from Geneva, Switzerland. Thus is international solidarity of the working class shown in action.

Two tag days have already been held in Philadelphia with additional ones scheduled for February 13 and 14 under the auspices of that Local of the Socialist Party.

Contributions have already come in from Minneapolis and Lynn. In the latter city a successful mass meeting netted one hundred dollars and local unions have contributed substantially to the work of the Friends of the Debs Column.

The work of the Debs Column is proceeding with the number of men going and to go to Spain dependent entirely on the amount of money raised.

## Franco Thanks Roosevelt for 'Neutrality' Aid

General Franco, leader of the Fascist forces in Spain, knows which side the Roosevelt administration is aiding through its "neutrality" legislation. And Franco is one to express his gratitude.

Said Franco when informed of Roosevelt's "neutrality" barring arms to Spain from this country (as reported in Hearst's Universal News Service):

"President Roosevelt, however, has behaved like a true gentleman. His neutrality legislation, stopping export of war materials to either side—the quick manner in which it was passed and put into effect, is a gesture we Nationals shall never forget." Franco knows and says that

## Flood Victims



Some of the 68,000 whom OP Man River, with the help of America's lumber exploiters, drove from their homes.

## Socialist Party Maps Flood Relief Program

By ROY E. BURT

National Executive Secretary, Socialist Party, USA

Now that the forces of nature have helped to reveal the stupidity and greed of modern capitalism, it is essential that the attention and resources of our whole society be directed toward that solution of the problem created.

The forces of greed cannot be punished for the blunders which have been so costly to society. The sympathies of the entire country have been aroused. The resources of the federal government must be used to the hilt to repair the material loss of literally hundreds of thousands of now impoverished and helpless workers' families. There must be no talk of "balanced budgets" and "curtailed relief" and "WPA lay-offs" in the face of this preventable disaster.

That the Red Cross, despite its prejudiced record in labor struggles, is now usefully involved in rescue work must be acknowledged, but at the same time the generosity of the American public for this organization must be completely at the disposal of the flood sufferers.

But even more important is the problem of rehabilitation. That must be more than merely adequate. It must be more than to return people to their homes after a clean-up of conditions created by the flood. This hour requires a program of real rehabilitation, not merely for the families caught in the flood, but society must rehabilitate itself. We have allowed modern industry so to dominate these great rivers and their valleys that all of these dangers exist and will increase unless their control is challenged.

In these valleys are millions of toilers producing tremendous wealth and enduring living conditions in slums that are a disgrace to any civilization. These slums must not be continued. The Socialist Party demands a rehabilitation program that will include:

### FLOOD CONTROL AND POWER

A full and complete program of flood control must be set up and carried out under federal direction. This program of dams and flood control, reaching far up the tributaries of the major streams, can and must be used for the production of power. This pro-

Roosevelt's "neutrality" was aimed directly against the Spanish government and he is properly grateful. He considers it a friendly "gesture" toward the Nationalists (Fascists).

This is one time we can agree with Franco.

ject of flood control and power production must not be a mere adjunct to our present system of private owned power. It must be the beginning of a real program for the complete socialization of power.

### HOUSING

In all these valley towns and cities hit by the flood there has been a housing situation which has been a disgrace to any community. Many of the housing facilities are rendered more impossible of use than ever before. It will be nothing less than a crime against humanity and progress if these conditions are reproduced.

The federal government must at once launch a housing program of federal aid and support that will make decent housing available for people of low income, at rentals that will be a distinct contribution to an advanced standard of living. This situation has passed beyond the experimental stage. A large scale program of rehousing is absolutely essential now. This program must include full union wages to workers engaged in building the houses and socialization of plans for producing building materials and supplies.

### WPA PROJECTS

At present WPA projects and relief funds for unemployed must not be diverted to flood relief and rehabilitation projects. These present projects must be continued and adequate appropriation must be made to cover the conditions caused by the flood situation.

### DISCRIMINATION AND FLOOD REHABILITATION

In the program of rehabilitation there must be no discrimination against minority racial groups of unskilled and backward economic groups. In every community the utmost care must be taken to prevent any discrimination and all rehabilitation should be carried on under the direction of commissions on which workers and those included on rehabilitation are represented.

### FARMERS JOIN CUP

CALGARY, Alta., Canada. At its recent convention in Calgary, the United Farmers of Alberta adopted the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation as the medium through which it will take political action in provincial matters.

## Ohio Jobless Heads Given Clean Slate

TOLEDO.—The Socialist Party won a smashing victory for the policies of its members within the Workers Alliance when the state executive board of the Ohio Workers Alliance, after a 14-hour hearing in this city, Sunday, January 31, cleared Ted Selander, National Executive Board member of the WAA, and Art Pries, chairman of the powerful Lucas County Workers Alliance, of all charges brought against them by Communist Party elements in the local organization.

Pries and Selander have played a leading role in building one of the most powerful locals of the Workers Alliance in the country and recently led a WPA sit-in strike which won 4,200 new WPA jobs.

After nearly six hours of totally unsubstantiated slander against Pries and Selander, Communist members on the state executive board attempted to railroad a motion through to discontinue the hearing without permitting the accused an opportunity to testify in their defense. Socialists and non-partisan members of the board successfully defeated this motion.

The accused answered the charges by proving from the records of the organization and the results of their policies that the charges were a deliberate attempt by the Communist clique to frame them up.

By a majority vote, the state board approved the recommendations of the accused for the establishment of their policy of organization within the county local.

Paul Rasmussen, general organizer of the WAA; Nelson Mengley, national executive member and Ohio WA executive secretary; and Lee Morgan, Ohio WA vice-chairman, participated in the meeting and hearing, and played an influential part in establishing a militant policy in the matter of pressing for adequate food relief legislation.

## No New Trial For Ferrero

A long legal battle to get the U. S. Supreme Court to reconsider rulings of the Department of Labor on deportation of Vincent Ferrero has just been lost. In accordance with previous practice, the highest Federal Court refused to entertain arguments in behalf of Ferrero, Italian anti-Fascist.

Vincent Ferrero entered the country legally and had never been arrested or charged with any crime. He was arrested on April 11, 1934, because of anti-Fascist activity.

The Ferrero-Sallito Defense Conference, composed of numerous political organizations and trade-union locals, announces that it will carry the fight back to the Department of Labor in an effort to keep Ferrero in the United States and save him from certain death at the hands of Italian Fascists.

### WATCH THE WRAPPER

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## THE DEBS BRIGADE

The fall of Malaga is a heavy blow against the Spanish workers. But it does not mark the end of the civil war. Far from the end, indeed, Madrid still stands. Valencia stands. Catalonia stands. And the Basque regions stands.

The fall of Malaga just punctuates the need for more and still more aid from the international working class.

The fall of Malaga cries aloud to the workers of the world: Send us men! Send us fighters!

In the light of events in Spain, it is good to see the grand response of working class organizations in this country in throwing their strength behind the Debs Brigade of fighting experts which is joining the International Brigade in Spain.

Trade unions respond. The Joint Council of Knitgoods workers in New York City has been generous in its contribution. Other unions have given money to send men. Workmen's Circle branches, by the dozen, are officially supporting the Debs Brigade. And Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Societies. And Spanish societies. And, of course, individual contributors. And happily, the Workers' Alliance.

And like all those actions which spring from the instinctive desire of the class conscious workers to join with their comrades in a fight for freedom, so too the Debs Brigade finds friends and supporters everywhere.

It is merely necessary to plant the seed in workers' soil, and overnight it blossoms. Workers everywhere, whether they are in fraternal, or economic, or unemployed, or benevolent societies, should spread the word about the Debs Brigade. Little donations from one organization after another will give us the strength to make a glorious reality of our Debs Brigade.

Fall into line, comrades and brothers!

## OUTLAW HOOLIGANISM!

Distressing reports come to us from our comrades in Boston, Up-State New York, the Middle West, and finally New York City, of repeated instances wherein Communists have physically attacked Socialist Party members, usually while the latter were distributing leaflets! In one instance, the leaflets might be for a meeting to demand an impartial investigation of labor into the Soviet charges against Trotsky; in another case, the leaflets were for a seamen's meeting to be addressed by Joe Curran. At first, we did not print such reports, because we thought that irresponsible individuals made these hooligan attacks. But as case piles upon case, we can no longer be silent about these fratricidal crimes.

Hooliganism has no place in the working class movement. Physical violence of comrade against comrade must be outlawed from the labor movement. United action against the capitalist foe is the task of the workers; and where workers disagree as to how best to fight their class enemy, they must settle the matter by debate, argument and organization—but never by the first!

## ELIHU ROOT

Elihu Root passed with the passing of his ideal, the last capitalist dream of peace—the League of Nations. Both are now dust returned unto dust!

Sane men may regret or rejoice with the passing of Root. But none, not even the corporations he served so well, hope to resurrect him. Like all living organisms which have lived their time he died.

And so, too, the League of Nations. While the "Anglo-French" Co. could grind the defeated countries of Europe under its heel, the League of Nations appeared to "live" as an instrument of "peace." With the rearming of the "revisionist" states of Europe, the League and the whole system of collective security crumble.

*Heu jacent!* May they rest in peace. And a curse upon all those who would dig them out of their tombs.

## WOMEN IN THE CLASS STRUGGLE

Of one thing the modern working class can boast; namely, the courage of its women.

To the emancipated worker, his womenfolk are not just slaves of the kitchen or fluffs of pretty nothingness. Women of the free working class are, like the class conscious worker himself, free of mind and spirit.

The wars of the Middle Ages gave us one Joan of Arc. But the class wars of the twentieth century have given us a myriad army of women fighters.

In Spain, these women have gone out into the trenches with their men. In Flint, Michigan, wives and mothers and sisters are out there fighting the thugs, the cops, and the military side by side with their men.

More power to you, sisters! You are the backbone of a new world with capacity of men, steel, and sex.

## Bullets—For Whom?



The National Guard still pours into Flint. Up to now it has been standing in the background. The local police dictatorship has been handling and mauling the striking workers. Should the fighting spread, the workers will soon find out where the capitalist state, clad in the uniform of the National Guard, stands in a crisis. Should the National Guard go into action, the auto workers will have indelibly impressed upon their minds the need to capture not only the factory, but also to capture the state power. While the cops and guardsmen are the tools of the bosses, workers fight with one hand tied behind their back!

## Farrell, Chamberlain on Trotsky

To the Editor:

We believe that the right of political asylum is one of the most precious of human rights. We unequivocally affirm the legal principle that a man is to be adjudged innocent until he is proven guilty. We are convinced that these rights cannot be silently defended if we remain silent concerning the Moscow trials. Therefore, we have joined the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky.

We are neither Stalinists nor Trotskyists. We adhere to our membership on this committee in the face of a concerted attack. We feel that the Communist press in the United States is lowering the standards of journalism by its prejudiced campaign to prevent Leon Trotsky from receiving a fair and open hearing before an impartial international investigation commission. We think that such tactics are peculiarly disgusting.

We proclaim our friendship for the Soviet Union. But when the government of the Soviet Union, through its official and unofficial representatives, attacks the right of political asylum, and challenges the right of an accused man to a fair hearing before an open and impartial court, it is no longer acting in consistence with the ideas of human freedom. It is embarrassing its real friends, and it is endangering the defense of civil liberties in every democratic country in the world.

We ask decent minded American intellectuals to join us in adopting this position.

JAMES T. FARRELL  
JOHN CHAMBERLAIN  
New York City

## Music to Our Ears

To the Editor:

I happened to buy a copy of the CALL the other day and I was pleased with your articles on the auto strike. I liked many of the other things in your paper too, especially the labor news. I used to read the Daily Worker, but the only thing they can find to print these days is about Trotsky. I want a real lively paper that gives you the news about what's going right here in our own strike situations and about

how to overthrow capitalism in this country, and I think the CALL fills the bill all right.

G. H. JOHNSON  
Philadelphia.

## Reply From War Resisters

To the Editor:

The title and introduction of the article printed in the CALL, January 23, answering our letter is "Pacifism or—The Class Struggle." May we assure Comrade Tyler and others that Socialist pacifists are "uncompromising partisans of the class struggle." However, not all who claim to be carrying on the class struggle are really doing so effectively, and we Socialist pacifists claim the same privilege as our Party exercised in the last campaign when it opposed the pro-Roosevelt "anti-Fascist" organized labor method of carrying on the class struggle, as being incorrect and ineffective.

Tyler concedes more than he imagines when he agrees that the reactionaries would have been weakened if more land had been given to the peasants, and Morocco freed. A little more weakening of the reactionaries, by sharply reducing the army and strengthening the workers' movement by unification, and the "civil war nevertheless" might well have been a miserable little putsch.

We are glad that Comrade Tyler agrees with an old pacifist thesis about the nature of modern armies, and quotes the testimony of General Smedley Butler as authority. Perhaps now Tyler will propose more vigorous support by the SP for American disarmament, thus disbanding in large measure the War Dept. clique, and even cooperating with peace and labor groups for such a proposal.

We did not argue that it will be the infantile lefts fault if American reactionaries send men to Spain. We do say that if the Party should succeed in getting the freedom to send arms and men to Spain, then the same laws and privileges could, and would, be used by legal reactionaries.

The sum total of Tyler's remarks about genuine neutrality legislation is that it would be non-existent under capitalism. We understand that well, the difficulties

but reiterate that it would be the height of folly for Socialists to attempt nothing on this line in trying to stop the surge towards war. Tyler's argument that no neutrality legislation which will interfere with capitalist profits can pass is an old impossibilist bogey. If you are consistent, why not tell the auto strikers that they can't increase their wages since that might interfere with profits, and your thesis is that profits can't be reduced by the workers under capitalism.

Does not a Party which raised \$25,000 for a national election campaign and proposes to collect \$50,000 to send 500 men to Spain appear to be somewhat unbalanced? Let's straighten out our Party and drive forward for Socialism.

JESSIE W. HUGHAN  
WINSTON DANCIS  
A. J. MUSTE  
New York

## Family Which Owns Whole Town Faces A General Strike

CLEVELAND, Tenn.—A General Strike by an entire town against one family is possible here as six or seven dollar-a-week workers pit their strength against the Hardwicks, owners of Cleveland and its seven large industries.

Franz Daniel, Socialist National Executive Committee Member and Amalgamated organizer has just rushed here from work in the New Orleans area. He states: "This is a beautiful situation with an outside chance of developing into a real general strike. One family owns the whole town—everything including all of the six or seven large industries. I can't get a hall and, of course the authorities are company people, but the strike is a real one and if I have a little more time, I mean, it will grow into a big one. It may develop into a general strike."

The Hardwicks are five in number. Each one of them, according to the New York Times incomes reports, enjoys a \$50,000 or over income last year.

# WORLD SOCIALISM

By Herbert Zam

ACTING with unseemly haste, the Executive of the British Labor Party has decided to "disaffiliate" the Socialist League, that is, expel the Socialist League from the Labor Party. The "legal" reason given for this action is the decision of the Socialist League to enter into a campaign, together with the Independent Labor Party and the Communist Party, for labor unity. The real reason, however, is the attempt of the labor leaders to suppress all criticism of their policies and liquidate the growing discontent in the ranks of the labor movement with their constant pussy-footing.

The Labor Party Executive cannot argue that the "unity campaign" is an effort to split the Labor Party and substitute another organization. One of the main points in the unity manifesto is in favor of unity "inside of the Labor Party." The Independent Labor Party while making a reservation on this point, declared that it stood ready to reaffiliate to the Labor Party as soon as it was democratized and the right given to affiliated bodies to carry on their work without censorship by the Labor Party Executive. The Communist Party has been trying to affiliate ever since its present new line was adopted.

Nor can it successfully maintain that it is contrary to Labor Party rules for an affiliate to campaign with or have relations with any non-affiliates. Sir Walter Citrine, one of the tone-givers of the Labor Party, has been carrying on a "unity" campaign together with Winston Churchill and other Tories for many months, the object of the campaign being to secure working class support to British imperialism's rearmament plans. But Sir Walter remains a respectable member of the Labor Party.

Stafford Cripps, William Mellor, Harold Laski, H. N. Brailsford and other revolutionists are to be expelled. It seems that to the Labor Party Executive it is a crime to unite with someone from the working class, but unity with the capitalists is considered a normal procedure!

## Effect Far-Reaching

The action of the Executive is bound to have more far-reaching consequences than the mere expulsion of the Socialist League, which by itself has only a few thousand members. Already numerous important figures in the labor movement have aligned themselves with the unity campaign, among them being A. Bevan, M.P., S. O. Davies, executive members of the Transport Workers Union, the National Union of Railwaymen, Amalgamated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and others. Are they also to be expelled? Many local Labor Parties, local unions, trades councils and individual trade unionists have endorsed the "Unity Campaign." Are they also to be expelled? Is this the beginning of a widespread "purge" by which the leadership of the Labor Party wishes to get rid of all opposition to its opportunist, imperialist-loving policies?

At the recent Edinburgh Congress of the Party, Hugh Dalton, the new chairman, and Ernest Bevin, urged that the Parliamentary Labor Party should vote in favor of the rearmament plans of the Tory government. Is the expulsion campaign a plan to make it easier for them to carry out that policy?

The history of the Labor Party of the past few years is not a proud one. Not a single situation found it able to rally the working class to an independent policy. Even on the Spanish policy of the government, the annual congress at first approved the government policy, and it required the direct intervention of the representatives of the Spanish workers to bring about a reversal.

In practice, however, nothing of consequence has been done on behalf of the Spanish anti-Fascist fighters. No effort has been made in Parliament to interfere with the government's covert support of Franco. Nothing has been done to organize the working class for independent help to Spain. The records show that only an insignificant sum has been raised by the mighty labor organizations. By and large the policy of the Labor Party has been one of dragging after the Tory government.

## Praise From Enemies

Slowly, but surely, MacDonaldism has staged a strong come-back. Today MacDonaldism rules the Labor Party. It is for this reason that the London Times prints articles praising the leaders of the Labor Party for their move against the left and calling for unity with the government. Anthony Eden, in a recent speech in Bradford, while attacking the theory of the class struggle (classes are complementary, not conflicting, he said) made an eloquent plea for unity with the Labor Party!

It would appear that the Labor Party leaders have their ears open to these appeals from Eden, Churchill, the Times, the League of Nations, and other imperialist sources. Unity on the right? That is statesmanship. Unity on the left? Treason!

The wisdom of the Socialist League in entering into the unity campaign at this moment may be open to question. The splitting action of the Labor Party Executive certainly has not the slightest

# Sit-Downers Hold Shop Sixth Week in Philadelphia

By HERMAN WOLF

PHILADELPHIA.—If you want to find out what the speedup means in a modern mass production plant spend a few hours with the sit-down strikers at the Electric Storage Battery Company factory here. The company's three

plants have been held by 1700 strikers since January 4, "and we'll be here till the management grants us wage increases and does something about the speed-up" the boys will tell you.

"We used to assemble 160 auto batteries in nine hours and get paid \$6," one worker said. "Now we do 330 batteries in eight hours for \$7.47. The boys were figuring it out last night. Our pay's gone up twenty-five percent and we're producing twice as many batteries."

## 20 Nationalities

"That's right, that's right," the other workers nodded, as I looked from one to the other in the plant cafeteria. With two officials of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, I had entered the plant an hour before to bring the sit-downers greetings from their fellow clothing workers. Grouped around a table were twenty workers of all nationalities eagerly telling us why they are on strike.

"Take us fellows in the charging department," said a plump, jovial Italian. "They used to have 75 men down there; now we only got 47, and we do as much work. We lift 500 batteries an hour off the belt. In rush times it goes up to 600."

With paper and pencil we figured it out. Those boys lift a total of 70 tons a day. "How do wages run?" we asked.

"I make \$6 a day and got \$8.70 last year," replied a German chap. "That means I worked only 29 full weeks out of 52. If we work full time the work is killing; and if we don't we can't get enough to live."

## Average \$18-\$19

About 20 per cent of the men earn as high as \$38 a week, but most of them average \$18 or \$19. "I look at it this way," one fellow from the assembling department chimed in. "This strike is to help the under-paid. My work isn't any too steady, but when I do work I get \$26 a week. These other fellows make about \$18. Well, hell, when I go in a butcher shop and pay 45 cents a pound for meat, he's got to pay that too. He doesn't get it for 25 cents just cause he earns less. Wages have to go up if these boys are going to live, that's all."

The gathering broke up for supper, and Pete Besch, chairman of the grievance committee, invited us to join them in a healthy meal of creamed salmon, peas, potatoes, cake and coffee. Probably the most beloved man among the strikers is John Thompson, the only Negro in the plant, who does the cooking.

John Ryan supervises the kitchen, and he's been given a clean bill of health by the Board of Health officials. "Every plate and piece of silverware is sterilized three times a day," John told us.

## Won't Discuss Wages

Although the company has recognized the union and granted the 40-hour week, it has stubbornly refused to discuss wage increases. "They'll have to come around, though," says Charles Goff, as grand a guy as you'd ever like to meet. Goff and the other four officers of Federal Labor Union 15,551 were all members of craft unions at one time or another before they organized this industrial unit.

Although the local has paid \$18,000 in per capita tax to the A.F.L. President Wil-

ing supported by both craft and industrial unions in Philadelphia; but most aid is coming from the units of the Committee for Industrial Organization.

"What message can we take to the rest of the labor movement," we asked as we left the plant. "Tell them," said the boys, "that we're going to win this strike, and we need their support. If this strike is won, it will bring encouragement to the fellows at SKF and Buick and Continental Distilling and the other large plants in town."

"Tell them," said Matthew Kane, a genial Scotchman who belonged to the Sheetmetal Workers Union back in the old country, "that our spirit is good. Everybody's cooperating so well that we can't even get up a good friendly argument among the men."

# Youth Act Aim Of Pilgrimage To Washington

By IRVING BARSHOP

Executive Secretary, New York District, Young People's Socialist League

Prompted by the recent march of the unemployed, young workers and students from all parts of the country will converge in Washington February 19-22, demanding the immediate passage of the American Youth Act. Fifteen hundred strong, they will protest against the relief slashing policies of the Roosevelt administration.

The pilgrimage of youth to Washington is sponsored by the American Youth Congress as one of the steps in its program to obtain the passage of the American Youth Act.

The act is designed to meet the immediate needs of the unemployed and student youth through subsidies to students who are unable to maintain themselves in school and through jobs to unemployed youth at adequate wages. The act proposes democratic control of its provisions through representation from trade unions, student and fraternal youth organizations.

## Present Act Inadequate

The present National Youth Act, which is Roosevelt's bid for youth support, is inadequate and serves as a means of lowering general wage standards throughout the country. It is administered by a hand-picked bureaucracy.

The fight for the American Youth Act is serving to disillusion young workers and students who retain any faith in the promise of Roosevelt.

The organization of youth for militant activity for the American Youth Act can be made into a tremendous expression of the discontent of youth. Any policy which attempts to accomplish the act through deals and compromise with the administration is certain to end in failure.

The fight of youth for the act, if it is to be conducted successfully, must be linked to the struggle of the working class and the trade unions for decent living standards.

The Youth Pilgrimage to Washington for the American Youth Act is being the wholehearted support of young workers and students throughout the

# LAW TO ORDER

By McAlister Coleman

WE have had quite a snootful this past week of discussion round and about the Constitution, the Founding Fathers and the Supreme Court. We heard Morris Ernst make a brilliant speech at the dinner of the League for Mutual Aid. Then along came Roosevelt and upset a lot of legal apple-carts with a trick plan for putting more judges on the Supreme bench.

No capitalist paper has as yet called us up to ask our opinion as a prominent Constitutional authority about the President's cute little scheme. But if they had, we would first have said that there is an awful lot of academic hot tosh floating around about all this supreme law business.

Who has the economic power in our power-driven civilization, makes the laws. Or as Aaron Burr remarked, "law is whatever is boldly asserted and plausibly maintained." I have been in some of the few communities in this country dominated by labor where you couldn't convict a union man of anything, short of burning down the union hall. Most of the time I have lived in places where all you had to do was to prove the defendant was a member of the union and he would be sent up for life for looking mean at a cop.

## Reactionaries Liberals

Then again Roosevelt's proposal is built on the naive assumption that there is something about the personality of the judge that makes him conservative or liberal. The late Justice Holmes was forever held up as a perfect example of the Liberal on the Bench. Yet Holmes read the decision upholding the sentence of Eugene Victor Debs to ten years imprisonment for being brave enough to oppose war. And neither Holmes nor his fellow liberal Brandeis lifted a finger for the defendants in the Sacco-Vanzetti case, though both were appealed to, and either could have stayed the executions.

No, sir. You put a man into the cold storage of the Supreme Court, a man who gets his opinions, however liberal they may be, from books and not from life, and it doesn't make much difference what his leanings are, the forces of a capitalist economy push him over to the Right when a real test comes. It isn't a matter of personalities, Mr. President, it's a matter of power. While the Hillquit Workers Rights Amendment was worth agitating, in the long run, the Supreme Court, in the event of its passage, would have found some way to sneak through decisions against social legislation.

The matter was once summed up beautifully by a coal-miner attending a class in government in Illinois. The lecturer had made a little chart of the functions of government. When he came to the line marking the Supreme Court, he asked "What is the function of the Supreme Court?" This digger reared himself up and said: "To kick the worker in the pants."

## Walking Mis-Information

This being Sunday and our day of rest, we have been working hard over an interpretation of the comic strips for our infant son. This, of course, is done with an air of deep solemnity, no one thinking of smiling. Whenever a fat man appears in a strip, there is a loud cry, "That is Mr. Carter!" The child has now been thoroughly conditioned to the idea that any over-fat and thoroughly disagreeable looking character in comic strips, on the streets, or wherever encountered, is Thomas McCarter, President of the Public Service Gas and Electric Co. of New Jersey. And who are we to dissuade him of this engaging idea?

We are also in the Bo-Why Period. Why does the wifal blow? What makes coal? Why does Xerxes (our Persian kitten) have whiskers if she is a lady cat? And other questions.

I think it was FPA who once wrote that there is nothing more exciting than to watch the dawning of curiosity in the consciousness of a young child. Exciting, sure, but a bit wearing. At the end of an hour or two, you crawl off the witness stand in the exhausted condition of a wretch who has been cross-examined by Max Steuer. I have outlined the process of making paper, extracting ore, weaving baskets, bringing babies into the world, driving coal trucks, the care and management of Amsterdam Avenue busses, the operation of apartment house elevators. I am a walking Child's Book of Knowledge.

There are times when I shudder to think what a mass of mis-information I must have imparted. But then I am consoled by the thought that most of us somehow managed to survive with our young heads cranked with such fantastic ideas as that you can't change human nature, man's chief end on this earth is the making of money, it is naughty to kick against the way things are.



PARTY PERSPECTIVES—NUMBER SEVEN

# Labor Parties Today

Prepared by The CALL EDITORIAL BOARD

In a nationwide Labor Party or in a nationwide Labor Party movement, the Socialist Party continually fights for certain demands.

First, Socialists demand that such a Labor Party shall be independent of all capitalist parties and capitalist candidates. A Labor Party movement, such as the Labor Non-Partisan League for the re-election of Roosevelt, is not a Labor Party. It may set forces in motion which will ultimately lead to the creation of a Labor Party. But it fails to perform the most elementary and essential tasks of a party of independent political action of a class. It fails to tear the mass of workers away from the capitalist parties.

### FEDERATED PARTY NECESSARY

Second, Socialists demand that a Labor Party shall be a federated and not a membership organization. This point appears as a technicality; but in reality it is a basic line for political questions. The difference between a federated Labor Party (an organization of organizations) and a Labor Party with individual membership affiliation is really the difference between the maintenance of a politically functioning revolutionary party within the Labor Party or the complete surrender of revolutionary work by the Socialist Party.

Third, the Socialist Party believes that a Labor Party must open its doors both to proletarian and farm organizations but the spearhead of the movement must be the organized wage earners of the factory and on the land.

Fourth, Socialists strive for a maximum of democratic control within a Labor Party. Affiliated organizations must have a voice in determining its policies. A Labor Party organized as a private corporation, the personal property of a handful of bureaucrats, can be and has been perverted to any and all purposes.

Fifth, candidates of a Labor Party must be nominated by and held responsible to the Labor Party. The simple endorsement of a man or a group of men by large unions does not constitute a Labor Party.

### LABOR'S NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

When the aforementioned measures are applied to the movement constructed around Labor's Non-Partisan League, it becomes apparent now far short of a real Labor Party the League falls.

Although Labor's Non-Partisan League arose at a time when there was the beginning of a new pro-Labor Party movement among the masses, the League was created not as a result of the natural culmination of such healthy forces but as a bureaucratic attempt to bring unions into line behind Roosevelt. Hence it lacked all the distinctive features of a real Labor Party: political independence, machinery for democratic control, responsible candidates, separate class program.

Nationally Labor's Non-Partisan League was no more than a committee

## The Movement in the Separate States

of Labor men, who swung their unions behind them, in support of Roosevelt.

### THE AMERICAN LABOR PARTY

In New York State, Labor's Non-Partisan League organized what purported to be a real Labor Party; namely, the ALP. The ALP differed from the Labor Non-Partisan League in that it incorporated as a political party; had its own place on the ballot, constructed its own electoral machine.

Despite these features, which made the American Labor Party look more like a Labor Party than Labor's Non-Partisan League, it still remained essentially an electoral henchman of the Democratic Party.

The American Labor Party, like all organizations of labor operating within the confines of state or city politics, suffers from certain very serious handicaps.

First, such local parties are, of necessity, unstable in nature. Unless these local and state labor parties can quickly be brought into a national party, they are apt to collapse in national campaigns. No political organization can long operate on the basis of a purely local program. The national issues always overshadow simple local questions; and the local labor parties, without national moorings, can easily be torn from its class base.

The American Labor Party is particularly unstable because in addition to its being a purely local set-up, it began without the benefit of a clearly class orientation basis. Hence it can more easily be upset than other local Labor Parties.

The result of its instability is that the ALP hesitates to drive forward with its own program and machine for its own candidates. It marks time between elections; and then jumps into the army of some "liberal" general when the campaign approaches. First, it was Roosevelt. And now, it is La Guardia.

To insure themselves against prodings in the direction of independent political action from radical elements in the ALP, the leadership has passed a ruling compelling the dissolution of all political groups inside the ALP, such as the Old Guard People's Party, and the exclusion of all members of other political parties.

### SOCIALIST ATTITUDE TO ALP

The problem before the Socialist Party of New York, as well as the problem before workers in other parts of the country where such parties will develop, is that of defining its relationship to such a group.

Individual affiliation of Socialists with the American Labor Party is today impossible, unless one is ready to dissolve the Socialist Party as a functioning political body with its face turned toward the masses. To advocate entrance into the ALP, as individuals, is not merely politically unwise (as we shall soon see) but must mean the liquidation of the

Socialist Party and the surrender of the fight for Socialism.

Neither is it advisable for the Socialist Party, is a party to seek admission today (which is also technically excluded). To join the ALP as a party means to lose political identity before the masses. It means the loss of political identity in an organization which itself is so unstable and disorientated as to collapse tomorrow or turn in Heaven knows what direction.

To join the ALP, as a party, moreover, and operate under its discipline, means to give up the very important job of tearing the workers away from their faith in bourgeois parties and politicians. The ALP has not yet broken loose. Its members still have to be led onto the path of independent action. The rank and file must still learn to distrust and reject all bourgeois parties. This job, exposing the capitalist politicians to the masses, can most effectively be done in the coming months and years by a Socialist Party conducting its open campaigns in opposition to the candidates of the capitalist parties. To the extent that the Socialist Party is successful in unmasking these capitalist politicians, will it also be successful in moving the workers along the road of independent political action.

### CONTINUE FIGHT FOR LABOR PARTY

Within the trade unions that are affiliated with the American Labor Party, and whose delegates speak in the name of the members of the union, the Socialists have an additional task. In the unions they must continue their campaign for an INDEPENDENT CLASS LABOR PARTY. The points, outlined by us above, pertaining to the nature of a real labor party, must be advanced by the Socialists in the trade unions. They must fight to have their delegates make the ALP a truly class party, explaining why the present ALP is not truly a Labor Party but merely a sub-committee of the old party machines.

Where mass organizations are asked to affiliate with the American Labor Party, Socialists place their conditions for joining before the mass organization and the ALP. Socialists favor entrance into the ALP on the part of mass organizations only if the American Labor Party proves itself to be a LABOR PARTY—that is, a federated, independent, democratically controlled mass party.

In various states of the United States, Labor Parties have sprung up recently, operating avowedly for purposes of independent working class political action. These parties, as in Minnesota, nominate and run their own state candidates. Unlike the ALP, they do not demand that all affiliated organizations and persons can only join the state party on the basis of supporting a national candidate of one of the old parties. How shall Socialists define their attitude toward such a party?

Where such labor party set-ups are weak and patently artificial, Socialists must vigorously oppose the immature launching of such a party. Should it be launched, Socialists should seek forms and means of collaboration with the party. In no case, where the movement

is of such an ephemeral and uncertain character will Socialists join the Labor Party.

### WHERE REAL MOVE EXISTS

In some of the states, the Labor Parties may take on real mass proportions, and at the same time may be completely divorced from bourgeois parties. Should such parties be launched, the Socialist Party may join it as a federated body and Socialists in trade unions will urge the unconditional affiliation of their organizations.

In joining such state labor parties, the Socialist Party must insure its right to nominate and support Socialist candidates for national offices, especially in the presidential campaign.

Wherever it is at all possible, Socialist must strive not only to maintain political integrity but also to maintain their place upon the ballot.

The mere problem of affiliation or non-affiliation does not close the problem relationship between the Socialist Party and various state and local labor parties. Non-affiliation does not exclude the possibility of common slates or election agreements. Surely it does not exclude the possibility of joint actions on the extra-parliamentary front, such as common demonstrations, meetings, collections, aid to Spain.

Election agreements may be such that the Socialist Party will give critical support to a candidate of a state labor party; it may be such that both parties will agree upon some common slate to support in the elections. Here, too, however the Socialist Party will only consider electoral cooperation in such instances where the Labor Party represents a significant mass of workers, organized on a sufficiently strong basis to guarantee a continued development in an increasingly progressive and Socialist direction.

The forms and degree of collaboration with local and state labor parties will vary. But unvarying through all our relationships must be our basic principles and analysis of our role in the Labor Party.

### GENERAL LINE BEHIND ACTIONS

First, the unwavering maintenance of the independent role of the Socialist Party as a political and revolutionary force.

Second, the utilization which can and must tear the bulk of the organized workers away from the capitalist parties, but which cannot and will not lead a successful struggle against war and Fascism.

Third, to take advantage of the rising sentiment for independent working class political action on the part of the workers in the mass organizations to tear them away not only from their capitalist leaders but also from all those labor leaders who will attempt to pervert this rising sentiment into the channels of "progressive" bourgeois politics.

Such a program, skillfully operated, will not simply build the Socialist Party, the revolutionary party of the working class, but will also be instrumental in setting the American working class on the road to its liberation, will organize it for a fight against the capitalists, against the bourgeois minded labor leaders, and finally against capitalism. In the struggle for an INDEPENDENT CLASS LABOR PARTY the Socialist Party will establish its leadership in the mass struggle for a Socialist Commonwealth.

# AT THE FRONT



By **NORMAN THOMAS**

Here in Montreal on a gray winter's morning I begin to write with a paper before me announcing that the "GENERAL MOTORS DEADLOCK STILL PERSISTS" and that "FRANCO FORCES REACH MALAGA." Not a cheerful way to start the day.

## FRANCO NEEDS HITLER AND MUSSOLINI

Day by day I am surer that Franco can never win in Spain unless by foreign Fascist aid and that to stop this Fascist aggression is the surest way we have not only to help in general the workers' cause, but specifically to lessen the war danger for the whole world.

It is because I believe so thoroughly in the horror and futility of war that I think we must do all we can to help our Spanish comrades stop Franco's war and by stopping it greatly increase the world's hope of avoiding the catastrophe of a second world war far worse than the first. That is the reason for the Debs Column.

## QUEBEC HAS OWN FASCISM

Quebec has its own version of problems familiar to us. It is a Roman Catholic province and the vehemence of the Church's war on "Communism"—as well as its support of the old economic order—finds expression in some near approaches to Fascism. Thus, in Montreal some time ago organized bands of "patriotic youth" and such like folk by riotous demonstration prevented any public hearing for the Spanish delegation then on tour.

Quebec, moreover, is the probable stumbling block in the way of a solution of Canada's constitutional problem. Canada prides herself on being an independent nation, voluntarily associated with the British "family of nations." Yet the British Privy Council, acting as a Supreme Court in interpreting the British North American Act (under which the Dominion of Canada was organized and French Canadian rights guaranteed), has apparently denied the federal government effective power for certain social legislation more thoroughly than our Supreme Court has ever yet hamstrung Congress. The reason is "provincial rights"—something like our state rights.

Now the rest of the provinces might get together to make an agreement amending the original act passed by the British Parliament. But Quebec, claiming quasi-sovereign powers, probably won't agree. It is a problem likely to become acute.

## ROOSEVELT STUNT NO SOLUTION

In our own Constitutional crisis President Roosevelt has taken a clever way to deal with the problem of judges over seventy years of age and to save some of his legislation from immediate judicial veto. I have often said that unless the Constitution is amended, one of the first acts of a labor or Socialist administration would have to be to increase the size of the Supreme Court. Hence I cannot and do not oppose the President's suggestion on Republican grounds.

But it is no real solution of anything. Courts, as our history proves, don't stay packed the way the Presidents had hoped! Fifteen judges—a number possible under the Roosevelt proposal—would probably be less, not more, able

than nine to dispose of judicial business with dispatch. The indirect attack on the power of the Court tends further to impair confidence in the integrity of the whole judicial process and of the membership of the courts.

Yet I might favor the President's proposal as an emergency measure if at the same time he would ask more fundamental change. We have reason, otherwise, to feel that this law will postpone proper consideration of the Constitutional crisis and lull the public to a false security.

It is our job to work harder than ever for the Farmers' and Workers' Rights Amendment with such safeguards as may prevent the Court from whittling it away. Our amendment leaves the court its power to protect civil liberty. That power, to be sure, has been badly used and could never of itself in a crisis of war or Fascism preserve our freedom. But practically and psychologically it has some value not to be lightly thrown away at this juncture until we have a better substitute. And that is not in sight in capitalist America.

## MOSCOW TRIALS HARM SOCIALISM

A letter reproaching me for interest in justice to Trotsky contains a sentence which voices an all-too-common attitude. It reads:

"Even presuming the trials are all fixed, surely you can appreciate the achievements made by the Soviet Government in comparison to the Czars."

Certainly I do, and it is precisely for that reason that I do not want those achievements marred at any point by methods similar to the methods of the Czars or, more accurately, by Fascist dictators. No defeat a recognized enemy can impose on us by force is so dangerous as the defeat we accept when in the name of Socialism we adopt at any important point the standards and method of Fascism. And this has been done by the Communist Party in Russia in respect to certain political trials.

The root of the evil is the twofold error: (1) of believing that justice is nothing more than the government's interpretation of what the welfare of the mass requires, and that the individual doesn't count; and (2) the failure to provide adequately in the Communist Party or the Soviet government for means of orderly criticism and opposition. Trotsky as well as Stalin is responsible for the original Communist failure at this point.

Concerning the charges against Trotsky, I do not positively affirm or deny them. Some of them seem fantastically improbable. The vital point is that we must preserve the

right of political asylum and that we ought to seek the truth so as to put our own working-class house in order. And the trials have not given us the truth.

Remember that after the assassination of Kiroff Stalin's government began by executing upwards of one hundred suspects not connected with the assassination by any evidence. Remember the repeated proof that prisoners in Russian political trials have "confessed" that which was demonstrably false.

This sort of thing and the general appearance of Stalinite ruthlessness is doing almost infinite harm not only to Communism but to Socialism. It discredits us all in our struggle against Fascism and for true emancipation.

## LABOR RACKETEERS MUST BE FOUGHT

Rather similar to the contention that we must not seek justice for Trotsky lest we discredit the entire Russian revolution, is the argument that we must keep still about racketeering in labor unions or even defend racketeers lest we discredit labor unionism. It is because most of us have kept still, or at least have not more effectively fought, racketeering, that labor unions have suffered. Even workers have been led to think racketeering a child of unionism instead of capitalism.

Whatever the shortcomings or the motives of the Dewey investigation in New York—that I may discuss later—certain AFL unions hurt, not help the workers by denouncing Dewey's evidence without disproving it or setting up their own machinery to conquer racketeering from within. For the workers' sake, unions must fight racketeering.

## TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR

A typographical error in this column last week destroyed the sense of one statement. I commented adversely on Trotsky's denunciation of everything in the present Russian situation and added that this "was not necessary to his plea for justice." The "not" was omitted.

By the way, I am told that Trotsky has not "syndicated" articles in the capitalist press in his own defense for his own profit.

## HAVE YOU BOUGHT DEBS STAMPS?

Don't forget, unless we support the Party and its press, no correctness of theory will save us! Have you bought your Debs stamps?

The CCF is getting under way in Quebec. More power to it! I'm proud to be an honorary member.

## Party Mass Workers Meet At South Bend

The first of a series of Industrial Conferences for Socialists in Mass Production industries, active trade unionists and members of Workers Alliance was held at South Bend, Indiana on February 6 and 7.

The object of the conference was to formulate concrete program of activity to further Socialist co-ordination in CIO organizations campaign. There were definite programs worked out and agreed upon after reports and discussions in the following fields: Auto, Steel, Packing; the role of craft unionists and Central Labor Union delegates and their relations to CIO organization drive; and the Workers Alliance.

Each report included an analysis of the present situation within the industry and the union, suggested a policy for the future in view of present situation, and the possible party machinery for best carrying into effect the suggested policy.

Reporters to the conference were: B. J. Widick of United Rubber Workers Union, Harold Rasmussen of Amalgamated Association, Iron Steel and Tin Workers, Hyman Schneid and Marianne Alfonso of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, Arthur McDowell, delegate to Chicago Federation of Labor, Paul Rasmussen of Workers Alliance of America, Ardiell Nemitz of Independent Union of All Workers, (Packing House Section), Vincent R. Dunne of General Drivers Union, and Roy Burt and Frank Trager for the national organization.

**SILICOSIS HITS MILLION**  
WASHINGTON (FP).—Silicosis surveys made indicate that 1,000,000 workers are exposed to the dread respiratory hazard, 500,000 of them seriously that 110,000 have the disease in some degree and that 4,000 to 5,000 workers now suffer dismemberment from silicosis.

## Next Week

As we go to press, reports from Spain announce a government move outlawing the POUM, party of Marxist unity. Other reports tell of the assassination of Anarchist leaders by other working class groups. The CALL shall carry a full analysis of this next week.

## Austrian Labor Votes Socialists in Councils

Austria's Fascist regime, hated by the workers, has suffered a disastrous blow in the recent workers' councils elections throughout the country. Almost everywhere the factory councils appointed by the Fascist government have been defeated and labor's former spokesmen have been reelected to these posts.

In 28 furniture factories in Vienna, 60 of the 69 newly elected council members are members of the illegal Socialist Party.

## Chicago Sets Up Call Association

CHICAGO.—The Chicago Socialist Call Association was set up at a meeting here on February 4. Comrades representing local branches attended and signified their sympathy and critical agreement with the present policies of the CALL and expressed their intention to push the circulation of the CALL to the limit in Chicago.

A temporary executive committee was elected and instructed to report back with plans for regular meetings and for a special second anniversary celebration for the CALL.

The temporary executive committee consists of: Charles Kray, Helen Trager, Art McDowell, Martin Cohen, Paul Rasmussen, Marie Schimmel and Judith Drob.

**GET YOUR DEBS STAMPS!**

## To Hold Discussion Meetings

Three pre-convention discussion membership meetings will be held by Local New York. Membership will be by Party or YPSL card only.

The first meeting will take place Monday, February 15 on the labor party. Speakers, representing various points of view, will be: Murray Baron, James Burnham, William Gomberg, Murray Gross, Max Delson or August Tyler.

The meeting on Party Organization will be held Monday, February 22. Speakers will be: Jack Altman, Joe Lash, Max Schactman, Winston Dancis, August Tyler or Lou Mann.

The third meeting, held March 1, will be on Trade Union Policy. Speakers will be: Murray Gross, Herbert Zam, Arne Swaback, I. Laderman, Mary Hillyer.

## Sailors Vote Settlement



Three months of militant action by the seamen of the West Coast gives them the right now to vote for a peace settlement where-in they have made gains for themselves and their union.

## Electrical Unions In Minneapolis Merge

MINNEAPOLIS—Further cohesiveness of the local labor movement will follow the merger of electrical workers locals of this city, in which Local 292, of the Electrical Workers Union, and Local 160, composed of the employees of the Northern States Power Company, are united in one union.

The new union, which will remain as Local 292, has already begun laying the ground work for an intensive organization drive among the remaining unorganized electrical workers of Minneapolis. The drive will be under the supervision of the combined executive boards of the two former locals, headed by Business Agent Hackett of 292 and Assistant Agent Schultz of former Local 160.



# CALL Drive Gains But Not Enough

By THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Better this week than last, and better last week than the first report, but still not enough! That's the report which we make on the CALL Drive for \$10,000.

We wonder if you realize that that figure of \$10,000 is an essential figure, based on what we have to have to keep in business, to pay off debts which have accumulated, particularly in the past campaign, and go on through the year putting out the sort of paper which you want to have.

We weren't just raising a slogan when we set that figure. We were stating a necessity. We are completely serious. We must have that sum!

The response which is coming in is encouraging, as far as it goes. A number of comrades have made

good contributions. Two comrades have made very good contributions. But several thousands haven't done anything yet. You can't sit back and expect the CALL Business Manager to go out and see people who will make substantial contributions. People who make substantial donations are lined up with the other side all too much. We need thousands of dollar donations! How about you?

William Gates, of Wakefield, Kansas, writes: "I believe that our party and its Press should continue to make a thoroughly militant and revolutionary fight for pure and unadulterated Socialism 365 days a year; and that the Socialist CALL has, by its splendid, aggressive, fearless fight, proved itself to be far the best and most worthy publicity organ for our Socialist Party of America. Here's wishing you the support and success you have so well earned."

From Adolph Furrer, Collinville, Conn.: "Enclosed find Money Order for \$1.00. It is like the widow's mite, but then if each worker contributed his mite, what might the workers could acquire! I want to see the CALL survive."

A comrade in New Hampshire who is earning \$4.66 a week sent in his second donation of \$2 this week, making \$4 which he has sent the CALL during this drive. He writes, rightfully: "Perhaps this will shame some of the others into doing something."

If one comrade, earning only \$4.66 a week can send in \$4 in a month, it certainly would seem that other Socialists, who advocate proportional income taxes, among other things, and who are working for an order in which the rule will be, 'From each according to his ability to each according to his need,' should pitch in and close this CALL Drive for \$10,000 before another week is over!

Statistics this week: Reported last week: \$392.74. Received this week: \$281.64. Total thus far: \$674.38. Must be raised in this drive: \$10,000.

Six new states and districts and the standings at the end of the third week follow:

State or City	Quota	Sent in	Per Cent
Boston	\$300.00	122.00	40.8
Oregon	50.00	11.00	22
New Mexco	30.00	6.00	20
Pittsburgh	200.00	39.00	19.5
Illinois (outside Chicago)	300.00	55.00	18.3
New Hampshire	35.00	4.00	11.4
California	150.00	17.00	11.3
Florida	40.00	4.50	11.2
Indiana	100.00	10.00	10
New York City	2600.00	237.28	9.1
New Jersey	400.00	36.30	9
Massachusetts (Outside Boston)	400.00	33.00	8
Kansas	50.00	3.50	7
Idaho	30.00	2.00	6.6
Texas	30.00	2.00	6.6
Pennsylvania (Outside Cities)	300.00	15.25	5
Connecticut	600.00	24.04	4
Kentucky	50.00	2.00	4
Ohio (outside Cleveland)	150.00	5.70	3.8
North Carolina	20.00	75	3.7
Tennessee	30.00	1.00	3.3
Maryland	100.00	3.00	3
New York state	400.00	12.00	3
West Virginia	35.00	1.00	2.8
Oklahoma	40.00	1.00	2.3
Missouri	250.00	5.50	2.2
Detroit	150.00	3.00	2
Chicago	400.00	7.00	1.7
Cleveland	150.00	2.50	1.6
Arizona	40.00	.50	1.25
Iowa	50.00	.50	1
Wisconsin	800.00	3.00	.6
Washington	75.00	.50	.6
Philadelphia	400.00	1.00	.25
Reading	300.00	.50	.16

Several of these states have strong organizations. Why aren't they at work getting money in to the CALL already? Every member and every branch must contribute.

# N. Y. Socialists Blast Report That Party Will Support Fusion

NEW YORK.—A denial that the New York City Organization of the Socialist Party would support Mayor LaGuardia for reelection if a "united front" of anti-Tammany elements could be obtained, recently reported in the press, was issued by Jack Altman, Executive Secretary of the New York City Local of the Socialist Party.

"The Socialist Party was organized and exists primarily for the purpose of abolishing the capitalist system of society, under which the masses of the workers by hand and brain are mercilessly exploited for the benefit of a small owning class," said the statement in part which was issued on behalf of the Public Affairs Committee of the Party.

### Parties Serve Classes

"We deem proved beyond dispute our contention that capitalism necessarily means insecurity, poverty, Fascism and war. We believe it proved with equal conclusiveness that all capitalist parties, whether called 'Democratic,' 'Republican,' 'Union,' or 'Fusion' must necessarily act to serve and further the interests of capitalism and of the owning class.

"Experience has proved that so-called 'good men,' whether elected on a 'Democratic,' a 'Republican,' or a 'Fusion' ticket, have in the end been compelled to serve the interests of the owning class which those parties represent, as against the interests of the great mass of workers with hand and brain. And so-called 'reform governments' have always been proved ineffectual, as they must be, because they rest upon no fundamental philosophy but merely seek to substitute one more personable group of capitalist politicians for another less savory group, while leaving untouched the basic evil—the monumental system of graft called 'capitalism.'

### LaGuardia Serves Bosses

"We deem this particularly true in the case of the LaGuardia administration. Mayor LaGuardia has remained committed to support of the capitalist system, and his administration has furthered the interests of the

owning class rather than those of the workers. In saying this, we do not mean that Mayor LaGuardia is no better than any Tammany candidate would be, nor that his regime has been no better than that of a Tammany mayor. We concede a slight improvement in his administration over previous Tammany regimes. But we contend that the difference is not such that it should concern workers with hand or brain, or even liberals or progressives.

"We think such a result is inevitable where any official is elected on the ticket of a capitalist party, however good may be the personal intentions of the incumbent. It is for such reasons that the Socialist Party has never supported and never will support any capitalist political party or any candidate nominated by a capitalist political party. "In saying this, we do not stand aloof from any tendency toward independent political action not do we adopt a sectarian position. For the past fifteen years, the Socialist Party has always stood ready to take part in the organization of all efforts towards working class independent action. But such tendencies must be completely divorced from all capitalist parties and

## Call Association Meeting

The regular meeting of the Call Association, which was postponed from last week, will be held this Saturday afternoon, February 13, at 3 P. M., at 21 East 17th Street, New York City.

Agenda for the meeting includes the election of officers for the ensuing year and other matters pertaining to the good and welfare of the SOCIALIST CALL. Only members paid up in good standing will be admitted and allowed to vote.

HAL SEIGEL,

from the candidates of such parties.

"We are 'anti-capitalism,' not merely 'anti-Tammany,' therefore although we cannot foresee at this time all the contingencies of a confusing municipal campaign, we can say now with certainty that the Socialist Party will not support Mayor LaGuardia or any other candidate who is nominated on the ticket of a capitalist political party."

## BRANCH DIRECTORY

RATES: 3 lines, 25c, 5 cents per additional line. Minimum 1 Month. Deadline: Monday at 2 P.M.

### MANHATTAN

LOWER EAST SIDE. Meets every Wed. 31 Second Ave. Ruth Fischer, Sec'y, 40 Monroe St.

Chelsea Br. Meets every Wed. Grand Opera House, 23 St., and 8 Ave. Council Rm. Rhoda Pearson, Sec'y, 333 W. 16 St.

YORKVILLE. Meets every Thurs. night. Open meetings at Imperial Lyceum, 55th St. and 3rd Ave. Business meeting 1359 1st Ave. Mary Bowers Red, Sec'y.

POLISH BR. (Oddzial Potega). Meets 1st and 3rd Friday each month, 25 St. Marks Pl. (Bet. 2nd and 3rd Aves.). F. Flolek, Sec'y.

### BRONX

2ND A.D. meets second and fourth Wednesdays, at 1401 Jerome Ave. Sophie E. Nelson, secretary.

8TH A.D. Meets every Wed. 7 West Burnside Ave. (near Jerome) Rm. 26. Robert Bloom, Sec'y.

AMALGAMATED, Upper 8th A.D. meets every Wed., at 9:00 P. M. at home of Comrade Maximon, 80 Van Cortland Pk. So. Apt. 7-F-22.

### BROOKLYN

DOWNTOWN KINGS. Regular meetings every Thursday at 8 P. M., 42 Smith Street. A. Walsh, Sec'y., 149 Warren Street. Clifford Clark, Treas.

### LONG ISLAND

SUNNYSIDE. Meets 2nd & 4th Wed. at 3908 48th St., Sunnyside, L. I. Emily Oxhandler, Secretary.

### DETROIT

BRANCH ONE meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., People's House, 3946 Trumbull. Tel.: Terrace 2-8512.

### ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

BRANCH meets 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 P. M. sharp, 1603a South Jefferson Ave. Labor Forum every Sunday night—8 P. M.

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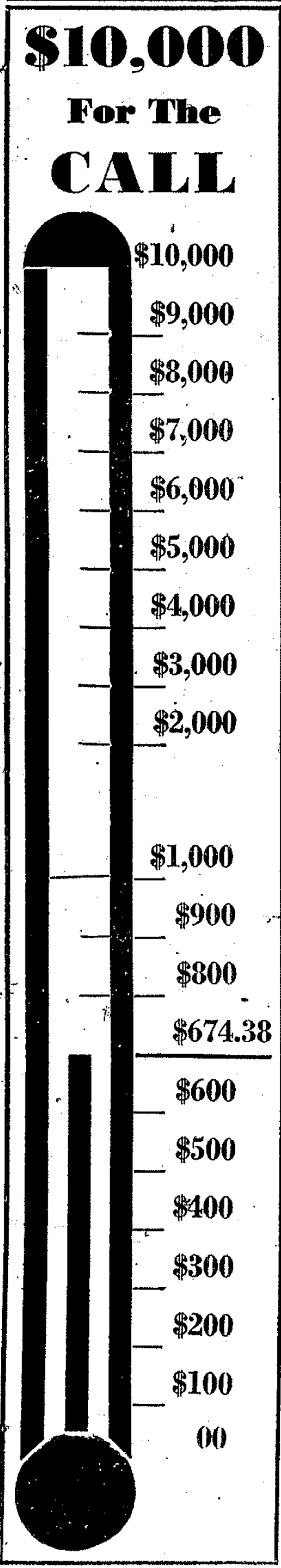
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**SPECIAL RATES TO CALL READERS**



# With The Party

## COLORADO

Edgar Sherman is new secretary of Local Denver.

## CONNECTICUT

A truckload of clothing has been collected by Bridgeport Socialists to be sent to Spain. Under the auspices of the Socialist Party and the United Spanish Aid organization a Fiesta will be held in the Pyramid Mosque, March 6, at 31 State St., Bridgeport.

## ILLINOIS

Members of the 7th Congressional branch, Cook County, have arranged a bridge and bunco party to aid Spain to be held Sat., Feb. 20, 8 P.M., at Workmen's Circle Hall, 1241 N. California Avenue.

## INDIANA

The Lake County organization is growing rapidly. From three locals in November, the Socialist forces now number five party locals and one Ypsel circle, located in the following places: Gary, Hammond, East Chicago, Crown Point and Whiting. The Ypsel circle is in Indiana Harbor.

The East Chicago local and the Ypsel circle in Indiana Harbor, are composed almost entirely of steel workers, all of whom are active in the drive of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. They can boast that they are in the lead in the membership drive in this steel district.

Plans are being made for staging mass meetings with Roy Burt and Frank Trager from the national headquarters in the Gary steel district in February.

Over half of the membership of local Evansville were forced to leave their home due to the Ohio flood. Many lost furniture in the flood, and most of them lost much needed wages during the flood period.

## MICHIGAN

The CALL Drive quota for Detroit has been apportioned among the various branches there and active work to fill this has been started.

## NEW YORK

The following were elected to the executive committee, Local New York, in a city-wide referendum: Jack Altman, Murray Baron, Brendan Sexton, Max Delson, Joseph G. Glass, Mary Hillier, Murray Gross, Margaret Lamont, August Tyler, Charles Garfinkel, Louis Mann. Alternates: Ed Koppel, Hal Seigel, Abraham Abramowitz, Amicus Most, Saul Parker.

Herbert Zam will speak on "British Labor Party and the International Crisis" Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 609 Kings Highway, Brooklyn.

Consolation Party for those who are not going on the student Washington Pilgrimage will be given by Hunter College Circle, YPSL, Feb. 20 at 160 W. 72 St., Apt. 4A.

## NEW YORK (UPSTATE)

A special election for alderman will be held in Orleans. Paul G. Redstone will be Socialist candidate.

Jennie Lee will speak under the auspices of Local Auburn Feb. 19 in the afternoon, and under the auspices of Local Syracuse in the evening.

Local Schenectady has been busy in a successful store to store canvass for Spain and the Remington-Rand strikers.

The Capitol City District is publishing a bi-weekly paper, "The District Organizer." The next meeting of the Capitol City District EC will be held Feb. 21, 3 P.M., at 61 Jay St., Albany. Next meeting of the State Commit-

tee Feb. 27 at the stat. office, 21 E. 17th St., N.Y.C.

## NEW YORK (CITY)

A party for the benefit of the CALL and the ASM is being held at 3908 46 Street, Sunnyside, Sat. night, Feb. 13, under auspices of the Sunnyside Branch.

Phil Heller will speak on War and Revolution Feb. 11, at 2292 Douglas St., Brooklyn.

A Lincoln's Birthday social, Feb. 12, held by the Village Branch and Matteotti League, at 107 Macdougall St. At the same place Dr. Alexander Eichandler will speak on Social Change in Mexico Feb. 14.

Beer party and music festival by the Party and YPSL, Feb. 13 at 864 Sutter Ave., Brooklyn.

A meeting run by the Seaside Committee to aid Spanish Democracy will be held on Feb. 17, 8:30 P.M., at the Coney Island Jewish Center, Ocean Parkway near Neptune Ave., Bklyn. Speakers are Prof. Jose Fernandez of NYU, Murray Baron, Manager Suitcase Union; Rabbi Mosson of the Coney Island Jewish Center, Israel Amter and Brendan Sexton.

## OHIO

Quotas of 10,000 signatures on the nominating petitions being circulated for Robert D. Dulka, Socialist nominee for Mayor of Cleveland, and 1,000 for each councilmanic candidate have been set by the Executive Committee of Local Cuyahoga County. The quotas are being apportioned among the several branches in Cleveland.

Members and sympathizers have pledged \$90 monthly to the Sustaining Fund being organized to finance the central party organization in Cleveland.

## OREGON

Mcroe Sweetland, state chairman, gave his time exclusively to support of the Maritime Strike. Chiefly the campaign was centered in rural districts where opposition to the strike was strongest. Numerous meetings were held by granges and farm union locals at which Sweetland spoke on behalf of the strikers and collected prunes, potatoes, beans, canned fruit and other relief.

Local Salem has begun a six-week study class on Socialist fundamentals with an enrollment of 20.

Local Portland, at its last meeting, voted \$10 dollars to the CALL and \$10 to the Debs Brigade.

Local Eugene has been revived with a charter membership of 17.

## PENNSYLVANIA

The next meeting of the state committee will be held in Pottstown, Feb. 20. At the same time a five-county conference will be held, where Roy Burt will address a public meeting. The place will be announced later.

## TENNESSEE

More than 400 strikers of the Atlas Shirt Co. and the Reade Shirt Co. witnessed an open air showing of labor motion pictures by Herbert Harris, state Party organizer. Barred from the use of school auditoriums and local halls by the city authorities, the strikers set up a screen in the lot next to the union tent which is used as strike headquarters.

## Washington Heights

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## ARE YOU LISTED?

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

The following agents have sent in subscriptions during the past week:

Socialist Teachers, New York City	11
S. P. Local New York	11
S. P. Illinois	10
Preston Ewing, New York City	10
Alex Read, Bridgeport, Conn.	10
J. M. Lewin, Dover, N. J.	4
J. H. Lee, Garden City, Kansas	3
Washington Heights Br., New York City	2
S. P. Baltimore, Md.	2
A. L. Dodge	2
Leonore Kelter, Bronx, N. Y.	2
J. Thurber, New York City	2
Chas. Albrecht, Houston, Texas	2
6th A. D. Kgs. New York City	2
F. O. Landau, Bronx, N. Y.	2
Esther Miskin, New York City	2
Mania Boobar, New York City	2
Abe Miller, New York City	2
S. P. Cuyahoga, Ohio	2
A. Zagor, Chicago, Ill.	2
D. Baum, Bronx, N. Y.	1
Phil Heller, New York City	1
Edith Silverfeld, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1
Oscar Signer, Bronx, N. Y.	1
John Hall, Lynn, Mass.	1
Amalgamated Branch S. P., Bronx, N. Y.	1
J. Dwyer, Buffalo, N. Y.	1
Lily Kantor, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1

Total subs received this week 110

The Socialist Party lost two devoted comrades by the deaths of Claud B. Blackburn, state chairman of the Socialist Party of New Mexico, and John Bradshaw Taylor, member of Local Schenectady, New York.

## REBEL ARTS SOCIAL

Rebel Arts, New York Chapter, will hold a housewarming party (to celebrate new decorations, etc.) at its headquarters, 35 East 19th Street, New York, Saturday night, February 20.

## DRYGOODS CLERKS DANCE

Two orchestras, a night club revue, and continuous dancing will feature the Fourth Annual Celebration of the Wholesale Dry Goods Employee's Union, at the Seventy-first Regiment Armory this Saturday, February 13.

## LECTURE — DANCE

### "MOSCOW TRIALS"

Analyzed by HERB ROSEN, Research Editor "Daily Worker" SUN. - 14 - FEB.

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## "MARCHING SONG"

By John Howard Lawson

PREVIEW

TUESDAY, FEB. 16, 8:30 P. M.

NORA BAYES THEATRE—44th ST., W. of BWAY.

Choice Seats Still Available!

45c, 60c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50

# STAGE SOCIALIST CALL and SCREEN

## EVANS BREATHES LIFE INTO "KING RICHARD II"

### Margaret Webster's Stage Effects Make Memorable Pageant

**KING RICHARD II**, by William Shakespeare, with Maurice Evans, at the St. James Theatre, West 44th Street, New York.

By McALISTER COLEMAN

Here's Shakespeare with a difference. With fire and swift-paced gusto and color and tenderness.

The appearance of Maurice Evans in one of the Bard's earlier and least familiar plays dims the memory of other recent Shakespearean interpretations. To be sure, there are times when Evans looks a bit like Howard, but he doesn't act a bit like him. Evans takes the foppish king and breathes life into him. At the end, the dark, sad end of Kings, you feel guiltily sorry for him. And with Evans there is Ian Keith who has certainly been wasting his time being handsome in Hollywood when he could have been giving us such intelligent performances as his Bolinbroke in this altogether exciting melodrama.

#### For Dear Old England

So well it is done that even through the long speeches, you lean forward so as to miss no word of them. And that's something for anyone not overenthusiastic about the recitation of blank verse behind the footlights. A notable exception to the last statement is the chauvinistic windiness of John of Gaunt, when, dying he whoops it up for dear old England. This reviewer at any rate was as relieved as Richard himself when the old body, from whom Stanley Baldwin must somehow be descended, finally tottered off to his death-bed.

#### A Memorable Pageant

Margaret Webster stages the play with a poetry and precision that will surely write her down as one of the few who can keep the boredom out of the shifting scenes that any Shakespeare play calls for. Trumpets and men at arms, lances in the light, a queen and her ladies in a lovely garden—of these she makes a memorable pageant.

#### Ernst Enters the Picture

The Queen, herself played by Olive Deering is easy to look at and she is admirably supported by a charming Lady in Waiting, the up and coming Connie Ernst, whom we suspect is destined to be Our Favorite Actress and whose father, by the way, owes us a copy of his new book on the Supreme Court. (Log-rolling?)

Just put King Richard II, on your got-to-see list.

### Going To The Theatre?

Why not consult the Call's special THEATRE BUREAU for expert advice on matters pertaining to the theatre. Choice seats obtained.

Our BUREAU also arranges parties for current attractions. This service is FREE to Call readers.

Get in Touch With The Theatre Bureau c/o SOCIALIST CALL 21 East 17th St. New York City or phone Gramercy 5-6776

### Welles Excels In 'Dr. Faustus'

THE TRAGICAL HISTORY OF DOCTOR FAUSTUS, by Christopher Marlowe. Produced by Orson Welles. Music by Paul Bowles. Presented by W.P.A. Project 891 at the Maxine Elliot.

Those of us who, at the end of each so-called fiscal year, after much complicated ritual, are deprived of a goodly percentage of our hard earned pennies, will be pleased to learn that it has not all been for naught. It is Project 891 of the well known W.P.A., with its magnificent presentation of "Dr. Faustus," that has restored a certain amount of confidence in the mysterious tithe-collecting processes. No: that the W.P.A. theatre hasn't done it before; but this time, amidst a season of much inartistic nonsense, a production of this high calibre is double welcome.

#### Orchids to Orson Welles

Orson Welles, who produced and takes the lead part in the current version of Marlowe's tragedy of the gentleman who sold his soul for twenty-four years of universal knowledge, bids fair to becoming the most promising "find" of the current season. There are times when he takes the stage with nothing but a dim spot for companion and holds the audience rapt for minutes on end. His fine understanding of the role, his almost perfect diction, combined with a most pleasant quality of voice and his easy style of acting, is wonderful to behold; particularly in one but twenty-two.

#### Outstanding Lighting Effects

The backgrounds, achieved by the clever manipulation of drapes plus the well-directed use of light-ment. Simply but artistically done, they manage to transport one not merely to place but to mood.

Fine performances are turned in by the entire cast; notably Jack Carter as Mephistophiles, and Arthur Spencer as Wagner. But to Mr. Welles' directional genius as well as fine acting must go the outstanding credit for the production. Our hat's off to him and Project 891—"the taxpayer's delight."—J.L.W.

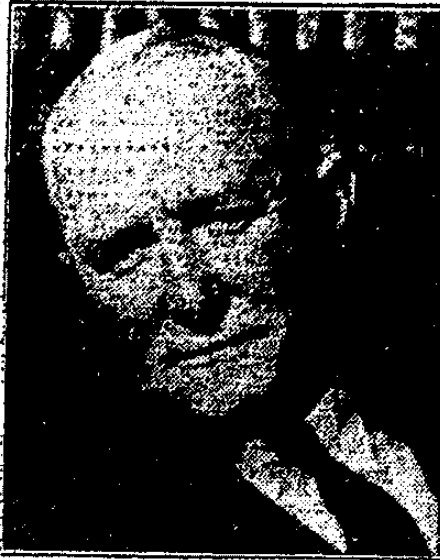
### Filmarte Announces Contest for Essays

In connection with the showing of "The Eternal Mask," the Filmarte Theatre announces a contest for essays of about 100 words. A prize of \$50 will be awarded to the writer of the best non-technical critical essay on any aspect of the film. Ten season passes will also be awarded as honorable mention.

The judges will be Frank S. Nugent of the Times, William Buchnel of the World-Telegram, Archer Winsten of the Post, and Kate Cameron of the News.

The contest closes on February 20, and entries may be sent directly to the theatre up to that date.

### Reunited



George M. Cohan who has reunited with Sam H. Harris in the production of "Tulton of Oak Falls" now being housed at the Morosco Theatre.

### 'Marching Song' Opens Feb. 17th

Theatre Union, which presented seven plays during its three seasons of tenure at the Civic Repertory Theatre, will step forward with its first venture in the Times Square district when it offers John Howard Lawson's "Marching Song" at the Bayes Theatre on Wednesday evening (February 17th). Anthony Brown has directed the production and Howard Bay designed the settings.

"Marching Song" has a cast of 41. Grover Burgess, Rex Ingram, Gertrude Flynn, Frieda Altman, Martin Wolfson and Joseph Taulane take the leading roles.

Theatre Union is now uptown for good. The top price is still \$1.50, although it will rise to \$2.50 for the opening night. There is a possibility that the Bayes Theatre will become its permanent home.

And don't forget to get your tickets for the benefit preview, Tuesday evening, February 16th. The entire proceeds will go to the SOCIALIST CALL, the ASM, Red Falcons, YPSL, Labor Research Front and the Socialist Party.

### 'Spain in Flames' Enters Third Week

"Spain in Flames," the motion picture record of the Civil War in Spain, is now in its third and final week at the Cameo.

### SCREEN

#### 6th WEEK!

"The very essence of drama - Stirring dramatic events!" —McAlister Coleman

## ETERNAL MASK

"Ordinary superlatives are ridiculous." —Frank Nugent, N.Y. Times  
FILMARTE, 58 St. West of 7th Ave.

### Berlin's Hit Tunes and Lyrics Aid Musical At Radio City

ON THE AVENUE, a Twentieth Century-Fox picture. Directed by Roy del Ruth. Starring Dick Powell, Alice Faye, Madeleine Carroll and the Ritz Brothers. Music and lyrics by Irving Berlin. At the Radio City Music Hall.

On the Avenue, the new musical now in its second week at the palatial Music Hall doesn't take advantage of the hit tunes and clever lyrics that Irving Berlin has written for it. With more imaginative direction it might have been likeable entertainment, but as it stands it doesn't quite make

### Lawton to Show Best Soviet Films

Stanley Lawton is the latest Broadway man to discover the box office value of Amkino pictures. His theatres will soon be showing such notable efforts as "We Are From Kronstadt," "Revolutionists," "Peasants," "Gypsies" and many others. On days when Russian pictures are not booked, he intends to appeal to the same audience with the better of Hollywood polygot assortment of celluloid, with pictures such as the "Informer," "Story of Louis Pasteur," "Black Legion," and "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town."

Mr. Lawton so far has combined the Lyric and the Wallack theatres under his management and intends to add eight or ten more houses to his chain before the next year rolls around.

### Hampden Returns

Walter Hampden, the well known Shakespearean actor will make his only New York appearance this season on Monday night, February 15 in Henrik Ibsen's comedy "An Enemy of the People." The play is scheduled to run only two weeks and will be housed at the Hudson Theatre.

### STAGE

A NEW THEATRE NIGHT 92nd St. YMHA presents New Theatre League sponsoring the  
**IRISH REPERTORY PLAYERS**  
in 3 One Act Plays  
"WORKHOUSE WARD," "RISE OF THE MOON" by Lady Gregory — "RIDERS to the SEA" by J. M. Synge.  
Tickets 35c to \$1.  
at New Th. League, 117 W. 46th  
92d St. YMHA Thea. at Lex. Ave.  
Sun. Eve. FEB. 14

### SAM H. HARRIS presents

"AN EXPERT SHOW—LOUD AND FREQUENT LAUGHTER." —Atkinson, Times

## "STAGE DOOR"

By George S. Kaufman and Edna Ferber

with

MARGARET SULLAVAN

### MUSIC BOX THEATRE

45th St. W. of B'way

Matinees 2:30

Fri. and Sat.

Eves. 8:30

### OPENS WED. FEB. 17

THEATRE UNION presents

## MARCHING SONG

BY JOHN HOWARD LAWSON  
An exciting drama with a stirring topical background of a sit-down strike in a company-owned automobile town  
RAYES THEATRE, 44th St., W. of B'way. BRyant 9-3648  
Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed and Sat. Prices 45c, 60c, 75c, \$1, \$1.50  
For Benefit Theatre Party Rates Call BRyant 9-2375

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247 WEST 48th STREET (Chick. 4-7107)

Wed., Sat., Mat. and Eve's Sunday Evening

"200,000"

Comedy by Shoupe and ...

Thurs., Fri., Sun., Mat

"CHAINS"

By H. L. Hunt

SHOWPLACE OF THE NATION RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL ROCKEFELLER CENTER  
Held Over Second Week!  
**IRVING BERLIN'S "ON THE AVENUE"**  
with DICK POWELL - MADELEINE CARROLL - ALICE FAYE - RITZ BROTHERS  
George Barler - A 20th Century Fox Picture  
MARCH OF TIME: February Edition  
ON THE STAGE "VARIATIONS" Leonidoff's hand- some production holds the spotlight on the Music Hall stage. Twelve female pianists play Tchaikowsky's B Flat Concerto and do well by Mr. T. "Midnight Blue" is an eye-filling dance creation showing off a combination of the interpretive and ball room types of body-bending.  
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved in Advance Phone CO. 5-6535

**KATHARINE CORNELL**  
presents Maxwell Anderson's  
**The Wingless Victory**  
EMPIRE THEA. B'way & 40th St.  
Eves. 8:40, Mats. Wed., Sat. 2:40  
"Glorious Fun," Brown, Post  
**HIGH TOR**  
★ ★ ★ - Mantle, News  
BURGESS MEREDITH  
PEGGY ASHCROFT  
Martin Beck Theatre, 45th St., W. of 8th Ave. Evgs. 8:40, Mats. Wed., Sat. 2:40

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By H. L. Hunt



# The GM Dynasty—Moguls Of Motor

## Auto Union Is Fighting Wall Street

By SAMUEL ROMER

When sit-down strikes in five General Motors automobile and parts plants resulted in a practical paralysis of production operations and forced negotiations between national officers of both the corporation and union, few of the workers involved realized that they were participating in the first important battle of civil war which will largely determine the industrial progress of America during the next decade. For the attack on General Motors was basically an attack on one of the important sectors of Wall Street; other sectors are steel, oil, aluminum and rubber. And the defense of the General Motors Corporation was the beginning of a nation-wide strategic defense in the coming struggle.

When the United Automobile Workers and the Committee for Industrial Organization, with which the union is affiliated, chose the automobile industry as their first base of operations, they did not pick a weak link in the national set-up of Wall Street. For GM is one of the giant corporations of America—its assets of \$1,268,532,025.85 being topped in the field of manufacturing enterprise only by those of the American Telephone and Telegraph and United States Steel.

### GM Heads Industry

General Motors stands by itself in the automobile industry; its assessed value equals that of Ford, Chrysler and Studebaker combined, with a few of the lesser shops thrown in for good measure.

Ten years ago it challenged the invincible Ford and licked him. Fifty-five per cent of the nation's 320,000 automobile workers are located in the 69 GM plants in the United States; thousands of others are bossed by GM throughout the world. GM manufactures and sells not only automobiles but household appliances, gasoline, airplanes and even air rides.

### Began in 1908

It began its existence in 1908 with the goal of absolute domination of the industry. In two years GM had the entire or controlling interest in 20 automobile and parts plants and was producing ten makes—21 per cent of the entire United States output.

In 1919 GM acquired 60 per cent interest in Fisher Body; later it made the latter a unit of its empire. As an example of the complete victory of finance and manufacturing in GM control, Fisher Body is almost perfect. There were seven Fisher brothers at the time of the merger; today only two are left on the GM board of directors—and they don't say much.

GM common stock dividends in 1936 were at least 23 per cent above the 1929 level and 213 per cent higher than those of 1925, a normal pre-depression year. In 1935 dividends were 55 per cent higher than in 1934.

### Wages Dropped

But while dividends ROSE in 1935 to 155 per cent of the 1925 level, the earnings of GM employees were 8 per cent BELOW the 1925 level.

General Motors was able during 1936 to raise the wages of its workers not merely 10 to 20 per cent, but some 30, 40 or even 50 per cent.

The financial history of General Motors has been double-cross after double-cross. Will Durant began GM after he bought the Buick plant from David Buick for a song—and David Buick later died in

## Office-Boy



ALFRED SLOAN

Here's one of the songs the boys in Chevy No. 4 are singing: To the tune of "Gallagher & Shean."

### I.

Oh! Mr. Sloan Oh! Mr. Sloan!  
We have known for a long time  
you would atone,  
For the wrongs that you have done  
We all know, yes, everyone.  
Absolutely, Mr. Travis!  
Positively, Mr. Sloan!

### II.

Oh! Mr. Sloan Oh! Mr. Sloan!  
Everyone knows your heart was  
made of stone,  
But the Union is so strong  
That we'll always carry on.  
Absolutely, Mr. Travis!  
Positively, Mr. Sloan!

### III.

Oh! Mr. Sloan Oh! Mr. Sloan!  
We are absolutely sure that you  
would burn  
If the salary that you get  
Was less than what you earn.  
Absolutely, Mr. Travis!  
Positively, Mr. Sloan!

### IV.

Oh! Mr. Sloan Oh! Mr. Sloan!  
Our homes are what we all now  
wish to own,  
But living costs are high  
So we're out to do or die.  
Absolutely, Mr. Travis!  
Positively, Mr. Sloan!

peniless poverty. After Durant was forced out by a Wall Street bankers' alliance, he allied himself with the powerful DuPont interests and regained control. Today, the owners of GM don't live in Flint or Detroit—they are J. P. Morgan, address Wall Street, and the DuPont residence in Wilmington, Delaware.

One of the standing jokes in New York is the story that Sloan, the titular president, and Knudsen have anything to say about the corporation. The real master's voice is Donaldson Brown, a DuPont son-in-law who is chairman of the GM finance committee. Brown who represents the absentee owners has stayed out of the limelight—but behind the scenes and within closed doors, it is Brown who controls the destinies of more than 150,000 workers. It is on the word of this one man that GM workers are forced on relief during the lay-off period and their babies go without milk. Donaldson Brown—who has never handled a lathe or worked on the

## 'High Wages'— For Executives

Below is a list of the 27 executives of General Motors who received more than \$50,000 in 1935:

- Alfred P. Sloan, president, \$374,505.
- William S. Knudsen, executive vice-president, \$325,869.
- Donald Brown, chairman finance committee, \$249,862.
- John L. Pratt, vice-president, \$249,862.
- John T. Smith, general counsel, \$245,437.
- William A. Fisher, vice-president, \$224,107.
- Edward F. Fisher, general manager Fisher Body, \$221,347.
- Charles F. Kettering, director research laboratories, \$216,036.
- James D. Mooney, vice-president, \$205,543.
- Albert Bradley, vice-president, \$190,091.
- Ormand E. Hunt, vice-president, \$190,041.
- Charles E. Wilson, vice-president, \$189,991.
- Marvin E. Coyle, general manager, \$133,670.
- John J. Schurmann, Jr., president General Motors Acceptance Corporation, \$119,018.
- B. C. Place, salesman engineer, \$92,298.
- Elmer G. Biechler, president Frigidaire, \$84,745.
- Frederick C. Kraeger, general manager Delco-Remy, \$84,424.
- Lewis D. Curtice, president Buick, \$81,260.
- Charles L. McCuen, president Olds, \$81,099.
- Stephen M. DuBrue, director art and color section, \$77,768.
- Thomas P. Archer, vice-president, \$69,144.
- James M. Crawford, chief engineer Chevrolet, \$68,375.
- Floyd O. Tanner, executive manufacturing staff, \$58,287.
- Ernest W. Proctor, comptroller, \$52,754.
- John J. Carter, Olds division, \$52,325.
- David E. Ralston, Old motor works, \$51,437.
- GRAND TOTAL, \$4,192,773.

line in his entire life—is boss of General Motors.

Although GM has been more than generous with the top layers, ordinary workers have received an average yearly wage of \$1,525, according to the 1935 report. This figure is, of course, too high—it includes the non-automobile worker and the highly skilled craftsman along with the men on the assembly line and at the punch presses. Independent reports have established something under \$900 as closer to the annual wage of the average automobile worker.

GM has been no shining exception to the rule in the automobile industry that "high wages" may be a fine-sounding slogan to sell cars but nothing to worry about in actual manufacturing operations.

It boasts of the wide diffusion of its stock ownership; there are 337,218 share-holders, the financial report declares. But nearly half of these, or about 140,000 hold ten shares or less. The DuPonts themselves hold only about 10 per cent of the stock, but nevertheless retain control by pyramiding their holdings into nearly 33 per cent. GM has followed the orthodox tradition of the automobile barons in its dealings with its employees. The men, even their private lives, are considered company property.

## GM Rats

### The Story of How General Motors Fights

Pinkerton detectives, "loyal" workers, stage stool pigeons and vagrant vigilantes have attempted armed insurrection against the United Automobile Workers. The town of Flint is rife with rumors and those who have tacitly accepted the dictates of General Motors these many years are aghast at the audacity of GM rats who have literally taken over the town.

Flint is plastered with Flint Alliance sign boards, 'Join the Flint Alliance for the Protection of Our Jobs, Our Homes, Our Community. NO FEES.' But the Alliance, now called the "Flint Alliance" is already out of business. Supposedly composed of "loyal" workers, it was simply one more old-fashioned employer attempt to counter a workers' union with a false one. For George Boysen, or Poison, the organizer was formerly a Buick paymaster and the setup was too apparent for even the press to swallow.

### Pugemier

Next on the scene came Pinkerton's Pugemier who has been subpoenaed to appear before the LaFollette committee on labor espionage. The day he checked into town another development took place. The chief of police and the city manager mobilized vigilante band. Pugemier checked out of town the next day. And the union raised such a hue and cry that the city fathers did not have the courage to go ahead with the scheme. Some think there is a "Citizens Reserve Police Force" in town but no one knows its status.

Met with smashing defeat in its efforts to organize the town to do violence against the strikers on the outside, General Motors next tried to purge plant No. 4 of sit-inners. Surrounded by National Guardsmen who would let anyone out and none in, food was kept from the men for 24 hours. Again the vigorous protests of the union were effective and the blockade was broken. Now G.M. is trying to freeze the men out and if this criminal action continues the union sit-inners will be forced to build open fires to offset the freezing temperature. And of course G. M. saw to it that a stool pigeon or two stayed on the inside to start rumors of illness, epidemics and anti-union talk but in very short order were ejected from the plant.

Tall stories and rumors will continue to clog the union wires and momentarily disconcert the persons who get them first. But the sit-inners know and the union men and women on the outside know that their fight is a just one and that it will be won through militant action, increased organization and steadfast union loyalty.

Its espionage organization is almost as highly developed as the feared Ford service; cities like Flint and Pontiac—and Detroit—are completely under its thumb. Long before the notorious Black Legion appeared in the down-river Ford area, GM workers in Pontiac dreaded the "Bullet Club," a secret political organization whose officials practically displaced the formal employment agencies in hiring and firing.

One thing is made clear from the above—General Motors is tough. But the organized labor movement has come across tough nuts before—and it has cracked them and eaten the nutmeats. But beyond the Flint strikes themselves and the specific fight against General Motors is the great class war in America. General Motors is only a battle as the war continues.

## Strikers Vow They Will Not Vacate Shops

(Continued from Page One)

made 10 minutes before anything had started.

The sit-down in No. 9 started at 3:30, at the change of shift. Directed by Powers Hapgood and Ray Reuther in one of the union sound trucks, the men refused to work and set up a loud noise. This brought the company police on the run. By the time the strikers arrived from the Pengelly Bldg. at 3:35 there really was "trouble at No. 9."

Also at 3:35 a loud siren was sounded on plant No. 6, near plant No. 4. Led by Ed Crunk, one of the stewards, some of the union men staged a parade around the inside of the plant. By the time they went around the second time, most of the workers were in the parade. They left the plant to go over to No. 9, where they knew there was trouble. But as they were swarming across the grounds Merlin Bishop and myself in another sound truck, located on a high bluff overlooking No. 6, directed them to plant No. 4, where also at 3:35 a sit down strike had started, led by Kermit Johnson.

### Barricades

Augmented by the men from No. 6 and a number from No. 7, the men in No. 4 quickly expelled all non-union workers who did not want to join the union and the foremen, and immediately began to barricade the numerous entrance ways. The sound truck, which was on the bluff, immediately drove down in front of the main entrance to No. 4 and gave directions to the men inside.

In all, 14 minutes had elapsed from the time that action started in Plant No. 9 to the time that the union boys were in control of one of the most vital plants in the General Motors domain.

The company police arrived too late. In a few minutes several hundred people were milling around the outside.

### Woman's Brigade

Shortly after 4:00 the city police, 75 strong, marched down to plant No. 4 and attempted to open the gate to the main entrance but five women, members of the fighting Women's Emergency Brigade, threw themselves against the gate and dared the police to open the gate.

While their husbands and brothers were being gassed inside the plant, the women defied the company police and marched close to the building breaking every pane of glass within reach to let the gas out and let fresh air in.

When 1,000 national guardsmen arrived later, it was the women who faced the bayonets and protected the sound truck.

The strategy had worked. The capture of Chevrolet No. 4 may be looked upon by labor historians as the turning point in the strike.

### GM KIDNAPS

Calling attention to the case of Donald Miller, age seven, 427 Russell Ave., who was taken out of his grandmother's home there Thursday evening by the police matron, Bob Travis, organization director for the United Automobile Workers in the Flint area, said today:

"From the evidence we have been able to gather it would appear that the Flint police, instigated by General Motors, are making some ventures in the snatch racket. This boy has been properly cared for by his family and was of course instantly restored to them when the union heard of the case."

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# Women's Brigade Gives Militant Aid To Auto Strikers

By GENORA JOHNSON  
Captain of Women's Emergency Brigade

The women of the Emergency Brigade of the Women's Auxiliary in the auto strike here in Flint proved their mettle and usefulness. I am proud to say that not one woman ran away from the scene of trouble. Women from 16 to 65 went into action that would have made a cattle stampede on a ranch look like an afternoon stroll.

When company police gassed their men inside Chevrolet Plant No. 9 there was a flash of red at every window, and window panes broke and shattered before this red fury. When bullets and gas bombs came through the windows, these women did not flinch. They kept fighting.

After the men had been clubbed and beaten and forced out of the plant, the women formed a parade and marched back and forth in front of the plant. They made a colorful and dramatic picture which those who saw will not forget. A large American Flag flew at their head. They sang the Auxiliary theme song and "Solidarity" as they marched.

## Cops Arrive

When reinforcements of city police arrived and formed a long line in front of the large crowd of union men and the union sound car, the Women's Brigade formed a threatening line in back of the cops.

This is the role we played at Plant 9 on Hearsley Street. After receiving orders from the union sound car to disband and return to headquarters, we relinquished our position and followed orders. However, all women still remained on duty.

At plant No. 4 on Chevrolet Avenue five of us women found no violence, but mingled in the crowd in front of the plant. The men inside had sat down and were receiving orders from another union sound car.

Very soon a contingent of city cops from Kearsley Street arrived. We had received orders to keep the gates closed, so when the cops halted in front of the gates they found four determined women in red tams and arm-bands.

## Call Out Brigade

After ordering to disperse with no results, one aggressive flat-foot started to shove the first woman in line, but thought better of it and accused the men standing near of putting women at the gates to protect them. The women retorted that they were not protecting anyone but their husbands on the inside, and no one was going to get through. At that time the order was given to the fifth woman to call out the Brigade.

Shortly after, while the police stood looking around baffled, the brigade of women marched down Chevrolet Avenue, with the flag at their head amid wild cheers that went up from the crowd.

I directed these women from the sound car loud speaker to prevent violence by establishing a large picket line in front of the gates. A fine picket line was immediately established and the red tams bobbed up and down to the rhythm of Labor Songs.

## Sat Down Last Year

Fisher Body No 2 sat down on December 30. On New Year's Eve we, the pickets, had a street dance in front of plant No. 2. It was on this occasion that some of us women recognized the need for an efficient Women's Auxiliary to the local union.

Some of the strikers' wives, who did not understand why the men were striking, called up and threatened to "step out" on their husbands if they refused to come down and go out with them

Within the next two weeks five divorce suits were started!

On January 12 about 50 women met in a small union room filled with camp cots. Sitting on these cots we voted to become an auxiliary to the local union; elected our officers and laid out our plans. The wives of sit-in strikers were already busy preparing food in a restaurant which had been donated to them by a union sympathizer. But our duty was to get all the wives interested and active in this crisis.

## Women Raise Funds

Since that time we women have raised money by having strike benefit dances and raffles. We've set up a Women's Speakers Bureau, a publicity department, a hall committee, mapped out schedules for women pickets, elected a contact committee, a sick committee, and a first aid department with trained nurses on duty from 9 A. M. to 12 midnight.

After the brutal attack in front of Fisher No. 2 we saw the need for courageous women to join together and to stand by those we love in any emergency. So the Women's Emergency Brigade was formed as a unit of the auxiliary, with 50 members joining immediately upon its formation and at present the membership numbers over 350.

A week ago Monday the effectiveness of the Brigade was demonstrated to those who wondered "if the women might not get cold feet." But we women showed our mettle in the Chevrolet No. 9 fracas.

Yes, we women are as brave as our men any old day, and

## GM Profits With Hitler

By ROBERT TYLER

General Motors Corporation own 100% of the stock of Adam Opel, A. G., Russelsheim, Germany. Opel is the largest manufacturer of automobiles in Germany.

From 1929, when GM took over the Opel works, until 1932, the German firm operated at a loss. Since 1933 it has operated at a profit. It will be recalled that Hitler took power in 1933.

The Opel factory earned for GM in dividends  
\$3,190,866 in 1934  
\$4,705,433 in 1935

From 1932 to 1925 the sale of Opel cars increased five-fold. Lest anyone misinterpret this figure as a reflection of increased prosperity for German workers, it must be added that in Europe the sale of automobiles is confined to the upper classes.

Not only has the Nazi regime kept down the wages of Opel workers, but it has tremendously increased the sale of Opel cars by boosting the income of the upper brackets. And the profits all go to General Motors.

they'll fight to the finish and so will we. Six hours a day means happier homes to us. Collective bargaining means security and release from fear.

## The Bosses' Panes



When bosses give orders to tear-gas workers in a factory, what else is left to the workers but to smash the windows in order to get some air? And so it came to pass!

## The Women's Auxiliary on Parade



Wearing red berets and arm-bands, these wives and daughters of Flint union men, organized in the Women's Auxiliary, parade their solidarity with the sit-in strikers. Their march is the answer to GM canards that the Flint women and girls are anti-union.

## The Women's Song Of Freedom

[The theme song of the Women's Auxiliary, to the tune of "Marching Through Georgia."]

The men are in the factories sitting in a strike we know,  
Holding down production so that we can get more dough.

The Union's organizing, and we'll see that it is so,  
Shouting the Union forever!

Hurrah, Hurrah, The Union makes us free

Hurrah, Hurrah, It's all for you and me

Organize your brothers and we'll win the fight you'll see

Chorus  
Shouting the Union forever!

2  
The women got together and they formed a mighty throng,

Every worker's wife and mom, and sister will belong.  
They will fight beside the men to help the cause along,  
Shouting the Union forever!

3  
Homer Martin is the leader of this mighty band,  
And we'll stand behind him for the future of the land;

We won't give up the battle till we get our just demands,  
Shouting the Union forever!

4  
When the battle's over and we're back to work once more,

There will not be a single scab inside the factory door;  
The men will wear their buttons and the bosses won't get sore,  
Shouting the Union forever!

## HERCULES WINS

CANTON, O. (FP)—A record-breaking sitdown strike which lasted 56 days was settled after the Hercules Motor Corp. agreed to recognize the United Automobile Workers of America, granted seniority rights and promised consideration of wage increases three months hence.

## A Portrait:

# Genora Johnson

By MARY W. HILLYER

Slim and tall, with soft brown eyes and curly hair, Genora Johnson, captain of the Emergency Brigade, is always to be seen in her red beret and EEB armband on call for strike duty, picket work or Socialist activity. By her side is tall, blonde, grey-eyed Kermit—only these days they are separated for Kermit is the loyal leader of the sit-down in Chevrolet No. 4.

Before Genora married Kermit, she worked long hours for low pay in a department store but these last years, she has been with her children Joddy Gene, aged one, and Denny Bob, aged five, her home, the union and the Socialist party.

## Brought Into Party

It was father-in-law Johnson, another, active union man in Chevrolet No. 4, who four years ago brought Genora and Kermit into the Socialist party.

Genora realizes that workers do not become politically conscious over night so with all of her charm and quiet determination she is planning with her auxiliary a long range program in Flint.

"The Emergency Brigade must be ready today to fight on the picket line," says Genora, "but all of us in the auxiliary must also learn today the reasons the picket line is necessary and the way Flint and the country can be organized so that picket lines will not be necessary. This means classes for the women in labor history, public speaking, the trade union movement and other political movements. And the auxiliaries of our union from all over the country must work together. United we can build our workers world of security, peace and happiness."

The Women's Auxiliary and Genora have been front page publicity all over the country, but modest Genora is the first one to tell you that it is not she who is important but the brave, militant band of women who march together with her for the United Automobile Workers of America and for a signed and sealed agreement with General Motors.

## Socialist Party of Flint

Meets

Every Monday Night at 7 P. M.

ORIOLE HALL