

WORKERS AGE

A PAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS

Vol. IV, No. 9.

Saturday, March 2, 1935.

Five Cents

At First GLANCE

By JAY LOVESTONE

MR. MATTHEW WOLL has no peer among those trade union officials who not merely have reactionary ideas, but also get well paid for entertaining and boosting them. Hence, let no one be surprised to see Woll, acting president of the National Civic Federation, take the lead in Hearst's anti-Red drive. That is why it was quite in order for this president of one of the most notorious open-shop outfits to denounce the Workers Age and demand its suppression before the Congressional Committee dedicated to besmirching and scorching the Communists. Against the Workers Age Mr. Woll has a special grudge. Sometime ago we exposed his crooked, anti-labor role in the U. S. Army War College preparations to harness the workers in the next imperialist conflict. But there is much more involved in Woll's antics. This mounting noise against the "Reds" is only the prelude to an attack on all labor organizations. Experience both at home and abroad shows beyond a shadow of a doubt that this is precisely the way the worst anti-labor campaigns are prepared and launched.

WHEN we think of all the plans and blueprints now being hatched and drawn to remodel, rebuild, revamp, and revitalize the New Deal we are reminded of a French proverb that is rather appropriate: "Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose." (The more things change, the more they remain the same).

Regardless of what changes will be introduced into the New Deal, it will remain the same—an ordeal for the workers, a snare and a delusion for labor. In this light we can only welcome the growing disillusionment in labor's ranks, even amongst some high trade union officials, with the whole NRA. Every worker should greet, therefore, this sound and long overdue conclusion just arrived at by I. N. Ornburn, president of the Cigar Makers International Union: "The trend is alarmingly similar to the early stages of Fascism in Europe where labor was first baited with promises such as the NRA and then suppressed." Brother Ornburn did very well in telling the Congressional Labor Committee that the whole leadership and administration of the NRA was "a studied and certainly is a standing insult to labor." So far so good. Fine words. What next? What's to be done? We are convinced that organized labor must make a complete break with the NRA and the whole Roosevelt administration. Vigorous preparations for strikes in the auto and steel industries are most imperative. Carefully prepared steps towards a national labor party based primarily on the trade unions are most urgent. Sharp talk is swell, provided it is combined with militant action.

NO effort should be spared to dissipate the sweet smoke of rhetoric that always surrounds the most heinous plans of the capitalist plunderers in the colonies. A few instances of British imperialist domination should bring this home to the point of sharpest remembrance. Recently, the malaria plague killed over thirty thousand in Ceylon, the British Empire's gem island, centre of the world's tea industry and source of many a huge fortune for Britain's titled plutocracy. We reckon it would be useless to ask about the great improvements the "advanced" British were supposed to have brought to these "backward" people. Starvation as the foundation must sooner or later rear a superstructure of pestilence and huge death-rolls. In the Bahamas the situation is essentially no better, as can be seen from this editorial confession in a recent issue of the Nassau Tribune: "The economic system of this country has gradually become such that the average man . . . during nine months of the year . . . scrapes for bread. . . . Many nearly starve." And when sugar estate workers in Basseterre, St. Kitts, British West Indies, recently struck to achieve some improvement in their conditions, the police charged their lines, killing three and wounding eight strikers. Not a ripple followed in the House of Commons. Western "civilization" was vindicated! Law and order were saved! Profits for the few and starvation and pestilence for the many were insured. Thruout Latin America Yankee imperialism behaves in just as "civilized" a manner.

FOR the sake of the record if nothing else, we hasten to register the demise of one of the most advertised depression cures. We have in mind the "back to the land" cry raised by some reformers and land-owning insurance companies. During the peak of the crisis

"We Are Sitting on a Volcano"

UNITED SHOE STRIKE CRACKS MAINE: PARADISE OF SWEATSHOP BOSSES

500 Workers Walk Out In
Revolt Against Misery;
Ranks Are Solid.

ZIMMERMAN PICKETS

Maine, the haven of shoe manufacturers, the region of the lowest wages and most hours for the shoeworkers, the state where terror against the shoe workers by the manufacturers in conjunction with the Church and community officials, had turned the region into a gold-mine for the manufacturers, is witnessing the first crackup in the system of unchallenged exploitation.

On Thursday, February 14th, the workers of the High Shoe Company in Saco-Biddeford, Maine, walked out on strike for a 35% increase in wages, and recognition of the United Shoe & Leather Workers Union. They were followed the next day by the crew of the Kesslin Shoe Company, also in Saco-Biddeford. The strike is 100% effective, and involves about 500 workers in the two shops.

Maine is being cracked by the United Shoe & Leather Workers Union in impressive fashion. On Thursday Feb. 21st, I. Zimmerman, Editor of the United Shoe & Leather Workers Union addressed the assembled strikers, and urged them to continue mass picketing. Following the meeting, he led the largest picket line that the strike has seen to date.

OREGON LEARNS WHAT "LIBERTY" IS

Hoodlum Bands & Legislators
Unite To Smash Workers
Organizations

UNION OFFICES SACKED

By EARL LANE

Portland, Oregon.—The ruling class of the Northwest has launched its most determined drive since the days of the world war to smash all working class organizations. In its drive against the organizations of the workers it is using not only its vigilante bands but its legal arm—the state governments of Oregon and Washington—as well.

With only two dissenting votes the lower house of the Washington state legislature recently passed the Ott bill. Under the provisions of this bill anyone or any organization advocating change or overthrow of the government can be kept off the ballot. The Ott bill says, in part, "No candidate of any political organization or party shall be given a place on any primary or general election ballot if such political party or organization advocates as one of its principles the overthrow of the government of the United States or the State of Washington, or advocates, carries on, or supports any program of sedition or treason to the government." This bill has now gone to the state Senate where it is almost certain to be passed.

In a further attempt to terrorize the militant workers organizations, vigilante bands burglarized the Workers Book Shop in Seattle on the night of February 12th, and stole or destroyed over \$200 worth of literature. On the same night the offices of the National Lumber Workers and Fishermen and Cannery Workers Industrial Unions were broken into and the seal of the National Lumber Workers Union and all office supplies such as letterheads and blank membership books were stolen.

(Continued on Page 4)

there was a momentary lull in and slight reversal of the trend of migration from the rural to the urban areas. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has just made public figures indicating that the hegira from the country to the cities was resumed on a serious scale in 1933, with the first faint signs of economic revival. We are told that "the cityward movement was 1,178,000 compared with 1,011,000 in 1932" and that the 1933 net urban movement exceeded the farmward movement by more than a quarter of a million. Here we have a return to a trend far more significant than the figures would indicate on the surface. No pious wishes, no New Deal edicts, no Roosevelt administrative orders, no reformers' day-dreams can alter the course of social and economic evolution in the U. S. Thanks for the death of another quack-remedy for the crisis.

The statement by George Kanaar local organizer of the Union, to the press is significant:

"This action of the workers in Biddeford is simply part of a program to extend one union of shoe and leather workers to every part of the country, and to insure to all these workers a higher standard of living. Nothing can alter our determination to reach every corner of Maine, and elsewhere where shoes are made. The refusal of these manufacturers to open negotiations with the representatives of the workers places upon them the responsibility of a crippled industry, for we never for a moment intend to lessen our assault upon the inhuman conditions which prevail in the shoe factories in that state."

EUROPE TODAY

by August Thalheimer

MORE AND BETTER PLEBISCITES

The effect of the Saar plebiscite on Nazi foreign policy has resulted in unpleasant surprises for Germany's neighbors. If, after the victory in the Saar, some of them had believed that, out of sheer gratitude, Nazi Germany would reduce its foreign political demands, they were sadly mistaken.

"Plebiscite" has become the slogan of the Nazis in all regions where there are Germans in Austria, in Memel (Lithuania), in Eupen-Melmedy (Belgium), in Danish Schleswig, in Southern Tyrol (Italy). For the present this slogan is not yet being advanced by the official Nazi statesmen but it has become the vigorous propaganda cry of the Nazi Party, its press and its other agencies. Thus Hitler-Germany lays the basis for further imperialist advances. It is obvious that the German people are being misled when made to believe that "plebiscites" only are sufficient for the further annexation of territories. With the exception of the Saar, all other regions can be acquired by Germany only at the point of the bayonet. Propaganda for more plebiscites has therefore become the mask behind which is maturing schemes for imperialist wars.

ANW NOW PLEBISCITE IN ALSACE-LORRAINE

A peculiar aspect of this new imperialist drive of the Nazis, is the plebiscite campaign started by the autonomists in Alsace-Lorraine and by the party led by Mayor Hueber, recently expelled from the International Communist Opposition. It is clear that Goebbels and Hitler are secretly pulling the wires in this campaign. What a miserable place for Hueber, Mourer, etc.

Communists, of course, know that the plebiscite campaign is a miserable caricature of the right of self-determination as advocated by the communists. Real self-determination calls for a revolutionary war side by side with the French working class, for the overthrow of bourgeois rule in France and the support of the German working class for the overthrow of Hitler. The prerequisites for the self-determination of the Alsations cannot be created in Alsace alone. These must be correlated with the revolutionary class struggle in France and Germany.

FRENCH FRONTIER BEING CLOSED

Unfortunately we are not in a position to give first hand, eye-witness descriptions of the terror in the Saar, as it unfolded itself under the very eyes of the League of Nations. The extent of the terror is sufficiently indicated by the fact that up to January 20, no less than 8,019 visas were issued to Saarlanders by the French Consul in Saarbruecken.

Innumerable tragedies are occurring at the Saar border daily because persons having visas are no longer permitted to enter France unless they are expressly recognized as "political refugees." Amer-

—SAYS CONGRESSMAN ASKING FOR GREATER ARMY

Head of A. F. of L. Label Dept. Denounces NRA As Fascist While Roosevelt Asks For Two Year Extension; MacArthur Wants CCC Militarized

DEMOCRATS SPLIT ON PWA WAGE ISSUE

The New Deal marches on! Roosevelt, in an extraordinarily fuzzy message to Congress asks the extension of the NRA for two years.

Congress has before it the largest War budget in fifteen years. \$378,699,488 is proposed to build an army specifically designed to combat "the menace of radicalism within our borders."

The fight over "prevailing wages" versus "relief wages" on Federal Public Works goes on in the Senate.

"The NRA is tending toward Fascism" was the comment of labor, uttered by I. N. Ornburn, secretary of the union label department of the A. F. of L.

Congress Trembles At Reds;
\$50,000,000 Shaken Loose
Congress is looking at the world

through rose-colored glasses so every thing is Moscow red now. Small wonder, either, in these days when the former Congressional cheering section from William Green down is denouncing them in terms that once belonged exclusively to the "reds." So now Congress is getting ready to quell the revolution.

The War budget as reported out of committee provided for an increase of \$50,000,000 in army appropriations bringing them to the largest figure since 1921. The whys and wherefores were no secret. Chairman Parks in reporting said: "We are sitting on a volcano at home and abroad. We cannot blind ourselves to the menace of radicalism within our borders and to warlike foreign activities."

An even larger amount and an even more impressive strike-breaking army is at the disposal of President Roosevelt. The budget bill provides that he may, at discretion, increase the standing army from 118,750 to 165,000 men and the National Guard by 5000. General MacArthur, chief of staff, in pleading for a bigger army made a very significant comparison. "The present standing army is at so low a figure that it is a continuing menace to the safety of our country," he said. "There are hardly more than 60,000 combatant soldiers, that is, less than three times the number of men on the police force of New (Continued on Page 4)

GREEN ASKS PEACE IN MOTOR INDUSTRY

A. F. L. Head Speaks Against
Strike Asking For Another
Auto Labor Board

NEW SELL-OUT LOOMS

"No such plan as starting a strike in the great motor industry is contemplated," said William Green arriving in Detroit for the national council of the 145 federal automobile unions. "We are thinking and working in terms of peace, collective bargaining and independent workers. What is most wanted is an Automobile Labor Board organized under the National Labor Relations Board."

Thus did Green repudiate the stand of the officers of the federal locals as well as the militant membership, smarting under the insulting extension of the Wolman Board, ready to engage in a life-and-death struggle with the motor barons. The auto workers are reacting to Roosevelt's "concessions" to labor (time and one half after forty-eight hours, "extended" employment) from their own experience. They know that, while the employers are making vague promises about the extension of the production period, they are speeding them up to the maximum point possible.

Replying to Roosevelt's code extension provisions, the officers council of the Automobile Federal Local Unions held on February 4th at Barlum Hotel, voted an emergency conference of all auto locals to be held immediately after the sessions of the national council. The report recommended strike action based on the major demands of a thirty hour week, five day week as the only means of substantially extending the period of production, for a carefully planned, timed strike action, the recruiting of volunteer organizers from the local unions, a call for financial help from organized labor, and other demands as follows:

A minimum of \$35 per week for unskilled workers, \$48 minimum for skilled, women workers to receive equal pay for equal work performed, improvement of safety and sanitary conditions, abolition of the merit clause and espionage system, no discrimination for union activity, and recognition of the unions.

A very significant editorial addressed to the M.E.S.A., the Society of Designing Engineers, and the Dingmen's Association, called for unity of all auto workers in the A. F. of L. union. Hitting both independent and dual unionism, it stated "The history of independent unions in America is not a satisfactory one. . . . The history of duplicated effort of organizations in any industry has been a sad one for the workers. The AFL is in the process of setting up a great International Union in the auto- (Continued on Page 4)

The Forum of the
NEW WORKERS SCHOOL
will be held on Friday Nights.
Prof. DONALD W. McCONNELL
New York University
Will speak on
Yankee Imperialism in Latin America
On March 1st at 8:30 o'clock
51 West 14th Street
Admission 15 Cents

WORKERS AGE

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The Gold Mess

It appears to us that nearly every commentator on the Supreme Court decisions on the gold cases has jumped off with his wrong foot. The substance of the 5-4 verdict is not so important as our self-anointed experts insist. No matter what decision the nine robed monarchs would render, the Administration was fully determined and prepared to continue its monetary policy, within the "spirit," if not within the letter, of the constitution.

The tale that really hangs in the Supreme Court declaration is to be found rather in the why and wherefore of such problems arising at this time than in the decision itself. That is why there is little reason to get excited at the result of the embarrasment of the Roosevelt Administration as a result of the Supreme Court's hedging over the gold clause in government bonds. At most, the Supreme Court action will ally momentarily the uncertainty that was generated by its haggling over the test cases. Fundamentally, the failure of the Supreme Court to do more than strive to slow down the tempo of Roosevelt's monetary experimentation, will not fortify economic stability. In essence, the decision will strengthen the forces making for inflation and thus enhance the factors making for continued uncertainty and instability in federal monetary policy. Here lies the reason for the very short-lived flurry on the Stock Exchange after the decision was made public. The gains were lost in double quick time.

No one in his serious moments could expect the highest court in the land to act otherwise. "Life called the tune" and Chief Justice Hughes danced. It was faced not merely by an accomplished but by an irrevocable and the all-powerful standard in currency, yardstick of the gold is firm and irrevocable. The reputation of gold as a standard could not but burst like a bubble, once England and the U. S. were shoved off. This phenomenon is rooted not in a shortage of gold but in its maldistribution, which is only a reflex of the chaos inherent in capitalist production. In fact, the gold reserves of the American and British governments haven't been as great in many a moon. This gold treasure in the central banks is supposed to serve substitutes (world money) fund for such unusual occasions as foreign and home metallic money, for purely banking functions, and for payment of deposits and converting of notes into money.

But—and here's the rub—the crisis in capitalist production has devitalized and disrupted these processes. Anarchy in circulation soon followed. First, private hoards diminished circulation. Then, the remedial measures of the central banks (their hoarding) succeeded admirably in increasing circulation that new and worse troubles were unleashed. The basic feature of the crisis today—in the U. S. and in all the big capitalist countries—is expressed in the fact that capitalist production and exchange have already reached that point of development in which both types of hoarding are stifling capitalist enterprise. Thrift has become a curse.

At the close of 1932 and early 1933, people began a run on banks, sought to pull out their deposits, particularly in gold, and to hoard it home. The mattress was becoming the most important and the most secure form of capital. The number of checks taken by the ruling class leadership, the flow was reversed and the banks began to find themselves jammed with money. However, whether this money be gold, silver, copper, nickel, paper or what not, there is no profitable field of investment for it. This is the central problem faced. This is the problem which the Supreme Court decision doesn't affect vitally. In reality, gold as a stabilizer of capitalist production and exchange relations (world money) does not exist. The confusion and demoralization consequently gripping the capitalist policy makers are often immeasurable. Thus, despair runs thru both the majority and minority opinions. All the solemnity of Hughes can neither hide nor undo the serious uncertainty in contractual relations flowing from his opinion that "Contracts may create rights of property, but when contracts deal with a congenial matter which lies within the control of Congress, these sacred pillars of the bourgeois system, will lie 'within the control of Congress.'" More and more, all contracts in American business will suffer from this "congenial infirmity." Nor can the scathing soapbox effusion of Justice McReynolds, spokesman for the minority, hide or alter stern reality. McReynolds, too, taking a positive line toward Hughes, also reflects the whole sordid mess of capitalist economy when he wails that: "The constitution is gone. This is Nero at his worst!"

One thing is obvious. The workers can't afford to fiddle while the capitalist system is petrifying and beginning to burn. The bosses will redouble their efforts to switch the burdens of the crisis to the workers. The encouragement lent to the New Deal by the Supreme Court decision will surely add dash to the mind, Dealers' policies and steps against labor. This, above all, we must keep in mind, and act accordingly—in defense and enhancement of our working class interests.

Books of the Age

by Bertram D. Wolfe

A NOTE ON MODERN PAINTING, by H. R. Wackler. Oxford University Press. 47pp., boards, \$1.50.

The invention of the camera created a crisis in modern painting compelling it to take stock of its real functions and distinguish them from those of photography. Nineteenth century art had tended to submerge the problems of pure formalism, cubism, and abstract art. The writer of the present pamphlet is sympathetic to post-impressionism and hospitable to all new developments of pure formalism and abstraction but his lucid interpretation and defense is obviously troubled by only partly formulated ideas. He recognizes that the old masters have created not merely masterpieces of composition but also of representation. That lesser men have often sacrificed pictorial form to picture content, the how it was expressed to the what it expressed, should not blind artist or critic to the fact that form and content can be fused into a unity to the enrichment of both.

"In the case of the artist who attempts to combine both interests and makes the formal expression of emotions, writes Wackler, 'there is always the danger of his sacrificing the pictorial qualities to descriptive exigencies simply because of the difficulty of concentrating on two things at once.' True enough, but is there not a contrary danger as well? And when was 'difficulty' an artist's alibi? Is not rather the triumphant surmounting of such 'difficulties' one of the keenest sources of esthetic pleasure in both creator and spectator? Is not the danger that the pure formalist fell into it, is proved by the short and enfeebled life of cubism and abstract art, and by, as Wackler recognizes, 'the aptness of his content (art for art's sake)' and finally landed in the blind alley of pure formalism, cubism, and abstract art."

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What post-impressionism has contributed is some new experimental knowledge of and sensitiveness to the formal elements of art which can be put to high use in the blind alley of pure formalism. Life is closed up and the new knowledge is put to the uses of painting that is both significant pictorial design and significant representation, as is the case in the great work of recent Mexican painters.

Incidentally, it is a pleasant surprise to find this little volume by the artist Howard Chandler Christy, Jr. and his wife, who have written him arranging for his escape, merely in order to keep him with her a little longer. And, in a comparatively short time, upon a delectable diet of beefsteak and Miss Claire, the comrade grows "fit" and is ready to fight for Communism in order to "settle down" with his temptress. But since that was not exactly what she wanted, the police, thru the aid of her banker-husband and the editor of a "liberal" newspaper, are corrupted into aiding in the escape of this very same young Communist for whom they have been looking. That is your frothy story and it is told, I fear, none too brilliantly. Miss Claire is stunningly and most lavishly painted.

Whose Recovery Is It?

They Offer Us Death

By M. S. MAUTNER

Labor has been exploited to an intensity never known before. While the millions increase, while profits rise, there have been wages decline and prices rise. But this considers the plight of the employed worker alone, which, coupled with the savagery of modern speed-up would apparently constitute the furthest attack the boss class would make. There is yet to be considered the unemployed worker.

Your Troubles Are Bubbles In the torrent of demagogic loot leech by the Recovery Administration, promises were made concerning unemployment relief. No such un-American affair as a dole was necessary, first of all. And secondly everybody would be back at work shortly just by waiting. A let would be taken care of by public works until private industry could reabsorb them.

Let us begin at the beginning. Conservative estimates now admit approximately 15,000,000 unemployed in March 1933. This was the low for all economic data. By the time Richberg made his June report, it was possible to conclude from it that about 13,000,000 were still unemployed. He stated this in a fancy and deliberate fashion by referring to the unemployed as 10,000,000. The census act worked at 53,000,000. Perhaps the great "labor man" didn't believe any one but New Dealers could subtract.

According to the A. F. of L. from June to October 1933 about 2,200,000 were re-employed. This makes the Sept. 1933 figure of about 10,100,000 approximately correct. But unemployment never reached a lower figure than that! A reduction of one million from July 1933 to June 1934 is ascribed to Federal projects, that is, public works. One has to be careful,

and the New Dealers are, with the months one chooses to talk about. For example, there were about 1,900,000 more employed in June 1934 than June 1933, but whereas 450,000 were taken on in July 1933, the same amount was laid off in July 1934!

Basic Industries Not Touched

Another very important factor must be taken into consideration when dealing with employment figures. The general index of employment for November 1934 was set at 76.8, apparently by some working figure. But further examination reveals that while the non-durable goods index was at 95 (1923-25 being 100) the "durable goods" index was 63.3. By durable goods is meant the basic industries—and it is on these that the economy must depend. But it is here, steel, machinery, autos, oil, etc. that we saw the greatest rise in profits; it is here that even now the workers are preparing to salvage something from the wreckage of the Roosevelt attack. Incidentally a neat bit of NRA adding was done when announcing a rise in the December durable goods index of 3.4. Secretary Perkins concluded that the index was 64.3.

NRA Increases Unemployment

The most damning indictment of the whole system of the New Deal came when the A. F. of L. announced 11,322,000 unemployed for December 1934! Not only does this show a gain over the previous NRA "achievements," but it sets the figure at practically the correct one for December 1933 (11,292,000). Here the whole house of cardboard statistics and "recovery" ballyhoo, collapses. What little whittling away of the ranks of the unemployed there was, due to

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Stage and Screen

"Ode to Liberty" is one of Sidney Howard's few failures. It is inclined to sandwich in a bad one so often among his other works, even when it means to be quite serious. His present opus, however, is of the brand of flimsiest French farce and is adapted from Michel Duran's "Liberte et Conviction."

The confusion and demoralization consequently gripping the capitalist policy makers are often immeasurable. Thus, despair runs thru both the majority and minority opinions. All the solemnity of Hughes can neither hide nor undo the serious uncertainty in contractual relations flowing from his opinion that "Contracts may create rights of property, but when contracts deal with a congenial matter which lies within the control of Congress, these sacred pillars of the bourgeois system, will lie 'within the control of Congress.'" More and more, all contracts in American business will suffer from this "congenial infirmity." Nor can the scathing soapbox effusion of Justice McReynolds, spokesman for the minority, hide or alter stern reality. McReynolds, too, taking a positive line toward Hughes, also reflects the whole sordid mess of capitalist economy when he wails that: "The constitution is gone. This is Nero at his worst!"

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TRADE UNION NOTES

By GEORGE F. MILES

Lesson of Paterson

The defeat of Sarkis Phillian, TUUL candidate for general manager of the Silk union by Alec Williams, conservative supporter of McMahon, is of considerable significance for progressive and left wing workers. In this is involved the basically false conception of the C. P. and its TUUL that the greatest menace to them in the trade unions is the progressive forces and not the reactionaries. Flowing from this position the strategy of the "Rank and File" group in Paterson was that of uniting with the very devil himself in order to oust the progressive administration led by general manager Keller.

Success Spells Defeat

This strategy worked. The TUUL group became the sink-hole where gathered every conceivable type of oppositional force. The Muste forces under the leadership of the discredited Brooks were welcomed with open arms and "in concert" an agreement was also reached with the blackest elements of the organization. It was this set-up which defeated the progressives in the broad silk department and entrenched a motley crew known as the "rank and file" group. Now the TUUL was ready to go further and attempt to take over the union as a whole. But now trouble began. Once victory had been achieved the conflicting forces that made up this "holy alliance" elected executive.

Elections for Manager

When Keller, promising to have his hands tied by an irresponsible executive, resigned in order to make a new test, the "rank and file" group nominated Sarkis Phillian. The conservative forces now stepped forward as an independent force and nominated Alec Williams. In this situation the Progressive Group took a commendable stand. They decided that they could not support the irresponsible TUUL crowd nor could they endorse Alec Williams who represented the reactionary policies of President McMahon. They therefore placed Eli Keller as their nominee for general manager.

Hands Across The Table

Apparently both the TUUL and the conservatives were not quite sure of the outcome, for in the elections committee both joined hands to remove Eli Keller from the ballot on some ridiculous excuse. It was not until the very last moment that the TUUL group, in any other progressive or left wing organization, I volunteered to do organization work. It was not long before I was elected Chairman of the Port Organization Committee and when approached by members of the Communist Party, I joined the Young Communist League.

"I.L.A. Is Dead"—Hudson

When I joined the M.W.U. everyone believed that the International Seamen's Union (A. F. of L.) was dead and could not grow and that it would never lead strikes because it was a phoney union. I hardly got the words out of my mouth when the rank and file of the International Longshoremen's Union started the biggest mass struggle we have seen yet. This was the first mistake we made.

"I.S.U.—A Shipowner's Union"

The second mistake was in claiming that the I.S.U. was a shipowners union and had to be smashed. When I was elected a member of the National Committee of the M.W.U. I participated in a four days session of this Committee held in Baltimore during March 1934. Mainly we discussed how to smash the I.S.U.—the union across the street. For my part there is nothing wrong with telling workers to smash a shipowners union, a company union or a fascist union, only the I.S.U. wasn't that kind. The result was much more than the seamen.

Doomed To Failure

In the case of Local 22 there will also be disaster but this time it will be confined only to the "left group." Their combined forces are hardly enough to shake the solid and firm support of the 30,000 dressmakers. What is not unlikely that this very combination will go pretty far in disillusioning many honest members and sympathizers of the Communist Party and the TUUL. It is a pretty diseased and dangerous policy that has to resort to such unprincipled maneuvers. We await the outcome with confidence.

Congratulations, Progressive Dressmakers

The Progressive Group of Local 22 is to be congratulated on the publication before or why we should be in the ISU. The result is a lot of confusion. Some seamen really believed that the ISU is a shipowners union. When they join the union now they may work in a disruptive way and perhaps even cause splits. This will discredit communism among the seamen for all they know about communism is what they see the CP members do. Some seamen have become demoralized because they think that going over to the ISU is a sell-out by the M.W.U. after it collected from them a lot of money for dues. All these things happen because the Party has not come

ROBERT ARTHUR

THE SPANISH REVOLUTION

THE GENERAL STRIKE

By JUAN ANTONIO

The fascist Lerroux-Gil Robles government certainly expected the protest of the working class but was far from foreseeing the proportions that that protest would assume. The mobilization in the entire country was almost instantaneous. From Friday morning, October 5, the official news from Madrid indicated that the general strike was almost complete. Madrid, the capital, was no exception. Madrid is the stronghold of the Socialist Party. It is that party that controls and directs the political and trade union movement of the workers. The working class in Madrid during the last few months has made enormous progress from the point of view of revolutionary organization. It was before able to mobilize quickly. In just a few hours the entire city had been paralyzed by the will of the working class.

Madrid at Standstill The new government was therefore greeted early Friday morning, by the absolute standstill of life in Madrid. Nothing functioned. The cafes, so crowded customarily, were closed. The hotels, restaurants, business, transport, everything stood still. During the hours of the morning, the principal streets of the capital were invaded by the strikers who kept on walking silently in small groups. But in the afternoon the situation changed completely. The closer night approached the more deserted the streets became. Great events were in the offing.

In the evening shots began to be heard. Government forces were assailed everywhere at the same time and everywhere. Now the shots came from balconies, now from windows, now from roofs.

Role of Anarcho-Syndicalists The character of this movement, the revolutionary general strike—was not the same as that of the insurrections in Asturias and Catalonia. The workers' protest did not manifest itself in one single way in all the principal regions. After the insurrections in Asturias and Catalonia, it was in the Province of Biscay where the revolutionary movement occupied first place. The workers' protest followed the example of the revolutionaries of Asturias. They captured the arms factory of Eibar, organized revolutionary committees, built barricades and fought with great heroism.

On Saturday, the 13th, work was resumed, little by little. Largo Caballero, the leader of the Socialist Party, was arrested on that very day.

MARINE WORKER

—Reviews The Blunders of The Dual Seamen's Union In Baltimore And The Sectarian Tactical Line Behind Them

By HERBERT EVANS

The writer of this statement was one of the leading comrades on the waterfront in Baltimore. For reasons of his present occupation his real name is not given here.

I joined the Marine Workers Industrial Union in April 1933. Arriving in Baltimore at the time the seamen were fighting for the relief machinery, I volunteered to do organization work. It was not long before I was elected Chairman of the Port Organization Committee and when approached by members of the Communist Party, I joined the Young Communist League.

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out frankly to say what was wrong before and why it is necessary to join the ISU.

What the Party should do even now is to explain that the A. F. of L. is a phoney union. The Party should never have tried to smash it and that it is honestly trying to overcome the mistakes of the past.

Mistakes—Big and Little If instead of following a dual unionist line we had followed a Leninist trade union line like the C.P.O. we could easily have held control of the relief machinery in Baltimore. When we got hold of the relief machinery and the shipowners were being armed and began to fight us we turned to the trade union for support. Of course we did not get it because we were fighting the A. F. of L. unions. Had we taken hold thru our work in the A. F. of L. unions we could have got the support of all other unions and could have held on. Also we could have done what to encourage the same kind of a fight among workers in other unions, for distributing their own relief.

Dual unionism being sectarian it brought with it a lot of other mistakes. Just a few examples. Then first meeting of seamen after we took over the relief machinery was held on the beach. Roy Hudson got so enthused that he decided the time had come for showing the face of the Party. So he announced in his speech that he "is a communist and proud of it." All other little leaders did likewise. Every time the trade union for support, there climb back into independence persons who have been forced to accept public aid, also the level of living to which they can aspire may be slightly elevated from real want. . . . An urban study made in May of 1934 revealed that 65,000 persons on relief were professional workers; 404,000 were clerks or kindred workers; and 660,000 were skilled workers. . . . The workers on relief rolls are in the main recruited from lower occupational groups. . . . 1,000,000 semi-skilled workers and 1,384,000 unskilled workers. . . . It is the chronic poverty in which they exist that has formed the basis of the larger part of the relief problem. . . . Proportionate to their number in the population of 1930 twice as many Negroes as whites took on the relief rolls in October. Their low wage levels forces them upon relief promptly when their job stops, and in an overcrowded labor market discrimination militates against their getting work again. . . . One third of persons on relief were to be found in Pennsylvania, New York Ohio and Illinois—a fact not surprising when the industrial density of these states is considered."

SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM

A FRAUD AND A MENACE

By Saul Held

Wall Street is girding for battle. Plunging into the armament race and a battle for world markets it must muster a more vigorous expression of the working class at home. Lower standards of living, war against unionism, this is on the order of the day for American Labor to a degree unknown in the past. The New Dealers have veered sharply to an undivided policy of war on unionism and living standards. Every item of Washington news is fraught with this message. Already the Washington grape-vine is clogged with rumor regarding the forthcoming demise of Francis Biddle. The recommendations ready the A. F. of L. leadership is beating the drums against the Administration's labor policy. Already Bill Green has thundered his disapproval of the Wagner-Lewis Bill. It is with these facts uppermost in our minds that we must weigh carefully the significance of the new social securities program, the Wagner-Lewis Bill and the Work Relief Bill.

Here we shall deal only with the most vital part of the Wagner-Lewis Bill, reserving for another occasion the other features. The unemployment insurance feature of this Bill does not provide for a uniform, national, compulsory system of insurance. It is rather, a series of recommendations to the States for their adoption or modification in the drafting of State laws. The recommendations are so desirable enough, only those now at work are to benefit; eligible workers to receive 50% of their weekly wage, but not over \$15 per week for only 16 weeks, providing a tax on the payroll has been paid for a designated period of time and the worker has not at least 4 weeks after losing his job.

But, these are only recommendations. Each State has the following liberties: It can determine whether the employers alone, or both employers and employees together shall contribute to the compulsory tax; for how many weeks the workers must wait before receiving benefits; for how many weeks benefits are to be given; how much the weekly benefit shall consist of, etc. Each State can permit company plans—individual plans reserved for the order of the Wisconsin Plan, to flourish.

What does all this mean? It means that States can set their weekly benefits anywhere from \$15 a week to \$7 a week, waiting periods from 4 weeks to anywhere above 4, workers to receive ed downward. Both these objectives

LOVESTONE-MUSTE

—Debate On "Which Program For American Workers" Exposes White Guard Attitude Of Workers Party

By ARNOLD

Which Program for American Workers? Fifteen hundred workers packed the large hall in Irving Plaza to hear Jay Lovestone present the position of the C.P.O. and A. J. Muste that of the W.P.

To all intents and purposes the debate was over after Lovestone's first presentation. Muste never caught on and is more he showed not the slightest desire to do so. His first 45 minutes were really miraculous from the standpoint of how little one can say in so long a time. In his 25 minutes rebuttal he answered the charges of Lovestone and presented that should have come in his first talk.

It is no business of a revolutionary party to organize a reformist labor party, said Muste, after being hard pressed by Lovestone. Old stuff A. Much more aggressively defended and propagated by Foster, Browder, Cannon et al in the days of 1923 and as unconvinced now as it was then. Foster and Browder give up their position against a Labor Party while Muste gives up his position for a Leninist-Bolshevik one. Foster's change of objective conditions makes the Labor Party necessary, while Muste says change of objective conditions makes the Labor Party unnecessary. Very convenient proposition this changing objective condition.

W.P., says Muste, after considerable coaxing, is for trade union unity and for work in the American Federation of Labor. W.P., says Muste, is also against liquidation by the Communist Party of its (paper) unions which have a mass base. (Which of the liquidated TUUL unions had a mass base and does not trade union unity apply also where there is a mass base?) If you can make sense of this catch-all policy, you are pretty good. In fact, the Muste himself, who for he looked silly enough mouthing these contradictions.

Time was when Trotskyites would indignantly deny their stand on civil war in the Soviet Union. "Stevenson in Russia," shouted the supporters of Muste and Cannon, giving the lie to the oily words "Defend the Soviet Union" that trickled from the lips of "Honest Abe" Muste.

I have seen before anti-soviet crowds. But this time the Trotsky supporters exceeded all their past performances in unadorned white-guard fury.

Muste railed and ranted against the "rowdism" of the C.P. but during Lovestone's second rebuttal Muste's supporters proved they have little to learn in this fine art.

Trotskyist rowdism was at its height when after Muste's cynical remarks on the murder of Kirov, Lovestone quoted from the Trotskyist press in Holland, as follows:

"If the shot of Nikolajev would at least result in opening the eyes of the Russian workers to the dangers of this transitional system so full of contradictions, then this political assassination will have had a good side." ("De Arbeit" of December 22, 1934)

So speaks the official organ of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of Holland, one of the signers of the call for a Fourth International.

The "so-called" Communist Party and Communist International have betrayed the German workers, says Muste. But Thaelmann and Torgler are still in jail while the recently discovered "Leninist Bolshevist" Maria Reeser—who the Trotskyist claimed to be his bottom, hails Hitler over a national hook-up in Germany.

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NEW DEAL ATTACK ON WAGE SCALES MEETS CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION

Roosevelt Threatens To Scrap Whole PWA Plan If Boys In Capitol Don't Behave

(Continued from Page 1)

York City." General MacArthur has the solution for getting a bigger national "police force," however. He has renewed his plea that all the fine young men in the Civilian Conservation Camps should not be wasted on inglorious occupations like planting trees and making roads. He wants them trained for the nobler profession of mutilation, presumably both for the volcanos "at home and abroad."

"I think there would be nothing finer than to use the men in the CCC camps as the nucleus for an enlisted service," he said. "We should take these CCC men who have had six months in camp and give them, perhaps, two months more in which they would receive military training."

"Just Two More Years" Is Roosevelt Plea

Complete lack of any specific recommendations on the burning demands of labor characterized the President's NRA extension request. He asked that the Recovery Act, which expires June 16, be extended for two years, advocating slight changes, particularly the elimination of price fixing and the restoration of the anti-trust laws to "more adequate operation."

But on the really vital points, the points on which recovery must stand or fall the President was silent. The implication is that he wants Section 7a—how long ago it seems that Green called it the Great Charter of labor—renewed in just about its present useless form, with the added possibility that it may be "clarified" in accord with Richberg's anti-labor interpretations. He made no mention of the pending proposal of Senator Wagner providing for collective bargaining by majority rule, outlawing the company union.

Organized labor is past the point of hailing each new Rooseveltian twist as an act of emancipation. This was made clear by Ornburn, president of the Cigar Maker's International and label speaking before the House Labor Committee.

In reviewing the run-around accorded labor in connection with the Cigarette Code, he scored the President for accepting a code written entirely by the manufacturers and completely ignoring the recommendations of the planning board and the Division administrator. The starvation code was pushed through by S. Clay Williams, former president of the Reynolds Tobacco Co. and now Chairman of the National Industrial Recovery Board.

In referring to Williams, Ornburn said: "With the NRA now headed by one of industry's chief night riders labor can expect increasing doses of Fascism from its decisions and activities."

"Labor," continued Pres. Ornburn, "can expect nothing from the NRA. It is compelled to fight for the thirty-hour week."

When a labor representative who emerges not only from the ultra-reactionary Cigar Maker's Union but from the ultra-ultra-reactionary union label department can take a view as progressive as this the outlook for independent political action by labor grows brighter. The Washington rumor factory turned out a new stall last week—a story that Roosevelt was wooing the industrialists and turning a deaf ear to labor so that he could get the NRA extension through. Ornburn's statement is a very good answer to this. The Roosevelt apologists have had too many alibis.

"Prevailing" vs. "Relief" Wage Fight Continues

The epic duel between the Administration and the American Federation of Labor on the vital issue of public works wages took an unexpected spurt last week when the Senate adopted the McCarran amendment providing for payment of prevailing rates by a vote of 44 to 43.

First approved and then rejected in the Appropriations Committee, the McCarran amendment was finally passed by a coalition of reactionary Republicans who hope to kill the whole public works measure by boosting its costs, and progressive Democrats who felt the justice of the A. F. of L. contention that the Roosevelt \$50 a month wage would result in an immeasurably lowered living standard for the workers of this country. Now the whole relief situation is in a turmoil. Roosevelt threatens to drop public works for a straight dole-sabotage of his own recovery program. In

the House a hundred Congressmen are forming a "Left" bloc to force floor action. The traditional party lines are breaking fast in Washington.

The Public Works bill and the McCarran amendment provide the clearest test labor had had of its friends and its enemies. Public works at union wages can be a tremendously useful impetus to a real recovery for the masses. Public works at fifty dollars a month are only a mask to slash all living standards to subsistence levels. If the issue is thrown on the mercy of Roosevelt's veto power it will label him and his New Deal apparatus once and for all with a label that will be clear to even the most conservative, the most backward worker.

AUTO--

Workers Want \$35 Minimum

(Continued from Page 1)

mobile industry. It will be an Industrial Union as authorized and mandated by the A. F. of L. convention."

Both Green and F. J. Dillon, General Organizer of the American Federation of Labor in the automobile industry, at various meetings, insisted that the Automobile Labor Board had proved an absolute failure and that "it must go if automobile workers are to obtain justice from the government." That the elections being held by this Board are a farce, is proved by the way in which the workers in each city have condemned them and unanimously chosen the American Federation of Labor as their bargaining agency.

However, Green, instead of pointing out that this must be the nature of any board of this type, called for the creation of a new board embodying the old principles, thereby covering up the whole issue. So long as the Auto Industry is taught to believe that the union-smashing drive of the Code Boards is not part and parcel of the NRA program, but is the fault of "sinister" individuals, so long is unionization obstructed.

That this attitude prevails to too great an extent is shown by the A. F. of L. resolution, against the extension of the Auto Labor Board. Here it is stated "It would seem that the conclusions of the President in making public this Executive Order were inspired by individuals not in sympathy and devoid of understanding of the needs and desires of the auto workers."

No effort of the Progressives could have so completely torn the veil from such illusions as the action of Roosevelt himself in his letters to Ogburn, wherein full and complete responsibility for all action concerning the Labor Board was taken upon himself. This step is a clear and open challenge to the auto workers and completely explodes the "bad man" theory. The drive against organizing the Auto workers is headed by Roosevelt and not merely mistakenly sanctioned by him.

NORTHWEST--

Compulsory Arbitration Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

In Oregon the drive against workers organizations has been no less severe. Under the Oregon State Criminal Syndicalism Law four workers (Don Cluster, Dirk de Jonge, Kyle Pugh, and Edward Denny) have been convicted and given varying sentences of from one to seven years.

Determined to retain this vicious law as a weapon to be used against all militant workers the State Senate defeated a bill to repeal it with only five senators voting for repeal. This bill was introduced by Peter Zimmerman who at the last session of the legislature secured some important modifications in this law. Zimmerman was an independent candidate for governor at the last election, and ran a strong second, nosing out the Republican candidate by a big margin, thus indicating a leftward turn by the masses in this traditionally conservative state.

This week four bills were introduced in the lower house of the Oregon legislature designed to paralyze the activities of labor unions in strikes. The bills include one to repeal that section of the state police act which prohibits state police from interfering in strikes.

The others would repeal the anti-injunction law; require labor unions to submit to compulsory arbitration with no picketing for 30 days while negotiations are in progress and make books of all unions open to public inspection.

The ECONOMIC WEEK

The business index began to decline under the forces of the steel decline, textile fluctuation, and the decrease of the department store sales—as recorded by the Federal Reserve Board.

The "Annalist" of Feb. 15th points out that the "artificial ease in the money markets," being created by the government may "force plants to operate at full blast for a period, in order to achieve the benefits of rapid mass production, and then to curtail drastically until demand catches up with the supply."

Standard Statistics, in one of its reports, indicates that profits for the first quarter of 1933 will be 23% above the similar period in 1934. The big corporations increased their profits in 1933 and '34 tremendously. General Motors increased its profits, in 1933, 5000% over 1932 and in 1934 14% over the previous year. Caterpillar Tractor Co. increased its profits over 1933 by 1104.9%. Inland Steel increased 2133.5% in the same period. The Ward Baking Co. increased its earnings 48.1%.

Business Week of Feb. 6, 1935 estimates that the 1934 exports of scrap iron and steel were 1,800,000 gross tons. Japan took about 60% of the foreign sales. War-making in the far east!

For the year, 1934, Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler accounted for 90% of total output. This in contrast to 1929 when it was 77%.

—ECONOMIST

ZIMMERMAN, WILSON TELL NEGOTIATIONS FOR ONE SHOE UNION

At a meeting on Feb. 23 marred only by minor skirmishes and heckling, George Wilson, secretary-treasurer of the United Shoe and Leather Workers, and I. Zimmerman described to eight hundred New York Shoeworkers the negotiations for code re-opening and the moves toward amalgamation of all shoe unions.

Comrade Zimmerman after telling the elaborate preparations and research the union had done in obtaining the code re-opening spoke of the burning need for one union in the industry, appealing especially to the members of the Boot and Shoe who were present to fight in their locals to force amalgamation. "With one powerful union covering all the shoe workers in this country," he said, "We would not need to worry much about the code. We can dictate terms to the manufacturers and say these are the terms that go in the code."

Fred Biedenkap, formerly secretary of the TUUL-affiliated Shoe Workers Industrial Union which is now Local 23 of the United, demanded and received the floor. In a rambling ten minute speech he assured the audience that he too wanted unity, that he did not like either Zimmerman or Wilson, that the amalgamated union must be under "rank and file" control, etc., etc. Biedenkap is bankrupt.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Progressive Group of Local 23, United Shoe and Leather Workers.

ARTIST GROUPS ASK FREEDOM FOR JAILED SPANISH PAINTER

Luis Quintanilla, foremost Spanish satirical painter, is in prison in Madrid because of his militant activities in the Spanish revolution.

A Joint Action Committee of cultural organizations has been formed by the Artists Union, the New Workers School, the Rebel Arts and the John Reed Club, to protest Quintanilla's imprisonment.

There will be a mass demonstration on Saturday, March 2 from 10 to 11 a. m. in front of the Spanish Consulate, 515 Madison Avenue. All workers and sympathizers are asked to support this demonstration.

Read the Literature of the Communist Party (Opp.)

- What Is the Communist Opposition? 15 Cents
- By Bertram D. Wolfe
- What Next For American Labor? By Jay Lovestone 5 Cents
- The NRA and American Labor By Will Herberg 5 Cents
- I Accuse, By M. N. Roy 10 Cents
- Why a Labor Party? 5 Cents
- Where We Stand (3 vols) 25 Cents each
- For Unity, A letter to the ILP 5 Cents
- On Dialectics, By August Thalheimer 10 Cents
- Marx and America By Bertram D. Wolfe, 25 cents
- Gegen den Strom, International Quarterly (German) 10 Cents
- The Road to Communism, An International Quarterly (English), 25 Cents

The Workers Age, A Weekly Newspaper, 5c a copy, \$2.00 a year Bound volumes of the Workers Age for 1934 are available at \$1.50 each

Order from the NATIONAL LITERATURE DEPT. Box 68, Station "O" New York City

SOCIAL SECURITY PLAN AMOUNTS TO GIGANTIC WAGE CUT FOR LABOR

Strikebreaking Threat Seen In Pending Wagner-Lewis Insurance Bill

(Continued from Page 3)

benefits for a maximum of 16 weeks but any number below 16 can be enforced by the States if they so desire.

Elucidation on this would be futile. In essence it is an invitation to Capital to go the limit in making semi-starvation benefits a law of the land. This meagre, limited compensation is a brazen deception of the masses—King Hunger hiding behind the cloak of those dignified terms "social insurance" and "social security"! It is the very essence of social insecurity.

Even if every employer in every State pays the tax without the contributions of the workers, it will still amount to a gigantic wage-cut for the masses, who in the long run will be forced to shoulder the whole financial burden of this starvation program! In a discussion of the unrevised Wagner-Lewis Bill, applicable to the revised bill of today, the employer's viewpoint and course of action is nowhere so frankly revealed as in a recent book from the press of the University of Minnesota, A Program For Unemployment Insurance And Relief by Hansen, Murray, Stevenson, Stewart. The Industrial Relations Counselors, Inc., had a hand in its preparation. It declares:

"The wage earner is not only a producer but a consumer also; consequently any gain that he secures by the employer's contribution to insurance may be offset to some extent by the increased prices he may have to pay for what he purchases.

"It is evident, then, that whether unemployment insurance is operated on a state, industry or national basis, the cost of the employer's contribution in most cases will be passed on to the wage earner in reduced wages. If such a reduction is not made, the cost will rise relatively to other costs and the employer will be forced to reduce the number of his workers in order to bring labor cost again into relation with other costs. The resulting unemployment will induce labor to accept lower wages and thus bring employment back to normal, so that eventually, in any case, the increased cost will be absorbed through a reduction in wages."

A Gigantic Wage Cut

It is unmistakable, it is in the capitalist cards, that the workers shall bear the entire cost of the miserable unemployment compensation they will get through the Wagner-Lewis Bill. It is a gigantic wage-cut to a working class already existing on a standard of living far below the requirements for health and decency. As social insurance the Bill is a fraud not only in this respect, for as bad as the terms are, many workers are excluded and the worker who ends his period of compensation is once more thrown upon the tender mercies of local and state relief agencies.

Unionism Threatened

The Wagner-Lewis Bill, moreover, is a powerful weapon handed the employers with which the workers can be bludgeoned into submission, and company unionism promoted. For each employer can deliver the following ultimatum to his workers. "You can either quit your union, or your benefits are withdrawn." Of course, Senator Wagner has also foreseen this eventuality and has hastened to assure us that "no worker shall be disqualified from receiving benefits because he participates in a strike or because he refuses to take work at standards below those prevailing in his locality, or because he refuses to join a company union or insists upon joining a labor union of his own choosing." The bill gives this "guarantee," but who is to force the employer to conform? Employers scuttled section 7a despite its being written on Blue Eagle stationery; they will not hesitate to laugh this one out of court. Where organized labor is powerful the workers can enforce; but most workers are still unorganized and helpless. Shall they be coerced into joining company unions? The Wagner-Lewis Bill gives the employer an additional, more powerful, lever in such coercion!

And what if workers go on strike? Shall they receive benefits? They shall not. As the aforementioned experts for the employers have put it, "It is advisable to accept the provision made in most American plans that time lost on account of a trade dispute still in progress or on account of an act of God

shall not be compensatable." These consequences will hold true in an even more alarming fashion where company plans (individual plant reserves), under complete domination of the employer, as under the Wisconsin Plan, exist. These company plans are blessed by the Wagner-Lewis Bill, the States standing instructed not to interfere.

Stimulus To Migration

Another consequence of the Wagner-Lewis Bill detrimental to the interests of labor, will be the added incentive for concerns of a mobile character to migrate to States wherein greater benefits are to be derived from the State bills. Just as the differentials in the NRA codes stimulate plant migration from one state to another, textile and boot and shoe industries being outstanding examples, so will concerns attempt to reap benefits by moving to lower-benefit states. The non-uniformity of the State bills elevates the menace and actuality of migration to a greater magnitude.

Here then, in a nutshell, is the essence of this phase of Roosevelt's new hunger program: beggarly compensation through a gigantic wage-cut; war on unionism and weapons to company unionism.

The Roosevelt "social security program" was designed according to him, to guarantee "the right by work to earn a decent livelihood for ourselves and our families." The "right"! It is like giving photographs of bread to a starving working class. Let us not be ungenerous: not photographs, but crumbs!

CLERKS STRIKE IN BUTLER GROCERIES; OTHER CHAINS TO GO

Despite the intimidation of a blacklist and armed company guards, over 500 of the 800 employees of the James Butler grocery chains in New York under the leadership of the Retail Clerks Union are on strike.

The Butler Company has been fighting the union ever since last November threatening to close its stores and retire from business. The speed with which it mobilized scabs and strike guards, however, belie any intention of folding up.

The company's Long Island City warehouse was tied up completely and the great majority of the stores were either closed or seriously hampered as flying squadrons of pickets covered the city with the call to strike.

Build the Weekly "Workers Age"

- Sam Bail (11.00) 1.00
- Boyer (4.00) 2.00
- Boston—Sadie Glanz 5.00
- E. A. K. 2.00
- Edwards Nellie (13.00) 2.00
- Fels Harry 1.50
- G. 25.00
- Gassner Dave (2.00) 1.00
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