

WORKERS AGE

A PAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS

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Five Cents

At First GLANCE

By JAY LOVESTONE

WITHOUT trying to minimize in the least the meaning of the Supreme Court verdict against the NRA, we insist that neither the New Deal nor the nine lambs on the highest bench have yet shown the slightest comprehension of the basic factors in the economic situation. In this sense Roosevelt's revamped NRA is only "a bolt of nothing, shot at nothing."

Owen D. Young, chairman of the General Electric Company, came near putting his finger on some cancerous tissue in Wall Street's economic body when he recently told the Senate Banking Committee: "The only question now is to get business to use the 25 billion dollars operating credits that are in these banks. Business will never use it so long as confidence is impaired." In this conclusion there is more than a strain of truth. But Mr. Young can't understand the essence of the problem. Confidence is important. But, why is there on confidence. It's more than a psychological question. Not even so eminent a horse psychiatrist as Hoover can repair the confidence. What Roosevelt can't do, Hoover should not even try.

We must consider the problem in a much more fundamental manner. Capitalist industry is topheavy in overdevelopment on the basis of possible demand—in the foreign as well as domestic market. The gap between productive capacity and consumption possibilities is unbridgeable under the present economic system in which production is carried on socially but the products turned out are appropriated privately by profit-chasers. Supreme Court or no Supreme Court decision, private industry cannot profitably absorb the tremendous amount of capital piled up in the country. Hence the government enters upon the scene to become the capitalist, the investor, to offer the outlet for surplus capital.

In the last few years this trend toward state capitalism has become marked. In 1929, private industry took 85% and the government 15% of all new security issues floated. By 1930, Hoover's sophomore year, the government share of new issues rose to 24%. By 1932, Hoover's senior or graduation year and after only three years of crisis, so much stagnation had already set in private industry that the government (federal, state and municipal) absorbed 92% of all new security issues. And this under a regime of Republican "rugged individualism" and "a free play of economic forces"! In Roosevelt's sophomore year, 1934, this trend was accelerated to the point of the government taking up 97% (over six billion dollars) of the new security issues. American private industry last year absorbed only 3% of such capital flotations!

Here is a tendency of momentous significance for American economic life. Supreme Court decisions, presidential maneuvers, constitutional amendments and banking manipulations can at best tamper with it or slow it down momentarily. Stagnation and decay are gnawing at the very vitals of the mightiest national unit of capitalist economy. Here is labor's opportunity and duty. Page the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics for the way out of this tremendous morass.

NOT so long ago Norman Thomas complained that "the actions of the extreme right wing in New York have brought about widespread conviction that the Party (S. P.) is splitting, that it is futile, and that at any rate, it is an adjunct of Roosevelt, notably in what it has said about the security program." We think the ideological leader of the S.P. is, for once, on the right track in his fears.

But why blame it solely on the right wing? (Waldman, Oneal, Solomon and Co.) A little closer home, "my dear comrades", for the source of such widespread convictions! Let's look into the statement on the Supreme Court voidance of the NRA just issued by the Public Affairs Committee of the Socialist Party, chaired by Norman Thomas himself. Thomas and Nelson, two renowned "militants", constituting this committee, join the Roosevelt chorus howling for an amendment to the constitution as the way out.

Three points constitute the guiding lines for labor in these critical hours, as laid down by the Socialist Party. First, "the Socialist Party summons the workers of America, all those who love genuine democracy and true self-government . . . to rally at once to the following program: the immediate adoption of a constitutional amendment which will give Congress clear and undisputed power to pass legislation necessary for social and economic well-being of the people." Thanks. Now the workers will

Dressmakers in Market Parade

Demonstrate Determination To Defend Conditions Won In Last Strike

NEW YORK CITY.—If there were any dress manufacturers who fondled the thought of an attempt upon conditions in the trade, they must have got a severe jolt when 15,000 dressmakers stormed into the dress market, singing and cheering, to express their determination to hold what they got and fight for more the first chance they get.

The peace of Saturday morn (dressmakers do not work on Saturday) was shattered by the marchers wearing arm bands which told the world: "The Supreme Court Abolished NRA, But It Can Never Abolish Our Union" "Thirty-five Hours—We'll Soon Work Less But Never More" and "When We Strike, We Win, What We Win, We Keep." One of the songs which attracted widespread attention was one to the tune of "It Ain't Gonna Rain No more":

"Ain't no NRA no more, no NRA no more

But the union's just as strong today As it ever was before."

During the meetings held after the demonstrations it was made clear that the union intends to enforce the 35-hour week and the present wage standards regardless of the death of NRA. Union representatives stated that similar demonstrations were being held in all other dress centers around New York. According to reports 100,000 workers demonstrated in the various cities around New York.

Bosses Financed Harlan Terror

FRANKFORT, Ky.—Harlan County, one of the bloodiest spots of all the mining sections in the country, has recently been investigated by agents of Governor Laffoon. The Commission had to be escorted by troops for they feared for their lives. Two statements of the committee stand out: Immediate ousting of the sheriff as an agent of the coal barons responsible for the terror and that the operators were oppressing labor and amassing fortunes.

According to the commission there exists in Harlan "a virtual reign of terror financed in general by a group of coal mine operators in collusion with certain public officials". That "the victims of this . . . are the coal miners and their families". The Commission further reported that "homes of union miners and organizers have been dynamited and fired into, families evicted from their homes, ballot boxes stuffed, organizers arrested . . ."

Lest you think that some labor organizer made this investigation we hasten to inform you that none other than Adjutant General H. H. Denhardt headed the Commission.

know the difference between "genuine democracy" and "bogus" democracy." To the genuine and bogus democrats of the harmonized Socialist Party leadership it's all a matter of amending and not of canning the constitution. Apparently these "militant" social-democrats have never heard what Chief Justice Hughes said and never understood him when he stressed: "We are under a Constitution, but the Constitution is what the Judges say it is." And if you're in a hurry, the S.P. (again not unlike Roosevelt) proposes, secondly, that "pending the passage of this general amendment, pressure must be brought on enough states to complete the ratification of the anti-child labor amendment." How militant! What a declaration of principles!

But wait for the real lesson to be learned from this verdict of the Supreme Court! Here's the treat of treats: "The most important lesson of all is obvious on the face of this decision. If Congress cannot effectively regulate our economic life while the means of production lie in the hands of private owners, there is one more reason why the people must own these tools of production." At last we have a new reason for socialist economy—so that Congress can "effectively regulate our economic life."

Preserve the constitution! Make Congress potent! What a deadly parallel with the Roosevelt approach! What a worship of false shadows! And what a persistent refusal to see the true substance of the state and its role in the sharpening class relations in the U. S. Truly fitting for "an adjunct to Roosevelt" but not for a working class organization. Shall we wonder what revolutionary socialists like Comrades Daniels, Hapgood, and Henson will say about this declaration of their party?

LABOR LEADERS CHASING RAINBOWS

Progressive Groups Form Council

16 Progressive Groups Join To Set Up Coordinating Body For New York City

NEW YORK CITY.—16 progressive groups represented by 67 delegates met here in an all day conference and launched what is to be known as the Council of Needle Trades Progressive Groups.

Charles Zimmerman, Manager of Local 22 I.L.G.W.U. was the keynote speaker for the conference. He outlined in detail the present condition in the trade unions, the dependence by the leadership on governmental bodies, its policies of conciliation with the employers and its failure to rebuild the organizations along industrial lines. He outlined a program of action which was later incorporated in the program adopted by the body. This, said Zimmerman referring to the organization of the needle trades' center, is just a beginning. We must extend the work to build a general trade union center in New York and also lay the basis for the building of a national progressive body. We must not permit such men as Lewis to pose as the champion of progressive measures.

S. Brandon of the Typographical union was the surprise speaker, and received a hearty reception from the delegates. He attributed the failure of the trade unions to progress to the policy of conciliation, to the belief that "what's good for the boss is good for the workers". He and many others, he said, looked to the progressives in the needle trades to set the pace.

Murray Gross reported for the Program Committee and had his report approved after a little tussle with a couple of Trotskyites who proposed a dual unionist line and objected to a Labor Party.

The approved program pledges the progressives to fight for the following demands:

1. For class struggle.—Against class collaboration.
2. For the 30-hour week.
3. For higher minimum scales.
4. For the week-work system.
5. For the reorganization of the unions on a more industrial basis.
6. For the amalgamation of all needle trades unions.
7. For proportional representation in union bodies.

Triple Alliance Formed

NEW YORK CITY.—A triple alliance of the most powerful unions in the garment industry has recently been concluded here. This will undoubtedly have a far reaching effect in the organization of the unorganized and open shop factories which have moved out of the big cities in order to escape unionization.

The alliance includes the International Ladies Garment Workers, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and the Hat, Cap and Millinery Union. The agreement calls for pooling of funds and organization facilities in the drive to organize the industries.

8. For democracy in the unions.
9. Against racketeering and corruption in the unions.
10. For a nation-wide campaign to organize the unorganized.
11. For industrial unionism and the amalgamation of the craft unions.
12. For the organization of the unemployed under trade union auspices.
13. For trade union unity.—Against dual unionism.
14. For world trade union unity.
15. For a Labor Party.
16. For federal social and labor legislation.

Other proposals accepted by the conference were referred to the executive for putting into final form.

The Credential Committee reported the following organizations as participating with full voting rights: Progressive Groups of Local 1, 22, 25, 60, 66 of the I.L.G.W.U., Furriers Progressive Group, Amalgamated Clothing Workers Circle, Progressive Trade Union Center Group of Local 1 I.L.G.W.U., Progressive Trade Union Welfare Group of Local 9 I.L.G.W.U., Knitgoods Workers Progressive Group, Progressive Club of Local 17 I.L.G.W.U.

The Cutters Welfare Group of Local 10 I.L.G.W.U. was represented by two observers. Fraternal delegates were seated from the following organizations: Progressive Groups of Local 23 and 132, Progressive Group of Neckwear Makers Union, Cloak Pressers Aid Society of Local 35 I.L.G.W.U.

EUROPE TODAY

By August Thalheimer

FRENCH SOCIALISTS GO LEFT

The Northern Federation of the Socialist Party of France has adopted a resolution at its conferences called in preparation for the Socialist Party Convention which indicates the increased radicalization of the Socialist workers of France. The resolution that it is fundamentally centrist makes strong concessions to the left, i.e., to the Paris Federation. The resolution states that the carrying out of the plan of the C.G.T. must be linked up with the seizure of power by the working class. The seizure of power is specified as assuming the form of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The political strike is accepted as a weapon. The resolution calls for Self-Defense organizations of the working class against fascist leagues.

The Northern Federation is led by people like Lebas who together with Leon Blum form the actual leadership of the SFIO.

ENGLAND FORCES ITALIAN RETREAT

Due to the pressure exerted by England, Mussolini has been forced into a temporary retreat in Abyssinia. The Geneva compromise enables England and France to have a decisive influence on the further negotiations between Italy and Abyssinia. His retreat, as usual, was accompanied by a lot of sabre-rattling and all sorts of maneuvers. His latest maneuver consists of again courting Hitler-Germany by declaring that it

is only the Austrian question that separates Italy from Germany and that other powers beside Italy are interested in Austria. This maneuver can only be shortlived, since in reality Fascist Italy will never permit Austria to become a province of Hitler Germany in one form or another.

The compromise arrived at permits Mussolini to increase his troops in Africa but makes it increasingly difficult for him to start a war. This possibility however is not altogether excluded. Whether or not Mussolini will actually start a war depends, in the final analysis, upon England, since she rules the waves. All England has to do is to shut the Suez Canal to Italy to prevent a war.

It can be assumed that this was achieved by the active participation of the representatives of the Soviet Union in the League of Nations.

GERMAN BOYCOTT APPROVED

The conference of the Amsterdam Trade Union International which took place in Copenhagen decided to intensify the boycott against Hitler Germany. At the same time, the conference in agreement with the British Labor Party asked for a conference of all powers to determine the attitude of Hitler. As if this were necessary in the face of recent developments in Germany.

STRIKES IN GERMANY

One of the bourgeois press associations (Continued on Page 4)

"STALIN and the CRISIS in FRENCH COMMUNISM"

An exhaustive article giving the position of the International Communist Opposition.

* * *

A critical analysis of Stalin's declaration on French foreign policy. — An examination of the subsequent declarations of the French Communist and Socialist leaders. — A discussion of the resulting sharpened crisis in the Communist International. — What should the Comintern do today?

READ IT IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE WORKERS AGE

Executive Council Meets But Makes No Proposals For Present Labor Crisis

Upon the voiding of NRA, William Green immediately called an emergency session of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. to take up the crisis. These sessions have now been held and it is possible for us to say very definitely that the Council has not helped in the slightest to solve the problems now facing labor.

The Executive Council has done considerable weeping and gnashing of teeth. "In a short span of six business days following the supreme court decision", says the A. F. of L., 1,000,000 workers in 43 industries among them steel, iron and railroad equipment, suffered increases in hours, cuts, in wages or both. The Council goes on to tell us that thousands have been discharged for refusing to work longer hours, that children are replacing adults and that a number of southern textile manufacturers have cut wages to the point where skilled workers are making but \$7.00 a week.

We read this and we ask: What has the Council decided to do about it? Has it perchance decided, during an unguarded moment of rashness, to start a real organization drive or at least to stiffen the backbone of labor's resistance? Decisions it made, but none of those we have posed. The Council decided to have the Wagner Bill passed (even in its newest garb), to support the Thirty Hour Week Bill, the Social Security Bill and the Guffey Coal Bill. That's all!

You look at this program and becoming a little indignant you stutter: But there's nothing new in any of these measures, the A. F. of L. was already on record for all these measures before the emergency Council met!

And when you say this you are absolutely right. They met, they talked, they grieved over the death of the Blue Eagle and being unable to think of anything to do, they covered up their bankruptcy by talking Wagner Bill, Guffey Bill and Security Bill. So, fellow trade unionists, you better stop waiting for Green to tell you what to do. Just go to your next local union meeting, and all others to follow, and fight like hell against granting any cuts in wages or increasing the hours of labor. See that your union is ready to fight and fight hard to maintain present conditions or even to push ahead.

Child Labor In Bay State

Several weeks ago some twenty school children from 8 to 15 years of age were discovered working nights on pocket-books and other wearing apparel in West Lynn, Mass., by Inspector Delaney of the Department of Labor and Industries. West Lynn school teachers had reported that many of their children fell asleep during classes, this led to the investigation. West Lynn and Haverhill have both been hotbeds of child labor throughout the period of the NRA. This latest case is far from being "exceptional" in New England.

On June 3, Acting Commissioner Mary E. Meehan, issued a statement in which the entire burden of blame is shifted to the "inhuman parents" who signed contracts permitting their children to be exploited. Obviously every attempt is being made to stifle as much of the truth as possible by state authorities. Parents, children and employers will be brought into Lynn's District Court this week for trial.

In an interview, Miss Meehan deplored the fact that her department was so restricted and enmeshed in the net of the Mass. laws curtailing labor investigation, that the ferreting out of child labor has almost become impossible. Miss Meehan deplored the publicity on the case but maintained silence when interrogated on vital considerations concerning child labor in the state.

The Sentinels Of The Republic, the mask of the lobby machinery of the United States Shoe Machinery Corporation, is continuing its offensive against all child labor restrictions. Attorneys of this "professional patriot" group were the field marshalls in the attack that defeated the Child Labor Amendment in the state early this year. In conjunction with the all-powerful Catholic Church, the Sentinels are the greatest force obstructing legislation in the interests of the workers.

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Snapshots Taken at the Needle Trades Progressive Conference

By ARNOLD

It was an historic event that took place at the Manhattan Opera House on Saturday last. For the first time since 1929 there is a progressive trade union body (Council of Progressive Needle Trades Groups) that will hit hard against the bureaucratic right and the dual unionist left. Judging by its orientation and response in other unions it will not long remain alone.

The progs from the A.C.W. were loud in their agreement with Zimmerman when he said that the A.C.W. got one of the worst codes of any needle trades union and will now probably surrender most in the way of conditions. "That's because we had a 'shamus' in Washington" added one of the delegates.

Brandon of the Big Six said that what the Central Trades here needs is a couple of monkey glands. Since the operation involves some expert needle work, Brandon can rest assured. The job is as good as done.

The Trotskyist delegate who made a very learned speech about the "reformist party", during the Labor Party discussion, must have forgotten where he

was. It sounded like a lecture at a study circle of the Fourth International.

Marx's remark about history repeating itself first as a tragedy then as a farce, came to our mind as we heard the quarter dozen Trotskyites object to the categorical position against dual unionism in the program and propose a dual unionist formulation. Their position might be more dangerous if their party were less impotent.

Zimmerman told these boys that on this question our roads divide and that's precisely where you get off.

The delegates roared their approval when Louis Nelson said the Trotskyist attitude to the A. F. of L. is that of a gold digger who, while being married, already has her ticket to Reno ready.

What kind of opposition groups don't we want to line up with us, asked Sasha Zimmerman, in his report? And he answered himself: We don't want the "outs" who are fighting the "ins" (meaning those who fight merely for jobs) nor do we want the "ins" who are fighting their way out (meaning the dual unionists.) If you can put it any better, let's hear it.

TRADE UNION NOTES

By GEORGE F. MILES

The recently organized National Federation of Metal Unions calls to mind the peculiar manner in which the Communist Party's trade union line is unfolding itself.

For some time the C. P. continued to shout very loudly for the Independent Federation of Labor but instead of signs of a developing base we saw the continued shrivelling of one industrial union after another. Now that the C.P. has finally decided that the Independent Federation is "untimely" we see numerous manifestations of actual work in that direction by the same C.P. These national unions and Joint Unity Committees (of "independent" unions) are laying the groundwork for a possible return to dual unionism in its most virulent form.

Logic Of Dual Unionism

An example of the perverted logic of dual unionism is being shown by the Progressive Miners of America. The press reports that President Keck, of the P. M. of A. has announced that his organization does not intend to participate in the general mine strike set for June 16, by the United Mine Workers of America.

With this decision the P. M. of A. places itself openly in the category of strike breaker. It is a promise to the manufacturers that the P. M. of A. stands ready to assist them in the struggle against the \$6.00 day rate—the issue over which negotiations between the U. M. W. A. and the operators broke up.

That the Progressive Miners of America was becoming constantly more reactionary was clear. But it remained for its President to prove that it had developed to the point of becoming a strike breaking agency. It becomes necessary now to do a little investigating to determine which of its leaders are not on the payroll of the coal barons.

Blackjack Unity

A most peculiar type of unity policy is being pursued by the Furriers Industrial Union headed by Gold. On the one hand Gold shouts unity and participates in protracted negotiations with the Unity Committee elected by the recent convention of the International Furriers Union, and on the other hand the campaign of terror has been intensified in the fur market. At the very time that negotiations for unity with the Joint Council is going on Gold sends his thugs to tackle Joint Council shops.

Does he really believe that unity can be achieved in this manner? We are confident that Ben Gold, and the Browders who stand behind him, will discover that gangsters cannot take the place of the dove of peace nor is the blackjack a good substitute for the olive branch.

Labor And The Supreme Court

A bright red rattle has been known to pacify crying infants. So is it also with that great labor leader William Green. Cast down into the very depths of despair by the Supreme Court decision, Green is already brightening up at the prospects of the "revised NRA". He is smiling again because Roosevelt is for the Wagner and Guffey Bills. By next week Green will probably declare the "revised NRA" to be the Magna Charta of labor. He simply must have a Magna Charta to play with.

The same Bill Green who rattled the sword and threatened a general strike if NRA is not extended for two years was struck speechless by nine senile gentlemen. Not a word of general strike is to be heard from him now even tho he himself cries impotently about wholesale slashing of the meagre conditions provided in the voided codes. Green was for a general strike when it came to aiding the political ambitions of the capitalist politician Roosevelt, but he will throttle and knife every legitimate movement for widespread strike action to enforce labor's demands. Thus he shows his color very clearly—a capitalist politician in the leadership of the trade union movement.

Joint Board Prepares For Battle

It is a distinct relief to turn from the thoughts of a Green to the leaflet issued by the Joint Board I.L.G.W.U. under the signature of Julius Hochman. Entitled "Supreme Court Decision Does Not Affect Dressmakers" it proceeds in few but clear words to state that:

"We are serving notice on those employers that the union will not tolerate the slightest departure from its rights under the collective agreement and that the 35 hour week, guaranteed minimum wages and all the other rights of the workers will be protected by the might and power of our 102,000 members. Those employers who try to play their usual tricks will get their fingers burned."

The dress bosses will very likely show great respect for these blunt words for they well know there is a strong fist behind that statement.

Again the Far East

THERE is every indication at hand to show that Japanese imperialism is taking new decisive steps towards extending its hegemony in the Far East. This is the real meaning of the latest drive by the Japanese army in North China. Far-flung military activity beyond the Great Wall has already begun. When and where it will end no one can tell at the moment. An approximate idea of how deep into China the Nipponese forces are prepared and preparing to go is offered in the remarks of Colonel Takashi Sakai, chief of staff of the Japanese in North China. Said this imperialist brigand:

"We are forced to the conclusion that Chiang-Kai-Shek must relinquish his post."

Apparently there has been a falling-out between buyer and seller in China, for few question today that for quite some time the Chinese generalissimo has been in the service of Tokio. Hence, no one can have illusions about Chiang-Kai-Shek earnestly resisting Japanese invasion. However, in the contemplated Japanese advance into China there is more involved than the mere extension of military operations or addition of territory. This is demonstrated by the very moment chosen by the Japanese army for striking its blow. The moments chosen by the Nipponese army for making decisive moves are always coincident with critical hours for the leading imperialist powers.

It is to be recalled that the seizure of Mukden in September 1931 was timed almost to the day with England's being shoved off the gold standard. The present blow is timed with the difficulties and confusion besetting the U. S. just now, with the desperate plight of the franc, with the German scare to British imperialism. The primary motive for the latest phase of Japanese aggression is not a new interest but only a development of the imperialist aims laid down by Minister Tanaka in his notorious memorandum declaring:

"With all the resources of China at our disposal we shall pass forward to the conquest of India, the Archipelago, Central Asia and then Europe."

What is immediately ominous in the present Tokio offensive is the simultaneous maneuvers on the Mongolian sector. Here we have an open offensive move against the U.S.S.R. The Nipponese military strategists are taking no chances with piecemeal measures. They are envisaging not only an assault to rip North China apart but also a drive to prepare the ground for striking at the heart of Siberia and the Baikal region of the U.S.S.R. Here we have all the germs of a major war whose dimensions are inestimable—a world war that will pale the last one into insignificance.

Let no one for a moment imagine that Europe is the only powder keg. The terrific trade typhoon of Japanese capitalism is scaring the lights out of its leading competitors in the world market. A glimpse of this was presented to us recently at the International Cotton Congress in Rome where we were told: "Japan has surpassed not only England but the whole of the chief European producing countries, for in the short space of two years Japanese exports have increased by 540 million square yards, while European exports have decreased by 450 million square yards." Tokio realizes that commercial offensives breed military and naval offensives. And the U. S. realizes that naval maneuvers are an essential part of the sales preparations and extensions in Latin America, Asia and wherever the Japanese challenge is flung.

Japanese imperialist villainy grows out of the very nature of its economy. Japanese capitalism rests on a most brutal exploitation and degradation of the workers and peasants of the island empire and its possessions. It is a war economy at home and abroad. The inner situation in Japan, despite misleading superficial manifestations to the contrary, is unstable, is increasingly explosive. The ruling class is resorting to continuous military ventures in order to avoid or delay this developing social and political explosion in its own domain. But in doing so it is playing with fire. The social and economic consequences which Japan may face as a result of a major war will likely prove the very opposite of the dreams and hopes of the Nipponese imperialist clique.

And here may be the opening of a period which will mark the lighting of red fires thruout Asia.

EUROPE TODAY

(Continued from Page 1)

reations in Paris reports a big strike in the Wanderer works of Chemnitz. This factory which during the war and today is filling armament orders, employs about 6,000 workers. It is one of the very few factories in which the Nazis have absolute control.

This report has not as yet been confirmed by direct news reports. If, however, it is confirmed, it represents an event of extraordinary significance, a new and more advanced stage of resistance of the working class to the Nazi dictatorship.

Economic and financial difficulties are growing in the Reich. The Hitler regime is diverting unrest thru a renewed campaign against the Jews. The notorious Streicher, at present in Nuremberg it is reported, will be promoted to the position of Chief of Police in Berlin.

THE ELECTIONS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The elections to the House of Representatives took place on May 19th. In the German section the so-called Heimatsfront (Henlein front) which is looked upon as a branch of the Nazis won a considerable victory. It is now the second strongest party in the Czechoslovakian parliament. The Henlein front not only disrupted the other German Bourgeois parties but took away half of the Social Democratic seats. The CP also has lost seats and votes in the German section.

In the Czechoslovakian section the Social Democracy as well as Benes' Party, the so-called National-Socialists, lost. The right wing of the Czechoslovakian parties—the agrarians, the fascists, the

Czechoslovakian artisans party (a reactionary petty bourgeois outfit) scored a victory. The CP won votes in the Czechoslovakian section. Thus the losses are made up for. But it must be kept in mind that before the ultra-left course the Communist Party was the strongest single party in the Czechoslovakian parliament. It has not yet succeeded in regaining its old strength.

The election results have done away with the basis for the hitherto existing coalition government between the German and Czechoslovakian parties. The coalition may try to drag along a little while with the aid of the Gewerbe Party and the Slovak party of Glinka. (This attempt has already been made.) But in the long run the election results make the continuance of the present bourgeois-democratic regime impossible.

The coalition with the German bourgeoisie can only be carried out as a coalition with the fascist Henlein front. But the Henlein front, despite all assurances of loyalty to the Czechoslovakian state, is a tool of the Nazis who are attempting to incorporate the German section into Germany. Such a coalition would threaten the very existence of the Czechoslovakian state.

The other perspective would be closer collaboration of the various sections of the Czechoslovakian bourgeoisie in the government with the reactionary and fascist wing in the majority,—in other words, the open national dictatorship of the Czechoslovakian bourgeoisie, which would be the best impetus for Czechoslovakian fascism. At any rate, the elections are bound to bring about a crisis in the bourgeois-democratic government of Czechoslovakia.

MONETARY MISCHIEF, by George Buchan Robinson. Columbia University Press. 188 pp. \$2.00.

This is the best book on money, credit and the stock market that has been published in many years. Its author, a practical speculator and contributor to the *Annalist*, is an adherent of the conservative, hard-boiled school represented in the country by men like H. Parker Willis (to whom the book is dedicated). Willis and his group look back to the principles of classical economy, the best achievement in economic thought of the purely bourgeois outlook, and have battled ceaselessly and in vain against the minitary illiteracy of Fisher, Warren and the mushy-minded brain trust.

Mr. Robinson has justified his claim to a respectful hearing by setting his face against the current of credit and monetary manipulation panaceas when that current was a raging torrent.

In July 1929 he published a warning of the coming stock market crash. He denounced the practice of issuing bank credit on stock exchange securities and on the vast bond issues of the government, and insinuated that the sooner the Federal Reserve Bank executed a "squeeze" on stock market speculation by "demonetizing stocks" (preventing bank loans for speculation) the less severe would be the inevitable stock market crash. Of course, his voice was not alone in this. The New York Federal Reserve had timorously requested permission to raise the rediscount rate sharply in February, which permission was refused. But it reversed itself in May and showed no further signs of doubting the eternity and infinity of the stock market rise. The *Manchester Guardian* wrote on March 4, 1929: "There appeared to be some slender hope that the Federal Reserve authorities were meditating action drastic enough to precipitate the crisis in Wall Street, which in the opinion of most monetary students, must come sooner or later". And in Communist circles, Lovestone had been analyzing the "credit surplus" and the unsound condition of the stock market with increasing cogency since February 1928. But the unique thing about Mr. Robinson is that as a practical speculator he listened to his own theoretical analysis and got out before the crash! That alone should be enough to inspire awe in the minds of his fellow speculators and give some credence to his subsequent warnings.

These subsequent warnings are the real purpose of this book. He regards the insurance of the deposits of unsound

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION MISSES OPPORTUNITY

(Continued from Page 3)

should have taken up the cause of the split; the present standing of both unions and the desire for unity in one union.

C.P. Supports Maloney

Here in the Anthracite the Communist Party has become nothing but a tail to Maloney's kite. The C.P. members are supporting the dual union and raise no criticisms whatever. Not one word of criticism has come from them on Maloney's praise of the Wilkes Barre police. A few weeks ago Judge Valentine's auto was bombed. (This is the judge who issued the injunction against the Maloney union). Maloney fearing that he would be blamed issued a statement blaming the "reds" but never a word of protest from the Communist Party.

Thruout the whole situation here the Communist Party has been slavishly dragging at the heels of this discredited politician who resorted to dual unionism when he had a falling-out with the U.M.W.A. bureaucrats.

banks, the government purchase of bad bank stock thru the R.F.C., the repudiation of the gold payment clause, the further creation of bank deposit credit money against the mounting tide of government bonds, the attempt to fix a price level by manipulation of the currency, the crop-reduction of the AAA, the silver purchase antics, and the prospects of further inflation, all as so much "monetary mischief"—whence the title of the book. He believes that they are not only delaying recovery but preparing a bigger and better crisis.

So far we can follow Mr. Robinson with but little disagreement. But when it comes to economic fundamentals, he, and his admired mentor H. Parker Willis along with him, are little better off than the Brain Trust Boys. All the fundamentals of capitalism are ignored or misunderstood by him. His solution for capitalist decline is to go "back" to a state of affairs that never fully existed and becomes less and less possible as capitalism decays. All will be well, he believes, if the government does nothing to hinder deflation and nothing to promote inflation, and above all if banks are permitted to lend money only against productive operations and uncompleted commercial transactions and never on stocks, bond or real estate. Of the forces which make capitalism ever more speculative in its declining days, that no longer give the big winnings to the "captains of industry" but increasingly to the masters of merger, the "money kings", Robinson and Willis have not the slightest inkling. Hence their "solutions" of the problems of decaying capitalism represent nothing but a reactionary utopia. What they are fighting to preserve has long passed away, and tho they cleave easily thru the paste board helmets of the brain-trusters, they are but so many Knights of the Woeful Figure themselves, whose chivalric objectives history has already rendered impossible.

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We are in receipt of the following letter: George F. Miles, Editor, The Workers Age. Dear Friend:

Inasmuch as my name has been associated with the "New Militant" and the Workers' Party, U.S.A., and inasmuch as my resignation therefrom has not yet been published I take the liberty, in the interest of clarity, of informing you of the fact that I am no longer connected therewith, having resigned May 30, 1935. Fraternally yours, HAWTHORNE WINNER

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