

Western Worker

The Communist Party Replies to Slanders of the Industrial Ass'n

SPECIAL TABLOID SUPPLEMENT

SAN FRANCISCO, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1936

52

PRICE ONE CENT

7,000 Vigilantes Armed

SAN FRANCISCO EMPLOYERS PLANNING VIOLENCE—NOT UNIONS OR COMMUNISTS

Sailors' Union First On List

Congressman Demands Probe

Opening Wedge For General Attack On Labor

The revoking of the charter of the Sailors Union of the Pacific by Olander and Scharrenburg fits directly into the plan of the shipowners to smash the maritime unions. Every day brings further proof of the close cooperation between these reactionary "leaders" and the shipowners.

What are these proofs?

It is now public knowledge, that the court procedure entered into by these so-called labor leaders, was prepared at least three weeks before the matter was even discussed in the I. S. U. Convention. This was brought out very clearly by the lawyer in court.

"Leaders" Aid Employers

First, the shipowners made public their two demands, accompanied by a threat that they were prepared to enforce their plan by vigilante force. One demand was made upon the government—that the Maritime Federation of the Pacific be declared an "illegal organization" and prosecuted under Federal law as an "illegal conspiracy." Failing in this demand upon the government, they then brazenly published a resolution to the I. S. U. convention, demanding that the Sailors Union of the Pacific be disciplined. The action outlined in this resolution is now actually being followed by Olander and Scharrenburg.

(Continued on Page 3)

LABOR RALLIES TO SUPPORT OF SAILORS' UNION

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—The line between Organized Labor and those forces of the Open-Shop responsible for the vigilante-inciting sheet, *The American Citizen*, were drawn more sharply and clearly as trade-unions and central labor bodies rallied to the support of the Pacific Coast maritime unions in the face of the threatened joint attack of the shipowners, waterfront employers, Chambers of Commerce and Industrial Associations.

Following the revocation of the Sailors' Union charter by the Thirty-third International Seamen's Union Convention, protests poured in to the I. S. U. convention, William Green and Secretary of Labor Madame Perkins.

The Alameda Central Labor Council was the first local trade union body to go on record in support of the maritime unions. Describing the shipowners' threatened war as "an attack against the entire labor movement," the Council dispatched telegrams to Madame Perkins, Alameda County Congressmen, the two California

(Continued on Page 2)



THE FASCIST VOICE OF THE AMERICAN CITIZEN

*** ** A War Against Unionism Disguised As a War On Communism *** **

An alarm has been sounded through San Francisco that is as divorced from reality as a nightmare. The American people have been called to arms to put down an impending "Communist revolution."

Chief voices in this outcry for public violence are the Hearst "San Francisco Examiner" and an epileptic little paper published in San Rafael, "The American Citizen."

Wide Distribution

Thousands of San Franciscans reached for their milk bottles in the early morning last week and found copies of this paper lying on their doorsteps. News of an impending "Civil War" was emblazoned in red ink across the front page. Inside were printed the hysterical ravings of a mad man calling upon the people to come roaring out of the buildings armed with guns, clubs and knives to annihilate the Communists.

These people glanced up and down the quiet street, scratched their heads, wondered who the Communists were and what it was all about. They returned inside to concern themselves with the more immediate problem of how to pay the rent, how to meet expenses and still save enough out of the pay check or the earnings of a small business to buy the kids new shoes. To them it was as bewildering as when Uncle Henry, raving with delirium tremens, came running into the parlor screaming for the family to protect him from pink elephants.

The Danger Insane as the charges and

contentions of this paper are, it comprises, by its frantic incitations to violence, the warning of a very real danger.

Trouble is impending in San Francisco. But it is not a "Communist revolution" nor anything like it. Employers are determined to break the strength of the giant maritime unions of the Pacific Coast. To this end they have been laying careful plans for more than a year—plans that include the crudest and most unscrupulous violence.

Propaganda Drive

One of the major steps in this plan is an elaborate propaganda campaign to confuse the general public on the issues that are being fought. Widespread distribution of "The American Citizen" is one of the first guns in this campaign.

To launch a barefaced war

against organized labor would be too raw to even hope to get by with. Waterfront employers have therefore adopted the disguise which is being used throughout America today. They describe their war against labor as a war against "Communism."

Wild Fiction

To incite public prejudice against "Communism," the employers supply their own definitions, painting lurid pictures of hatred, violence and bloodshed which are so far from having anything to do with the principles of Communism that Communists themselves would be the first to oppose such belligerence.

However, before entering into any debate with "The American Citizen" over their fantastic slanders of Communism, it must be made clear that arguments for or

(Continued on Page 2)

Conspiracy Against Maritime Unions Is Denounced

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1.—The City of San Francisco during the last month has handed down seven thousand potential vigilantes official permits to carry pistols, it was charged today at the Capitol.

This assertion was made by Representative Vito Marcantonio (Rep., N. Y.). It furnished dramatic confirmation of the West Coast Marine Union's warning to the Roosevelt Administration that shipowners and their bankers are in "a nation-wide conspiracy" to let loose armed violence to the point of civil warfare.

Roosevelt leaders in the House this week denied, in statements of the press, that they are backing the new push for the gag legislation, known as the Kramer "sedition" bill and the Tydings-McCormack "military disobedience" bill. However, at least one is telling his intimates that they may "have to" jam these bills through if employers' pressure gets stronger, especially if "something" should happen to present a pretext for congressional action.

Strike Might Give Pretext

That "something" might be anything. It might be a big strike. It might indeed be the very violence which the waterfront employers themselves are prepared to launch along the Pacific waterfront. This is the inescapable conclusion from direct information obtained by the *Sunday Worker* from sources which cannot be quoted.

Fight For Investigation

Liberal members of the House promptly promised to fight for a Congressional investigation of the West Coast employers' plot. They

(Continued on Page 2)

GREEN TRYING DICTATORSHIP IN SAN DIEGO

Vice-President Murray, speaking on Officers' Reports to the 34th Bi-Annual Convention of the United Mine Workers of America now in session with nearly 2,000 delegates present, accused the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor of doing nothing for the organizing of the unorganized, stating:

"They are meeting now in bathing suits on the sands of Miami. If they have done anything at all, it has been to disorganize the workers rather than to organize them."

To give more proof of this charge, President Green revokes the charter of the San Diego Federated Trades Council. The excuse first given for this act of disorganization, was that the system of electing 5 delegates from each union instead of proportional representation, was illegal, and a new election was ordered. However, when the new election showed that

(Continued on Page 2)

THE NIGHTMARE OF LIES EXTRA!

The American Citizen 5c

Published in order that Fascism may not become necessary to prevent Communism becoming a reality.

Vol. II, No. 2 SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY 21, 1936. Published Twice Monthly

"Civil War IS INEVITABLE"

Demand Congress Investigate

Wholesale Issue Of Gun Licenses Cited In Expose

(Continued from Page 1) spoke in response to communications from the council of the maritime federation of the Pacific Coast. The council notified fourteen leading officials and legislators of the owners' plan to "wipe out" the unions by "whatever ruthless and illegal measures of force and violence may become necessary."

Representative Marcantonio, one of those addressed, had this to say about it:

"I have been informed that 7,000 pistol permits have been issued by the police of the city of San Francisco, during the past month alone, to so-called respectable citizens. This can only mean wholesale vigilantism. Congress must investigate vigilantism both on the West Coast and elsewhere throughout the United States. I, for one, will do everything possible to obtain such an investigation."

Representative Byron Scott (Dem., Calif.) told the Sunday Worker he is ready to introduce a House resolution calling for Congressional investigation of the shipowners' planned violence if a member of the Senate will sponsor it.

May Block Investigation Senator Royal S. Copeland, chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction in marine affairs, told the Sunday Worker:

"I am going to refer the maritime federation's communication to the commerce committee. I understand the Labor Department was handling this, but anyway I'm going to refer it to the committee members next week."

Copeland who has seen years of notorious service in pushing shipowners' subsidies and who enjoys the favor of No. 1 fascist William Randolph Hearst, can be counted upon to do one of two things: block the Congressional inquiry demanded by the workers; or even support it in order deliberately to direct it against the unions instead of against the employers. In one official quarter, it actually was suggested to the Sunday Worker that the workers had better remember that a Congressional investigation might find "conspiracy" among the workers, and come back with a recommendation for permanent union-suppressing legislation.

The obvious fact is, the Roosevelt Administration, while not now pushing the legislation, will let it ride through on the first pretext furnished by the Chamber of Commerce—unless public pressure prevents this.

LABOR COUNCILS PROTEST ATTACK ON COAST UNION

(Continued from Page 1) senators and President Roosevelt, demanding an "immediate investigation of the threatened lock-out of the maritime unions."

The Seattle Central Labor Council, over the protests of O'Reilly, its president, voted unanimously to send protests to William Green and to the I. S. U. Convention against the undemocratic-reactionary union splitting move in revoking the charter of one of the most progressive unions on the Pacific Coast.

At the San Francisco Central Labor Council meeting the employers met with a decidedly different situation than during the 1934 General Strike. By an almost unanimous vote, the Council went on record as supporting the maritime unions, adopting a resolution introduced by Harry Bridges of I. L. A. 38-79 which calls for an immediate congressional investigation of the waterfront situation.

Telegrams from V. Olander, secretary-treasurer of the I. S. U. and William Green demanding that the Sailors' Union delegates be not seated was ignored completely by the Council.

During the reign of terror in 1934 the shipowners and industrialists received considerable aid from the reactionary "labor" leaders. But not today. Save for a few, San Francisco labor heads are rallying to support of maritime workers.

Open-Shoppers Followed Same Tactics Before

The filth the shipowners and their organ, *The American Citizen* are slinging at the waterfront unions and their leaders is old stuff. They made all the same moves in past open shop drives to break up the unions on the waterfront. They used the same steps to break up organization in the building trades, among the carmen and in other industries. The Waterfront Employers Association, the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and the Industrial Association specially organized as a strikebreaking outfit, have always used violence, lies and the red scare in their unceasing campaign to change San Francisco from a union stronghold into a 100 per cent open shop city.

"Law and Order!"

The *American Citizen* has a lot to say about law and order. The Special Law and Order Committee of the Chamber of Commerce was set up on July 10, 1916, with the avowed purpose of breaking the 1916 waterfront strike against the employers' attack on wages and working conditions. At the mass meeting of 2,000 shippers and businessmen at which the Law and Order Committee was formed it was publicly announced that the Committee stood "for law and order and the Open Shop." (San Francisco Chronicle, July 11, 1916.) The chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Frederick J. Coster, announced that two sub-committees of the Law and Order Committee would be appointed:

One would raise one million dollars to finance the publicity campaign against the unions; the second "will devise ways and means of clearing the wharves of freight and insuring protection to all merchants." (San Francisco Chronicle, July 10, 1916.)

The Law and Order Committee did not stop with the waterfront, but extended its strikebreaking activities to all organized San Francisco industries. The same thing will happen again today, unless the whole labor movement backs the waterfront unions against this latest open shop drive. Coster, then head of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, boasts as follows of these strikebreaking achievements in an address delivered during February, 1918, a few months after the Law and Order Committee was formed:

UNIONS BACK LABOR PARTY

"The people can no longer rule themselves. We are RULED OVER. And the people can never rule themselves unless they own the party through which they seek to achieve their aims. Labor wants this Labor Party, and, by the pronouncement of the American Federation of Labor itself, labor has an inalienable right to the creation of this."

These are the words of FRANCIS GORMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED TEXTILE WORKERS OF AMERICA at the 55th Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor. Since then a broad movement for the building of a Labor Party throughout the country has taken on great impetus. THOUSANDS OF TRADE UNION LOCALS, HUNDREDS OF CENTRAL LABOR BODIES, MANY STATE FEDERATIONS OF LABOR HAVE ALREADY COME OUT IN SUPPORT OF A LABOR PARTY.

Among the important unions in the country which have taken a definite stand for a Labor Party are: International Ladies Garment Workers Union, United Textile Workers of America, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Fur Workers International Union, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, International Mine Mill and Smelter Workers Union, American Federation of Teachers, International Union of Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers, Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Alliance, Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union, Bookbinders International Union, Flat Glass Workers Union, Jewelry Workers Union, Laundry Workers International Union, International Brotherhood of Paper Makers, Pulp and Sulphite Workers International Union, etc.

Has your trade union local come out in support of a Farmer-Labor Party? If not, raise this in your local union. Get your brothers to support your resolution. Win the membership of your local union for the building of a Farmer-Labor Party.

"Any one of a number of things would have justified the existence of the Law and Order Committee and the total expenditure of time, efforts and funds so far made. The defeat of the United Railroads strike . . . alone justified all the time, effort and money which the Law and Order movement has so far involved."

New Drive

Last week the shipowners, the Chamber of Commerce and other open shop forces backing the drive on the waterfront unions put thousands of dollars into printing 100,000 copies of "The American Citizen" and distributing it through regular distribution agencies. This recalls Coster's report how they put their open shop publicity across in those days—in the 1916 campaign to render San Francisco labor helpless in the employers' hands by taking away this basic right to picket during strikes:

"It will interest you to hear briefly an outline of the campaign by which the Law and Order Committee carried the anti-picketing ordinance in spite of the general prediction that it would be impossible to carry such an ordinance against the strength of the labor union elements and other sympathizers. A five-way publicity appeal was made: by a circular letter through the mails to all registered voters urging that they vote 'Yes' and thereby prohibit

picketing; by news columns articles in the daily papers; by paid advertisements in all papers, daily and weekly, American and foreign, including the district papers; by slides in moving picture houses; all culminating in a tremendous drive by four hundred telephone girls, working two shifts per day, using one hundred and seventy-five telephones, calling all persons in San Francisco having a telephone and urging that they vote 'Yes on Ordinance No. 8' and prohibiting picketing. The telephone officials declare that this was the biggest 'calling-up' job in the history of the telephone in the United States."

Open Shop Principles

Finally, here is the statement of the Open Shop principles on which the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and its Law and Order Committee is founded:

"The Chamber of Commerce favors the open shop and insists upon the right to employ union or non-union in whole or in part as the parties involved may elect. . . .

"It would seem that the position of the Chamber of Commerce could hardly be misunderstood. IT RESOLVES ITSELF DOWN TO ONE THING—THE MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER. THAT IS ALL IN THE ULTIMATE, THE PRINCIPLE OF THE OPEN SHOP AMOUNTS TO. . . ."

Lies of Fascist Paper

(Continued from Page 1) against Communism have no bearing on the issue at hand. Such controversies are raised by the *Citizen* for the express purpose of obscuring the real issue.

Organized Labor The real issue is one of unionism. The waterfront unions are squarely under democratic control of the union men themselves. Every decision and every issue concerning these unions is decided by the vote of the men.

It is not a matter of whether you approve of Communism or not. It is a matter of whether you are going to support organized labor and democracy in the unions.

Who Would Gain? Violence is being planned. But not by the waterfront unions and certainly not by the Communist Party. These organizations have everything to lose from such violence and nothing to gain. It is the organized employers who are planning fascist violence against the unions, and you can prevent this violence by mass protest.

The editor of "The American Citizen," Henry R. Sanborn, is an erratic fool who is attempting to build a profitable career for himself on the basis of fighting Communism. He is striving very industriously at present to pose as a feared and hated foe of the Communists. He is constantly announcing alleged death threats and murder attempts against himself and his family.

No Basis

In the first place let us point out that in the whole history of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. there is not a single incident or fragment of evidence linking Communists with assassination, bombings or any other violence. Although many attempts have been made to frame-up the Party on such charges, none of these accusations have ever been confirmed by fact.

In the second place, all Communist literature vigorously admonishes against such actions and the Communist Party expels from its ranks any member who seeks to provoke them.

No Reason

The Communist Party never has and never will seek the life of any man by assassination. It despises Sanborn as a petty fool and a liar. It certainly does not fear him. As a dishonest and unscrupulous character, we recognize that he can do a certain amount of harm.

We also recognize that he is no more than a willing tool of the San Francisco Industrial Association—an ignoble toady—not important as a person. "The American Citizen" is a tin horn of the waterfront employers and our method of combating it is to print the truth in our own press.

Who Murders?

He deserves the fullest contempt of every decent-minded citizen.

Union leaders and militant workers have been murdered often enough by the powers of finance capital in America—the forces which Sanborn represents. But not the slightest basis exists to charge either the unions or the Communist Party with such tactics.

Sanborn's latest publicity stunt is to release a story to newspapers that he has received a death threat and that the Communist Party sought to buy up his special "Civil War" edition, offering as high as twenty-five cents per copy. The spectacle of this hypocrite trying to pose as a formidable and important figure, is an excellent example of the whole employers' campaign.

The Only Answer

There is only one answer to the outrageous and nonsensical charges of "The American Citizen." That is the intelligence of the American working and middle class people.

Examine "The American Citizen." Note its wild outcries for violence, illogical, half crazy ranting. Now buy and read a copy of the *Western Worker*.

Use your own judgment.

"The American Citizen" is based on the theory that the public is comprised of fools and that the press can lead them by the nose.

The *Western Worker* is based on firm confidence in the intelligence, honesty and courage of the American people.

DEMOCRACY DICTATORSHIP In A. F. OF L.

(Continued from Page 1) the progressives were even more strongly represented than before, all pretense of constitutionality was thrown to the winds.

"Constitution Be Damned"

Green's answer to the protest of 33 unions out of 38 unions representing 85 per cent of the San Diego trade union movement, was the instruction to Joe Casey, his personal representative: "Take such action as you deem fit." With this blanket endorsement for any action he might take, Casey told the delegates: "The Constitution be damned" and promptly revoked their charter.

The only support that could be mustered for this union-smashing proposal were from the delegates from the Pressmen, Culinary Workers, Postal Clerks, Musicians and the Stage Hands and Theatrical Employees unions. The combined membership of these unions is not more than 500 members.

Casey Serves the Utility Interests

The main complaint and criticism against the Federated Council has come from the San Diego Chamber of Commerce and Public Utility Corporation. The growing strength of the trade union movement had to be curbed. They especially feared President Steinmetz, who, defeated for mayor on a Municipal League ownership program in the last election, would, with the support of the Federated Trade Council, be guaranteed victory in the coming election. He had to be removed.

Gag Progressives

The San Diego Exposition, which runs until next July, has been notoriously unfair to organized labor. The Federated Council, failing in its efforts to make the exposition fair to labor, were considering placing it on the unfair list. This did not suit the big interests. It had to be stopped.

The Council in general supported the progressive program of the Maritime Federation, and in general supported the progressive industrial union movement led by John L. Lewis. This did not fit in with the Green-Scharrenberg program. It had to be stopped.

The Federated Council secretary, Rogers, opposed Paul Scharrenberg for secretary of the California State Federation of Labor.

A committee of the Council was investigating the Labor Party with the possibilities of running Labor Party candidates in the next city elections.

There was no constitutional way to stop these progressive moves—no way to carry out the bidding of the Chamber of Commerce. There was only one way for them—the destruction of the Federated Council. The Chamber of Commerce alone was not strong enough to do this. This "honorable" task has fallen to Joe Casey. He has begun with the revocation of the charter.

Fight To Restore Charter

Thirty-three unions, out of 38 unions of San Diego, representing 85 per cent of the entire trade union membership, are fighting against this disruptive action of Green and Casey. They feel very confident that they will win the struggle. Their record (has anyone the record of Casey, except that he is the son of Mike Casey?) is, that since 1933 under progressive leadership a strong effective progressive trade union movement is being built in San Diego that does not take its orders and program from the Chamber of Commerce. This is not their fight alone.

Take up this question in your next union meeting.

Demand that Casey be removed and that the charter of the San Diego Federated Trade Council be immediately restored.

Protect the civil rights of the people from being trampled upon by the small ruling clique of the Morgans, duPonts and Hearsts!

Read the *Western Worker*—the only bi-weekly working class paper on the Pacific Coast.

Mass Protest Can Halt Employers' Attack Plan

(Continued from page 1)
 Second, in order to insure that Scharrenberg-Olander plan to discipline the Sailors Union of the Pacific by revoking its charter, would be carried at the convention, a delegation had to be gotten together which would support Scharrenberg and Olander in their union-splitting tactics. Only by the most flagrant violation of the constitution—by abolishing the right to elect delegates guaranteed by the union constitution appointing instead hand-picked stooges, was this accomplished.

This, however, they could not achieve on the West Coast, where all the delegates were elected according to the constitution. But they were able to carry it through in sufficient places on the Atlantic Coast and the Gulf by the usual "beef-squad" methods.

This was not easy because the at majority of the seamen on East Coast are against the signing of the old agreement, are for a new agreement based on West Coast articles, and for the organization of a Maritime Federation similar to that of the Pacific Coast on the Atlantic Coast and the Gulf. The total number of delegates to the convention had to be cut down to a number that would insure control. Out of the entire Pacific Coast delegation, representing 13,000 seamen, Scharrenberg could not find one seaman that would support him. From the East Coast and the Gulf only with beef-squad methods could they muster 18 hand-picked delegates. Just imagine 31 delegates constituting themselves as a convention legislating for nearly 50,000 seamen, and 18 hand-picked delegates deciding to revoke the charter of the Sailors Union of the Pacific representing 7,000 sailors.

"Responsible Unions"

The shipowners say they want "responsible unions," "responsible union leaders." It is clear what they actually mean. They want a "Blue Book" company-union for the waterfront—a rink-hall union for the seamen. By "responsible" union leadership they mean leadership that will take orders from the shipowners, and not from the members of the union. The shipowners want union leaders like Scharrenberg, who was twice expelled from the union, in 1921 and 1935, by the membership.

Contrasting Conventions

There are two conventions being held in Washington—the convention of the United Mine Workers of America and that of the International Seamen's Union. Two thousand elected delegates at the U. M. W. A. convention—thirty-one delegates at the I. S. U. convention. The U. M. W. A. convention endorses the proposal of its officers to place the finances, organization and organizers into the hands of the unorganized in the mass production industries—steel, auto, oil, rubber, etc. The convention unanimously criticizes the A. F. of L. Executive Council as follows:

"In aluminum, steel, oil, rubber and other mass production industries, the American Federation of Labor Executive Council has done nothing for the organizing of the unorganized, if they have done anything at all it has been to disorganize the workers rather than to organize them."

National Agreements

In contrast with this, what did the convention of the I. S. U. do? Hundreds of resolutions were sent to the convention demanding a better agreement—a national agreement; the organizing of maritime federations on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts. Every constructive proposal made by the membership and supported by the West Coast delegates was defeated, while Olander and Scharrenberg and their 18 stooges began a disastrous expulsion campaign on the Pacific Coast.

Resolution Disguised

Only one resolution was presented to the convention asking that the Sailors Union of the Pacific Coast be disciplined—that was the resolution sent by the shipowners. Of course, Scharrenberg and Olander were clever enough not to introduce it in the same form as proposed by the shipowners. They knew that they had the convention in the palm of

their hands, that is why they prepared three weeks in advance the court action tying up the funds of the Sailors Union of the Pacific.

Destroying Union Democracy

Every day produces more proof that there is collusion between the shipowners and Olander and Scharrenberg. The revoking of the charter is for the purpose of destroying democracy in the union; appointing officials suitable to the shipowners; barring all union meetings with an eventual return to the fink hall. Through this they hope to smash the Maritime Federation, carry the same struggle into the International Longshoremen's Association and bring about the "Blue Book Union." Knowing that this cannot be done with the consent of the membership, they use the courts to disrupt the unions and prepare vigilante terror to insure the success of the open shop plan.

Showdown Demanded

The shipowners are determined for a showdown. Their plans time and time again have had to be altered because the Maritime Federation has been able to expose them publicly before they were able to put them into effect. The maritime unions as a whole have always gone more than half way to settle disputes. Peace on the waterfront can only come when the shipowners abandon all idea of bringing back the open shop. The maritime unions are united and will defeat every attempt. Those companies that really want to work with the unions on the basis of collective agreements, and clarification of awards have no trouble. The trouble begins with the vigilante open-shop section of the shipowners. They will be defeated, as will their agents who are attempting to revoke the seamen's charter.

Support the Sailors

This attack is against the trade union movement. The Sailors Union of the Pacific and the other maritime unions are the first ones selected for a concentrated attack. It is the duty of every trade union to accept this arrogant challenge of the shipowners and rally to the support of the Sailors Union.

Demand that the vigilantes be disbanded.

Demand a Congressional investigation into the charges made by the Maritime District Council.

Demand that the sailors' charter be restored.

The trade unions should condemn the action of Scharrenberg and Olander, who in the face of this attack of the shipowners give their support by beginning a disastrous inner-union struggle.

LINCOLN EDITION

The Western Worker, coming off the press on Tuesday, will contain material on the life-work of Abraham Lincoln during the storm and strife of the Civil War to wipe out chattel slavery in the United States.

The Hearsts, the American Liberty League, the Republican Party, will attempt to use Lincoln to cover up their vicious fascist-vigilante attack upon the American workers. Lincoln does not belong to the Tories of today. Lincoln belongs to the people.

Get a copy of the Western Worker. Order a bundle for your organization. Spread the news of this issue to your friends.

"I say to you here today, brothers and sisters of the American Federation of Labor, that we are the oppressed people! That we, the majority of the people, have been robbed of our constitutional and civil rights by a powerful minority. And I warn you with utmost seriousness and emphasis that we shall never free ourselves from bondage unless we take the reins of the Government ourselves. Our only salvation lies in a militant, courageous, and statesmanlike Labor Party movement based on the organized workers of America, and pledged to a program protecting the rights of the people."—Francis Gorman.

The united action of the people will defeat fascist-vigilante terror.

Build the Party of your class—the Communist Party!

Mass Meeting For Modesto Dynamite Frame-Up Victims

Harry Bridges, Vandeleur and other well known speakers will voice the demands of the labor movement at a mass meeting at Dreamland, Sunday, February 16th, at 2:30 p.m., asking that the appeal of the case of the Modesto frameup victims be granted and the Standard Oil "justice" which sent innocent workers to the pen be reversed.

As in the present attack upon the sailors, the name of Scharrenberg and the bosses are linked up in this foul attack upon labor. Scharrenberg called the tanker strike without the consent of the rank and file and Standard Oil had a special prosecutor openly paid by it to assist in the frameup.

Only mass pressure through a state-wide boycott will compel Standard Oil to order its puppets on the Appellate bench to grant this appeal.

Modesto is the most recent incident in the long history of attacks on labor by Standard Oil, of which the Ludlow Massacre by Rockefeller interests is a dark chapter.

BOYCOTT STANDARD OIL.

This Is What Unions Have Accomplished

Decent homes instead of miserably furnished rooms, a chance to buy clothes and shoes for the kids and milk for the babies, a chance to pay off the debts contracted in the old days of starvation pay and unemployment under the open shop system the shipowners are trying to bring back to the waterfront—these are some of the things the maritime unions have won for thousands of San Francisco workers under their leadership, which the shipowners' paper "The American Citizen" so vehemently denounces.

The petty graft and brutality of the shapeup and gang boss system has been abolished. No more "ham hanging"; a longshoreman can get a job today without handing the gang boss a ham, or a case of wine, or a bottle of whiskey like in the old days. No more pitting gang against gang in the inhuman competition of the Blue Book days. No more unemployed longshoremen hanging around the docks starving while others work 60, 70 and 80 hours straight without sleep or rest.

Today there is fair and equal division of work on the docks. Four thousand longshoremen make a comfortable living, \$135 and over monthly average, where 1,200 worked irregularly before while a few star guys were making good pay the majority lucky if they made \$5 to \$15 a week. Everyone of the longshoremen forced to starve on relief in the Blue Book days is working today.

Sailors' pay of around \$43 a month and sometimes down as low as \$25 before the 1934 strike is raised to \$62.50 and 60c overtime. Warehousemen, scalers and every maritime craft are getting higher pay, and job security.

All along the line the maritime unions under rank and file leadership have put an end to the old system of long hours, low wages, driving speed-up, insecurity and brutal competition on the San Francisco waterfront. They have aided the neighborhood merchant by gaining wages for the men working on the waterfront that enable them to buy the things they have always needed and never could buy in the old days.

The maritime unions are doing a good honest job working actively to protect the interests of their membership and all San Francisco labor. They are carrying out the traditions of real American trade unionism. That is why the shipowners want to destroy them.

Defend your right of organization, your right to strike!

Unite the people against the Tories of today!

Build the anti-Fascist Farmer Labor Party in every city of the State!

VIGILANTE RECORD IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 3.—The reactionary forces of finance capital and industry in Southern California want Fascism!

Daily the sleek, well-fed, well-dressed "gentlemen" of Southern California's ruling class, meet with their hired representatives in luxurious, upholstered offices or at luncheon tables in the "classy" hotels, their purpose—to crush the workers and their organizations, to wring more profits from the working masses who have already borne the weight of the crisis—to bring about Fascism!

Hand of Reaction

In no other event is the hand of reaction to be seen so plainly, than in the current drive of the shipowners and big-shot bankers to drive a wedge into the maritime workers, in the closest co-operation with the Tory officials of the International Seamen's Union.

For months this beef-squad terrorized all honest workers in San Pedro, waylaying them individually and beating them into unconsciousness, until finally the workers rebelled. Fred Friedl, an official in the union, who led this gang of thugs, was riddled by bullets of police officers last June 22nd in a mysterious murder never fully solved. This happened less than 24 hours after Friedl was expelled from the union by a vote of 48 to 1.

Two days later, the beef-squad attempted to "get" Smallman, who was incapacitated from a "few bumps" administered by these thugs a few days before, the "bumps" including a broken shoulder and four caved-in ribs. Smallman was protected by a handful of friends, and in the melee that followed, Riley received a fractured skull and died several days thereafter.

Murder—But No Charge

Another beef squad was organized in the International Longshoremen's Association local in San Pedro, and one of its members early last September coolly murdered a rank-and-file member of the I. L. A., Arthur Ross. This vigilante, Edgar Rueb, has never been brought to trial for this unwarranted killing.

Buzzell Splits Union

Five Mexican girls, members of the Fish Cannery Workers Union, are now facing jail sentences for the "crime" of organizing. The charges against the five Mexican girls are definitely known to have been pressed by the Tories of the A. F. of L., through the strikebreakers testifying in court, even though all five defendants are members of the "new union" as well.

In this case is shown clearly the anti-labor stand of the American

Federation of Labor bureaucracy. J. W. Buzzell, secretary of the Los Angeles Central Labor Council, arbitrarily removed the charter of the old union because Jack Moore, its business manager, is a "radical," and then proceeded to organize a "new union" among the strikebreakers in the canneries!

Imperial Valley

In the Imperial Valley, scene of so many brutal attacks against the working-class, so many cold-blooded murders of workers, the wealthy growers are now preparing to "stifle" a growing strike movement among the agricultural laborers. Even a "boy's police force" is being organized in this territory to defend the growers' profits.

Police Brutality

In Ventura County, Police Chief Kerrick of Oxnard has conducted brutal terror against workers, beating up prisoners in jail and on the streets indiscriminately. Particularly has this uniformed thug directed his activities against Mexican workers from the agricultural fields. Last September he beat up Pauline Lemes, young Mexican girl weighing approximately 95 pounds! And then unsuccessfully tried to have her convicted on a "disturbing the peace" charge!

Strikebreaking "Plan"

More terror is in store for the workers of Southern California, unless a united front is formed strong enough to defeat the reactionaries driving towards Fascism. Only this month the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors okayed a "disaster plan" ordinance, providing for forces composed of the American Legion, Spanish-American War Veterans, and sheriff's squads, under the leadership of Sheriff Biscailluz.

The real intent of this "disaster plan" ordinance is not to take care of emergencies caused by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, fires, etc., but to organize a vigilante group to smash down workers and their organizations.

Challenge Fascism!

From the workers can come but one answer to this challenge of reaction—unity in struggle for the maintenance of democratic rights, for the smashing of vigilantism, for the securing of a decent standard of living both for employed and unemployed workers, for 100 per cent union organization, and for unity in the political field for a Farmer-Labor party.



WHO ARE THE MURDERERS?

The whole record of the open shop drive against California labor is a black page in the history of California. It is a record of fascist vigilante terror. It is a record of war and violence.

The following incidents tell only a part of the story which is covered with the blood of honest fighting American workers.

January, 1934—Lettuce strike in Brawley, Calif. 200 arrested. One child killed at union hall when tear gas was used.

January, 1935—Imperial Valley—Paul Knight and Elfried Hamaker shot by vigilantes.

May, 1935—Eureka—The Mayor of the city, the members of the Redwood Association and American Legion called for a vigilante committee of 1,000 to smash lumber strike. Quilliam Kaaree and Harold Edlund slain—hundreds injured.

1935—Stockton—Ray Morency, vice-president of the I.L.A. Warehousemen murdered but the murderer was acquitted.

August, 1935—San Francisco—Eugene Dietrich, Business Agent of the I.L.A. fired upon in his home by five gangsters.

Earl King, secretary of Marine Firemen, fired on while driving down Kearny Street.

UNITE TO DEFEAT ATTACK ON MARINE UNIONS

Shipowners Move to Force Open Shop Conditions on Pacific Coast Unions

The militant, progressive trade unions on the Pacific Coast have become the center of the open-shop employers' attack to destroy the organized labor movement and the hard-won working conditions gained by the unions. The shipowners and other employers have banded together, with the financial backing of the most reactionary capitalist interests, to smash the unions affiliated with the Pacific Coast Maritime Federation, and are preparing to use fascist, vigilante methods to coerce the 35,000 members of the maritime unions into submission, to return to the old open-shop conditions of longer hours and lower wages, under a company-controlled union. The whole labor movement and friends of labor must be aroused to support the Pacific Coast unions who are threatened by this conspiracy of the employers.

Splitting Tactics

When the shipowners plot to abrogate their agreements and through use of scabs, professional strikebreakers and vigilante gangs institute open-shop conditions on the waterfront was exposed by the Maritime Federation, which is demanding a public Congressional investigation of this conspiracy, the employers turned to another method—that of splitting the ranks of the maritime unions. The employers sent a resolution to the convention of the International Seamens Union demanding that disciplinary action be taken against the "irresponsible" unions on the Pacific Coast. (The shipowners consider any union that they can not control, "irresponsible.") The officials of the International Seamens Union, complied with the demands of the shipowners, ordered the Pacific Coast District of the union to withdraw from the Maritime Federation, and revoked the charter of the Sailors Union of the Pacific.

This action was taken at a convention to which the majority of delegates were never elected, but appointed by reactionary officials in violation of the I. S. U. constitution. The only democratically elected delegates were from the Pacific Coast unions.

Employers' Aims

The employers hope to utilize this splitting action of the I. S. U. officials, Olander and Scharrenberg, to carry out their objectives. They want to create confusion and

Join Our Ranks!

"The American Citizen" and similar fascist sheets rant against all workers who organize and fight militantly for American wages and conditions and adequate relief. Their lies are aimed at all militants, who are called "Communists."

After reading this paper you know Communists have nothing to hide. We stand for the rights of workers to organize, strike and picket; for the right to elect trade union officials in a democratic manner; for industrial unionism and organization of the unorganized; for a Farmer-Labor Party representing the wide popular demands of the people. But we oppose war and fascism, vigilante terror, the smashing of trade unions, and suppression of constitutional rights.

You also stand for these principles. You cannot be indifferent while the Chambers of Commerce, the Morgan-duPont billionaires and the union-smashing shipowners organize against the workers. Become a fighter in the cause of labor. Join the Party of your class, the Communist Party!

I wish more information about Communism . How to get literature . How to join the Communist Party .

NAME

ADDRESS

(Mail to 121 Haight Street, San Francisco)

dissension in the ranks of the unions. They want to deal with willing tools like Scharrenberg, who was expelled from the union by an overwhelming vote of the Pacific Coast membership for actions against the interests of the membership. With a militant policy and a progressive leadership democratically elected by the rank-and-file, the West Coast maritime unions have won conditions far better than those of the workers on the East Coast, where the unions are still controlled by reactionary officials like Olander among the seamen, and Ryan among the longshoremen.

THE SHIPOWNERS WANT TO INSTITUTE A RYAN-OLANDER - SCHARRENBERG LEADERSHIP IN THE WEST COAST UNIONS, SO THAT THEY CAN BATTER DOWN THE WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS, LENGTHEN THE HOURS, AND HAVE COMPANY-CONTROLLED UNIONS.

The Lying Press

The employers use the newspapers, particularly in San Francisco where the unions are the strongest, to hide or distort these facts, to raise the "red scare"—that old bugaboo about "Communist agitators" stirring up trouble on the waterfront. The employers are inciting violence in such Fascist, vigilante sheets as the "American Citizen," in the Hearst press, which hysterically raise the hue and cry against every progressive and liberal force in the labor movement.

In the same manner the reactionary American Liberty League, controlled by Morgan and duPont, directs its attack all the way from the Roosevelt Administration to the Communist Party. The campaign of these reactionary fascist forces not only endangers labor's right to organize and maintain its unions, but threatens every democratic right of the American people. The Hearsts and the Liberty Leaguers who shout "Americanism" and "Defend the Constitution" are the ones who are attacking what is left of the Amer-

WHAT TO DO!

Demand a Congressional Investigation of the Employers' Plot!

Support the fight of the sailors to remain part of the International Seamen's Union and the American Federation of Labor!

Demand the reinstatement of the charter for the Sailors Union of the Pacific!

Get your local union, your organization to protest against the employers' attack! Wire protests to President Roosevelt, to your Congressman, to the Department of Labor and to the Executive Committee of the A. F. of L.

Get your local union and your respective Central Labor Council to take steps to expose and combat vigilanteism!

ican standard of living, and American civil liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights contained in the American Constitution. With this fascist danger in mind, President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America declared at the last American Federation of Labor convention:

"There are great influences abroad in the land, and the minds of men in all walks of life are disturbed. We are all disturbed by reason of the changes and the hazards in our economic situation and as regards our own political security. There are forces at work in this country that would wipe out, if they could, the labor movement of America, just as it was wiped out in Germany and Italy. There are those of us who believe that the best security against that menace is a more comprehensive and more powerful labor movement."

The working class must not be misled by the Hearsts' red-baiting campaign, which by raising the cry of "reds" and "irresponsible unions," aims to destroy the whole labor movement.

Only By Standing Together in Firm Solidarity Can the Unions Win Out

Communist Role

The members of the Communist Party who belong to unions play a constructive progressive role there. The Communist Party requires its members to be good union men and women. The Communists in the trade unions unite with all progressive forces in the labor movement to strengthen the trade unions and their fight for better conditions, higher wages, shorter hours, and for unemployment and old-age insurance. Communists in the unions support the fight for industrial unionism, which is led by John L. Lewis, and backed by A. F. of L. unions numbering over a million members. Communists in the unions advocate democratic control of these unions by the membership itself. Communists stand for the principles of the American Federation of Labor, as outlined in the preamble to its constitution. We advocate that the unions get behind the building of a Farmer-Labor Party to defend labor and civil rights and fight the forces of reaction, fascism and war. It is because an increasing number of workers are beginning to fight for these elementary things, that every honest worker, or progressive, or liberal, is being attacked by the employers and their agents as a "Communist" and a "red."

Secret Plans

We charge that the shipowners are deliberately attempting to provoke a struggle on the waterfront, and try to blame it on the maritime unions. At a secret conference of 200 representatives of Big Business on the Pacific Coast, including the Waterfront Employers Association, the Industrial Association, and the Chambers of Commerce, held in San Francisco on September 8th and 9th, Roger Lapham of the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company said:

"We fear we will be maneuvered into a position where you other business men will demand that we arbitrate."

Herman Phleger, attorney for the Waterfront Employers Association, told the meeting:

"We have endeavored in the last year to encourage respon-

sible union leadership among men whom the employers could depend upon."

A. H. Lundeen of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce said:

"We are afraid we will be jockeyed into a position where other business men will demand that we arbitrate. We must have the backing of every branch of business if we are to win this struggle. And if we do not win, union labor will move in and organize your workers as it has organized ours."

Speaking of the elected leader of 4,000 San Francisco longshoremen and of the District Council of the Maritime Federation, Lapham admitted:

"Bridges is stronger than he was a year ago, unless his influence is eliminated, we can't get anywhere."

We challenge the shipowners to deny and refute these facts showing a union-wrecking conspiracy of the employers.

Call to Action!

We appeal to every worker and every friend of labor to stand by the maritime unions in their struggle. Have your union demand a public Congressional investigation of the employers' plot, as the Central Labor Councils of San Francisco and Oakland have done.

Write or telegraph your Congressmen and Senators, Department of Labor and the President, supporting this demand.

Every union should follow the example of the Seattle Central Labor Council and protest the revoking of the Sailors Union charter, and support the fight of the Sailors Union to remain a part of the International Seamens Union and the American Federation of Labor.

Every union should go on record urging each respective Central Labor Council as well as the American Federation of Labor to take steps to expose and combat vigilanteism, as was decided at the last convention of the California State Federation of Labor.

The united front of labor can defeat the employers' offensive.

Build the Anti-fascist Farmer-Labor Party!

Join the Communist Party!
COMMUNIST PARTY OF CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA FASCISM IN ACTION



MARITIME FEDERATION EXPOSES SHIPOWNERS

Harry Bridges, president, and Mervyn Rathbone, secretary, for the District Council of the Maritime Federation exposed the nationwide conspiracy of waterfront industrial and financial interests to attack the maritime unions of the Pacific in a statement issued demanding a Congressional investigation into the shipowners' plot. The statement shows steps taken by the shipowners as follows:

"On a date yet to be decided, probably in February, Waterfront Employers Associations of all Pacific Coast seaports will take the following steps:

"1. Full-page advertisements will appear in the larger daily newspapers which will state the intentions of the employers and present arguments in support of their actions.

"2. In an effort to maintain

an appearance of peaceful resistance, they will then evict seamen and longshoremen from jobs by laying up ships, ostensibly because 'exorbitant' union requests make operation financially impossible.

"3. Recognition of all maritime unions will be withdrawn and the shippers will attempt to deal with the men only on an individual basis.

"4. Shippers will attempt dictatorial control of wages and working conditions.

"In the advertisements, these 'arguments' will be presented:

"1. The unions are 'irresponsible' and 'fail to keep their agreements, thereby disrupting the free flow of American commerce!"

"2. The unions are run by 'Communists,' 'Reds,' and 'Radi-

cals' whose objective is 'destruction of American shipping.'

"3. Ships can be 'run only at a loss' if owners have to pay living wages.

"4. Shipowners would be 'willing to keep agreements with responsible unions.'

"This Council of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific Coast therefore requests that our charges be made the subject of a Congressional investigation.

"Such an investigation would be the means of preventing what would be, for America, an unprecedented attack on organized labor and the findings and recommendations might easily become the basis for a satisfactory settlement of problems which might have been a constant source of controversy on the waterfront for more than a year."

Support Your Paper

The Communist Party and thousands of sympathizers in the Labor Movement are proud of the Western Worker and its persistent fight for the interests of employed and unemployed workers in the West during its four years of existence.

Today's events recall the 1934 strike days, when the local capitalist press, without exception, viciously attacked the strikers. In this emergency the Western Worker was placed at the disposal of the strikers and the famous "BABY" WESTERN WORKER was born. Despite the worst vigilante terror, we continued to appear in "Baby" form.

Those strikers who bore the brunt of that historic fight, whether they be Communists or non-Communists, give unstinted praise to the Western Worker for its role. And they will greet this "BABY" WESTERN in this emergency, recognizing its fight on their behalf.

We therefore have no hesitation in asking workers to send their pennies, dimes and dollars to swell our annual fighting fund. We have no wealthy advertisers or subsidizers. Donate! Support your fighting paper! Buy a subscription for your neighbor!

I hereby enclose \$..... donation for the 1936 Fighting Fund.

I enclose \$..... for a subscription (\$2.00 for one year; \$1.10 for six months; 60c for three months) to the full-size 6-page semi-weekly Western Worker.

NAME

ADDRESS

(Mail to 121 Haight Street, San Francisco)