

Greetings to
Youth Pilgrims
to Washington!
Join the Fight
Against War!

Socialist Call

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY, U. S. A.

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NATION - WIDE MOVEMENT LAUNCHED AGAINST WAR

Last Of Bolshevik Leaders Threatened With Firing Squad

Like a nightmare the Stalin inquisition unfolds the most ghastly story of modern times.

After holding a number of the 21 latest victims of the unending purge in prisons for more than a year, the fourth Moscow trial began March 2 to stage what had seemingly been well rehearsed by both defendants and prosecutors.

There was one discordant note in the well organized trial as it began—Nikolai Krestinsky, former general secretary of the Russian Communist Party (the post Stalin now holds) and more recently the ambassador to France, repudiated a confession he was reported to have made under duress. After spending a night in a prison cell, however, he emerged to "repudiate" his repudiation. This made the widely publicized confessions unanimous.

Former Leaders

Among the other defendants are Nikolai Bukharin, former editor of Pravda and Izvestia; Alexei Rykov, for ten years premier of the Soviet Union; Christian Rakovsky, brilliant diplomat, and Henry Yagoda, former head of the brutal secret police.

The 21 Russian Communists are charged with murdering Maxim Gorky, world known novelist; attempting to take the life of Lenin, Stalin, and others; participating in the murder of Sergei Kirov in 1934; consorting with capitalist nations, Germany, Italy, Great Britain, and Japan, and numerous related charges among which is linked an alleged widespread conspiracy with Leon Trotsky in his international campaign against the Stalin leadership of the Russian Communist Party.

Death Penalty

It was admitted by authoritative sources that the defendants, as in the case of thousands of Communists in recent months, will be summarily executed. There is little hope that any of them will be saved to tell the real story behind the tragedies which have overtaken the Russian working class. Perhaps the real story of the actual methods that were used in the prosecution of this case will never be told. This is indicated by the ironic twist of fate which befell Yagoda, who is now a victim of the dreadful police machine which he created. Yagoda was the executioner of the many Bolsheviks who have already been murdered in the purge. It was under the direction of Yagoda that Zinoviev, Kameneff, Piatakov, and other eminent revolutionaries were paraded to confess before

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Stalin Victim



NIKOLAI KRESTINSKY

American S. P. Sends Protest On Moscow Trial

CHICAGO, ILL.—The Socialist Party of the United States, through National Secretary Roy E. Burt, registered an emphatic protest on the latest Moscow trial March 2. The protest was promptly sent to Soviet Ambassador Alexander Troyanovsky with the request that it be transmitted to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The Socialist Party also cabled the general office of the Labor and Socialist International urging that the office lodge official protests in the name of the International Socialist movement.

The full text of the Troyanovsky letter follows:

Alexander Troyanovsky
Ambassador USSR
Washington, D. C.

The Socialist Party of the United States of America vigorously protests the new Moscow trials. These new trials, with the charges and methods followed, have been a distinct blow to the entire working class of the world.

Their effect upon the workers of the world is more devastating than any single attack by the forces of reaction. The cause of Socialism, the cause of working class justice, demands that the Soviet Union vindicate the hope of the workers of the world by a demonstration of working class integrity now.

We urge that all charges and evidence be submitted to a combined commission, elected by the International Labor Office, the Labor and Socialist International, and the Communist International.

This action will greatly strengthen the faith of the working class of the world in an hour of crisis. Failure to do this and a continuance of these trials will be irreparable damage to the cause of Socialism in the Soviet Union and throughout the world.

May I ask that you send this letter to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union?

Fraternally yours,
Roy E. Burt,
Executive Secretary

ANTI-WAR YOUTH WANT SCHOOLS— NOT BATTLESHIPS

By JUDAH DROB
YPSL NEC MEMBER

"Schools—not battleships" is the cry of many of the several thousand young people gathered in Washington this weekend to participate in the March for Jobs and Education. They are determined that their needs are not to be met by war and the preparations for war that are the administration's answer to the current depression. They are the supporters of the Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge among the youthful Pilgrims to the nation's capital who have been gathered by the call of the American Youth Congress.

The opponents of the war in defense of the interests of American business in the far East are adding their demands to those raised by the Youth Congress. These additional demands include the defeat of the Vinson Super-Navy Bill, the passage of a genuine war referendum amendment and the withdrawal of American armed forces from the Orient. They express the conviction that the needs of youth must be met by economic betterment of conditions at home rather than by participation in a suicidal and war breeding armament race.

Youth Demands Relief

The Youth Congress demands the extension of relief, the passage of the American Youth Act, of the Bernard Bill for placing the CCC under civilian control, for the passage of federal non-discriminatory aid for education. It supports the fight against the May Bill. What the supporters of the Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge are adding in what they demand of Congress and the President is that the

6,000 Hear LaFollette Martin, Thomas Assail Roosevelt's War Plans

By AARON LEVENSTEIN

NEW YORK—Six thousand New Yorkers crowded the Hippodrome here last Sunday to demonstrate their determined opposition to all maneuvers designed to plunge the United States into the imminent imperialist war. Distinguished liberals and radicals joined hands to announce to the federal government that they will not participate in the coming blood-bath. They plan the holding of a national congress against war in Washington.

Kansas Senate Kills Red Hunt

TOPEKA, Kans.—The State Senate killed the resolution already passed by the House of Representatives calling for an investigation of alleged "red" activities and propaganda at the University of Kansas. The board of regents of the University has announced it will continue its own investigation which centers mainly around the enlistment of Don Henry, university student, in the Spanish loyalist forces. Henry was killed in action.

funds to be used for the extension of relief shall be diverted from the war preparations for which they are now earmarked.

The money now being spent for our war budget and for enlargement of the Navy would provide for the many elementary needs of the unemployed, both young and old. This would begin the spreading of purchasing power that is essential for the recovery to its "prosperity" level of the decrepit capitalist system. The locked out generation of young people, unable to secure employment or advanced schooling, would be provided with opportunity by the American Youth Act, which contemplates the spending of money for the provision of jobs on useful public projects and for subsidizing needy students.

Those who have testified on behalf of the Young Peoples Socialist League before the Senate sub-committee that is hearing evidence for the American Youth Act have painted a graphic picture of the tremendous numbers of young people who can be aided by the money that is spent today on war preparations.

Young Americans are insisting, as strongly as never before, that they want scholarship and jobs, not battleships and tanks. And a growing section of American young workers and students is asserting, thru its membership in the Young Peoples Socialist League, that only the fight for Socialism can provide an adequate and lasting solution to the problems of war and fascism and insecurity that beset the world today.

Leading speakers included Norman Thomas, national chairman of the Socialist Party, Robert M. LaFollette, United States progressive senator, and Homer Martin, president of the United Automobile Workers. The major portion of the addresses and the enthusiastic response of the audience was carried from coast to coast on a nationwide hook-up.

Against a back-drop on the Hippodrome's stage, representing the powerful hand of the masses crushing the instruments of war, Norman Thomas fired the opening gun in the broadcast which is the beginning of a tremendous campaign against war. "Can a new war do what the old wars have failed to do?" he demanded.

La Follette Speaks

Senator LaFollette attacked the policy of collective security as involving "the most certain threat of war." A reference to the curious combination supporting that policy brought laughter from the tremendous audience, when he said:

"Communists, like Mr. Earl Browder and conservative Republicans like Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler urge a policy of collective security."

LaFollette warned his audience that the nations were not concerned with maintaining peace. "In the minds of other great nations of the world there are many more considerations than a desire to preserve peace, international law and present boundaries. They want peace, but not at the price of a loss of trade. They want peace but not at the price of having a revolutionary government as a near neighbor.

"It is a doubtful question in my mind whether powerful elements in Great Britain and in France do not prefer fascism in Italy or Spain to its alternatives."

Recalls Last War

Recalling the last war to "make the world safe for democracy," he reminded his audience:

"Our past experience should make us realize that we cannot preserve democracy either abroad

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Labor Forces Win Important Legal Round in Florida

By FRANK McCALLISTER

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—The Florida Supreme Court decided last week to uphold the removal of Judge Robert T. Dewell as presiding judge in the Tampa flogging cases remaining to be tried. Pat Whitaker, defense counsel, had gone before the court seeking a mandamus compelling Judge Dewell to preside at the retrial of five former Tampa policemen for the kidnapping of E. F. Poulnot.

On a previous trial of the same charges the five cops were convicted and sentenced to four years each in the state prison, but the decision was reversed on an appeal to the Supreme Court and a new trial ordered.

After Judge Dewell had ordered a directed verdict of acquittal in the Shoemaker murder case and had excluded vital testimony going to the ridiculous extreme of ruling that the "head was not a part of the body," in an unprecedented action, State's Attorney Farrior petitioned the Judge to remove himself because of bias and because the state felt that they could not get a fair trial before his court. In support, Farrior offered the petitions and pleas made to the Governor by the Committee for the Defense of Civil Liberties in Tampa asking for the appointment of a new judge.

Disqualifies Himself

When Dewell disqualified himself, Whitaker, defense counsel, made the remarkable move of petitioning the Supreme Court to order the Judge to continue saying that he had no right to disqualify himself when the petition was offered by the state. In other words, defense counsel was saying that the defendants could not get a fair trial from any other judge but Dewell.

In the majority opinion, the Supreme Court held: "One charged with crime is guaranteed a fair and impartial trial. He is not entitled to more, nor is he entitled to be tried by any particular judge or jury. A fair trial means an orderly trial before an impartial judge and jury whose neutrality is indifferent to every factor in the trial but that of administering justice."

Election Pressure

Observers feel that the Supreme Court's decision was partially traceable to the coming election (in Florida, Supreme Court justices are elected) when several justices are up for re-election.

This court ruling is a tremendous victory for those who have been seeking justice in the Shoemaker cases. They had made a determined and consistent drive to secure Dewell's removal. Now the way is cleared for the appointment of a new judge by Governor Cone.

Joseph Shoemaker, labor martyr, along with two companions, was flogged, tarred and feathered by a gang of Ku Kluxers with the connivance of the Tampa police nearly three years ago. Shoemaker died as a result of the horrible beating inflicted upon him while his two companions, E. F. Poulnot, unemployed leader, and Dr. S. G. Rogers, Tampa Socialist, survived.

Although the crime happened more than twenty-seven months ago and eleven men were indicted by a special grand jury, no one has yet been jailed.

The Committee for the Defense of Civil Rights in Tampa is conducting a campaign to raise a memorial fund for Joseph Shoemaker. It is planned to erect a memorial to free speech in a Tampa city park to honor the memory of Shoemaker. Funds may be sent to the committee at 112 East 19th Street, New York City.

Czech Premier



Premier Milan Hodza of Czechoslovakia who repudiated Dictator Hitler's claim to a protectorate over Germans within Czech frontiers in a speech to the Chamber of Deputies. He has one of the toughest jobs of any statesmen in Central Europe.

Attention! Pennsylvania Readers

Call readers, Socialist sympathizers and progressive workers in Pennsylvania are urged to help put the Socialist ticket in the field by getting signatures. First day is March 28. The time is short. If you are in a position to help in any way send your name and address to: State Office, Socialist Party, 1626 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WORLD NOTES

By JOHN MILL

The "stretched out arm" of the French Communists to the Catholics and their catering to the elements that have always been so hated by the French workers, have found fertile ground in Fascist Austria. The Austrian Catholic Christian-Social Party has always been extremely reactionary and Anti-Semitic and its Catholic labor organizations yellow and scabby.

The history of Austrian Socialism is the history of uninterrupted struggle against Catholic domination and the nefarious influence of the Catholic church in the political life of Austria. The opposition to this influence was so deeply rooted that before the fascist coup of four years ago a movement to quit the church was spreading rapidly and tens of thousands of Catholic workers every year were quitting the church. This was one of the reasons why the Catholics blessed that coup.

Bombarded Workers

While hirelings of the fascist government bombarded the workers home, Cardinal Initzer at a tea party entertained the instigators of those who brought the events that caused so many workers to shed their blood and to perish in an uneven struggle.

But the Austrian Communists have forgotten all of this. In a recent appeal to the Catholic members and Catholic organizations the Communists, imitating their French comrades, invite them to join in the fight ONLY for their "common aims—and for nothing else." The Communists propose a united front, "not to abolish capitalism, not to fight against private ownership of the means of production." Their united efforts will aim "the realization of social justice in the exact limits designed by the Papal Encyclical."

It seems that the opportunism of the Communists has no end...

Turn From C. I.

This opportunism plus the endless purge in Soviet Russia are the main reasons why the workers all over the world are more and more turning away from the Communists and oppose any cooperation even on a small scale.

In Switzerland, for instance, where Socialists not long ago looked with so much sympathy toward unity with the Communists, the Socialists have now entirely changed their attitude. The Swiss Socialist Party has just disapproved of the decision of the Basel organization to have joint ballot lists with the Commu-

nists in the next Cantonal Council elections.

Sweden Socialists

In Sweden, where the Revolutionary Socialists polled 127,000 votes in the last elections and elected seven deputies to the Storting (Congress), the swing was definitely away from the Communists—the Revolutionary Socialists voted to affiliate with the Social Democratic Party.

The Revolutionary Socialists are a splitoff organization of the Communist Party and always have cherished hopes that eventually it would join them again.

French Youth

Something for our comrades of the YPSL. The Central Organ of the French Socialist Party, "Le Populaire," has organized a drive to increase its circulation. Almost the whole work connected with it has been turned over to the French Socialist youth who threw themselves into this drive with such zeal, devotion and energy that the drive thus far has been a greater success than anticipated by the most optimistic comrades. In one day more than 150,000 copies of "Le Populaire" were sold in the street.

The French YPSL has just issued a pamphlet dealing with the failure of organic unity of Socialists and Communists. A report states that 75,000 pamphlets have already been sold. "This is proof," says the French Central Organ, "that our Party possesses an enormous army of militants who are always ready to respond to its call."

Italian Jitters

The police are getting more and more nervous and there is no end to the daily arrests. In Ferrara, in a cinema, bills were distributed during the performance, with inscriptions "Down with Fascism! Mussolini leads us to starvation death! Long live liberty!" The doors were closed and everybody searched. Thirty-two persons were arrested.

In Bergamo all the windows in the headquarters of the local fascist party were broken by a group of young workers. In Bologna a great number of persons were arrested recently. A plot was discovered aiming to organize an anti-fascist movement. Events in Spain are being followed very closely and with very much interest by all the workers. The sympathy to the heroic fighters in Spain has no limit. Money is being collected for them. Also volunteers for the Garibaldi Brigade are being recruited. Recently in a small provincial town, in connection with these activities, 50 people were arrested.

Not everything is dark in present day Italy.

The Right Kind Of War

By DEVERE ALLEN

Anti-war propagandists are trying to convince us that a War for Peace wouldn't be Worth While. Why, it's enough to make your bub-blood boil!

Nobody wants the Wrong Kind of War. On this our Great Leaders in Washington have spoken. Therefore the Rest of Us don't need to Worry. They are going to be Careful. If they get us into war, it is going to be the Right Kind of War.

What is the Right Kind of War? Why, of course, the War We Get Into.

To be sure, even those of us who Hang on Washington's Every Word see Things Going On in this world that make us Pause and Think. Or, anyway, Pause.

There is the annual 'crop of soldiers' bodies unearthed every year in Flanders Field—900 of them during the last twelve months. Is the harrowed earth ready for another sowing? . . . But don't get me wrong. I'd love the Right Kind of War.

British Report

There is the report of the conservative Federation of British Industries, which says, "Unless the increase of expenditure on armaments is relaxed, the people of many countries will be faced with a progressive reduction of the labor and materials available for civil requirements—even to a further limitation of personal liberty and the impoverishment of their standards of life." . . . But don't get me wrong. I'd love the Right Kind of War.

There is the Frenchman who has invented a gas mask which enables the wearer to use the telephone while it is on. There is also the pleasing dispatch from the Associated Press: "If Uncle Sam's naval aviators should by some strange turn of events be called upon to bomb any foreign cities, they would do their work in solid comfort.

"The latest 'flying boat' bomber developed by the navy has a galley that would make a housewife's eyes shine. It's complete with electric stove, water distiller, and even dry ice refrigerator." You can't stop Progress . . . But don't get me wrong. I'd love the Right Kind of War.

50,000, Not More!

There is the British scientist, Professor J. B. S. Haldane, who became peeved at the "lurid predictions" of destruction in the next great world conflict, and who, to reassure us all, asserted that in a single air raid over London not more than 50,000 would be killed—a number 10,000 more than all the American soldiers in the entire World War who were killed in battle! . . . But don't get me wrong. I'd love the Right Kind of War.

There is the need for More Work for More Unemployed. If we don't have Vast Arms Appropriations, if we don't get ready for the Right Kind of War, what's to be done with the New Depression, what's to be done with the Jobless Men? This is what is known as a Dilemma. Like the situation described by an old Scotswoman whose son brought home a new kerosene lamp and told her the world would no more be using whale oil. "We can't stop using whale oil," she expostulated; "what's to become of the pair whales?" . . . But don't get me wrong. I'd love the Right Kind of War.

Vested Interests

There is our official naval policy, which is, in part, "To support American interests, especially the development of American foreign commerce and the merchant marine."

So, for the sake of the \$750,000,000 in American capital invested in the Far East, the U. S. A. is going to spend \$300,000,000 on new armament, added to the billion per year being spent already. And one 10,000-ton cruiser costs \$1,500,000 a year for upkeep, so the annual maintenance budget is going to skyrocket, also. Too bad we don't believe in Arithmetic as an Instrument of National Policy. . . . But don't get me wrong.

I'd love the Right Kind of War.

There is our help to dictatorships in Latin America with war vessels and military missions. The foreign officers we train at West Point—two from Japan last year. The 400 heavy tanks sold from France to Germany. The \$1,500,000 arms order just placed by Great Britain; in the Third Reich. The \$226,000 in manganese, essential for munitions manufacture, sold to Hitler last year by Soviet Russia. The two Soviet warships built in Mussolini's port of Livorno. The 2,500 tons of aerial bombs reported sent to Germany from

U. S. A. for trans-shipment to Rebel Spain. The airplane parts and motors, and the 2,500,000 tons of scrap iron going annually from the U. S. A. to Japan. The 20,000 airplane bombs sent from the City of Brotherly Love to Japan on a Nazi vessel. The six cruisers Britain is constructing for Vargab, the Strong-Man-on-Brazil's-Back.

Internationalism is the Duck-iest Thing! . . . But don't get me wrong. I'd love the Right Kind of War!

War Training

There are the War Department Training Regulations which say, "The object to be attained by training is to enable the Army to wage offensive warfare. While training must cover certain phases of defensive doctrine and police doctrine, the Army must definitely understand that these are only means to the definite end—offensive warfare—and every individual in the military service must be imbued with the spirit of the offensive."

The recent declaration of the Navy Department that its view of national defense "includes the defense of American shipping, sea-borne commerce and general commercial and political interests overseas." The duties of the Chemical Warfare Service, which include "the supervision of the training of the Army in chemical warfare, both offensive and defensive . . ." Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Hull assert that our military and naval forces are Solely for Defense. They seem Not to Have Learned . . . But don't get me wrong. I'd love the Right Kind of War.

Mr. Hull Said—

There is the statement of Mr. Hull at Buenos Aires a little over a year ago: "The peoples of the world would be far wiser if they expended more of their hard-earned money in organizing the forces of peace and fewer of the present five billion dollars in educating and training their military forces." And the statement of Mr. Roosevelt in May, 1934: "The peoples of many countries are being taxed to the point of poverty and starvation in order to enable the governments to engage in a mad armaments race, which, if permitted to continue, may well result in war."

Alas, the Secretary of State and the President seem to Have Forgotten . . . But don't get me wrong. I'd love the Right Kind of Administration.

Labor-Zionist Youth

To Meet in Chicago

CHICAGO, ILL.—The N. E. C. of the Young Poale Zion Alliance and Hahonim, two Labor-Zionist Youth movements, ratified the holding of the 15th national convention in Chicago, April 20—23.

Hundreds of delegates, guests, and sympathizers will be present from all major cities of the United States and Canada. Prominent speakers and leaders of Labor and Zionism will be present. . . . But don't get me wrong.

Working Class Philosophy DOLLARS AND SENSE

By Joseph M. Coldwell

Howdy Comrades. Did you ever stop and think how little we know? That is the most remarkable thing about life, that we get along knowing as little as we do. For instance, do you know what a horse power is, or a kilowatt hour, or a dollar? Did you ever try to break those words down to their basic foundation? Well, let's see what we can do with horse power.

On the American side of Niagara Falls 300,000 horse power of energy is generated. The Canucks beat us as they have a plant that generates 955,000 horse power, it is the largest hydro-electric development in the world.

Now let us see what it meant by the words "horse power". It is a unit of energy, or power, assumed to be equivalent of what a horse can do, that is to raise 3,300 pounds one foot in one minute. So if you operate a machine having so many horse power, just imagine how that number of horses would look standing beside your machine.

Now you are starting to do some analytical thinking. Keep on thinking of how many bushels of oats and tons of hay those horses would eat, and the job it would be taking care of the horses and pitching the manure out of the stable.

Sloan's Thousands

The SOCIALIST CALL recently carried an item which informed us that Alfred P. Sloan Jr., chairman of the Board of General Motors received \$561,311 in salary and bonus last year. DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT AMOUNT OF MONEY REPRESENTS? I'll bet you never gave it a thought, if you did all you said was the General Motors had a nerve paying Sloan so much money and paying the real workers so little. Well, we'll let that angle go for present as that is something that should be discussed and cussed at every meeting of the auto workers union.

What's A Buck?

But what is a dollar? You will answer, a medium of exchange, correct; but that only defines what it is used for; but what does it consist of? You will answer, a medium of exchange, rect again; but what will one hundred cents do? You will answer, buy things; correct again. Money is a medium of exchange and is used to buy things. What will \$561,311 buy? Now you are stuck for an answer. Your imagination will not carry you that far. For remember that while you may have a champagne appetite you have only a lager beer income.

Break down that \$561,311 into loaves of bread, tons of coal, pairs of shoes, suits of clothes, dresses for the wife and kiddies, autos, houses to live in, trips to mountains and seaside, and to Florida or to California in the winter. Boy, what a time you will have trying to spend that \$561,311.

Fortunes For Plutes

But did you ever stop to think what a job you would have to earn \$561,311? Of how much mechanical work, clerical work, or engineering work, you would have to do to earn that amount of money? "Gee, I never thought of it in that way," you say.

Because you do not, think of money as a medium of exchange for wealth produced by others is the reason Sloan, Ford, Girdler, Morgan, Rockefeller, and the rest of the gang of plutes are getting away with more medium of exchange each year than they can possibly use.

\$561,311. For What?

You are told that you must produce so much work to get a certain sum of money that you exchange for the necessities of life. How much work do the plutes do? Are they worth it? Figure out Sloan's \$561,311, at eight hours a day, three hundred day a year, and then ask your shop mate if he thinks Sloan earns it, at so much per hour, per day and per year.

And if Sloan does not earn it,

6,000 Attend N.Y. Anti-War Mass Meeting

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or at home by trying to police the world. Nor can we salvage peace and democracy by organizing a holy crusade, nor by forging an iron ring around Germany, Italy and Japan to freeze the status quo; nor by simply out-bluffing the dictators. Do not forget that any action along these lines will leave the deep-seated economic factors, which cause war and fear, unsolved."

LaFollette declared himself unequivocally opposed to the new navy-building program, the collective security program, the failure to apply the Neutrality Act to the Far Eastern crisis, and the May (formerly Sheppard-Hill) bill for war mobilization. He called for the enactment of the newly proposed referendum measure on entrance into war, genuine legislation to take the profits out of war, and adherence to the principle of diverting arms funds for the "expanding of our domestic economy" through such projects as housing.

Homer Martin

Homer Martin, of the United Automobile Workers, declared that "labor doesn't propose to be side-stepped, over-stepped or goose-stepped into another war." He asserted that no matter what the pretext for war it will be used "to get rid of a lot of irritating Americans and to handcuff labor."

Collective security, he said, "is international company unionism," and added:

"We don't believe that what's good for the Rockefellers, for the munitions makers, is good for the common people of this country. Such is the sentiment of the men and women who toil in this land.

"In the last war, we had collective security, when they said to us: 'You provide the security for democracy and we'll do the collecting.' And they collected profits while the workers carried the rifles."

Norman Thomas

Norman Thomas returned to the rostrum to make the closing address and summarize the convictions of the speakers and the audience in a resolution which he presented and which was adopted unanimously.

"We can keep our country out of war," he told the cheering crowd, "at the same time as we are engaged in achieving a lasting peace."

He indicated that the meeting was only the beginning of a host of meetings throughout the country for the same purpose. The

where does it come from? If you work for General Motors you are entitled to know these things. Can it be possible that the workers of hand and brain are producing more useful things than they are getting paid for?

Remember that all the money the high hats and stuffed shirts are getting as salaries and bonus must come from the wealth produced by the workers of hand and brain. Think it over, and if you don't make a holler, don't call Charlie McCarthy the greatest dummy in America. So long. I'll be with you next week.

Civil Liberties Union Approves Defense Of Beal

NEW YORK, N. Y. — The American Civil Liberties Union will back the movement which seeks to free Fred E. Beal, ex-Communist leader of the Gastonia strike, it announced March 8.

A statement released by the Civil Liberties Union states: "The convictions of all the men (seven original Gastonia frame-up victims—editor) were wholly unjustified; they involved issues of political opinion and labor activities; they therefore challenged the intervention of the Civil Liberties Union. No consideration of bail jumping or subsequent conduct of the defendants affects the primary issue of their innocence of the charge of murder."

The Union reviewed the Gastonia case in which it had taken the responsibility of defending the victims and recalled that in 1929 it condemned the defendants for jumping bail and escaping to the Soviet Union.

"A special defense committee has been formed to aid Beal," the ACLU statement said, "and for that reason the Civil Liberties Union will not take the initiative in organizing the movement for his release. The Union has offered its services to the attorneys for that committee."

The Communist Party through its allied organizations and press continued its propaganda against Beal.

Beal voluntarily surrendered to authorities at Raleigh, N. C., February 17, after his arrest in Lawrence, Mass. He is in the penitentiary, now serving time on a 17 to 20 year sentence—the result of a frameup.

Socialist Party Scores "Daily Worker" Story

CHICAGO, Ill. — The story published in the Feb. 24 issue of the "Daily Worker" on the Beal case bearing the signatures of "12 Socialists and others" was falsified, the National Office of the Socialist Party announced this week.

Only one of the signers, John Gibaldo, carries a card in the Socialist Party, and his signature to the letter does not represent the position of the Socialist Party of the United States on the Beal case.

The "Daily Worker" took the liberty to style the signers of the letter as Socialists although nowhere in the letter did the signers indicate they were writing in a capacity other than individuals. Nowhere did they indicate that they were Socialists.

The National Action Committee of the Socialist Party in a regular session March 5, voted unanimously to protest Beal's imprisonment and reiterated the opinion that the Gastonia case was and remains a frameup.

resolution, in addition to setting forth "a minimum program for the present emergency" along the lines indicated in the addresses, urges the formation of a national committee to call an anti-war Congress in Washington, D. C., on or about Memorial Day.

Other Speakers

Other speakers included Oswald Garrison Villard, who presided; Bertram D. Wolfe, of the Independent Communist Labor League; Major General William C. Rivers, retired; Dorothy Detzer, of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; A. J. Muste; Alvaine Hollister, of the Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge; McAlister Coleman, writer; and Ernest L. Meyer, columnist.

The Rebel Arts chorus opened the meeting with anti-war songs.

Norman Thomas In Radio Talk Friday Evening

Firing Squad Faces Last of Old Bolsheviks

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a similar court and thereafter executed.

A Frameup

There are several glaring weaknesses to the present trials which indicate that the defendants are victims of a frameup:

1. Without exception, the prosecutors charge that the original leaders of the Red Army and Navy, all outstanding ambassadors, nearly every leader and founder of the Communist International and most of the effective builders of Russian reconstruction were fascist spies, poisoners, saboteurs, wreckers, and whatnot. In view of the success of the Red Army and Navy in winning a civil war that was simultaneously fought on fourteen different fronts; in view of the prestige which the diplomats established for the Soviet Union, and in view of the tremendous progress in Soviet economy, the charges fall like a wet rag—they can't possibly convince a reasonable person.

2. It is evident that only those who "confess" are granted a trial. Karakhan and Yenukidze, the well known Bolsheviks, who were expected to be among the present defendants, were executed during the preparation of this trial. Why were they executed without trial? Did they refuse to confess?

3. The charge that the defendants were parties to the "poisoning" of Maxim Gorky is fantastic. Gorky, although popular, was never considered a political power in the real sense. Besides, he was known to be opposed to the violent tactics practiced by Stalin against Communists who criticized his policies. Why would the defendants want to poison a potential political ally?

4. None of the defendants have ever indicated in their voluminous writings, which have enriched the working class literature of the world, that they had grown weary of the philosophy of Socialism. To the contrary, to the very end they have expressed increased faith that the workers would be capable of bringing about a Socialist world.

One of two conclusions has to be drawn from the gruesome events in Russia. Either that the original founders of the first working-class state were and are scoundrels, or that Stalin's political machine is guilty of unpardonable crimes.

Either conclusion reflects terribly upon the integrity of the world Marxist movement and threatens to wipe out Socialist influence for years to come.

It becomes increasingly evident that the Dictatorship of the Proletariat, which for the most part remained a totalitarian set-up with well intentioned objectives, has produced a frankenstein. The monster hasn't weakened in recent months. In all likelihood it will not be subdued until it destroys its maker and most vigorous proponent—Joseph Stalin.

C.I.O. STRIKE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Standard Steel Co., in North Kansas City, has been closed down by a strike of C.I.O. union members. The men walked out because the firm refused to renew its agreement with the union.

Norman Thomas and Dr. Mordecai Ezekiel, economic adviser to Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, will share a fifteen-minute coast-to-coast broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System, as the chief feature of National Sharecroppers Week, which is being observed March 6 to 13.

The program will be broadcast Friday evening, March 11, from 10:45 to 11 o'clock (Eastern Standard Time).

Considerable interest has been aroused in the broadcast because the Department of Agriculture and the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, co-sponsors with the Workers Defense League of National Sharecroppers Week, have at several points been at loggerheads over crop control legislation. At its recent convention the S. T. F. U. voted approval of the major portion of the new Farm Bill but vigorously opposed those sections providing for cotton acreage reduction.

Dr. Ezekiel, however, is considered to be one of the outstanding liberals in the department. Thomas is probably America's foremost champion of the struggle of the sharecroppers to gain decent conditions and establish their civil rights. Ever since the S. T. F. U. was organized in 1934, the Socialist leader has devoted a large portion of his time to its interests. He has made innumerable trips through sharecropper country and has spoken at their meetings in defiance of the planters' terror.

The CBS broadcast will be the event during Sharecroppers Week that unites activities going on in seventeen cities from New York to Twin Cities. Sharecroppers Week is sponsored annually by the S. T. F. U. and its authorized defense agency, the Workers Defense League. It has the twofold purpose of directing the attention of the public to the conditions sharecroppers suffer and of raising funds for the Union's defense budget.

The coast-to-coast broadcast will be offered by CBS to all of the 112 radio stations in its chain. A letter or phone call to the CBS station in your city, urging that they transmit the broadcast, would be an effective stimulus.

Following is a list of CBS stations in cities where Sharecroppers Week is being observed:

New York City, WABC; Baltimore, WQAO; Boston, WEEI; Chicago, WBBM; Cincinnati, WKRC; Cleveland, WGAR; Columbus, O., WBNS; Louisville, Ky., WHAS; Milwaukee, WISN; Twin Cities, WCCO; Philadelphia, WCAU; St. Louis, KMOX; Washington, D. C., WJSV.

Cooperative Society Reports Large Gain

MAYNARD, Mass. — The United Cooperative Society of Maynard, now well established as the biggest retail business in this town of 7,000 inhabitants, recorded the biggest business in its history when its total sales for 1937 mounted to more than half a million dollars.

Charles W. Manty, president of the co-op, reported to the 275 members and visitors gathered here Feb. 21, that sales totaled \$509,190 in 1937 as against \$475,031 during the previous year. Net earnings for the year were \$20,598 of which approximately \$17,000 will be paid out in 3½% savings returns. All customers of the co-op, members and non-members, alike, will participate in the patronage dividends.

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The Farm Program

As Sharecroppers' Week comes to a close it is useful to look at the Roosevelt-Wallace farm program recently enacted by Congress.

Sharecroppers and tenant-farmers in the South—composing about 80% of all farmers in the South have an average annual income varying between \$200 to \$500 per year. They, along with farm workers, are the most depressed section of the American population in general and the farm population in particular. One would expect that the Roosevelt-Wallace Farm act, anxious "to help the ill-fed and ill-housed and ill-clothed" would pay special attention to the plight of these 3,000,000 families.

But the startling fact about this new farm act is that it absolutely neglects in any way to alter the wretched conditions, it fails to apply any section of its 120 pages to these millions of depressed farm families!

Despite a great deal of supposed obscurity attached to the act it is really a device with a new formula to achieve the effects of the unconstitutional AAA. Essentially, it is a method to provide a federal bounty—secured in effect by a sales tax on food and fiber—to the participating farmers of the program. By means of direct payments for improving the farmer's land (soil conservation) and by donating to the farmer an amount of money equal to the difference between the selling price of his produce and the cost of the goods which the farmer buys (parity prices) the Roosevelt-Wallace program undertakes to guarantee perhaps a billion dollars a year to the top farmers of America.

In return for this the farmer promises to cooperate in accepting marketing quotas in five basic crops—corn, wheat, cotton, rice, tobacco. This feature of marketing quotas achieves two purposes: It provides the federal government with a surplus of commodities kept from the market in order to hike prices and it serves in effect as a method of controlling production which supposedly had been illegalized in the Supreme Court Triple-A decision.

The act innovates two measures which bear watching. These are the creation of four regional research agricultural stations and the more important attempt at insuring the risk in wheat production.

The program of Roosevelt and Wallace—soil conservation, production control and marketing—even within its own framework must necessarily fail. The method selected for improving or conserving the soil will have certain limited successful results in improving acreage in production, but it will at the same time increase the yield per acre which works at cross-purposes with the second aim of modified scarcity. But even this limited success pales before the futility of the soil conservation service which still permits the Dust to blow from the farm of farmer A (who is not cooperating) over the farm of farmer B who may be cooperating. The problem of soil conservation, beautifully, if tragically portrayed in the motion picture "The River", must be treated on a national, planned scale and not on the basis of Lilliputians trying to overcome Gulliver.

The heart of the production and marketing features of farming depend in the first and minor instance, on the complete elimination of the commodity market speculation in the Chicago pit. On this the act is silent. But in the major instance, production and marketing depend on increasing the consumption of our own population at least equal to the so-called liberal diet for each family which we hardly approximate, and it also depends upon the export of surplus commodities such as cotton to other capitalist countries. To increase consumption proportionate to need requires a Socialist government in America. To secure a proper relation of exports to imports in capitalist America would require the nations of the world to turn back the clock to mid-nineteenth century laissez-faireism.

The nations of the world by the very growth of capitalism itself cannot turn back the clock—save temporarily by wars. The only solution for the top farmers, the middle farmers, the sharecroppers and the farm workers is to join forces with the class conscious labor movement ready to bring to fruition the Socialist Cooperative Commonwealth.

An Italian Story

In Italy God plays second fiddle to Mussolini, and the King, of course, is an ornament. One of the underground stories which has to do with the deification of the guy with a sour puss is reported by the British "New Statesman and Nation":

Father tells little girl she must always say after breakfast, "Thank God and Mussolini for my nice breakfast."

"Must I, daddy? And after dinner do I say 'Thank God and Mussolini for my nice dinner?'" the little girl queried.

"Yes, dear, and after supper, too."

"And what do I say when Mussolini is dead, Daddy?"

"Oh, then, dear, you say, 'Thank God.'"

SQUIBS

BY GENE LOMAN

PURGE!

HOW a terrorist center of old New Dealers, Progressives, Laborites and Democrats plotted to assassinate President Ruseveldt, Secretary of Labor Jenkins and Secretary of the Interior Wickes, divide the territory of United States between a power to the north, a power to the south and power to the nth degree as payment for armed assistance in making the republic a monarchy was unfolded in Washington today as the government opened its case against plenty of the plotters.

The Hotskyite old New Deal Terrorist center carried its method of attack to other conspirators through the United States by code messages on huge billboards.

Real power behind the plot, though not on trial himself, was John Lell Hewis, former old New Dealer who was deported in 1938 as an undesirable alien after he broke with the administration on whether \$250,000,000 or \$600,000,000 was the best appropriation to care for broken down plant executives.

PLANNED KIBOSH

Readers of this paper will recall how 20 old New Dealers, many of them former high administration officials, were dropped from Washington Monument in 1937 after confessing that they had discussed ways and means of "putting the kibosh" on Texford Guy Rugwell, first Ruseveldt lieutenant was found dead in a barrel of his own molasses on the top of the Empire State Building. Five of them had been in Alcatraz for a year prior to the molasses murder but were included in the dropping party when they admitted they had mutually agreed with the other 15 that Rugwell was just a "damned meddling professor." (Rugwell was a former instructor of communism in Milady's Coming out School at Groton on Hudson.)

Highlight of today's court session was the apparent eagerness of all the accused to accuse themselves even further.

"I caused the depression," smiled former Attorney General Hummings when dragged from the third degree dungeon four stories below the U. S. mint in the hills of Kentucky where he had been stored for the past six months.

BEHIND IT ALL

"That's a lie," piped up Koseph P. Jeneddy who had rushed back from his post as Ambassador to the Court of St. James in time for the hearing. "I admit Hummings had a part in it but I was especially commissioned in the summer of 1936, by John Lell Hewis, old Hotsky himself, to start a backwash against recovery."

"Gee," murmured the prosecutor, aghast at this revelation. "Then it wasn't a sitdown strike of capital at all. Guess we'll have to apologize to those guys. After all, the country must be united."

Col. Joseph Jatterson, editor of the New York Daily Views, confessed that he conferred with Hewis (Hotsky) in Banjermassin in 1932 on ways and means of turning over to the power to the north the rich grapefruit region east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio rivers. Two emissaries of the power to the north were present at that time, Jatterson said, and he presented them with vital government documents, including maps of the Delaware Water Gap and Brooklyn Bridge.

Hidney Sillman, former administration labor commissar, denied any complicity in the plot. He said he hadn't seen the arch-conspirator Hewis since August, 1936, when he broke with him at a luncheon in the Greasy Spoon, terrorist hideout on the Potomac.

ANOTHER DAY

The U. S. prosecutor assured reporters, however, that tomorrow, Sillman would admit that he

Workers' Forum

Contributions to the Socialist CALL must be accompanied with the name and address of the writer, a matter of good form, not to be used for publication if the writer prefers that the name be omitted. Short, snappy letters will receive first consideration.

TO OUR READERS

The editorial board of this newspaper is considering changing the form of the CALL to full newspaper size—a four page job, eight columns wide—instead of the present tabloid form.

The board believes the readers of the CALL should have a voice in this matter. Do you believe the SOCIALIST CALL'S present format should be changed to a four page full newspaper size? Drop us a card with your vote or suggestions.

STALIN'S APPEAL

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—The international labor movement and Socialists in particular have an opportunity thrust upon them by Stalin's appeal. The limits of that opportunity will depend solely on the efforts of the addressees. The more thorough and the more voluminous their reply and counterdemands the better.

The Communists disrupted a fine beginning towards social revolution and ended with a personal dictatorship in the best tradition of Ivan the Terrible. Economically, Soviet Russia is lost somewhere underway in a tangle of unexplainable contradictions. Human rights are non-existent. If shortage of bread and lack of freedom are cornerstones of Socialism, Soviet Russia has indeed arrived home with a vengeance.

Stalin's appeal, in my opinion, should therefore be used to correct the shortcomings of the Russian revolution which resulted from the misrule and misdirection of Communists. That attempt should be made now. When fascist forces will be at the Russian borders it will be too late to insist that the Stalin regime change into a creature warranting help from the international proletariat.

The time has come to demand the introduction of true democracy into Soviet Russia. The first workers state shall be subservient to the welfare of workingmen and women, and not the other way around. Human life is sacred and that should be axiomatic in the land supposedly ruled by the proletariat. Last, and by far not the least, all Socialist Parties must regain freedom of action within the Russian revolution and enjoy full equal freedom to participate in the building as well as in directing the destiny of Socialism.

—Jay Stein.

played a leading role in the center, that on specific instructions from Hewis, he ordered the 20 men executed earlier to shove Rugwell's head in the molasses barrel, and that his was the cunning brain that sent messages via billboards to key terrorists in other parts of the country. Sillman will also admit, the prosecutor said, that all instructions to the center did not come from Hewis directly, since he became a monk in 1935, but instead were conveyed through Hotsky's daughter and sent to the conspirators by means of mental telepathy, a science the terrorists have developed far beyond the rest of the world.

Asked what the fate of the plotters might be, the prosecutor said he thought all but two would be executed.

"The same as in the previous trial," a reporter asked.

"Yes," replied the prosecutor.

"And then will those two be used to start a string of confession among the next crew of accused?" the reporter inquired.

"Yes," said the prosecutor.

"Sort of a chain letter confession craze, eh," the reporter persisted.

"Yes," smiled the prosecutor.

A COMRADE DISCUSSES COLDWELL

MALDEN, Mass. — I missed

Joe Coldwell's column one week, but am glad to see it back again.

It is a very important feature. When I first joined the Socialist Party my only radical education came from the "New Leader", which was full of Party dissension.

Comrade Coldwell's column is important because it teaches the fundamentals of Socialism to those new in the movement and is important as a review to those of us more advanced.

The CALL is a paper we can all be proud of. Our readers should scatter it far and wide. Leave your copies in the street car and subways, in your place of work, in union halls and libraries. We Socialists should be better publicity agents.

—E. L. Nevens.

GREET TENANT UNION

NEW YORK.—To the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, Memphis, Tenn. — The Negro Labor Committee sends fraternal greetings to the organized Negro and white share-croppers of the South.

May your fourth convention produce a still mightier organization of these cruelly exploited American workers and a greater degree of enlightened unity between all workers regardless of race, creed or color. We hail your efforts with unbridled pride of class and race.

—Frank R. Crosswaith,
Chairman.

A BATTLE HYMN

WORKERS, AWAKE!
The new day is dawning.
Awake to the truth of your misery's solution.
Shake off the parasites—Capital's spawning;
Awake and unite for the world revolution.

WORKERS, UNITE!
Your strength is in masses.
Unite in the stink-holes of Bosses' pollution.
Brother with brother—away with all classes;
Unite and arise for the world revolution.

WORKERS, ARISE!
The shackles that tie you
Are rotted and rusted. Arise in your might;
Smite the foes that defy you!
Workers, to arms—the goal is in sight!

WORKERS, TO ARMS!
The world's yours for the taking!
A new world of peace and of plenty for all.
Forward to victory, never forsaking
The world revolution's clarion call!
—Edgar Sherman.

Michigan Unions Speed Drive On Anti-War Front

DETROIT, Mich. — A movement to organize an intensive anti-war drive in Detroit and Michigan has been launched primarily by leaders of the United Automobile Workers of America and other CIO unions. At a meeting held recently, a provisional set-up was created and a program which is based on the UAW anti-war resolution was agreed upon.

Tucker Smith, active anti-war fighter for many years, is executive secretary of the committee and has begun the organization of its work. Homer Martin, UAW president, is chairman.

Plans are being developed for a fight against the Sheppard-Hill bill, now known as the May bill, as well as against other anti-war, pro-war legislation.

Though the campaign will unquestionably be directed primarily towards the important groups of industrial workers in Michigan, it will include students, church, liberal and other labor elements.

THE FIGHT FOR WORKERS' HOMES

Increasing misery for slum dwellers, an increasing toll of working class lives; that is the inevitable result of the presidential decision to build battleships instead of homes.

The child born into a home in the slum area has three times as many chances of dying in his first year as his more fortunate brother in even a half way decent home. Older men and women have greatly increased chance to die from tuberculosis, influenza, diphtheria, pneumonia and other diseases in which increased danger comes with increased congestion and lack of adequate sanitation when they live in slum areas, as studies in every large city have shown.

The source of much of the juvenile crime and delinquency about which the newspapers rave is to be found in the festering sores which capitalism has left in the center of our large cities.

PITIFUL ATTEMPTS

Pitiful attempts have been made by the liberals to clear up the slums. For decades, philanthropists built islands to which small groups could escape, if they could pay above average rents.

Cities have tried, by passing building and zoning laws, to stem the tide of destruction, with no observable success.

Lately, the United States government has been building homes thru W.P.A. and the Resettlement Administration, and in spite of being able to treat only the surface indications rather than the causes of the housing shortage and the presence of decaying neighborhoods, some progress has been made. Around 100,000 persons have been rehoused in decent homes and environments, but that is just a drop in the bucket.

Last September, the Wagner-Steagall housing act was passed amid great rejoicing on the part of the building trades unions and other groups which had worked for its passage. About \$500,000,000 was to be spent for housing over a three year period.

Almost seven months later, not one single project has been approved, not a cent has been paid to cities, to labor, or to materials supply men.

BUSINESS SABOTAGE

The Democratic party, controller of the national government, and of the great majority of state and local governments, has not been able to overcome the opposition of local business men particularly the building and loan groups, the bloodsuckers of the small home owner whose lucrative racket they see threatened by government subsidies to help build homes for workers in the low income groups.

The possibility of building around 100,000 more homes in the next three years is here. Local and state action by Socialist, labor and liberal groups can force their political machines to ask for and spend some of the half billion available.

The need, however, is estimated by Catherine Bauer, outstanding labor expert on housing, to be 2,397,000 homes now, to catch up with the shortage and 3,266,000 to replace existing housing which is unfit for human habitation—in other words, we now need 5,663,000 new homes to break even—and the government proposes to help building 100,000.

HOMES VS. BATTLESHIPS

For each battleship in the new Roosevelt program, 12,000 families could be housed.

For the armaments program's initial cost, 240,000 families could be housed.

The slums of several fair sized cities could be cleaned. Thousands of persons now condemned to death by slum residence could be saved. The building trades workers, now almost universally at least 40 per cent unemployed, could be put back on the job.

Even from the short sighted viewpoint of the business men, capitalism could be given a tremendous shot in the arm. Battleships will increase the economic strain, will further unbalance both the economic and the human budget, and will carry us further toward the loss of life in the next imperialist war which alone can supply an excuse for the Roosevelt war preparation game.

Socialists, union men, liberals and progressives everywhere must join in the demand raised by the SOCIALIST CALL.

HOMES FOR WORKERS—NOT BATTLESHIPS!

to become the most slavish stooge in America for the Communist Party and its reckless jingo pro-war policy. His daily column has become the most blatant voice for the joining of the workers of the world with their imperialist masters in a war to wreck fascist imperialism in the fascist countries and democracy in the nations where the workers still hold it.

Broun once thought "Socialism a delightful novelty" until he got in hot water for leading an Al Smith parade at the 1932 Democratic National Convention and decided to fake a resignation to the left of the then Communist Party. Now the cycle is complete as Broun finds a policy that is that of the Communist Party and that of his own deep rooted middle class prejudices at the same time. Before Roosevelt's war musicians start blowing taps over workers in khaki "somewhere in China" let American workers accord Broun, the one time Socialist, an honorable political burial and leave the unhonored and lifeless, though not yet voiceless, hulk without the honor or respect which might make it dangerous.

AT THE FRONT

with Norman Thomas

If anyone has any doubt about the grimness of this depression on a national scale he ought to travel a bit. Everywhere the same story. A New Deal prosperity which never matched in production the level of 1928—it about reached it just before the new slump, but we had 10 million more people than a decade ago so that the per capita was lower—has sunk past finding. Relief is inadequate. There is no real housing program. One third of the railroads are bankrupt, and another third may soon be. (The government could have got them cheap at a bankruptcy sale back in 1933; maybe cheaper than what it has poured into them in "loans" to save them). In short, it takes more than a New Deal to make capitalism conquer poverty and insecurity for the workers.

In this situation Roosevelt has no such plans as in 1933. His lecture on prices was more of an attempt to reconcile his own past utterances than a serious attempt at a program. As someone put it, it looks as if the President had taken a "run out powder" on this depression. That's what makes the danger of war so much greater. It gives the President a new field of action and it would temporarily and at terrible cost solve for a while all problems of unemployment and low prices!

The Chamberlain-Eden episode may cool his zeal for "collective security" but there is at least an equal danger of war in a swashbuckling isolationism backed by a navy big enough to "defend" what we want wherever we want it. And that's that the Vinson naval policy means. The President has endorsed it as well as the May bill to put us all in the army. Lovers of peace and foes of the fascism which the President's entry into war would bring America will fight a super navy and universal conscription under industrial mobilization. Write "your" Congressman. Get your union or other organization to protest these bills and demand that the Administration Keep America Out of War.

PASTOR NIEMOELLER

There is still a little hope left in the German people when there is enough public opinion, enough pressure on the conscience of the court for it to let Pastor Niemoeller off with a \$600 fine. Men have died in Germany for less independence than he displayed. However he has been put again under "preventative arrest" to "protect" him against possible demonstrations. That's easier and pleasanter for the government than to control their partisans. So probably Niemoeller's release just means a concentration camp for him!

STALIN'S REIGN OF TERROR

No such fate awaits the twenty one queerly assorted victims of Stalin's latest public trial. In a brutal and disillusioned world there is no one cause for grief and pain so great as this trial. For Russia once was a land of hope for millions throughout the world. It is still nominally a workers' land where capitalism has been abolished, and according to Stalin, both Socialism and democracy have been established. Yet alone in all the nations of the world has the dictator of that land, the successor not of Lenin but of Ivan the Terrible, twenty years after his party established its power, felt it necessary to put to death the last of his and Lenin's close associates, the leaders of the Bolshevik revolution. Only Stalin survives—and Trotsky. Lucky for Lenin that he sleeps in his mausoleum.

It is as if twenty years after the inauguration of George Washington, Alexander Hamilton (had he been in power) had killed all surviving members of the first Cabinet and signers of the Constitution except Thomas Jefferson whom he had previously exiled. History has no parallel to this purge. The French Revolution claimed its own children as victims only in the heat of violent conflict, not after 20 years of peace.

INCREDIBLE PLOTS

But, the Communists, whose first duty is to honor and glorify Stalin will say, "they have confessed to abominable plots." Yes, in sum total abominable and incredible plots, plots that seasoned revolutionists never carried out, plots uncorroborated by any evidence, plots so absurd as the charge, that these conspirators, including honored physicians, killed Gorky whose influence on Stalin was all for tolerance. And they did not all confess without protest. Krestinsky's defiance rang far truer than his broken retraction of it. It was when he confessed that he was a sick man. As for the rest, they were broken by no one knows what physical or psychological torture in a land where to break their wills for years or months they had been lost to their friends and to the world. I never understood what that could mean until I visited Russia. Perhaps they hoped to save their relatives; perhaps they hoped the very extravagance of their confessions would provoke disbelief. Perhaps they were persuaded that any dis-

loyalty to Stalin, back in the days when his agricultural policy almost ruined Russia, was treason. For these men were Communists, brought up in that strange Communist amorality in which nothing matters but the Party and its power. Yagoda himself had times without number administered the "justice" to which he fell a victim.

But suppose they or most of them were guilty—the great scholar and theoretician, Bukharin, Lenin's friend; Rykov, Lenin's prime minister, and the rest! Suppose the other thousands or tens of thousands, known and unknown, who have suffered in Stalin's purge were guilty of something. What sort of a system is it whose founders and supporters can find nothing to do but plot against it? Surely not a land of liberty or justice or happiness! A thousand times not a land of socialism, but of despotism like that of the Roman Emperors half mad with suspicion, despotism like Peter the Great's whom a Russian film honors as a sort of forerunner of Stalin's.

Mighty Russia is in no such danger from without as from within. Stalin's French alliance, his appeal to the workers of the world to come to Russia's help—these will avail nothing if the Bolshevik Party and regime are so rotten within as Stalin's own charges would indicate. A united Russia, strong in the brotherhood of real socialism, not enslaved to the despotism of a totalitarian state and to the plots and counter plots which a monolithic party under a dictator engenders would be triumphant over any foreign foe.

DURANTY'S WHITE WASH

Walter Duranty's devotion to the task of keeping an ever fresh coat of white wash on Stalin leads him to one of the worst indictments of justice in the U.S.S.R. that I have ever read. He writes: "According to Russian law no one is brought to trial unless he has already admitted his guilt... Unless you understand this you cannot understand anything about Russian trials."

I rise to Russia's defense against so shocking a charge (which Duranty means, as extenuation!) that there are no trials in Russia except for those who admit their guilt. There may be no public political trials—except for those who confess, but trials there are for those under ordinary arrest who do not confess. All I suspect that Duranty really means is that in the U.S.S.R. the system of preliminary examination before formal trial more nearly resembles French than Anglo American procedures. But what a defense Duranty makes of the bloodthirsty cries of the Russian pack which a servile press unlooses!

To any inquirer! The oil machinery for Russia made in non-union shop, about which I wrote two weeks ago, was made in Olean, New York, by a firm, I believe, called Clark Brothers.

Congratulations to the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union on a successful convention. And shame on the tyranny and race prejudice which drove them out of the hall in Little Rock, Arkansas, which they had rented!

INSURANCE RACKET

By all means let New York really investigate the life insurance racket, especially the poor man's "industrial insurance" which Judge Brandeis, I think, once called legalized robbery. In 1929 of every dollar paid to industrial policy holders 48.7 cents additional went to agents' commissions and home office salaries. In 1931 fourteen industrial policies lapsed or were surrendered for every one normally terminated. The Massachusetts Savings Bank Life Insurance sells small policies at more than 50 per cent below industrial insurance rates of the weekly payment plan. New York should at least adopt as good a plan as that in Massachusetts, and do it now. That need not wait a more elaborate investigation.

Our Connecticut comrades managed a difficult situation in which the McLevy group had legal right to the use of the Socialist name very well. Success to their fine well balanced ticket and their genuinely labor party, still loyal to Socialism!

Taps for Heywood Broun

The enlightening of mankind since the dawn of the idea of tolerance and the conception of human brotherhood as an ideal, have contended that it is impossible to "indict an entire nation or people", Heywood Broun, \$50,000 a year tamed bear columnist of the Scripps-Howard news chain would revive this situation. In a recent column he declares that "There are scabs and finks among nations as well as among individuals."

This seems to constitute Broun's final resignation from the ranks of the intellectually honest in order

CLASS ANGLE SOME SCREEN FARE

By Michael C. Arcone

There is no understanding Hollywood and the movie industry. It will pay fifty or hundred thousand dollars for a really fine stage play, carefully take every bit of validity out of it and then spend astronomical sums in production, publicity and promotion. All this just to have any literate critic or movie-goer say "Hogwash." For example . . . Sidney Kingsley's "Dead End."

And then, just to be perverse, Hollywood will produce a "Class B" film that is all that the million dollar production should have been. And at about one-tenth the cost.

Having a few hours to kill one evening this week we dropped into a neighborhood movie and witnessed a perfect demonstration of the above. The picture was "Boys of the Street" and the star was Jackie Cooper. And it turned out to be everything that "Dead End" should have been but wasn't.

It is a familiar story, of boys who in the words of the cop who arrested a bunch of them in one of the scenes "are all trying to be bad and tough, because they figure that's the best way to get along in this world." Which is exactly the story that Kingsley told in the stage version of "Dead End." And exactly the story that Hollywood failed to present in the movie version:

Extraneous Romance

There may be a fundamental similarity of plot between "Boys of the Street" and "Dead End." And the direction, acting, photography were naturally somewhat superior in the million-dollar film. But this picture stands up where "Dead End" falls down. It does not mess up its story by the introduction of extraneous romance and melodrama, its propaganda is more straightforward and presented in more understandable terms, it is dispassionate in its consideration of a sordid and crime-breeding environment . . . and in spite of a somewhat happy ending, the script makes it clear that only one boy in a thousand brought up in the slums of our cities can escape the inevitable consequences of degrading poverty. It is a picture that should be seen.

And another picture that must rank very high on our list of film achievements is "The River," the second in a series of documentary films produced by the U. S. government for enlightenment, for entertainment and for propaganda for the New Deal's farm and flood-control programs. This one, like its predecessor, "The Plough That Broke The Plains" is written and directed by Pare Lorentz and it deals with the ravages that have been made at the sources and along the banks of the Mississippi and its tributary rivers and how the government is attempting to correct this.

Whether or not, as Socialists, we are in full accord with the government's program for flood control and flood relief, I know of no better presentation of the fundamental problem than this picture. It dramatizes the greatness of the river, its potentialities for enriching all our lives, and its mighty menace when we waste or neglect those potentialities.

A Shrewd Job

It is a shrewd job of film-making, employing the technique so successfully used by Joris Ivens in "The Damming of the Zuyder Zee" in which music and the voice of the narrator are combined with the actual photography to bring a sharply mounting emotional effect. And it adds to my conviction, fostered by the earlier Lorentz film and through Ivens' "Zuyder Zee" and "Spanish Earth" that the movies are at their best when they do away with actors. And it adds to my conviction that when there is a filmmaker of ideas and imagination, such as Mr. Lorentz or Mr. Ivens, given the necessary equipment and a small amount of money but possessing a genuine dramatic conception, then Hollywood becomes remarkably unnecessary.

Two other current films, "Wells Fargo" and "In Old Chicago" turned out to be no more than we expected . . . horrible disappointments. The first is another magnificent spectacle with an historical background, the exploits of the overland stage and the pony express, told in terms of the growth of the Wells Fargo company, the growth of San Francisco, the career of one man . . . all with a hint of the Civil War (incident: attack on a gold convoy by a band of Confederate soldiers. One of the guides wears a leather windbreaker with a zipper. This was about 1863 but ain't Hollywood wunnerful?) . . . and of course, the very necessary love-interest. Some good shots in it and some fair acting, but on the whole merely another of Hollywood's versions of American history. See it if you like that sort of thing.

"In Old Chicago" which has been running as a two-a-day, \$2.20 top show for the last six weeks in New York is cut pretty much from the same pattern. It is the story of Chicago told in terms of Chicago's unruly and tempestuous growth from shortly before the Civil War to the fire of 1871. It is a romanticized version, the chief attention is centered on the legendary O'Leary's and the even more legendary cow. True that it is a dramatic picture . . . not since "San Francisco" have we seen anything to equal the battle with the spreading fire, the desperate dynamiters who blow up entire sections of the city, the stampeding of the steers in the stockyards, the futile bucket brigade, the panic of the flight to the lake front.

Chicago History

All very exciting and all very good. But a valid picture of Chicago history, even in this early period would show a great deal more than Twentieth Century-Fox has given us in this production. A valid picture of this stage of Chicago history would show that the fundamental cause of the Chicago fire was not Mrs. O'Leary's cow . . . but the fact that there were slums, that the Fire Department was ill-equipped to fight any fire in Chicago . . . because it was graft ridden and corrupted by politicians who used it to line their own pockets . . . and further, a valid picture of even early Chicago history would show a great deal of the part played by the meat and railroad barons, the land speculators . . . and a great deal more which should be old stuff to readers of the Socialist Call.

And now one final word for the picture hit of the young year. Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." As pure entertainment this picture is absolute tops. But it is a fairy tale and much as we did enjoy it, it brought home the fact that the movie cartoon can be so easily turned to propaganda purposes. It is a perfect medium and the thought strikes me as to what a cartoonist with some imagination and a socialist point of view could do in it . . . for instance, taking some of Daumier's or Goya's anti-war or political cartoons and activating them for the screen. But that's too much to expect from Hollywood.

OHIO C.I.O. OFFICIALS



Four regional directors who participated actively in the formation of the Ohio Industrial Council at the convention recently held in Columbus. Left to right, seated: Pres. John Owens of District 6, United Mine Workers, who was elected president of the council; August Scholle, Toledo glass worker who leads the C. I. O. in northwest Ohio; standing: Cleveland Regional Director Lee Hall; Cincinnati Regional Director Paul Filler, who also serves as president of the Federation of Flat Glass Workers.

CIO Shoe Union Wins Agreements

By A Special Correspondent
LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Renewal of agreements for another year covering approximately 600 shoe workers in Los Angeles County was announced today, by William Seligman, secretary-organizer of Local 112, United Shoe Workers of America, CIO affiliate.

Factories involved were the Fern Shoe Co., California Shoes, Pasadena Sliper Co., Los Angeles Shoe Mfg. Co., and the Stylebilt Shoe Mfg. Corp.

The agreements provided for the closed shop, hiring through the union hall, adjustments in wages, offering increases particularly for skilled workers, 40-hour week, and arbitration in case of disputes.

Brother Seligman pointed to the amicable renewal of agreements as a "demonstration of the responsibility of the CIO."

"A campaign to organize the shoe workers in the custom shops will be launched within the next few weeks," Seligman said. "Working conditions in many of these small shops approximate those of a sweat shop, and the union is determined that no sub-standard shops shall exist in Los Angeles."

Shoe Repairers, Local 112 of the USWA, CIO affiliate, has in the last few weeks signed agreements with 18 companies, some with chain stores, it was stated by Hans L. Wilhelm, secretary-organizer. The agreements provided for a closed shop, increases in wages, and improved working conditions.

A conference and dinner took place this week at Clifton's Cafeteria, according to Bro. Seligman, secretary-organizer of Local 112, where the Exec. Bd. members and all the Shop Stewards were present. At this conference organizational achievements were discussed; what the agreements signed with the owners mean to the Union and how to make the manufacturers live up to them. Also plans for further organization work in the custom shops were taken up and how to improve the organization in general.

The Shoe Workers is one of the few unions that has closed shop contracts in the City of Open Shops.

Former Socialist Dies In Kenmore, O.

Comrade L. Victor Farnsworth of Wadsworth, Ohio, reports the death of Comrade Joseph F. Nice of Kenmore, Ohio, on February 12.

Old time Socialists will recall that Comrade Nice was Socialist Mayor of Kenmore in 1912 and 1913. During the past five years Nice suffered a broken hip and was compelled to use crutches. Nice was 82 years old at the time of his death and had resided in Kenmore for more than 36 years.

MINERS CALL FOR UNITED DRIVE TO FREE MOONEY

GILLESPIE, Ill.—"Free Tom Mooney!" was the ringing demand of a mass meeting of coal miners and their friends who jammed the Colonial theatre here March 6 to hear speeches by U. S. Rep. Frank Fries and Duncan McDonald, former secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of Illinois.

The meeting was arranged by a joint committee of locals 1 and 34, Progressive Miners of America and marked the beginning of a drive among the Illinois coal mines to persist in demanding a full pardon for Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings.

"The forces which put Mooney in jail and seek to keep him behind the bars for the remainder of his life do not operate only in California," a resolution adopted by the meeting declared.

"The same forces are at work in our state—in all states for that matter, and in every country."

"The story of Tom Mooney symbolizes the struggle of the American worker for a more just position in society and the just share of the wealth produced."

The resolution ended with a ringing appeal to A. F. of L., C. I. O. and other labor unions to remain united in the fight to free Mooney.

Fries, who represents this district in Congress, delivered a detailed address in which he characterized Mooney as a "martyr in the cause of a better society."

Jack Battuello, president of Local No. 1, presided over the meeting.



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Building Socialism

Reports of Party Activity Over the Country

BY ROY E. BURT, NATIONAL SECRETARY

BALTIMORE

The local conducted a very successful meeting with Comrade Sam Baron speaking on "Spain Behind the Scenes."

On Sunday, March 6, the local sponsored an anti-war conference at which Comrade Dave Felix of Philadelphia was the speaker. This conference expects to cooperate with the National Committee to "Keep America out of War."

Comrade Felix also spoke at the Baltimore Forum on "The Illusion of Collective Security."

RHODE ISLAND

Providence:
On Thursday, March 10, Local Providence will have a Hungarian night when a supper will be served and a Hungarian comrade will tell of his experience in the Socialist movement of Hungary. The supper and lecture will be held in the Girls City Club, 75 Westminster street, Providence. Supper will be served at six o'clock.

"After The New Deal—What?" will be the subject of an address by Joseph M. Coldwell, former state secretary, at a forum meeting held under the auspices the Deutsche Turnerschaft, at their club house, 118 Glenbridge avenue, Providence, Monday evening, March 21.

INDIANA

Reports of renewed activities throughout the state are encouraging. The S. E. C. met in regular session on Sunday, March 6, in Terre Haute, at the home of Professor John R. Shannon. Gary:

Gary maintains a regular open Forum on Sunday afternoon which is growing in attendance and influence.

Hammond:
Local Hammond is busy with an active educational and recruiting program which is resulting in new members.

Evansville:
Local Vanderburg County goes ahead with a full program of activities.

WISCONSIN

Madison:
The Comrades here are enthusiastic about the results of the visit of Norman Thomas to the campus and the town.

He spoke over Station WJBA, was dinner guest and spoke to a significant group in the evening and that night addressed a large mass meeting of university and town people.

The success of this visit was due to the loyal cooperation of a committee of the local organization.

Racine:
Comrade Thomas was honored guest at dinner in Eugene V. Debs Hall here and later spoke at a well attended meeting. He was enthusiastic about the reception he received and was greatly impressed by the fine spirit of the Racine comrades.

ILLINOIS

Cook County:
Local Cook County observed the 3rd anniversary of the founding of the Socialist Call with a dinner on March 6. It was made also the occasion of a genuine welcome to Comrade Allard as the Editor.

Greetings were presented to the Call and Comrade Allard from Brother Sugarman, president of the Federation of Jewish Trade Unions.

FLORIDA

Comrade Frank McCallister, as representative of the national office, has issued a call for a state wide conference of Socialists to be held in Orlando on Sunday, March 13. It is expected that this conference will be the first step to reorganize the state of Florida in response to growing Socialist sentiment.

MAINE

The state convention of Maine

Socialists met in Bangor on March 6.

Definite and practical plans were made for a state wide program of party building. Howard Penley, State Secretary, assisted by other comrades, has been active in labor and peace groups in an effective way.

KENTUCKY

Louisville:
The local comrades have been active in support of the LID Forum here.

On Sunday, February 27, Maynard C. Krueger, member of the NEC, spoke on the subject of "Collective Security, The Road to Peace or War."

Following the Forum a meeting was held at party headquarters which resulted in launching a Louisville Committee to "Keep America Out of War." Comrade Krueger reports 12 Call subs as a result of the response to his presentation of the Call.



SUNNYSIDE, L. I.

Come to the Gay Sharecroppers Party March 12, at 3908 48th St., Sunnyside, L. I. Let's give our sharecroppers a big hand! Auspices: Sunnyside Branch, S. P.

CHICAGO

The Cook County Local of the Socialist Party announced the agenda for pre-convention discussion this week and urges all of its members to prepare material to contribute to the discussion.

The following was announced as the agenda:

March 10—"Labor Unions and the Unemployed," Arthur McDowell, Edward Adams and Ina White reporters.

March 17—"Labor Party and People's Front," Roy Burt and Arthur McDowell reporters.

March 24—"Organization, Press and Carrying out Party Program," Gerry Allard, Roy Burt and Al Hamilton reporters.

All meetings are to be held at Room 404, 549 Randolph St., Chicago, 8 P. M.

WILLOUGHBY, OHIO

March 11—Howard Kester will speak at a dinner arranged by Rev. MacLennan.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

March 12—Cleveland committee has arranged dinner which will be held at the Euclid Ave. Baptist Church, Euclid Ave. at E. 18th St. Speakers: Kester, B. A. Whitney, Beryl Peppercorn, W. O. Walker, Robert Parker and John Sommerlatte. Moving pictures.

OBERLIN, OHIO

March 12—Saturday afternoon. Howard Kester speaks at Oberlin College. Auspices: YMCA.

Further information on Ohio dates can be secured by telephoning Main 6943 or by writing to 506 Prospect—5th Bldg., Cleveland.

In Memoriam

The Socialist movement mourns with our Comrades of the Vanderburgh County, Indiana, local the loss of Comrade Louis F. Kassel, father of Comrade Theodore Kassel, an old-time Socialist who remained loyal to the end.

MILWAUKEE YSF RECRUITS FIFTY YOUTH MEMBERS

By PETER WARTIAINEN, JR. Wisconsin YPSL Organizer

Fifty new members, amounting to a thirty three per cent increase, is the record of the Young Socialist Federation in Milwaukee, during the first two months of 1938. Recognizing that, "He who has the youth has the nation," the Socialist Party of Milwaukee is pioneering a radical new method of organizing young Socialists.

The idea of the Young Socialist Federation is very simple. Organize Socialist clubs; bands, glee clubs, actors, etc., to take care of the cultural activities and for a recruiting place for youthful Socialists.

Then the Young Peoples' Socialist League circles, the disciplined, educational clubs affiliated with the national office will take care of Socialist education and all political action. This lets the YPSL Circles work directly with unions, American Student Union, etc., freed of the dead weight of social activities.

Harold Schrubbe

Harold Schrubbe, secretary of the Federation, the comrade who has practically organized and run the organization during the year of its existence reports the clubs as follows:

The Band has a membership of forty-five and has a brilliant record of performing at many of the Socialist functions. Last month it won third prize at the Brewers Ball in Milwaukee, where the leading bands of the city played.

The Chorus leads the clubs with a membership of sixty. Music the universal language appeals even to Socialists as witnessed by the radio broadcasts over WEMP by the Chorus. The Harmony Club, where the technical details of music are studied, has 15 members.

The Drama Club has some twenty members who are interested in creating workers culture. When all orthodox drama and art is permeated with capitalistic propaganda and philosophy, the only thing sincere Socialists can do is to create a true workers culture.

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BUILD THE CALL

Two states went over the top this week in the Build the Call drive—Illinois and Massachusetts.

Illinois came to the fore through a Call anniversary dinner which was held Saturday night. The Comrades of Cook County promptly turned over an initial payment of \$75 which enabled the Call to meet some very pressing bills.

Let's hear from the other Call affairs which are being held in various parts of the country.

The following is a report of the drive to date:

Total Remitted.....\$1,005.70
Last Week 828.15
This Week 177.55

State	Quota	Am't Remitted	Total
Ala.	5.00	—	5.00
Ariz.	5.00	—	5.00
Ark.	5.00	—	5.00
Calif.	50.00	12.50	62.50
Colo.	25.00	—	25.00
Conn.	50.00	41.80	91.80
D. C.	15.00	5.00	20.00
Dela.	5.00	—	5.00
Fla.	5.00	—	5.00
Ida.	5.00	—	5.00
Ill.	150.00	156.80	306.80
Ind.	40.00	19.50	59.50
Ia.	5.00	—	5.00

Kan.	5.00	—	5.00
Ky.	10.00	—	10.00
La.	5.00	—	5.00
Mass.	100.00	100.00	200.00
Me.	10.00	—	10.00
Md.	25.00	—	25.00
Mich.	150.00	—	150.00
Minn.	10.00	—	10.00
Mo.	50.00	—	50.00
Mont.	5.00	—	5.00
Neb.	5.00	—	5.00
N. J.	75.00	—	75.00
N. M.	5.00	—	5.00
N. Y.	1000.00	170.00	1170.00
N. C.	5.00	—	5.00
N. H.	5.00	—	5.00
Ohio	75.00	—	75.00
Okla.	5.00	—	5.00
Ore.	15.00	—	15.00
Pa.	300.00	—	300.00
R. I.	20.00	—	20.00
S. D.	5.00	—	5.00
Tenn.	10.00	—	10.00
Texas	15.00	—	15.00
Utah	5.00	—	5.00
Vt.	5.00	—	5.00
Va.	5.00	—	5.00
Wash.	25.00	—	25.00
W. Va.	5.00	—	5.00
Wis.	700.00	—	700.00
Wyo.	5.00	—	5.00

THOMAS MEETING
March 11—Mid-Town Forum presents Norman Thomas on "Why A Big Navy?" 8:15 P. M. sharp—Hotel Newton, B'way and 94th St.

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'Get Out of My Hall' Shouts Proprietier; 'We Shall Not Be Moved' Reply Delegates

S. P. Now Is Labor Party In Connecticut

HARTFORD, Conn.—The Connecticut organization of the Socialist Party, acting with the approval of the National Executive Committee, voted two weeks ago to change its name to the Labor Party of Connecticut.

Plans are now under way to secure 7,000 more signatures to legally place the Party on the ballot in coming elections.

The Connecticut section of the Socialist Party announced that it had changed its constitution to make stiffer than ever the commitment of the Labor Party of Connecticut to the platform, declaration of principles, constitution, and convention and N. E. C. decisions of the Socialist Party of the United States.

Allen States Purpose

Devere Allen, N. E. C. member and chairman of the Labor Party's Public Affairs Committee, asserted that the "Labor Party name was taken not only to secure a place on the November ballots but to emphasize the central purpose stated in our incorporation papers, namely, to promote; uphold and perpetuate principles of government consonant with the welfare of the working class."

Allen, who himself is a member of the Newspaper Guild, The Author's League and the American Federation of Teachers, said that the slate of candidates which the party would seek to run by petition would be drawn almost entirely from the ranks of union labor.

McLevy Group

"Another reason for the change," Allen announced, "is the fact that under Connecticut election laws it has been proved possible for the McLevy party of Bridgeport, which is not recognized as Socialist by the nationwide Socialists, to support a political organization in the country which is hostile to the Socialist Party of the U. S. A., and yet maintain the name Socialist on the ballots in Connecticut.

"We do not think this is a situation that is good for any of the political parties, and we believe it is contradictory to the principles of democracy. The purpose of the McLevy faction is not to carry out Socialist principles, because, as everyone knows, it does not do so; but to deny us by this device the rightful representation on the Connecticut ballot to which our national organization is entitled."

Cooperative Congress To Meet In Kansas City October 12-14

CHICAGO, Ill.—The Biennial Congress of the Cooperative League of the U. S. A. will be held in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 12, 18 and 14, according to the decision of the board of directors of the Cooperative League, meeting here Feb. 22. Consumers Cooperative Association, with headquarters in North Kansas City, will act as host to the Congress which will follow immediately after the Annual Meeting of C. C. A. Oct. 10 and 11.

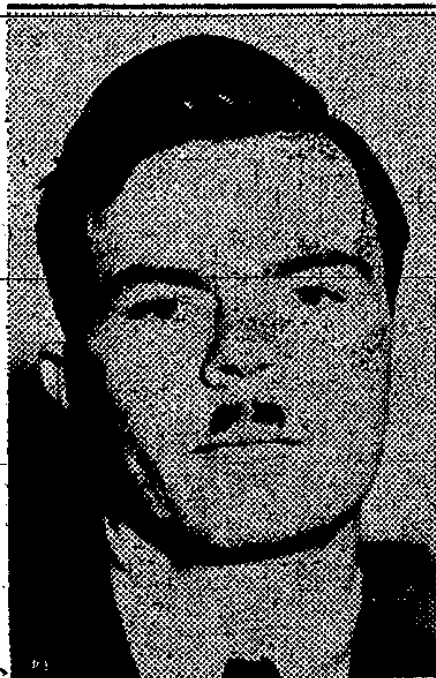
The American Co-op Congress will bring together representatives of the 800,000 members of cooperatives affiliated with the Cooperative League and is expected to draw a large number of visitors from other organizations. The Congress will be the eleventh since the Cooperative League was established in 1916.

TENANT FARMERS MAKE PROGRESS IN ANNUAL MEET

By WARD H. ROGERS

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — The Fourth Annual Convention of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union closed its sessions Sunday morning, February 27, with the election of new-officers for the year 1938.

The following officers were elected: J. R. Butler, president;



Ward Rodgers Socialist Party N. E. C. Member.

E. B. McKinney, vice-president; O. H. Whitfield, second vice-president; H. L. Mitchell, secretary-treasurer and Ward H. Rodgers, educational field director. The convention also elected an executive board of ten members.

The program adopted included a demand for extension of the National Labor Relations Act to cover agricultural labor of all types, immediate establishment of cooperative farm projects by the government and the establishment of cooperative farm projects by the government and the establishment of a National Tenancy Authority independent of any other government agency.

Flay War Plans

The convention adopted a strong resolution dealing with war. The enactment of a constitutional amendment to allow the citizens of the United States to vote on a war issue was adopted. Roosevelt's \$800,000,000 appropriation for a bigger navy was condemned and it proposed instead of battleships that funds be used to rehabilitate landless farmers upon land.

The convention declared the Southern Tenant Farmers Union was "profoundly grateful for the continued support of the good friends of the STFU throughout America. We re-dedicate ourselves to the task of abolishing farm tenancy and restoring the land to the disinherited of the South."

YPSL ESSAY CONTEST

The National Educational Department of the Young Peoples Socialist League announced this week that it is conducting a contest for an essay on some topic related to the Communist Manifesto. The contest is open to all members of the Y. P. S. L. and closes on April 15. Essays are to be no longer than 1000 words and should be sent to 549 Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill. Winners will be announced on May 1.

Build the Socialist Call

Send in your sub today

By BRADLEY SMITH
LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—"We shall not be moved," sang the delegates to the fourth annual convention of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union as they convened February 25. "Get out of my hall," said W. E. Manning, president of the Arkansas Properties Association, an hour after the convention opened the next morning.

The sharecroppers left quietly and peacefully. "We have been beaten, jailed and evicted countless times; this is another example of the many injustices done to these people," said Howard Kester, member of the national council of the STFU.

The delegates walked out of the hall, wondering why they were not allowed to continue their work. All were in work clothes, a great many carried their antique suitcases; one old Negro man said he was sleeping out during the convention, and the tall, broad-shouldered, six-foot-six Wiley Harris, Negro delegate from Parkin, Ark., and leader of three hundred union men, wanted to help somehow, but didn't know just what to do.

Knew It

"I knew this was going to happen," said Otto Hick, delegate from Muskogee, Okla. "Last night I was standing in the aisle outside the door listening to the people in the Four Square Gospel (Aimee McPherson's) church right across the hall singing 'Blessed Be the Ties That Bind.'"

"They finish and three men and three ladies came out the door. One of the ladies asked me if there wasn't a white man in there. I said, 'Sho, they's a lot of white men and Negroes in there, and I asked them to come in. She said no, but called over to a little man who had a bible under his arm. He asked me about the buttons I was wearing and I told him one was CIO and the other Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, so he talked to the others and they said they were going to put a stop to this convention.'"

Manning entered the convention at nine-thirty and listened to one of the speakers for a few minutes. He then called H. L. Mitchell and Howard Kester to his office and claimed he did not know the organization was CIO when they rented the hall. He also said he had been told there would be no Negro delegates. Mitchell denied both of these statements. Manning then told him they would have to leave and offered to refund the money the STFU had paid for the hall; Mitchell refused it. Kester went down and told the delegates to leave quietly.

Redbaiter

In an interview Manning told this reporter that he had investigated the STFU before renting the hall, but did not know they were a CIO union. "The CIO is just a bunch of renegades and I am opposed to them in every way," he said. "These people ought to go to Russia with Stalin." (Note—The Four Square Gospel Church, located in the same building, rents from Manning.)

"They even are supported by Norman Thomas, the big Communist organizer, I understand," Manning said. "I don't believe in racial equality. Down in Texas where I come from we lynch niggers for this stuff. In the beginning I was all for this. I even offered to make a speech, but I can't have this sort of thing going on in my building."

The delegates led by President Butler then walked over to the Mosaic Temple where another hall had been arranged. There the delegates stood up, 100 men and women representing 40,000 tenant farmers in the South, and sang, "We Shall Not Be Moved."

Michigan Workers Shape Forces For Political Action

By BEN FISCHER

DETROIT, Mich.—The organization of Labor's Non-Partisan League in Michigan is getting under way. Through its efforts, a labor campaign is being organized in Pontiac for the spring elections and attention is also being given to other cities. Machinery for the fight for labor legislation is also being developed.

Socialists are giving full cooperation to the development of this political movement of the workers in Michigan.

The basic question which now faces the League, is the question of policy in the state elections next fall. An effort is being made by the Democratic Party and by the Communist Party to place the organization clearly on record in favor of Murphy and in favor of a policy of supporting Democratic and Republican candidates. The Democratic Party is attempting to line up Labor's Non-Partisan League solidly behind the Democratic slate. The activity of the Communists is leading in this direction, but there has been no clear statement of policy as yet.

Gov. Murphy

The dominant elements in the labor movement here now take the position that even though they might be in favor of supporting Murphy later on, at the present time it would be poor politics to give such endorsement. These elements want more proof of Murphy's friendliness to labor before they are willing to hand over the organization to him.

In this group there is some sentiment which doubts the eventual advisability of endorsing a capitalist party candidate. This entire element, of course, looks forward to some degree of independence on the part of labor in the coming campaign.

S. P. Position

The Socialist Party takes a position which has considerable support both in the rank-and-file and among many leading trade unionists. It is working for an independent labor party in 1938 in Michigan. It wants this party to support only independent labor candidates. If this were done, labor could probably elect some members to the state legislature. It could probably make real inroads in the local campaign.

The position of the Socialist Party was adopted by an overwhelming vote at a recent state conference of the party on political action. Delegates from the branches throughout the state

attended the conference.

Socialists are pledged to give no support, direct or indirect, to any capitalist party candidate. They have made clear their intention to work to develop Labor's Non-Partisan League along these lines and to give no support, even through Labor's Non-Partisan League, to any activities which involve support of capitalist party candidates.

Anti-War Work

This position has been considerably strengthened as a result of the anti-war agitation in the labor movement. Workers are beginning to ask whether Roosevelt is a real friend of labor, especially in the light of his support of the armament program and the Sheppard-Hill bill. They are becoming more and more conscious of the need for developing a type of organization and power which can resist the forces which are threatening their very lives and labor movement and the civil rights of the workers.

Frank X. Martel, president of the Detroit Federation of Labor, is playing the Murphy game all the way. Last December he announced his support of Murphy. Last month, the Michigan Federation of Labor endorsed Murphy. Martel is unquestionably entrenching himself in the state Democratic machine.

Some labor elements which distrust Martel are ready to try to best him out in currying Murphy's favor. This is one of the things which is aiding those elements which want a quick and very complete endorsement of Murphy and the Democratic Party.

Communists and the Democrats are carrying on a campaign of denunciation of the Vote Labor campaign in Detroit, last year. They call it sectarian. Where this has not been combated, it has thrown many doubts into the minds of the pro-labor party forces. However, where efforts have been made to counter-act this propaganda, these efforts have been successful. The Cadillac Square demonstration last month and the solidarity of the UAW in the face of the depression, despite factional difficulties inside the union, are a convincing proof of the value of the type of campaign which was put on in Detroit last year. This campaign helped to develop among the workers a feeling of self-reliance and of militancy which gives them a greater political power than one or two friendly public officials could possibly give.