

# Socialist Call

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## PRO-WAR FORCES DEFER ANTI-WAR REFERENDUM

### CIO Opens Drive To Secure Jobs For Unemployed

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Launching of a campaign for passage of the Schwellenbach-Schwellenbach Resolution (SR 176, HR 1760), with a rider calling for the repeal of the Woodrum Amendment, has been urged by the Committee for Industrial Organization in a letter to all its affiliates.

The resolution, introduced on behalf of the Workers Alliance of America by Senator Schwellenbach and Congressman Allen, directs WPA to provide jobs for all needy unemployed unable to find private work and prohibits the dismissal of WPA workers except for cause.

Repeal of the Woodrum Amendment is sought because it forces WPA to spread its appropriation over the entire year regardless of immediate needs. Its repeal would permit President Roosevelt to carry out the Workers Alliance program for 3,000,000 PWA jobs and a \$15 month relief grant per family to the states.

Action of the Committee for Industrial Organization toward launching a campaign in behalf of the resolution followed conferences between Alliance leaders and officials of the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League.

Majority Leader Barkley of the Senate has agreed to recognize Sen. Schwellenbach on the resolution as soon as the anti-lynching filibuster is ended.

In the meantime, the Alliance has planned plans for protest meetings and demonstrations during the latter part of January to rally support for the Schwellenbach-Allen resolution.

### Lewis Ends Rest

TUSCON, Ariz.—John L. Lewis, chairman of the C.I.O. ended a week's rest here January 7. Lewis has been suffering from serious sinus trouble in recent years.

### UNEMPLOYMENT SOARS



Bread lines, closed factories, part-time work and layoffs are the capitalists' greetings to the nation for New Year. Here you see a line of unemployed workers at Frankfort, Pa., who swamped a registration office seeking work and jobless insurance benefits.

### Governor Gyps Workers Collectors Gyp Governor

CHICAGO. — Governor Henry Horner, famed in reactionary circles as the author of Illinois' three per cent sales tax, smugly announced last week that he had chiselled \$18,000,000 out of the half of sales tax funds which is allotted for relief.

Then everything went boom! for his honor.

On the heels of Gov. Horner's scandalous announcement followed another scandal. The sales tax collection staff, including some of the governor's personal associates, were exposed of having done some hefty chiseling of their own. The collectors were exposed of knocking down a million dollars a month and dividing the spoils among themselves and merchants.

Governor Horner professed to be much shocked as his political

machine began to take a nose dive.

#### Union Protested

Yet the governor, who self styles himself a "humanitarian," publicly denounced Ray Edmundson, president of the influential United Mine Workers, when that union called the state administration's hand as to how relief was being handled.

Edmundson, taking up the cause of the unemployed workers, had pointed out to the governor two months ago that half of the three per cent sales tax revenue far exceeded \$2,000,000. And when Edmundson asked a special session of the legislature to air the relief crisis in Illinois, the reply from the governor was a sarcastic letter which was smeared over the press of the state.

Now it is revealed that the accursed 3% sales tax which in the main is being paid by the workers, farmers and relief clients, was actually bringing nearly \$7,000,000 per month of which \$3,500,000 was legally intended for relief.

#### Robbed Reliefers

The difference of \$3,500,000 which was supposed to go towards unemployment relief, and the actual \$2,000,000 which was expended for that purpose, or more than a million dollars, went into the pockets of Gov. Horner's political henchmen. The total is nearly twice the amount necessary to pay rent and restore relief cuts for Chicago's unemployed.

### Socialist National Secretary Calls On Workers To Intensify Efforts For Peace

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A last minute plea by President Roosevelt deferred action on the LaFollette-Ludlow amendment to the constitution by the House of Representatives, January 10. The amendment, which has support of broad masses of workers, farmers and the middle class, was buried in the rules and judiciary committee of the house by a parliamentary maneuver. The vote was 209 to 188.

It is unlikely that the bill will again come up for a vote before the present session of congress.

Roosevelt confessed in his letter, which was read to the representatives by Speaker William B. Bankhead, that passage of the war referendum amendment would cripple American imperialist interests abroad and asked that the power to declare war be vested in congress as before.

#### More Amendments

Proponents of the amendment meanwhile showed signs of weakening by proposing that amendments be made to the original bill by broadening the "defensive" character of the bill to include the whole Western hemisphere. They also announced that the bill would be changed so that ratification would be left to state constitutional conventions instead of state legislatures.

Socialists and genuinely class conscious workers gave critical support to the bill as a protest to the current movement towards war. Socialists are opposed not only to wars of invasion but oppose any and all wars, national, imperialist or otherwise, which has as its aim the subjugation of colonial peoples or the exploitation of workers in this or other countries.

Roy Burt, National Secretary of the Socialist Party, released the following statement on the temporary defeat of the proposed referendum on war:

"President Roosevelt's demand for the defeat of the Ludlow amendment clearly reveals the war aims of the present administration. No longer will the working class of America be fooled by his pretensions of loyalty to peace.

"The President's demand for the defeat of this measure, his outspoken distrust in the judgment of the people, coupled with



Roy E. Burt

his proposal for increased military and naval expenditure, clearly indicates that he is preparing the nation for war and that he wants no interference.

#### Class Interests

"When he considers it necessary to plunge the American people into war to protect the economic interests of the owning class he wants a free hand.

"The workers and farmers of America can have but one answer to this action of the President and those of his class who are preparing for war. All our energies and efforts must be redoubled to defeat these war plans.

"American naval and military forces must be withdrawn from the war zone.

"Funds marked for war purposes must be turned to a constructive program to solve our housing and relief problems.

"We refuse to accept his decision. We will not be silenced by the clamor of the war makers. From everywhere in America there must come an increased demand that final decision on the matter of war must rest with the people."

### A CHALLENGE!

The National Action Committee voted this week to challenge Senator William E. Borah to debate the pending bill now delayed in the Senate by a reactionary filibuster. Roy E. Burt, secretary of the Socialist Party, transmitted the following telegram to Borah on January 10:

WILLIAM E. BORAH,  
U. S. SENATE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Your Senate speech constitutes an attack against the 12,000,000 Negroes in America and all believers in social justice. We challenge you to debate Norman Thomas, National Chairman of the Socialist Party, on the real issues of this measure. Committee ready to make arrangements to suit your convenience.

ROY E. BURT, NATIONAL SECRETARY  
SOCIALIST PARTY, U. S. A.

### SOCIALISTS' ANTI-WAR PROGRAM

1. Demand passage of the Ludlow amendment.
2. Opposition to Roosevelt's preparedness program.
3. War funds for unemployment relief.
4. Consumers' boycott of Japanese goods and workers' sanctions.
5. Full co-operation with the "Youth Committee Against War."
6. Withdrawal of all military and naval forces from the war zone.

# Loyalists Gain Despite Fierce Fascist Attack

BARCELONA, Spain, Jan. 10.—More than 100,000 troops, hundreds of planes and fleets of war tanks rumbled for nearly two weeks against Loyalist forces at Teruel failed to budge the defenders of Spain from the city. To the contrary, the Loyalists not only held their ground but gained strategic points and completely took control of the city.

Two thousand fascist soldiers were captured when several hill sectors surrendered. Hundreds of old men, women and children were among those freed from underground tunnels where they had fled to escape the fire of overground warfare.

Meanwhile reports from Gibraltar stated that hundreds of German and Italian infantrymen in full fighting kit were arriving daily in preparation for a drive against Almeria. Almeria was believed to be the next scene of concentrated warfare. Italian and German generals were reported to be planning the attack on this city.

## Trade Union Unity

Loyalist government reports said the fascists had suffered 10,000 casualties and heavy losses of war material in the Teruel battle. Loyalists also captured 4,800 rifles, 211 machine guns, 97 mortars, 30 field guns, 300 trucks and thousands of boxes of ammunition.

The cold weather which dropped to six below zero inflicted great casualties, especially among refugees.

Indication that the two central Spanish trade unions would seek to unite was reported from the International Federation of Trade Unions. Following a conference attended by Walter Citrine, England; Joubaux, France; Largo Caballero, Llopi and Tomas; and Pena, Vega, Pretel and Genova, it was agreed that a delegation of the International Federation would journey to Spain to bring to a successful conclusion the conciliation actions which were started at Paris.

## Mexican Unions

### Wage General Solidarity Strikes

MEXICO CITY.—During the past week, a series of general strikes, which tied up such important cities of the state as Cordoba, Jalapa, Tuxpan, and Vera Cruz for 24-hour periods were the latest developments in the interminable conflict of Cocolapan.

The strikes were called by the local organizations of the State Federation of Workers, affiliated with the CTM (Confederation of Mexican Workers), as a protest against the long and unjustified delays in the reopening of the Cocolapan plant in Orizaba, shut down for the past several months.

## OLDA ZIDLICKY

The SOCIALIST CALL mourns with our Czechoslovak comrades the untimely death of fellow worker Olda Zidlicky. Olda's last job as a linotype operator was to set up the first issue of the CALL published in Chicago. He departed from his work the night of January 4 for his home and it was when he entered his home that he succumbed.

Olda was paid fitting tribute by hundreds of his fellow workers and comrades who assembled at the Bohemian National Cemetery where his remains were cremated.

## FRITZ ADLER IMPRISONED IN HOLLAND

ROTTERDAM, The Netherlands.—Fritz Adler, secretary of the Labor and Socialist International and world-known Socialist leader, was sentenced by a Holland court to four months' imprisonment January 7, on the pretext that he had used false methods to enter the country.

Adler, like other laborites who often cross Germany by air, carried with him documents to protect his identity from Nazi police. A strong enemy of the Hitler regime, Adler explained he did not want to use his own name on that journey because of the danger of a forced landing in Germany. The court would not heed his explanation.

It is often customary for celebrities in the various fields of endeavor to conceal their identity from curious seekers and political enemies. Decision of the court can only be construed as an attempt to increase the fascists' police power in Europe.

Adler gained international prominence in 1914-1918 when he made a persistent fight against war. He was sentenced to death in 1916. His sentence was commuted to eighteen years' imprisonment and later he was freed under an amnesty of November 11, 1918.

## German Workers Resented Duce's Expensive Visit

PARIS, France.—Reports issued from Germany concerning the attitude of the populace in regard to Mussolini's recent visit with Hitler show that the Italian dictator is not popular in Germany. The reason for this may sound curious, but it is due to the vivid memories of Italy's "treachery" during the World War. Italy was a member of the Triple Alliance, yet it fought against Germany together with the Triple Entente.

Typical examples of this attitude of distrust come from all parts of Germany. In Berlin a group of workers tried to be excused from participating in the reception for the Duce. The Nazi group leader replied: "I know very well that many Germans would sooner not join in this welcome—but orders are orders."

From Mannheim comes the news that "the visit of Mussolini is being viewed with mixed feelings. Many, particularly much of the older generation, point out that the Italians have betrayed us once and that they continue to maltreat the Germans in the Tyrol."

In Bavaria, particularly in Munich, there was much grumbling over the excessive costs of the Duce's reception. Such complaints find a ready attention in Southern Germany because the fate of the Germans in southern Tyrol is a lively issue here.

## JAPS BOMB CIVILIANS



A Chinese father is seen here carrying his child to a waiting ambulance after Jap imperialist aviators bombed Nanking, killing scores of civilians. The war-makers the world over thrive on the blood of innocents.

## Mexican Workers Debate Plan For Political Party

MEXICO CITY.—The attitude of the Mexican labor movement towards the new political party, the formation of which was recently announced by President Cardenas, will be crystallized by the discussions of the project to be held next month by the national committee of the CTM (Confederation of Mexican Workers).

A telegraphic summons has been sent by the national committee to all the national industrial unions and state Federations belonging to the central body to designate their representatives to the meeting, which has been called for January 5.

According to the statement given out, the CTM intends to subject the President's plan to an exhaustive scrutiny from the point of view of labor's interests, and the decisions arrived at will be made public as the official attitude of the labor movement with regard to the new political organization. It is expected that the announcement made after the meeting will contain the minimum demands of organized labor and the conditions it will propose in return for entering the political party in order to safeguard all of its present rights and conquests.

At the same meeting, final plans will be drawn up for the holding of the first general congress of the CTM, scheduled for the latter part of February, at which elections will be held for a new national committee to serve for the succeeding two-year period.

## Spanish Masses Make Progress Despite Invasion

VALENCIA, Spain.—While their soldiers valiantly hold back the fascist hordes of Europe the workers and peasants are engaged in a gigantic educational program as well as raising food and producing goods for the army. Sabadell, is a good example of the work that is being done. This town had 30 state primary schools a year ago with 2,000 children in attendance. Today it has 100 schools with 5,000 pupils.

Adult illiteracy, the heir of the past, will be wiped out. The Ministry of Education has organized brigades of members of youth and women's organizations whose chief job it is to teach the illiterates to read and write. Such cultural progress speaks

## German Middle Class Ferment Against Nazis

KOMOTAU, Czechoslovakia.—It is reported from a large town in the west of Germany that people of the middle classes—even of National Socialist color—are becoming more and more alienated from the Nazi system. This is partly due to the following causes: "Taxes, which are rather high, are collected by the most brutal methods. The ownership of house property is subject to the new tax on possessions. In retail trading—especially in the food and drink trades—the profit margin becomes smaller and smaller, and the shortage becomes more marked every day. Fats are practically unobtainable, and only 60 grams of oil can be sold at a time. Those who buy oil cannot get other fats."

"In many districts extra butter could be had in addition to the usual ration, but there is talk of new regulations coming which will only allow a quarter-pound per person per week. Bread is bad, and it will be no surprise if it gets still worse and still more scarce. Imitation coffee is only sold in small quantities and is often not to be had. Spices are also becoming rarer, and soda and starch are short. The price of boots and shoes has risen by an average of 30% since the summer."

The workers are calmly watching developments, the report continues, so that many middle-class persons think that no resistance can be expected from the workers. This however is a false conclusion.

well of the vitality of the Spanish people. It is indicative, too, of the greater things that will be done after the workers and peasants' armies drive the invaders from their country.

## French Strike Wave Rocks Popular Front

PARIS, France.—Strikes continue in France despite all the threats of Camille Chautemps, Popular Front Premier, who has talked for more than a week about the illegality of direct action by workers who seek settlement of their grievances.

Several thousand workers remain on strike at the Goodrich Rubber Co. (American) plant demanding that the employers reinstate workers who were victimized because of union activity. It seems that the labor spy racket has been imported to France. Workers reported that dictaphones had been used to spy on strong union adherents. The workers are demanding the abolition of this system as a condition for a settlement of the strike.

The strike has also involved truck drivers and warehousemen. Bank clerks threatened to strike January 9, when they staged a demonstration to air their grievances.

Thirty-nine ships are tied up at Rouen because of a seamen's strike there.

"At Privas serious difficulties loomed as police conferred with strikebreakers who wanted to enter a strikebound cement plant.

The General Confederation of Labor is supporting all the strikes and it has issued manifestoes attacking the employers for their breach of contract.

The confederation announced that "in view of the fighting spirit that animates French employers" it had decided to take up the whole question of strikes with the Popular Front government as well as with a bloc of the left wing parties which make up the popular front.

Premier Chautemps announced that he would be willing to confer with the trade union leaders and offered a program of "social accord."

## Expose Fascist Scheme To Get Basque Children

LONDON, Eng.—In a recent article in the News-Chronicle, Philip Jordan categorically denies the Fascist claims that the repatriation of the Basque refugee children was in harmony with the "unanimous and spontaneous desire of their parents." Jordan cites a note from the fascist newspaper of Bilbao, El Correo Espanol: "Parents should hasten to take official steps to secure the return of their children. Those who have not requested their return will be very sorry for not having done so."

The following typical letter was received in England by the authorities in charge of the refugee children: "I have received a letter from my husband informing me that he has requested the repatriation of my daughters. I beg you to do everything possible to prevent their being sent to Spain, because neither the handwriting nor the signature is my husband's and I know that he does not want his children repatriated."

The Department of Social Assistance of Euzkadi asked for clarification of the intentions of the British authorities with respect to the Basque children. The following cablegram was the reply: "Please assure Basque mothers that no child whose parents are in Loyalist territory will be sent to Rebel territory. You would aid us greatly if you could send us immediately a list of all parents now in Catalonia."



# N. Y. Socialists Submit Program State Legislature

NEW YORK CITY.—A sixteen-point legislative program for action at the session just opening of the New York Legislature was announced this week by the Public Affairs Committee of the Socialist Party, from Party's new headquarters at 11 West 17th street, New York City.

Dr. Harry W. Laidler, Chairman, declared for the committee, that "it is to be hoped that the legislature this session will redeem its poor record of last year, and will pass legislation of genuine significance to the workers and farmers to the state. It is confidently expected that the American Labor Party bloc in the legislature will greatly stimulate the consideration of needed labor legislation."

### Program

"Foremost among the measures which, in the opinion of the Socialist Party, should be passed by the legislature," continued Dr. Laidler, "are those for the ratification of the Federal Child Labor Amendment; the abolition of injunctions in labor disputes; the inauguration of a system of health insurance; the establishment of Municipal Milk Authorities; the acquisition by the State of all water power resources; the liberalization of home relief; the development of a comprehensive system of public work at prevailing wages; the revision of the tax system; the repeal of the Teachers' Loyalty Oath law; the empowering of the State to loan money to cities for public housing ventures; and the revision of old age pension, unemployment insurance and workmen's compensation laws."

"The Socialist Party will cooperate with the Assemblymen of the American Labor Party in the efforts of the latter to pass legislation in behalf of labor."

## Illinois Workers Alliance Opposes Military Budget

DuQUOIN, Ill.—The state executive board of the Illinois Workers Alliance which met here last week drew up plans for a vigorous campaign to reorganize the Alliance in Illinois. Resolutions were adopted calling for a special session of the Illinois Legislature to meet the relief crisis and also calling for additional Federal appropriations. The military budget of the Federal government was condemned and the demand was made that the money be spent for constructive rather than destructive purposes.

In carrying out the plans for organization work, an enlarged Southern Illinois district was established to carry on the work in this area. The proposal by the national office that one and possibly two national organizers be put to work in Chicago was accepted. Part time workers in other parts of the State were also authorized.

The Southern Illinois district held its meeting here at the same time as the state executive board meeting, and they made plans for an aggressive campaign in this area. William Hackleman, of Duquoin, was elected Chairman of the District.

## 2½ Millions For Seven G.M. Tycoons

WASHINGTON, D. C.—General Motors was very much in the news during the past week. Following the corporation's announcement that it would layoff 30,000 employees beginning Jan. 1, was President Knudsen's statement that "what this country needed was confidence." Then almost simultaneously the house ways and means committee revealed, among other figures, that seven topnotchers of the General Motors Corporation had received combined salaries of \$2,590,424 for the year 1936.

A. F. Sloan, Jr., chairman of the G. M. board, headed the national list with a salary of \$561,311, and his right hand man, Knudsen, was second in line with a salary of \$459,878.

Other salary heavyweights were: Donaldson Brown, General Motors, \$353,732; J. T. Smith, General Motors, \$349,257; T. J. Watson, International Business Machines, \$342,008; S. P. Skouras, theatres, \$341,000; Lawrence Fisher, General Motors, \$307,773; C. F. Kettering, General Motors, \$303,423; E. Fisher, General Motors, \$303,423; W. A. Fisher, General Motors, \$303,423; E. T. Wier, Wierton Steel, \$143,570; Tom Girdler, Republic Steel, \$174,999; M. C. Taylor, U. S. Steel, 166,862; Eugene Grace, Bethlehem Steel, \$180,000; C. M. Schwab, Bethlehem Steel, \$150,000; J. H. Rand, Remington-Rand, \$118,371; J. D. Biggers, Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass, \$90,000; Edsel Ford, Ford Motors, \$137,564; P. E. Martin, Ford Motors, \$163,509; C. E. Sorenson, Ford Motors, \$158,599; W. P. Chrysler, Auto, \$200,700. (Henry Ford was not listed.)

# Youth Committee Girds Forces for Peace Action

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Extension of the Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge into a formal organization which can serve as the spearhead of the struggle of youth against war, both on and off the campus, was advanced as an immediate perspective by the founders of the committee.

Initial steps will include the launching of a drive for a committee of 5,000 as official sponsors of the organization, a petition campaign in all centers where American youth gather, and the opening of an office at 112 East 19th street, New York City.

The Youth Committee was born in the heat of discussions preceding the American Student Union convention, as a grouping of anti-war forces in the student movement, cutting across all organizational lines. The decision to extend it was precipitated by the adoption of the ASU of what is, in effect, a pro-war position, calling for collective governmental action against aggressor nations.

Other contributing factors were the collective security stand of the American Youth Congress, the need for rallying genuine peace forces for the "peace and security" march on Washington in March, and the need for preserving the anti-war character of the annual student strike.

### Against M-Day

The Youth Committee has announced its intentions to wage a strong struggle against the militarism of Roosevelt and American imperialism. This will include a campaign for abolition of the ROTC on the campus, and one against the M-day plans of the government in the unions, withdrawal of military forces from the Far East, and critical support of the war referendum

amendment to the constitution. Its general outlook is to bring together all anti-collective security, anti-war elements on the campus, in the American Youth Congress and other youth organizations in support of a genuine peace position, including the Oxford Pledge, "We refuse to support any war which the government of the United States might undertake."

Among the original signers of the committee's statement of purpose are Hayes Beall, Frank Bennett, Charlotte Bentle, Bruce Brown, Ruth Brodie, Robert Burgess, Jeffrey Campbell, Harold Chance, Edmund Churchill, Lewis Conn, David Dellinger, Ward Fellows, Florence Gree

Al Hamilton, Alvaine Hollister, Helen James, Abo Kaufman, Robert N. Keiso, Frank Little, Betty Mansfield, Robin Myer, Max North, Charles Paddock, Robert Saffron, Jack Session, Warner Shippee, Hugo Thompson, Gloria Waldron, Frank Walker, Herman Will and Mol Yard.

The committee has already received wide support from the membership of the ASU, who approximately 400 delegates at the Student Christian Movement convention at Miami, Ohio, endorsed its aims. More support is rolling in. Interested young people can contact the committee at 112 East 19th street, New York City.

# Student Convention Renounces Anti-War Pledge

By AL HAMILTON

Secretary

Young People's Socialist League

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.—

After two years as the spark-plug of the student anti-war movement, the American Student Union, which was founded as a united front organization of Socialists, Communists and liberals in 1935, has fallen into the camp of the pro-war forces. It finds itself today under virtual control of the Young Communist League, following its third national convention, which closed here on December 31.

Highlights of the four-day convention included:

1. Dropping from the program of the Oxford Pledge "not to support any war which the government of the United States may conduct" by the YCL majority, and adoption of a collective security position.

The drive to reverse completely the historic anti-war stand of the ASU was opposed throughout by Socialists, unaffiliated radicals and liberals who rallied under the banner of the Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge, and assisted by the handful of Lovestonites and Trotskyites present. The final vote was 282 for collective security, 108 against.

2. Scrapping of the traditional twin stands of the ASU of non-partisanship on the political field accompanied by unity in action on specific issues, in order to permit chapters to endorse candidates. Behind this decision lay the YCL desire to make the ASU the student arm of the Communist Party in its efforts

to swing labor away from a genuine independent labor party into "people's front" channels.

3. Utilization by the YCL of parliamentary devices from the floor in order to close discussion, especially in the important plenary session on war.

4. Election of a national executive committee to all intents and purposes under the control of the Young Communist League. They elected 14 known Communists, and a number of "followers of the party line" to an NEC of 30. The administrative committee which makes decisions between meetings of the NEC is made up of six Communists, one Socialist and one independent.

### Reverse Position

The collective security resolution was introduced by Joseph P. Lash, national secretary of the ASU. It marked a complete reversal of the uncompromising anti-war position which he advocated at both the 1935 and 1936 conventions.

He called for "American leadership in naming aggressors, employing embargoes against aggressor nations, and organizing these efforts through international collaboration."

"Such embargoes," the Lash proposal stated, "should include war supplies, raw materials, loans and credits." An amendment added through efforts of liberals on the resolutions committee barred demands for military sanctions from the ASU program.

In committees and on the floor Communists opposed inclusion of demands that American military forces be withdrawn from the

Orient, because it would give comfort to Japan." Under pressure from anti-war forces they included a general statement which asked withdrawal of U. S. armed forces from foreign soil and waters and studiously avoided mention of the Far Eastern situation. The opposition of Lash and the Communists to the demands for withdrawal of troops from the Orient was called by one of the independents from Harvard a "double-cross."

### Socialists Fight Reaction

In the closing hours of the convention Socialists made perfectly clear what their attitude would be toward the ASU in the light of convention decisions. Pointing out the role of the Socialists in years of struggle to build the student anti-war movement, Alvaine Hollister, high-school secretary of the ASU before the convention, declared that "the ASU is no longer an organization devoted to the struggle against war."

"The truth is," she stated, "that every working class or youth movement in Europe which has supported collective security has eventually come to the position of support of military programs and budgets of their countries. This must inevitably be true of the ASU."

"The American Student Union when it dropped the Oxford pledge and adopted a program of collective security, deliberately allied itself with the war-making, Roosevelt administration and gave to the president a tacit pledge: 'If you go to war against a fascist nation and call that war one for democracy, we will

fill your armies and fire your guns."

"Young Socialists believe it especially tragic that the Communists, professedly followers of Lenin and the great Russian revolution, now have become proponents of the Wilsonian philosophy of defense of capitalist democracy.

"Recognizing that students can hold membership in the ASU on one or more points in its program, Socialists will remain in the ASU. But we cannot support this betrayal of the fight against war, and will exert every effort to rally students inside and outside the ASU around the Oxford Pledge."

### Thomas Speaks

Norman Thomas, national chairman of the Socialist Party, denounced the collective security proposals bitterly in a special panel session on the issue. "Collective sanctions," he pointed out, "mean probable war and certain militarization."

Thomas stressed the internationalism of the Socialist position, as expressed through action of workers independently of their government. "But," he affirmed, "we are not anxious to join a collective suicide club, as the proponents of collective action by government would have us do."

Frederick L. Schuman, professor of political science at Williams College, threw a bombshell into the convention. Invited to speak as an adherent of collective security he asserted frankly that peace lies only in "defending it by arms."

The YCL did not attempt to

ened for weeks prior to the convention, apparently for fear of labelling their machine control even more clearly. They did not demand the abolition of groups, factions and caucuses, they wanted to do. And they confined themselves to denouncing the Trotskyites, fearing liberal-radical revolt if they were so far as to institute a purge.

### C. P. Horse-Trade

Gil Green made an offer to the YPSL of "a peace resolution which you can agree" if the YPSL would join with the Communists in supporting the expulsion of the Trotskyites. The unprincipled horse-trade was categorically refused by the Socialists.

The convention marked the death knell of the ASU as the leader of the student anti-war movement and as a united effort of Socialists, Communists and liberals on a basis of joint responsibility. Unless increased isolation of the Soviet Union forces the Comintern to change its line again, the role of the ASU as a force for peace is definitely over.

Socialists will remain in the ASU to carry on the struggle for the economic demands of students, for academic freedom, etc. But the fight against war must be carried on through other channels—especially through peace clubs, anti-war committees and inner-organizational groupings under the banner of the Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge. The National Executive Committee of the YPSL has declared that anti-war work will be carried on.



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## The People's Press

In line with the democracy which prevails within the Socialist Party, the SOCIALIST CALL publishes two letters, one with which it vigorously disagrees. The CALL, under instructions of the National Action Committee, was authorized to condense the conflicting letters which were exchanged between comrades Lamont and McDowell. In consideration of space and the importance of the issue involved, brevity was necessary.

The editor and the National Action Committee disagree with comrade Lamont. Her defense of the "People's Press" does not stand the test of even a cursory perusal. Almost any issue of "People's Press" carries distorted information which can only confuse and mislead the minds of American workers. The role of Frank Palmer's newspaper in the internal Minneapolis labor situation, its attitude on the war question, its aping of the Communist Party, are sufficient proofs to convince class conscious workers that comrade McDowell's criticism was well placed.

The tragedy of the moment is the role of the "People's Press" and the "Daily Worker." These organs are deliberately and consciously grooming the American working class for war, and regularly, in one fashion or another, interpret American and world affairs to suit the interests of the Stalin government, and not the interests of the American working class. The job of the SOCIALIST CALL is to make workers class conscious and to clear their minds of the cobwebs of bourgeois education. As long as the "People's Press" persists in spreading confusion within the ranks of the workers, the CALL, in conformity with the official party position, will continue to criticize our contemporary when the occasion requires.

## Panay in Cold Waters

Milwaukee.—Meeting of the Trades Council voted to join the international consumers' boycott of Japanese goods. After the voting a hot shot yelled: "Remember the Panay!" The delegates were unmoved by the war cry. Another delegate promptly retorted: "How can I? Never heard of it until two weeks ago!" Loud approving laughter greeted the answer.

A Colorado farm hand commented on the scene which depicted the man without pants: "He's the smartest guy in the bunch—he figured he had to swim."

Sreator, Ill.—"How did you like the Panay picture?" inquired a union carpenter of a cab driver. "I've seen better," came the hackman's answer.

Detroit.—A neighborhood theatre was showing the Panay picture. The audience yawned at the monotony. But when the love thriller flashed across the screen the crowd applauded its approval.

## Recent Books

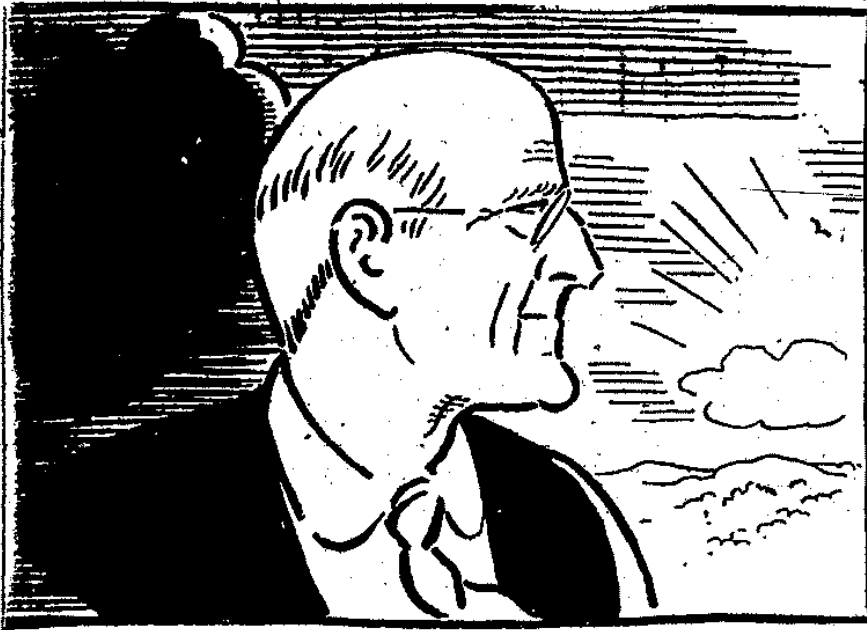
By Norman Thomas

In your fight against war you can get immensely valuable information on ideas out of two recent books. You don't have to agree with everything their authors say to find those books most valuable. The first is "Must We Go To War?", by Kirby Page (Farrar & Rinehart). The second is "Revolt Against War," by H. C. Engelbrecht (Dodd, Mead & Co.)

In your fight against both war and militarism you can get both information and stimulus to straight thinking in Alfred Vagis magnificent "History of Militarism" (W. W. Norton). It is a book to put in Party libraries.

Perhaps the most challenging of all books which touch the question of war is Aldous Huxley's "Ends and Means" (Harper & Brothers). This is a good deal more than a war book and deals with one of the most difficult problems in the world. Mr. Huxley somewhat minimizes the essential importance of taking control of the machinery of the state and overestimates, I think, what can be done by voluntary associations. The book is not a practical political program for the moment, but it guides and inspires straight thinking about the necessity of using means which do not by their nature defeat the ideal ends we seek.

## Eugene Victor Debs



At a time when war makers are again beating the drums in preparation for another world conflict, the teachings and example of Eugene Victor Debs stand as a bulwark against the mongers of destruction. Maligned and abused, slandered and vilified, persecuted and imprisoned, Debs stood by his principles during the war crisis of 1917-18.

He led the valiant Socialist heroes of former years who in America opposed the imperialist slaughter without flinching. He is not here now to inspire the masses to action against their oppressors. But his valuable teachings remain. True to spirit of Debs and the forces which vigorously opposed the last war, the Socialist Party of the United States continues the struggle for a day when mankind will be free from the oppression of war makers, exploiters and despoilers of all that is decent and beautiful in life.

## Workers' Forum

A Bouquet

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Congratulations on the new SOCIALIST CALL. A few more issues like it and the circulation should begin to climb. The make-up, type, the number of short stories, and the attention paid to issues that mean something to the comrades actively at work for Socialism all indicate a new usefulness for the party's official weekly.

—Clarence Senior,  
Editorial Writer,  
"Milwaukee Leader."

From Levenstein

NEW YORK. — Congratulations on the new CALL. Its content is much better balanced than we have had for a long time between the negative and positive aspects of the Socialist position. There are several technical matters which can be improved and you will hear from me from time to time.

—Aaron Levenstein.

Bravos!

NEW YORK, Jan. 7. — A thousand bravos for the first issue of the SOCIALIST CALL. It's by far the best yet. We've needed just such a paper longer than I care to remember. I predict for it a long and healthy life, if it maintains the standard set by first issue published at Chicago. I pledge to contribute five dollars to the CALL in the next five weeks. With such an organ our Party must prosper.

—Brendan Sexton.

Bricks!

NEW YORK, Jan. 5. — The first Chicago issue of the CALL was bad typographically, and journalistically it is just a shade better. You don't make newspaper headlines out of Party slogans. And the growth of the Swedish S. P. is not of front page interest. And the front page picture is a holy horror. And it should have been proof read a little better. And someone should learn about punctuation. And you should get some modern fonts of type. That's the end of that.

—Mike Atcone,  
Harry Feith,  
Min Rotterdam,  
Former members of the  
CALL staff.

Pitfalls.

DETROIT, Mich.—I hope you can avoid the pitfalls of every other editor. My experience has been that if you put out a good newspaper, your political line, will be wrong; and if the political line is right, there will be something wrong with the newspaper; and if both are right, then you won't get enough money to live on. But nevertheless, congratulations and lots of luck.

—Ben Fisher, State Secretary,  
Socialist Party.

Defeat C. P. War Plans

READING, Pa.—The Workers Alliance of Berks county voted to support the position of the Reading branch in upholding the Ludlow war referendum amendment by a wide margin at its last regular meeting. This was done despite all the efforts of Communists to stop it. The debate was entirely on the basis of collective security vs. anti-imperialist workers action. The Socialists led the fight for adoption and quoted last weeks editorial in the CALL as the basis for our fight. Such statements as "strengthen Roosevelt's hand for peace," and "any one who supports the Ludlow amendment gives aid to the fascists," highlighted the Communists' speeches. The only ones voting no on the motion for endorsement were C. P. members, the remainder of the workers voiced their feelings by a tremendous "aye". We know that the war danger is not over now that we have endorsed the amendment; we are not deluding ourselves. Peace will be assured only when the workers and farmers of America along with their comrades in other lands support and carry into action the Socialist program.

—Mark Brown.

RACINE, Wis. — Enclosed find one dollar for which please send us our regular bundle of the SOCIALIST CALL. Our membership is very much pleased with the contents of the CALL of January 8, 1938, and particularly with Dove's Allen's article on the Panay.

—Joe Dnebkowitch.

## SQUIBS

BY GENE LOMAN

"LACK of confidence in the future" was blamed by President William Knudsen of General Motors for the new depression in his testimony before a senate committee.

Knudsen, however, did his part to bolster the nation's morale—by firing 30,000 workers!

### Horror Story

IF you've shaved daily for 50 years, a health magazine estimates, you've washed 2,120 cubic inches of skin and 2,480 cubic inches of hair down the drain.

THE Kelly-Nash machine in Chicago will probably be abolishing the department of smoke inspection and abatement in the near future. For that brave department has just reported that more than a million and a quarter pounds of dust and dirt fell on each square mile of the city during 1937. The dirtiest place of all was city hall!

THE Armour Institute of Technology has invented a mighty press capable of bending atoms. What we'd like to see is a machine that will make a dollar stretch.

### In on the Know

NOW they're telling the story of the Spanish Trotskyite who was informing a common or garden variety of revolutionist (in favor of winning the war) about how many Pounists had been shot the day before.

"That's a staggering number," said the c. or g. variety: "How do you know there were that many?"

"Well, we know. We have our sources of information."

The conversation continued until the c. or g. v. of r. asked, "By the way, how many members does your group have in this section?"

"Well, a good many—I'm not sure about the exact number."

"Do you have a hundred?"

"No, not that many."

"Fifty?"

"No, less than that."

"Twenty-five."

"No, not that many either."

"Ten?"

"Well, as I said, I'm not sure—but something less than that, I believe."

"How in the world, then," demanded the astonished c. or g. v. of r., "do you know how many were shot?"

"Well," said the T. "We know. You see, we have two stooges on the firing squad."

THEN there was the farewell between a Socialist and a Communist after a united front dinner.

"So long," said the Socialist, elbow-bending his last glass of wine. "Here's to Socialism in our time."

"Don't be so sectarian," replied the CP-er. "Here's to the triumph of peace and democracy."

### Hollywood Stars

Speaks At Rally

MEXICO CITY.—At a meeting delicious with enthusiasm and which packed the aisles of Mexico's Palace of Fine Arts Gale Sondergaard and Herbert Biberman, representing the Hollywood Motion Picture Artists' Committee, delivered eloquent appeals for aid to the children of Spain.

At the meeting, telegrams of congratulation were read from such outstanding Hollywood stars, directors, and writers as Robert Young, Boris Karloff, Bette Davis, Bing Crosby, Melvin Douglas, Henry Fonda, Donald Ogden Stewart, and Frank Tuttle.





# AT THE FRONT

WITH  
Norman Thomas

## SPAIN

Far and away the week's best news comes from Spain. The great insurgent drive to retake Teruel did not succeed but was pushed back. The remnants of the garrison in Teruel have surrendered. The unqualified statement by that pro-fascist correspondent, William P. Carney, that the rebels had retaken the city was false, and fortunately for the reputation of the New York Times it was corrected by its other correspondent, Herbert L. Matthews, in one of the most brilliant pieces of war reporting yet recorded.

Probably good news is the brief dispatch also in the New York Times to the effect that peace has been restored in the great Spanish trade union, the U.G.T.; that four supporters of Caballero have been put on the Executive Committee, but that Caballero has removed himself as an aspirant for power. Frankly this news is too fragmentary to permit adequate discussion, but if it is true that peace is restored in the labor movement on the basis of respect for civil liberty in Spain it will be a great gain to the Loyalist cause.

## WASHINGTON SCENE

There is plenty of news, political and economic, in America and most of it is not so good. Roosevelt has a chance owing to the resignation of Justice Sutherland to show what he can do to appoint to the Supreme Court a competent liberal judge with a clean past record. His previous efforts have not been very encouraging. The country will now have a chance to see what can be done to help the present situation by liberal judges without amending the Constitution. I think that there are narrow limits to the process.

It is quite clear that Roosevelt's budget, plus his supplemental recommendations, will give us a fantastically big navy, no housing program worth mentioning, and inadequate relief. At that the budget will not be balanced and Roosevelt has not made specific suggestions for reforming the tax system on sound lines, which should include, among other things, a necessary increase in the sums raised by taxation.

I'll throw up my hat and cheer for the agreement Roosevelt has won from Southern Governors to support "in principle" the Wages and Hours Bill when I know in detail what the differential is to be between the North and the South which has won their support, and what will be the effect of the bargain on freight rates.

Speaking of wages and hours, isn't it about time that the workers found out what Roosevelt meant in his address to Congress by some references to labor and to annual wages in the building trades and how they are to be worked out. To be sure, this address has won the applause of the *Daily Worker*, but nowadays that doesn't prove much, except the Communist desire to support Roosevelt in order to get Roosevelt's support in their war. That is, they think it will be their war, but it will be a fascist war in its results.

What the Administration's anti-monopoly row means except a cover for the fact that the New Deal has not brought and maintained prosperity, I still don't know. Ickes and Jackson talk straight old fashioned trustbusting in spite of the fact that the Administration under N.R.A. and other policies encouraged combinations. Roosevelt in his address to Congress named specific corporation abuses which he correctly said should be dealt with. And practically all the capitalist press applauded the message as conciliatory! Now what? Dorothy Thompson thinks that the President plans an elaborate kind of government regulation of, and cooperation with, business with some vague assurances to little business that it will be helped, not hurt, in the process. Miss Thompson is right in saying that the kind of plan she envisages would be fascist in its tendency. But the President has not yet made his own position clear. Maybe he doesn't know it yet himself. Meanwhile his man Jackson, probably his candidate for Governor of New York on the Democratic ticket, may be an able lawyer but he does not altogether inspire confidence. His speech the other night at the Town Meeting of the Air, which he may or may not have written, was brilliant but superficial and by no means went to the root of any problem. Jackson's answers to questions were far from brilliant. If we're going back to old slogans, the cry: "Let the nation own the trusts" is better than anything that Jackson has yet brought forward. But in that case, of course, the workers, with hand and brain who are also the great mass of consumers, must control the government.

## ROOSEVELT'S BIG NAVY

But if I do not know the President's program on monopoly I do know that his program for big armaments is indefensible. He will not build a navy big enough to conquer Japan in Japanese waters. That would be almost an impossible task. The U. S. has a navy big enough even by military standards to defend itself. This big navy program is pure waste except for the militarists and it is at the expense of a housing program which would do something about unemployment. To withdraw money into non-productive enterprise which satisfies no consumers' wants—and this is the case with all rearmament programs—is not the basis of sound prosperity of any sort. Housing is a different matter, and the S.W.O.C. did well in urging its housing program on the Administration. Perhaps the biggest single job of the Socialist Party and of intelligent trade unionists at the moment is to fight the drift toward war whether under guise of collective security or of a restoration of prosperity by building battle-ships instead of houses. In this fight it will help to advocate the Ludlow Amendment, despite the fact that we recognize it as no panacea.

More and more the facts make it clear that the present depression is one of the most serious and tragic in our history, and that it is the fault of capitalism rather than of any particular kind of capitalist. It does no good for Roosevelt and the capitalists to shout at each other: "You did it." They both helped do it and no policy that they would have adopted could have prevented the crises inherent in the capitalist system by reason of the fact that the workers never get enough to buy back what they produce.

## Who Blocks Labor Peace?

Failure of the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. conferees to reach an agreement is a distinct setback to the cause of labor. In a depression year it may have tragic consequences.

Why did the conference break up in failure? Organized workers and friends of, the labor movement are entitled to know the real reasons.

The issue was not one of craft as against industrial unionism. The C. I. O. originally had been formed because the A. F. of L. had refused to charter industrial unions in the mass production industries, notably in steel, automobile and rubber.

Today, however, the A. F. of L. is willing to concede that point. Its spokesmen in the negotiations agreed to the admission of the steel, automobile and rubber unions of the C. I. O. on an industrial basis.

It is true that "industrial union" was never defined, and that difficult problems in arriving at a definition would have been faced. But the conference did not break up on this issue.

The reasons assigned are distinctly secondary in importance. The radio and electrical industry was a major stumbling block, as was the lumbering industry. Similarly, the A. F. of L. refused to perpetuate the C. I. O. as a department of industrial unions within the Federation.

These issues, however, are not sufficiently vital to justify continuation of the internal warfare that is weakening the labor movement. The conclusion is inescapable that more fundamental reasons exist.

Of these reasons an important one is the clash of personalities, and even more important than that is the drive for power.

The C. I. O. has chartered craft unions and craft unions of the A. F. of L. have organized along industrial lines. The issue is not what kind of unions shall be built, but who shall control the labor movement.

Likewise important is the belief of each side that the passage of six months or a year will find it in a relatively stronger bargaining position.

The A. F. of L. hopes that the C. I. O. will lose in membership as rapidly as it gained last year. The C. I. O. hopes that several more Federation unions can be induced to break away. Both sides, therefore, have stalled for time.

There is no time for blind partisanship on either side. Rank and file members of both groups should intensify pressure on their leaders to resume negotiations and continue them until peace is achieved.

## A DEBATE

Below the SOCIALIST CALL reprints condensed letters exchanged between Comrade Margaret Lamont and Comrade Arthur G. McDowell, Labor Secretary of the Socialist Party, on the question of the "People's Press" and its position on war. Comrade Lamont's letter is a protest to articles which appeared in the two last issues of the CALL with reference to the anti-Socialist position of the "People's Press." The specific matter in debate is an editorial which appeared in the December 25 issue of the "Press," entitled "Maniacs at Large." (See editorial.)

### CON...

Dear Comrade McDowell: For a long time I have been disturbed by articles which have seemed to me inaccurate or unfair, or both, in the CALL, and I was very sorry to see such a bitter attack by you upon the "People's Press."

Let me say, in the first place, that I believe Socialists should criticize labor groups and labor papers in friendly and constructive fashion whenever possible, instead of using unreasoned terms of denunciation. I have read carefully several times the editorial in "People's Press" to which your article referred, and I cannot see how it brings "People's Press" into the "ranks of the forces beating the drums for war." It seems to me that you distorted to some extent the meaning and purpose of the editorial. On the same page of the editorial to which you referred there was a good editorial on the boycott which you apparently ignored. In short I feel that "People's Press" has established itself definitely in an anti-war position and that you have very little ground for speaking of a "pro-war policy" on its part.

### Made Mistake

Furthermore, I think you have clearly made a mistake in saying that "People's Press" is "completely irresponsible in its editorial policy outside of the pressure which can be brought from supporting organizations... The unions which support the 'Press' have no direct voice in its editorial policy, etc."

As a matter of fact, "People's Press" is almost completely responsible for its policy to its supporting organizations, which are the unions. The union have a constant and direct voice in its editorial and news policy. Frank Palmer, Harvey O'Connor and the others are guided so far as humanly possible by the expressed wishes and demands of the unions.

There is a good deal more that I could say about your article, but I do not want to make this too long. I really feel that you have made certain incorrect or dubious statements, and that you have misrepresented the policy of a true labor paper.

—Margaret I. Lamont.

### PRO...

Dear Comrade Lamont: Let me say in reply that there are legitimate differences of opinion as to tactics in political controversy. I do not subscribe to the idea that only good criticism, even of your friends, is so-called constructive criticism.

I am satisfied that in general the course pursued was correct in the main. When a wrong is committed, and by those in common cause above all, I believe in laying on with a heavy hand and that the best constructive criticism is, in the words of Voltaire, that applied with an ax. I have no patience with the churchly institutional arguments for anything from the Soviet Union to the "Peoples Press". I certainly hope to be able to take it as well as give it.

Now as to the anti-war position of "Peoples Press"—I have known Frank Palmer and Harvey O'Connor for the last eight years. I have seen the development of their views. I did not rush into print on the basis of a patient's pimple diagnosed in all haste as small pox. The "Peoples Press" from the start followed a line on national and international political policy which was as acceptable to the Communist Party as any policy pursued by, say, one of its own innocent organizations. From close observation at close hand here in Chicago I have found "Peoples Press" willing to stretch a point even of the truth and the facts in order to further a policy which was distinctly that of the Communist Party.

I talked to O'Connor and I tackled him on the editorial. Far from denying it, he affirmed it and promised more. If since that time there has been hedging and covering up on this policy by "Peoples Press" it is because of outspoken and vigorous attack, as well as a sense of coldness of the workers to anti-Japanese (not anti-imperialist) propaganda. You presumably are aware of the Socialist Party policy against "collective security" of capitalist nations and all its works.

The set up "Peoples Press" with an editorial board without even the form of democracy of Federated Press is irresponsible, dangerous and undemocratic. Socialists, including yourself should fight to change that setup as completely and as soon as possible. Believe me that I fully believe in your sincerity and honesty of Socialist spirit in making your criticism but that I vigorously disagree with you as to premise, facts and conclusion.

—Arthur G. McDowell,  
Labor Secretary,  
Socialist Party, U.S.A.

### A CORRECTION

The CALL omitted a word in comrade Thomas' column last week which spoiled the sense of the actual statement made in the original manuscript. In the paragraph headed "For Social Ownership," the statement: "When the Communists join the ranks of those who say or imply that this depression is a capitalist plot they are not going against the evidence, etc." The statement should have read: "When the Communists join the ranks of those who say or imply that this depression is a capitalist plot they are not only going against the evidence, etc." The word only was omitted.—The Editor.

## SHADES OF HOOVERISM

In the Hoover depression any popular movement of protest was somewhat to the left since an extreme right was in power. Now, since we have the Roosevelt depression, under a President who is popularly regarded as far more to the left than he is, a movement of protest may be to the right. It may be reactionary or it may be semi-fascist in nature, and we see signs of both. Some people, whose memories are short, actually believe that if business were encouraged it could get us out of depression. All we need is a restoration of confidence! We forget that Hoover talked like that and did his best to give business a chance.

This anti-Roosevelt reaction against depression is, of course, using the C.I.O. as a scapegoat, and to their shame, some elements in the A. F. of L. are so blinded by ignorance and hate that they aid that movement. Thus, it was reported in the newspapers that a representative of every A. F. of L. union in Jersey City sat on the platform or in the audience at Hague's anti-C.I.O. rally.

## LABOR MUST UNITE

If you want to know how an American fascist movement can get started read carefully the New York Times report of Hague's rally against the C.I.O. in Jersey City. He and his Chamber of Commerce allies used everything—ruthless coercion, emotional appeal, bands, fireworks, false patriotism. They identified Americanism with opposition to the C. I. O. and said they were fighting Communism when in reality they were copying some of Stalin's methods against their critics. The ominous part of it is that by these various methods Hague did get a crowd of 15,000 to cheer him vociferously for denying ordinary rights to a great labor organization. It's time for labor to wake up, to stop fighting about comparatively unimportant matters and to get together in an aggressive and intelligent drive against war and against the beginnings of fascism at home. America will not be conquered for fascism by a foreign Hitler; it may be conquered by a domestic Hague.



# CLASS ANGLE

## A Note on Revivals

By MICHAEL C. ARNONE

It is almost characteristic in the New York theatre that when the new plays are almost continuously disappointing, a certain artistic and box-office comfort and satisfaction may be found in the revival of the classics. And it is a wise producer who can read the signs early enough in the season to takedown one of the Elizabethans or a volume of Ibsen or Shaw from the library shelf and announce his intention of reviving something tried and true in the way of dramatic fare for a theatre-going public.

This is easily understood. There is always a certain minimum audience to insure any producer against monetary losses when it comes to reviving the classics . . . and if his presentation happens to catch the critical and public fancies, so much the better for the box-office. If it doesn't . . . a small profit is still assured.

Which explains, in some measure, why "The Country Wife," and "Richard the Second" were the two bright spots in the 1936-37 season's otherwise dull bill-of-fare, and why this season, with a much tastier menu includes such plays as "Of Mice and Men," "The Cradle Will Rock," "Pins and Needles," "Amphitryon 38" and "I'd Rather Be Right," a wave of revivals is descending upon the New York stage, with three going full blast, and about six others promised before the end of the season.

The Mercury has two in "Julius Caesar" and Thomas Dekker's "The Shoemakers' Holiday," and Jed Harris is currently offering Ibsen's "A Doll's House," with Ruth Gordon as Nora, and an all-star cast which includes Dennis King, Paul Lukas, Sam Jaffe and Margaret Waller. As an aside, may we say that it is certainly the best Ibsen this department has seen in recent years.

But let us not get away from the main point which this department wants to make. For the balance of the season we are already promised "King Henry IV" parts I and II, and "King Henry V" all-in-one evening; John Webster's "The Duchess of Malfi," Shaw's "Heartbreak House" and Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest," all by the Mercury, and in addition to the current productions. With Maurice Evans, Blanche Yurka and Katherine Cornell still to be heard from.

Which is something that this column cannot in any way applaud. For it means that in spite of the fact that we are living in a period of intense social and economic conflict, a period of universal struggle and political upheavals, a period of awakening class-consciousness, our playwrights have failed to translate the current scene into valid theatre . . . and the theatre must needs fall back upon the classics.

Not that we are lacking in appreciation for the classics. We aren't. We can watch Shakespearean tragedy for hours on end . . . and a week ago we laughed ourselves sick over Orson Welles' presentation of the very bawdy and ribald Dekker comedy . . . but we consider it tragedy that with so much of what is going on in the world today, crying to be written about, so very little is being written, and of this little so small a percentage of it is valid from our particular Socialist point of view . . . and even of this . . . what finally achieves production is a small part indeed.

We could offhand name about a dozen subjects for plays of social conflict . . . but our space is limited. Suffice it to say that out of a total of 346 plays entered in the ILGWU play contest which closed recently, where according to the terms of the contest plays had to deal with social conflicts in contemporary American society, only four were deemed worthy of consideration by the judges. And even these four, according to the private opinion of the judges, did not come up to what the ILGWU had in mind when it initiated the contest in August of 1936.

Which should give the reader some idea of the state of American playwrighting. But enough of this. What we are specifically peeved about this week is the Jed Harris revival of Ibsen's "A Doll's House." The Ibsen play, as it happens, is one of the classics of the modern theatre, and the complaint against the domestic enslavement of women is valid as social history. But social history, per se, valid as it may be, does not carry dramatic validity along with it. What may have been valid drama when first presented in 1879, does not necessarily remain valid drama in 1938.

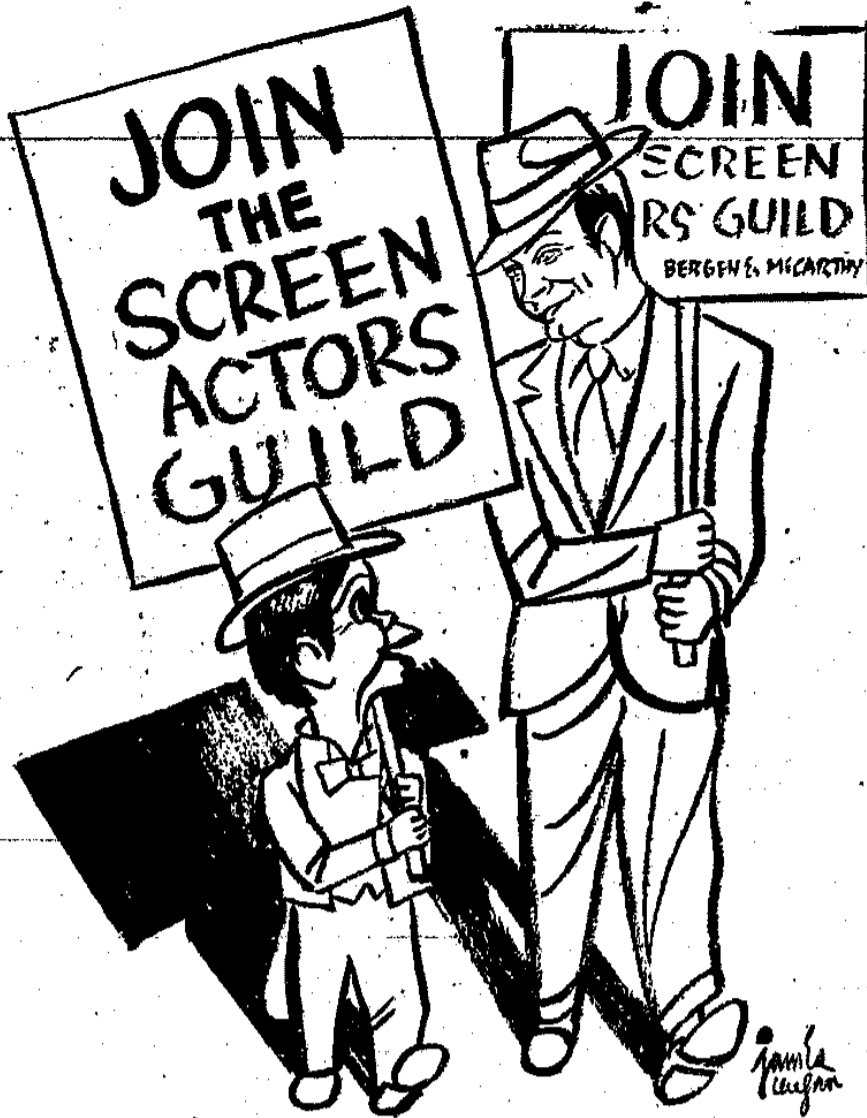
What we mean is that the crusade which Ibsen was waging in this play has been on the whole a pretty successful one; the rebellion against domestic slavery is no longer the problem it was in Ibsen's time, and as it happens with all successful pioneering, once victory is achieved, the victor and the victory are no longer as important as they seemed in the midst of the battle. This is true not only of Ibsen but of all plays of social conflict. Once the excitement of the struggle has passed, the play retains interest only as social history.

Which, we believe, is as it should be. There are certainly enough new problems arising, enough new battles to be fought, for a socially minded playgoer, to regret the loss of a play's validity as social drama once its propaganda purpose has been attained.

Which is exactly what is at the bottom of our peeve against this revival of "A Doll's House." This particular play may be outmoded and dated and no longer the dramatic tempest it was in 1879 and for thirty years afterward. But there is certainly enough of Ibsen that is still valid social drama . . . offhand we can mention "The Wild Duck," "John Gabriel Bjorkman," "Hedda Gabler" and "Peer Gynt." These are plays that are today still alive and glowing, because they deal with problems which are still with us . . . Ibsen's concept of tragedy is still a valid one, springing from an outer doom, an impossibility of adjustment (even at that early stage of the industrial age) between well-meaning but ineffectual idealism—and the practical and pragmatic, some hypocrisy of his times. Ibsen's tragedy lies in the existence of rules, not in their violation. It is not the individual but society which is at question. Society in which social and industrial injustice are ingrained and must be exterminated.

The problem in "A Doll's House" was but one facet of Ibsen's general indictment of society. But it is the one problem which has to any extent been resolved. Perhaps that is why the modern theatre has no qualms about presenting this play. It knows that its audience will find little but entertainment and amusement in anything as dated as women's rights. But something of Ibsen's that still contains dynamite . . . that's another story.

## UNION AGITATORS



An artist depicts the active work being carried on by the famous comedians, Charlie McCarthy and Edgar Bergen, in building the Screen Actors' Guild.

## PRO-WAR COMMUNISM

by Verita

A sober and detailed evaluation of the Communist position on the question of WAR by a former member of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party. Indispensable for those seeking clarification on the all-important question of WAR.

### CONTENTS

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### Ford Thumbs Nose at Uncle Sam, Says Union

DETROIT, Mich.—Ford's petition for a rehearing of the National Labor Relations Board case against the company shows that he does not take the government very seriously, it was stated at headquarters of the United Automobile Workers.

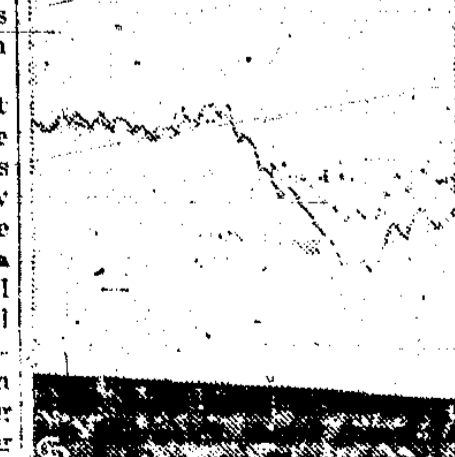
"If the company had a better case, as it now claims, it should have presented it during the hearing," Pres. Homer Martin said. "I think the labor board hearings in St. Louis and Kansas City will prove that all of the allegations made by the U.A.W. in Detroit have been duplicated in both those cities as well as in other Ford plants.

"If there is any part of the law Ford has not violated, it must have been an oversight on his part."

### Charts Job Loss



Isador Lubin



Isador Lubin

The U. S. labor statistician shows the senate committee on unemployment the wicked curves in the jobless cycle. He reported trends towards shortening hours had ceased and employers are stretching the working time as much as they can get away with.

### Revolutionary Socialists' International Conference

LONDON, England.—The secretariat of the Independent Labor Party has announced that an International conference of various Socialist groups in Europe will be held at Paris, France, Feb. 19-25, 1938.

Foremost on the agenda of the conference is discussion and action on fascism, war and imperialism. Various parties and groups in England, Germany, Spain, Poland, Sweden, Rumania, Italy, Holland and Palestine signed the call for the conference.

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# BUILDING SOCIALISM

Reports of Party Activity Over the Country

By ROY BURT

## Texas

Socialists all over the state went into action during the recent session of the State Legislature to prevent the passage of a sales tax revenue bill.

Through State Secretary Carl Brannin, the State Executive Committee issued a public statement condemning this vicious form of taxation. He wired the joint conference of the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. representatives in Austin, gathered there for the purpose of opposing the sales tax, offering the support of the Party in any fight they undertook.

Two outstanding Socialists have visited this state recently. They are Howard Kester, member of the National Executive Committee, and H. L. Mitchell, former State Secretary of the Party in Arkansas and present Executive Secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union.

Four Socialist Party members are included as speakers on the L. I. D. lecture series scheduled for Houston, Dallas, and Austin during February and March.

## DALLAS

Socialists here are still active in the fight for civil liberties. The attack on Comrades Harris and Lambert on August 9th has never been probed by the authorities. In the meantime three workers on three separate occasions have been beaten by Ford gangsters. Harold Bowen has identified two of his attackers as Ford employees. Neither the police nor the Rangers have given him a chance to see the other suspects whom he asked for. The local branch of the Workers Defense League is on the case.

Regular Sunday evening open forums are carried on taking the form of a round table discussion of various topics. Local Dallas maintains headquarters at 1905 1/2 Commerce street.

## HOUSTON

The local took the lead in offering support to both the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. forces in fighting the sales tax.

Plans are under way to sponsor a series of spot announcements and a fifteen minute broadcast over a Houston radio station in January and February.

Party members here have been very active in an effective drive to build up a real boycott of Japanese goods. They have worked in cooperation with trade unions and other groups.

## WACO

Plans are under way for a systematic distribution of Socialist literature.

## BRANCH DIRECTORY

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

### MANHATTAN

VILLAGE BRANCH meets every Thursday night at 107 MacDougal St. Ellen Loeb, Sec'y, 345 West 13th St. Open meeting every Thursday.

GERMAN BRANCH. Meets second Tuesday of each month. Yorkville Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th St. G. Hoffman, Organizer.

CHELSEA BRANCH. Meets every Wednesday at 301 W. 29th St. Victorio Hikim, Sec'y.

### BRONX

8TH A.D. Meets every Wednesday, 7 West Burnside Ave. Harold Reisman, Sec'y.

### DETROIT

BRANCH ONE meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., 1110 West Warren.

### CHICAGO

CENTRAL BRANCH, Chicago and Cook county: Open meeting meets first Thursday of each month; business meeting second Thursday at 549 Randolph St., 4th fl.

## Colorado

Comrade L. G. Miller has been spending a few days in Canon City and Pueblo in organization work. As a result a new local has been formed in Canon City. He has had the assistance of Comrades Butler and Garrett of Victor.

## CRAIG

Home of Senator Ed. C. Johnson. Former and prospective members have caught the spirit of building for Socialism and are organizing a strong local. A mass meeting is being arranged for January 19 which will be addressed by the State Chairman, Comrade Carl Whitehead.

## ARAPAHOE

Local Arapahoe meets every second Monday of each month. Plans are being made for effective educational meetings for the rest of the winter.

## DENVER

At the regular educational meeting, Friday night, January 14, Dr. Clarence Holmes, prominent Negro dentist of Denver, will be the principal speaker. His subject will be "The Contribution of the Negro to World Peace."

## Tennessee

Comrade Lynn Hall, State Secretary, has been compelled to enter the Government Hospital at Mountain Home, Tenn., for treatment. He will be there for an indefinite time. Meantime, the comrades in Tennessee will carry on with the expectation of increased activity when Comrade Hall is able to resume his work.

## Washington

The locals at Spokane, Bellingham, and Tacoma are doing effective work and are making plans looking to a complete reorganization of the state in the spring.

## Indiana

Terre Haute, home town of Gene Debs, reports the reorganization of the local there. This means a new center of Socialist activity in this important territory.

## Iowa

Sioux City comrades are doing effective work in the Workers Alliance. Gus Patterson was selected State Secretary and he is making plans for effective Party work throughout the state. Comrade Patterson's address is 911 North 5th Street, Waterloo, Iowa.

## Butler Bros. Sign Up With Office Workers

SAN FRANCISCO. — A contract with Butler Brothers providing for wage increases ranging from 10 to 30 per cent, makes the seventh agreement signed by the United Office and Professional Workers union in San Francisco. About 125 workers are covered by the contract. Other terms included in the agreement include a 40-hour week from December 1 to August 1, two weeks vacation with pay, time and a half for overtime, and a shop steward system for adjustment of grievances.

## NOTICE!

New and old subscribers who are not receiving the SOCIALIST CALL regularly should immediately communicate with the new CALL office at Chicago. All contributions and correspondence should be addressed to

**SOCIALIST CALL**  
549 Randolph St.  
Chicago, Ill.

## In Hot Water



Premier Chautemps

The French premier who heads the Popular Front government is having a tough time trying to appease the struggle between the French masses and the 200 families who own the country's wealth. He seeks "social accord."

## BUILD THE CALL

The moving of the Call to Chicago is receiving the full support of the entire Party. This is shown by the fine response to the drive.

Most of the states have accepted their quota for the "Build the Call Fund" and have made the assignment to the locals and branches.

Next week a full report will be given of the response from state and local organizations.

To Ohio goes credit for being the first State to report to the National Office the schedule of assignments to branches and locals.

Columbus, Ohio was the first local to respond with the payment of their quota in full.

To New York goes credit for increasing the assigned quota from \$700.00 to \$1,000. Payment of \$115.00 was made on their quota.

This drive is not for a large amount but it is important that the response be immediate. The CALL has moved, we must have response from the drive at once.

The following are quotas assigned to state organizations by the National Office to raise \$2,000 to build and expand the SOCIALIST CALL:

State	Quota
Alabama	\$ 5.00
Arizona	5.00
Arkansas	5.00
California	50.00
Colorado	25.00
Connecticut	50.00
Delaware	5.00
Washington D. C.	15.00
Florida	5.00
Idaho	5.00
Illinois	150.00
Indiana	40.00
Iowa	5.00
Kansas	25.00
Kentucky	10.00
Louisiana	5.00
Maine	10.00
Maryland	52.00
Massachusetts	150.00
Michigan	150.00
Minnesota	10.00
Missouri	50.00
Montana	5.00
Nebraska	5.00
New Jersey	75.00
New Mexico	5.00
New York	1000.00
North Carolina	5.00
Ohio	75.00
Oklahoma	5.00
Oregon	15.00
Pennsylvania	300.00
Rhode Island	20.00
South Dakota	5.00
Tennessee	10.00
Texas	15.00
Utah	5.00
Vermont	5.00
Virginia	5.00
Washington	25.00
West Virginia	5.00
Wisconsin	700.00
Wyoming	5.00

# Anti-Lynching Bill Delayed By Filibuster

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The first skirmish in the Senate over the anti-lynching bill was won here January 6 when supporters of the legislation defeated, by a vote of 52-18, a motion by Senator Tom Connally of Texas to adjourn the Senate.

The motion to adjourn, if it had been carried, would have automatically displayed the anti-lynching bill. The Senate customarily recesses but does not adjourn. If it adjourns, it ends a legislative day and when it convenes the next day, it can take up new business.

## Strong Support

The vote of 52-18 is generally regarded as revealing the relative strength of both sides. It is not considered likely that the opponents of the bill can muster more than 25 or 28 votes against it, allowing for absentees yesterday. On the other hand, supporters of the bill probably will be able to get at least 60 votes for it, allowing for absentees and pairings.

The filibuster against the bill can be beaten if the voters back home continue to write and telegraph their senators urging them to stand fast and not give in to the filibusterers. The southern senators hope to be able to talk a long time against the bill and delay important legislation until such time as demand for action by Congress will force the anti-lynching bill to one side.

## Borah Filibusters

Senator William E. Borah, Idaho, has taken a leading part in the plans for a filibuster against the bill and has announced his opposition to it. At each filibuster in the past, Senator Borah has made a speech against the bill. His resentment at this time is believed to be more bitter than ever because of the widespread opposition to him in 1936 when he was campaigning for delegates to secure the nomination for president at the Cleveland convention of the Republican party. Senator Borah's activities against the anti-lynching bill lost him a substantial number of delegates in Illinois, Ohio and Indiana. With these delegates, he might not have won the nomination, but he would have been in a strong position to influence the nomination.

As the debate goes on in the Senate, the opposition will use another weapon in addition to the filibuster: they will introduce many amendments to the bill designed to make it harmless.

## JUDGE TURNS RELATIONS ACT UPSIDE DOWN

MILWAUKEE.—The American Federation of Labor through its state representative, Paul Smith, pledged not to take advantage of the ruling made by Judge Alvin C. Reio, who recently interpreted the state labor disputes act to mean that an employer had a right to recognize the union of his own choosing.

The judge's decision was said to assist the A. F. of L. in its fight against the C.I.O. Smith's declaration was contrary to the position of Henry Ohl, Jr., president of the state federation and Joseph Padway, attorney for the federation and author of the Wisconsin act, who praised the judge's ruling.

Progressive labor elements in Wisconsin were quick to understand the decision as an attack against the whole organized labor movement and immediately lodged protests.

The "Kenosha Labor", militant organ of the Kenosha trades and labor council, carried a half page editorial attacking the judge's ruling and expressed hope that it would be rescinded by the higher courts.

"If the judge's decision is consistent with the law itself, then the law should be amended," the "Kenosha Labor" editorial declared. "And we might also take to heart a well deserved lesson: Not to entrust the leadership of the labor movement to lawyers, even in drafting of legislative bills. Both the AFL and CIO have been plagued with too many Milwaukee lawyers during the past year."

The judge rendered his decision after hearing an appeal from the state labor board by the United Shoe Workers Union, a CIO affiliate, which protested a closed shop agreement entered into between the Boot and Shoe Workers Union, an AFL affiliate. Jurisdiction at the Freeman Shoe Co. factory at Beloit was the matter in dispute.

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# West Coast Unions Unite In Fight To Free Tom Mooney

## POLITICIANS RAISE RED HERRING

CHICAGO, Ill.—The Chicago politicians' red herring campaign against social workers was frigidly drenched this week after Governor Horner's sales-tax-relief setup was exposed of being shot through with graft and corruption.

Several Chicago aldermen had charged that the Social Workers Union was overrun by Communists and in usual demagogic style proceeded to evade the serious relief situation in Chicago by passing the buck.

Last week the state collectors of sales tax were exposed of having grafted an average of a million dollars a month from tax revenue.

Alderman McDermott was especially vehement in his attack against the social workers. He charged that one of the social worker's husband had been killed in action fighting for the Loyalist cause in Spain. This, according to the motley McDermott, was enough to prove that the social workers were a group of Communists!

Mrs. Ravenna Van Houten, organizer of the Municipal Workers Union, appeared before the city council budget committee and demanded that funds for relief could be appropriated from the miscellaneous revenue fund of \$23,000,000.

McDermott saw red when this proposal was made. It was at this point where he made his vicious attack.

An attack was made against the unemployed by S. N. Neal, superintendent of shelters, who proposed among other things that unemployed seeking shelter should be finger printed. According to Neal, this form of intimidation "would decrease the population of the shelters by half."

Chicago still ranks No. 1 in political gangsterism, corruption and reaction in general.

## 2,800 Furniture Workers Affiliate with C. I. O.

ROCKFORD, Ill.—More than 2,800 furniture workers un-animously voted to affiliate with the CIO here this week. The workers have succeeded in building a strong industrial union despite the vicious opposition of employers. Furniture employers had moved their plants to Rockford in response to the plea of the Chamber of Commerce that workers here were "contented" and did not believe in labor unions. The furniture workers proved by their action they could not be separated from the general labor movement.

## CIO Files Suit Against Hague

NEWARK, N. J.—The C.I.O. filed suit in Federal Court this week asking for a ruling as to whether Mayor Frank Hague had a right to restrict union activities under the guise of "state rights." The C.I.O. hopes to make a test case out of the suit under the Bill of Rights.

## Workers Alliance Cuts Off Relief Red Tape

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Workers' Alliance of America chalked up another significant gain this week when Deputy WPA Administrator Aubrey Williams handed down a ruling that WPA applicants in the Midwest are to be certified prior to investigation of their relief status.

Immediately the Alliance moved to have the ruling expanded to cover the entire country. Experienced in the difference between orders and results, the Alliance also took steps to see that affiliates in all affected areas—states from Ohio to Kansas—made sure the orders are carried out.

The ruling, eliminating much stiffling red tape which often causes untold suffering, followed an Alliance expose of the manner in which state and local WPA officials were withholding certification.

The expose, made by President David Lasser of the Alliance, pointed out that although the WPA administration in Washington had ordered an expansion of 350,000 on November 1, to date only 100,000 had been certified, and charged that state and local officials, conniving with the same interests that caused the present slump and laid off thousands of workers, deliberately withheld WPA jobs from needy workers.

Lasser backed up his charges by stating that although unlimited expansion had been ordered in

Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Milwaukee and St. Paul only a small percentage of the thousands applying for jobs in these big centers had been certified.

The Alliance hailed the ruling as a great victory, making it no longer necessary for unemployed to pass through the relief rolls before becoming eligible for jobs. Instead they can be certified immediately if in need.

At the same time the Alliance urged its affiliates, acting together with union relief committees, to demand that their own committees be designated as certifying agencies.

## Nazis Behead Three For Reich Treason

BERLIN, Germany. — Three men, reported to be soldiers, were guillotined by the German government recently for alleged treason against the Reich. There were no official reasons given for the executions but it was believed that the three were among a number of soldiers who deserted the army.

## United Labor Sprags School War Training

KENOSHA, Wis.—The united power of organized labor threw a sprag in the American Legion's plan to establish military training in Kenosha high schools here last week.

What was expected to be a quiet meeting of local school board turned out to be a spirited debate attended by nearly a 1,000 people who compelled the board to abandon its usual chambers for the high school auditorium.

Backing the militant opposition of the Committee for Industrial Organization and the American Federation of Labor were teachers, several ministers, a former army officer and post commander of the American Legion.

Favoring the establishment of ROTC training as proposed by the Legion were members of the Nazi Volksbund and a minister, a former U. S. army chaplain.

Labor Speaks  
Harold Newton, State Federation of Labor official, and Hartwick Dahl, president of the Kenosha trades council, presented the position of organized labor. Said Dahl: "Instead of courses in how to kill let's have courses on how to end unemployment and low incomes. Let's prepare our children to do away with this terribly unequal distribution of wealth."

Newton, who is also an active Socialist, vigorously denounced the ROTC. "Labor is opposed to this from top to bottom," he said. "The State Federation of Labor, the American Federation of Labor, and CIO unions of Kenosha have condemned it."

The Kenosha Educational Association, representing all public school teachers, presented a statement condemning the ROTC.

Opposition came from George

L. Collins, a Socialist and former lieutenant in an A. E. F. machine gun battalion. He pointed out that the actualities of battle bear no resemblance to the romance and glamour presented in high school classes.

"The ROTC is undemocratic and un-American," he declared. "It tends to throttle free speech and to breed a caste system."

The school board deferred action on the question.

## SITE IN MOONEY FRAMEUP



Scene of the 1916 Preparedness Day bomb explosion at San Francisco. Open shop utilities framed Mooney because of his fearless union activities. Police turned a fire hose on the wreckage an hour and 21 minutes after the battle, washing away much of the evidence. A quarter hour after that District Attorney Fickert and a banker friend enlarged the hole with a sledge hammer before official photos were taken.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Outstanding San Francisco labor leaders appeared before Governor Frank F. Merriam of California at the State Capitol in Sacramento and demanded an immediate, full and complete pardon for Tom Mooney, world-famous labor prisoner.

## Politicians Snare Pennsylvania Relief Boards

By A Special Correspondent.

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Gov. George H. Earle has again betrayed the workers of Pennsylvania, employed and unemployed alike, by returning relief to the politicians. He has allowed the Democratic politicians to select the personnel of the Public Assistance Boards. Dr. Karl De Schweinitz, State Secretary of Public Assistance, resigned in protest to the governor's action.

De Schweinitz was the object of two special investigations by reactionary politicians who sought to blacken his character. Behind the whole scheme to discredit De Schweinitz was the fact that as far as relief administration goes he had instituted a respectable setup which gained the respect of the Workers Alliance and the CIO. This conflicted with the political elements who needed to bolster their machine for coming elections.

## Gov. Barred Film

As readers of the CALL remember, Charles M. Sandwick, a Socialist and a former Workers Alliance official, called on Gov. Earle December 20, to show how De Schweinitz was not acting according to law and the governor's own announced policy when he exceeded his budget rather than cut relief. Sandwick is a member of the governor's Committee on Public Assistance.

Thus Gov. Earle is going the way of all "liberals".

First he upheld the State Board of Censor when it barred "Spain In Flames," a film showing the fight of the Spanish workers against fascism.

Then he placed P. W. Foote at the head of the combined State Police and Highway Patrol, an act which caused Lyn G. Adams to resign.

Now he has made public relief a political football.

Members of the Committee who waited upon the Governor were: J. Vernon Burke, President of Newspaper Web Pressmen Local No. 4 and State Secretary of Labor's Non-Partisan League, representing the AFL; George Irvine, Chairman of the State Legislative Board of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen; H. C. Carrasco, Secretary-Treasurer of the Railroad Employees' Committee for the Release of Thomas J. Mooney, who represented the Railway Brotherhoods; Herbert Resner, Secretary of the San Francisco Bay Area AFL Committee for the Freedom of Mooney and Billings, and Harry Bridges, West Coast Director of the CIO.

## Rail Man Speaks

Mr. Carrasco stated: "Mr. Governor, you should pardon Tom Mooney in order to help remove the blot which is on California because of this unjustifiable judicial scandal. The entire civilized world is surprised that California will permit such a case to continue long after the facts are in, proving Mooney's unquestioned innocence. Although we expect the United States Supreme Court to free Mooney, we hope that the Governor will pardon Mooney, in order to help redeem the name of this State. I am a Californian by hereditary and many years' residence. I am doing nothing more than voicing the sentiments of thousands of Californians who are disgusted about this case, and I say that only an immediate and complete pardon for Tom Mooney will restore our faith in California justice."

## Others Wire Protest

C. J. Haggerty, President of the California State Federation of Labor; John F. Shelly, President of the San Francisco Labor Council; and George Wilson and Herman Stuyvelaar, President and Secretary respectively of the San Francisco District Industrial Union Council, all sent wires to Governor Merriam, demanding a full and complete pardon for Tom Mooney in the names of their respective organizations.

Governor Merriam refused to grant Mooney a pardon. He gave as his reasons, the following: 1. That Mooney had not filed an application for pardon; 2. The case was still before the United States Supreme Court, and 3. He had not investigated the facts in the case.

## Committee Replies

The committee replied to the Governor's position by stating: 1. That Mooney had filed a formal application for pardon with Governor Merriam in the fall of 1934; 2. That even though the case was in the United States Supreme Court, it was now out of the California courts and the Governor alone held California's last chance to do justice in the case, and furthermore, the Governor's power is exclusive and independent of the courts, and 3. That the Governor's admission that he had not investigated the facts of this case, was a damning admission from any man in public life in California.

The labor committee departed with the warning still ringing in Governor Merriam's ears, that labor is united on the Mooney case and will not support any man for governor who does not do justice in this case.