

THE WORKING WOMAN

AUGUST

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FASCISM

By ELLA WINTER

WE WIN OUR STRIKE

By CARRIE SMITH
CORA LEWIS

LETTERS FROM WORKERS



Police Attack Women in Detroit Auto Strike

DEMONSTRATE AGAINST WAR AUG. 1st

SLAVERY FOR WOMEN UNDER RECOVERY ACT

The National Industrial Recovery Act means new chains of slavery for the entire working class. Not since the last world war, and never before in so-called "peace times" has the U.S. bosses government attempted so vicious a drive against the workers.

The NIRA (National Industrial Recovery Act) is intended to serve one outstanding purpose: to break the backbone of the rising resistance of the working class and to drive down the standards of living gained by the workers through bitter years of militant struggle. Every trade code proposed gives proof of this. Women who have always been discriminated against, are once more singled out to receive still less pay for the same work they perform working side by side with men.

A few examples will serve to show how women and children are affected under the NIRA, what is behind Roosevelt's jingoism and his Liberty Loan tactics used in the last world war "to make the world safe for democracy."

1—UNEMPLOYMENT—Mr. Roosevelt declares the act will "spread" employment "absorbing" about six million workers. Can the 17 million unemployed and part-time workers and their families rely on such humbug? The answer is NO. Does Mr. Roosevelt consider the proposal of the National Unemployed Councils for UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE BOSSES AND THE GOVERNMENT. On the contrary, as the "new deal" goes into effect, RELIEF is being cut off, speed-up, the "stagger system" of a few days work or less a week, wage cuts and longer hours are the order of the day, under a smoke screen of false promises.

2—WAGES AND HOURS—The scales thus far adopted in practically all codes, set up a \$12.00 to \$14.00 minimum. This is really a maximum—a means of wholesale wage slashing to force the lowest pay on all workers. In all cases women are to receive less than men.

3—NIGHT WORK is the curse of all workers, especially so for women, destroying their vitality and health. Typical of the hypocrisy of the Roosevelt Slavery Act, night work is now re-established in Massachusetts, the state that is notorious for its exploitation of women and children and for its monstrous execution of two organizers of labor, Sacco and Vanzetti. The Boston Bureau Daily News for July 23rd announces that the ban is off the

six o'clock closing law. WOMEN MAY NOW WORK FROM 2 to 10 P.M. up to 45 per cent of the working force.

This was done with the sanction of Frances Perkins and General Johnson who personally wired his approval to Gov. Ely, placing the official OK of the government on night work for women!

4—CHILD LABOR—Mr. Roosevelt poses as a humanitarian gentleman. Over the radio on Monday night, he declared: "This monstrous thing, CHILD LABOR (referring to the textile industry) which neither opinion nor law could reach through years of effort, went out in a flash."

Mr. Roosevelt lies! The Daily News Record of July 25, 1933 states that President Roosevelt's reemployment agreement will permit children under sixteen to work 3 hours daily! There isn't a shirt factory boss or any other exploiter of children in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Delaware or the South who will not grind the lifeblood out of the children under this act, working them furiously as before, all hours of the day and night!

5—CLASS STRUGGLES, UNIONS AND STRIKES—Roosevelt's radio speech again gives the lie to Johnson's assurances that workers may strike under the NIRA. Of course, workers will strike, law or no law. But Roosevelt broadcasted the following:

"The workers of this country have rights under this law which cannot be taken away from them . . . but ON THE OTHER HAND NO AGGRESSION IS NOW NECESSARY TO OBTAIN THOSE RIGHTS."

"No employee and no one seeking employment, shall be required as a condition of employment to join any organization or to refrain from joining a labor organization of his own choosing."

The greatest danger to workers lies in this section, which thus plainly legalizes the open shop, giving the bosses the right of way to organize an iron fist against workers who resist the slave codes.

Negro and white working women! Rally your forces—answer the call for united struggle issued by 80 unions against Roosevelt's "New Deal" of hunger wage-cuts and starvation. Elect delegates from your local union, shops organized or unorganized to the Trade Union Conference which will be held on August 26-27 at Cleveland, Ohio.

For more information write to L. Weinstock, Sec'y Provisional Committee Trade Union Conference, 70 Fifth Avenue, Room 412, New York, N. Y.

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THE MINIMUM WAGE FRAUD

By ROSE WORTIS

WITH the advent of the new Roosevelt administration in Washington and the election of Lehman as Governor of New York State, the capitalist class, through its mouthpiece, the newspapers, began an intense campaign to convince the workers that the election of the new administration will lead to a return of prosperity. As a "humanitarian" and "liberal," Roosevelt has devoted a great many of his speeches to show his concern for the working class and especially the women workers.

over the bill. The American Federation of Labor union bureaucrats—Mr. Dubinsky, Rose Schneiderman, Mr. Fox of the neckwear workers, gave prominent interviews about sweat shop conditions and the need for the minimum wage law.

During the past couple of weeks, since the attention has been turned toward the Industrial Recovery Act, everybody seems to have forgotten about the minimum wage law.

Recovery Act Means Greater Misery

The Recovery Act, just like the minimum wage law, has one intent and purpose: to create false illusions in the minds of the workers, to paralyze their fighting spirit and to misdirect the discontent of the workers with their starvation wages, and lowered standard of living.

The Recovery Act, just like the minimum wage scale, does not bring any relief to the workers but on the contrary will mean more slavery for the workers generally and particularly for the women workers.

Realizing that these glaring facts



ROSE WORTIS

are beginning to create disillusionment among the workers, steps are now being taken by the government to revive the campaign around the minimum wage law in New York State. Last week they announced the appointment of a minimum wage board, supposedly of representatives of the employers, the public and the workers. In reality this board is a *bosses' board*. The workers had nothing to do with the choice of the representatives, and have nothing in common with them.

The Laundry Workers Industrial Union with a membership of more than a thousand, which has recently conducted a strike, was entirely ignored. This shows that the women workers can expect out of these minimum wage laws.

Minimum Wage Campaign Revived

What is the meaning of industrial commissions that will decide on the wages to be paid? The cloak and dressmakers of New York have found out for themselves what these commissions mean. These investigation commissions such as Governor Smith's commission in the cloak trade, the various commissions and arbitrators in the dress trade brought lower wages and more starvation for the workers.

Further, even these so-called fair minimum wage scales are just recommendations, which the employers have the full right to disregard. After nine months, as the bill reads, they *may* be made mandatory, which in other words means that this commission, consisting of representatives of the bosses and some politicians will have to decide whether they are to become a law or not.

We Need Labor Legislation

As far as the workers are concerned, of course, we are for a real minimum wage scale, which should specify the minimum wages to be received by the workers in a given industry on a basis that will provide decent food, shelter, clothing and recreation for the workers and their dependents.



The conditions of the women workers in New York have reached the point where spontaneous strikes of unorganized workers are taking place almost daily throughout the state. The discontent is becoming so widespread that the bosses and their government must resort to such schemes as the Minimum Wage Bill in an effort to prevent the workers from developing a struggle for better conditions.

It must be clear to the workers, however, that laws regulating the conditions of the workers, even though they may be good laws, are not enforced. Women workers in the overwhelming majority of the dress shops are slaving 50 and 60 hours per week. In many factories they are working seven days a week. It is nothing unusual in the garment center to find girls and women still at their machines at 8 and 9 o'clock at night.

Labor Laws Violated

These violations of the law occur not somewhere in a deserted spot, but right in the center of the city in the face of the labor inspectors who are supposed to work for the enforcement of the laws of the state. This proves that in order for these laws to really benefit the workers, it is necessary for the women workers to be organized and thru their organized strength to force the bosses to abide by the laws of the state.

The Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union, the Laundry Workers Industrial Union, the textile workers, metal workers and many other workers who have gone out on strike for better conditions support labor legislation for minimum scales for women, but at the same time do not depend on the bosses to alleviate the conditions of the workers. The workers in these trades are persistent with the work of building their unions as instruments for the enforcement of union conditions, for they realize that neither the Recovery Act nor the so-called minimum wage laws will gain anything for the workers unless they organize their ranks.

Rose Pastor Stokes,

By GRACE HUTCHINS



ROSE PASTOR STOKES

CIGAR worker and artist, revolutionary fighter and leader—this was Rose Pastor. For a period, as the wife of J. G. Phelps Stokes she knew the luxurious comfort of wealth, only to renounce it when the imperialist war and the Russian Revolution drove her husband back into the capitalist fold. She became then more than ever a leader of her own class—the working class.

"I slipped into the world while my mother was on her knees scrubbing the floor."

That is the way Rose herself tells of her birth in the story of her life.

Before coming, in the early 90's, to the poverty of working-class America, the Pastor family knew the old-world poverty first in Czarist Russia and then in England. Born in the Jewish settlement of Augustovo, Suvalki, Russia, July 18, 1879, Rose was only three years old when they moved to the working-class district of Whitechapel, London, in search of work. And the child remembered always how her mother went out on strike with the British workers.

Began Work at Eleven

As a slim child worker 11 years old, with a shock of auburn-reddish hair and a musical voice, Rose began rolling cigars in a Cleveland factory. Because she was a fast worker the boss tolerated her singing workers' songs in the sweat-shop and she led the others as they sang and rolled tobacco. For 11 years she worked in cigar factories, while her father, never very strong, peddled

One day a Jimmie-Higgins worker of the Socialist Party in Cleveland handed her a pamphlet and she sat up late that night to read it. In her warm impulsive way, she was immediately stirred by the vision of a new society, in which the workers should at last be free and she became a Socialist.

Verses she wrote as a young girl were published by the *Jewish Daily News* of New York City and she came East to work on the paper. Later she used her pencil in drawings for the workers' movement. It was while in the newspaper work that she met the millionaire social worker, Phelps Stokes, and they were married in 1905.

Leads Sweat-Shop Strike

Sweated girl workers in the New York dress industry were on strike in 1909—30,000 of them—and Rose Stokes threw herself into their strike with all her resources of energy and enthusiasm. She was active in the great Paterson strike of 1913, with the telegraph workers and the hotel workers in their strikes, and in a dozen other struggles of the period. A friend writes of her activity:

"During strikes she worked from morning till late at night; mapping out the strategy of the campaign—heartening the strikers' morals—picketing, getting arrested and becoming one of the most effective agitators in the whole working-class movement."

In the Socialist Party fog of the early war years, when such right-wing intellectuals as John Spargo, Phelps Stokes and William English Walling were supporting the imperialist war, Rose Pastor did not at first see clearly. She was misled by the war propaganda, but only until the Russian Revolution in 1917 dispelled the mist for all true proletarians. Then she saw and acted.

Tours U. S. with Debs

Touring the country with Gene Debs she spoke vigorously against the Wall Street government and its war profiteering. For a fiery article in the *Kansas City Star* she was indicted under the Espionage Act, the first American to be charged with war-time "sedition"; was convicted and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment—a sentence that was never served.

"If Rose is guilty, I am guilty,"

Gene Debs said, and was himself imprisoned.

Rose Pastor was an effective speaker, warm and stirring as revolutionary music. She had a speaker's voice, rich and strong, that could fill Carnegie Hall without effort. And for the years following the World War, until she died, June 20, 1933, that voice was at the service of the Communist International and its American section. Coming into touch with C. E. Ruthenberg and the left wingers who withdrew from the stagnating Socialist Party at the close of the war, she was elected to the first central committee of the Communist Party in the United States.

Pioneer Worker Among Negro Masses

She was the first comrade to be assigned to work among the Negro masses, and the tremendous advance in this during the past decade, since she began it, especially in the last two years, stirred her to wholehearted enthusiasm.

Although she already knew in December, 1929, that a growth was starting in her breast she took part in the anti-imperialist demonstration in New York City, and was struck on that breast by a policeman's club as she went to the rescue of a boy comrade. A few weeks later she was operated on for cancer and again in April, 1933, in Frankfurt, Germany, where she died June 20. During that long illness she was writing the story of her 54 years—memoirs to which *Working Woman* readers will look forward as a living proletarian record.

Carry on for a Soviet America

She was a comrade whom the workers loved—a true Communist. Working women are proud of this working-class fighter. Her courage finds expression and lives on in the women workers of today who struggle on the picket lines, brave policeman's clubs and guns and tear gas, and march on toward final victory. She herself, during her final illness, expressed her hope of seeing this final victory:

"I must see a Soviet America. I will see the workers here rise to power and build their own world as they are doing in Soviet Russia—a world in which there will be no unemployment, hunger, insecurity, or war."

Rose Pastor



ROSE PASTOR STOKES

Clara Zetkin

By HARRIET SILVERMAN

ON THE occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of Soviet rule in the U.S.S.R., a delegation of working women from America, had the great experience to meet with Clara Zetkin in her room at the Kremlin. To see Clara Zetkin, was to feel her power, her revolutionary ardor.

Standing erect in spite of a sick body, one saw in Clara Zetkin, a tender woman, a brave fighter. Boundless confidence in the power of the workers to overthrow capitalism and intense determination to fight to the end to accomplish this purpose, shows in her face. Clara Zetkin was then 76 years young—one did not think of old age in her presence, sick and feeble though she was.

Clara Zetkin was the trail-blazer of Lenin's teachings that, "No nation can be free when half of its population is enslaved in the kitchen." Tirelessly she worked, fearlessly and boldly she carried forward this teaching to the women of working class Germany—to women workers in all quarters of the globe, arousing them to their class position, inspiring them to struggle ceaselessly towards the day when the working class would take hold of this world, make it free for the workers, make it a place in which to bring up children, transform it into a Communist society!

Sends Message to U. S. Women

Clara Zetkin's message five years ago to the women workers of America is a challenge that must be answered by Communists conscious of their tasks. Zetkin told us: "During the coming days, there will be more difficulties in all countries for the working class and more obstacles in the way of making workers class-conscious, but in spite of this the work must be performed. In the United States, in what we called a democratic state, although you have all the advantages due to the very high development of industry, this is only profitable to a very small number of workers. For the masses of men and women, there is only misery.

Imperialism and Pacifism

"In the international situation women must use their influence so the very great material power of the U. S. is not employed in an imperialistic way to oppress other na-

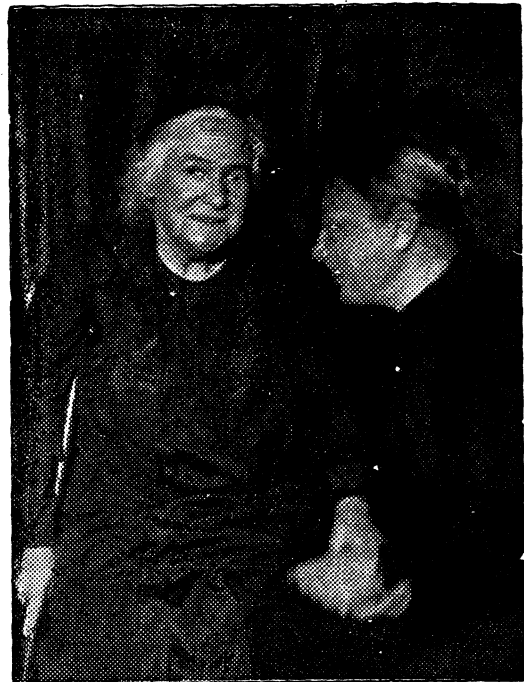
tionalties. It is a shame for the U. S. to join with the English, French and other people against China or to inflame a war against workers in Latin-American countries. The magnates of Wall Street have governed the world in very great measure. And you know the kind of pacifism they always use, the beautiful phrases, while at the same time they manufacture the poison gas! The women of America, should use their influence to fight against imperialism and in favor of the people who are striving and battling for something better, as the workers are doing in the Soviet Union.

"In the world today," said Clara Zetkin, "there is a conflict of two ideas of the state. On the one side you have imperialism, with the two greatest imperialist states, Great Britain and the United States. On the other hand you have their antagonist—the Soviet Union. This is also a united states, but a united states of a particular form, altogether different from the United States of imperialism. The idea of all imperialist states is to maintain oppression over the great majority by a few possessive people, while on the contrary, in the united states of the Soviets their aim is to abolish all forms of exploitation of man by man. The Socialist united states which we are building, will overcome the imperialist United States of the whole world.

"Now as to the women in industry. I can tell you that because the women picketed, that our metal workers' wives in Westphalia, helped to maintain the eight hour day. The wives of the metal workers stood in the picket line, did not come away when the police attacked and in fact gave back very hard blows in return for the clubbings. I think the women working in the textile industry in Passaic showed a splendid example. It is of very great importance that the women in the textile industry be organized, for as you know the textile industry of all countries shows a very significant feature, that is women do the same work as men but get smaller wages.

Keep up "Work Among Women"

"I am quite convinced that you women of America who have been



Clara Zetkin and N. Krupskaya

in the U.S.S.R. will go back to America to do very good and patient work. I say patient, because it is not the work of a day or a month.

"It is the task of women to fight to get higher wages.: In the American textile mills, the bad conditions are doing great harm to the women. Our comrades must look to the sanitary conditions and organize committees to get improvements. These committees would know the complaints and demands of the women and would be a very good means to get into contact with large masses and to give the rank and file that is not yet closely united with you, interest to join with you.

Socialism Will Come

"The bourgeois order," said Zetkin, "is condemned by its own evolution—it will go down, and Socialism will come for all the workers of the world. And of course for the next generation, to build up a new society we must have the help and activity of all the women, housewives and industrial women. This is the question that Lenin very well understood, that we really cannot have a social revolution without having the great masses of women with us."

"As to the political situation, I think the execution of Sacco and Vanzetti which was performed according to the most advanced doctrines of technique and bourgeois science, shows the working class what cruelty to expect.



Clara Zetkin and N. Krupskaya

WHAT FASCISM MEANS TO MOTHERS

By ELLA WINTER

Fascism is capitalism [at bay. Capitalism is always hard on women and especially working women. But capitalism, when it feels its existence threatened, has no mercy. I



will tell you a few stories of what happened recently in Germany.

On the day of the boycott of Jews the little Jewish children and children of workers were allowed to come to school. At the school-door they were told: "Go home, you Jewish swine, get out of here, your fathers are cowards, your mothers ran around with Jewish pigs. You are not German citizens, you are unworthy to live in decent society."

German Fascists Torture Jewish Children

Teachers and non-Jewish school-children undressed the little children and as they stood there, naked and trembling, painted the swastika on their backs. They slapped them, kicked them, derided them, pointed the finger of scorn and hate at them. Then the children were expelled from the school house.

Crying, terrified, the children came home to find over their fathers' shops or offices or doctor's plate the yellow badge of shame, the badge of the plague in the Middle Ages, and such remarks as these scrawled up: "Do not deal with this man. He is a dirty Jew." "This pig is a filthy Marxist." "Juda verrecke" (Perish the Jew).

Children have seen their fathers shoot themselves out of despair and intolerable wretchedness. Children have been kidnapped and beaten, the soles of their feet burned, their feet burned, their hair torn out, in an effort to wrest from them the names and addresses of their fathers, mothers or friends who might be in hiding.

Recently a little girl, who had remained in a German school under the 1.5 per cent quota of Jewish children allowed to remain in the schools of Germany, was taunted by a school companion: "You Jewish pig," cried the boy, "you filthy little Jewish swine," as he drove a pen nib into the Jewish child's eyes. The little girl has become blind.

So in America little Negro children can see their fathers arrested in the streets and taken off to jail, for no reason. They can watch mobs of petty bosses break into jails, tear their fathers from their cells and hang them, burn them or throw them in the river. Negro children must go in terror of the bosses.

U. S. Children Starve Amidst Plenty

In California a little boy was walking along the Monterey highway recently, crying. A kindly passerby stopped him. "What's the matter, little boy?" he asked. "I'm hungry," the child sobbed. "Didn't you have your breakfast?" "No, it wasn't my turn to have breakfast this morning." This was within two miles of the thousand-acre ranch of a rich woman who spent \$1,500 recently on champagne at an after-theatre party; a woman who works on charity relief on the Monterey Peninsula. It was within walking distance of the million-dollar homes of the San Francisco millionaires who have built their play palaces on the Seventeen-Mile-Drive where there are three golf courses, a country club, a gambling club where thousands of dollars are exchanged overnight, and food enough is thrown away every day to keep a

thousand hungry children well fed.

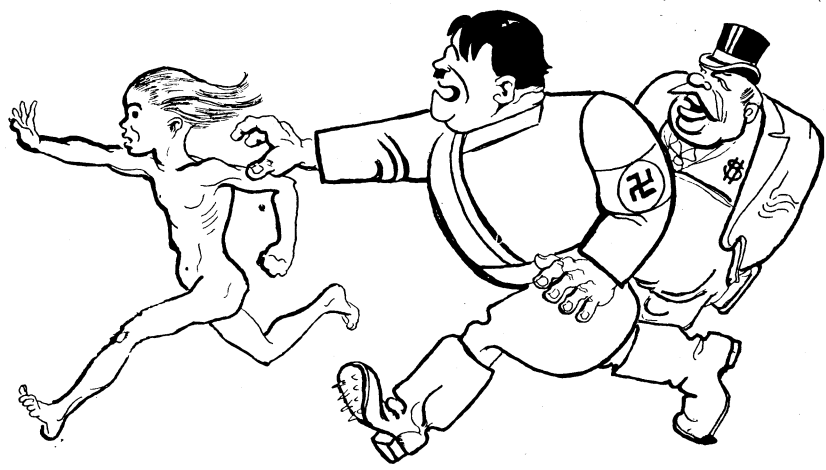
A longshoreman on the Embarcadero in San Francisco recently told me: "I have a wife and four children at home. I have to work to keep them. The work I do is leading munitions that are sold by America to China and Japan. These munitions I know will be used to kill Chinese workers. I know that. I do not want to help kill Chinese workers. I can refuse to load them, of course; then my wife and four children can starve."

Mothers, Protect Your Children!

Working women are the guardians of the joy and gaiety, the health, the freedom, the lives, and the RIGHT TO LIVE of all young children who are not yet able to look after themselves. Just as a baby is unable to feed itself, and the mother prepares its food, so the woman's job today is to protect all children from the cruel deaths and maiming decreed for them by a fascist world.

In the last war women the world over were praised and considered patriotic if they would "give their sons to the war"—yes, that was the phrase they doped us with—give the eyesight, the limbs, the health of their sons so that Mr. Mellon might buy another yacht and Mr. Morgan issue another stock group on the preferred list. Today working women are once more asked to give their sons to death. They are asked to give them to support a capitalism that will deny their sons jobs, a living, life itself.

More than six million children are under-nourished in America. As I go about the country, I see them with big hollow eyes, white cheeks, tiny arms and tin legs. They are like the famished Austrian children after the war, who were denied milk and proper diet. Today in rich America children by the million are getting to look the same as famine-starved Austria in 1921. But in this country there IS the food and the milk to feed the children.



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In Soviet Russia every child is provided with milk to drink. In capitalist America the milk is poured out on the roads and the children grow rickety and white-faced for lack of it. Why? Because someone has to have a private profit assured him before he will allow workers' babies to drink milk.

"We don't care about our children, at least not the children of workers," say the capitalist American bosses, in effect, "Why should we? They can be worked as long as they're any good, and when they're worn out they can be thrown on the scrap heap. They'll be good enough for war anyway." And they don't allow the worker-mother to find out how to limit her family. She should have many children who can be used to work at low wages to fret and starve, to be killed.

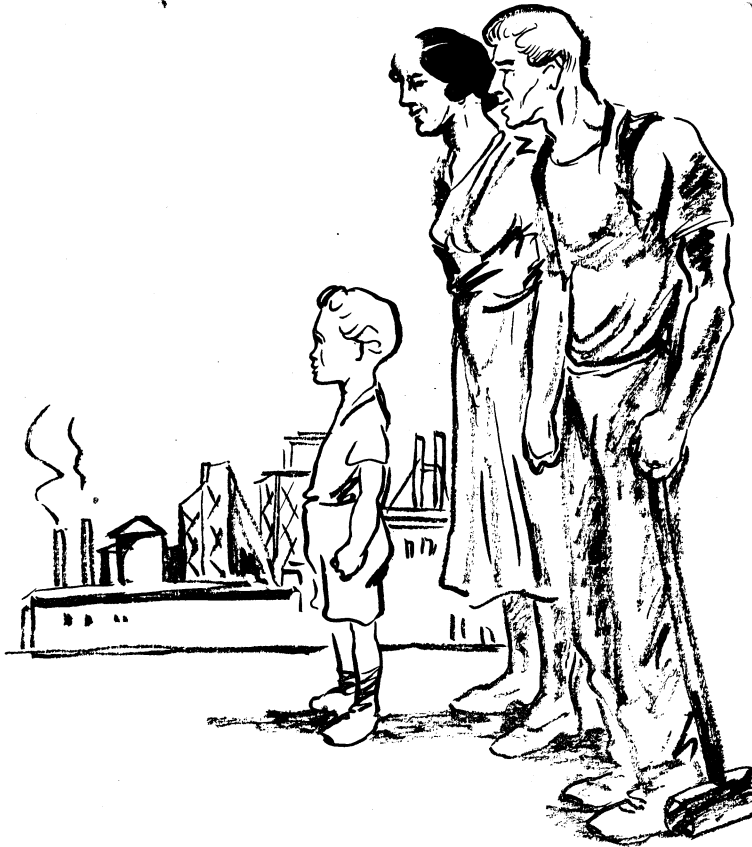
Join August First Anti-War Demonstrations

Fascism is the open violent dictatorship of capitalism. Oppression of workers, Negroes and all racial minorities, lack of care, violence, lynchings, starvation, are the signs of Fascism in this country. The Klu Klux Klan, the American Legion, the Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution, Red Squads are the Fascist Storm Troops of the United States.

Negro and white women.

Join in the struggle against another imperialist war. Send delegates to the American Congress Against War in New York City, September 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 1933.

Join in the international anti-war demonstration on August 1st.



CHILDREN PROTECTED IN SOVIET UNION

Textile Workers Strike Against Slavery Act

By ANN BURLAK

SINCE the passage of the National Recovery (Slavery) Act the attacks on the textile workers have increased in many new forms. Everywhere stretch out and new speed-up schemes are being introduced to make up for the shortening of hours. For this purpose beautiful sounding slogans (of forty-eight hours pay for forty hours work) are being used, especially in the state of Massachusetts. What this means in reality is that while workers get a slight increase in pay by killing themselves with much more work, their living conditions are really worsened—because all food, clothing and living costs are increasing by leaps and bounds daily.

The various codes that are introduced are especially discriminating against women, unskilled workers, and in the South, Negro workers. For instance, in the silk dyeing code which was proposed this week a clause provides for a minimum wage of forty-five cents an hour for men and thirty-five cents an hour for women, altho in most instances the women are doing the same work.

In spite of the attempts of the government to stifle the militant

spirit of the workers, the textile workers are not waiting for any arbitrators to settle grievances for them. Ever since the passage of the National Industrial Recovery Act, workers have taken the clause "The right to organize in organizations of their own choosing" literally, and are putting exactly this into practice. This is clearly seen by the fact that tens of thousands of workers are striking today for enforcement of higher wages and better working conditions. Most of these strikers have been victorious because of the militancy and determination of the workers. To cite just a few cases:

Textile Workers Win Strikes

In New Bedford, textile workers who have taken one wage cut after another since the 1928 strike have recently struck in numerous mills and won wage increases in some instances to 27 per cent.

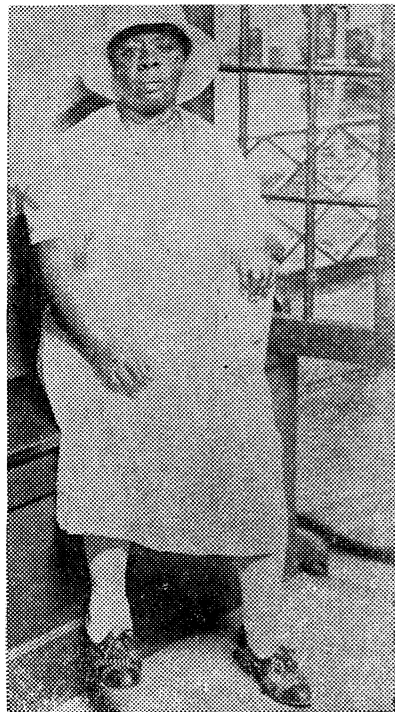
In Providence, R. I., some four hundred workers of the International Braid Company, mostly young girls and women, recently won a strike after only two days of struggle. This strike was led by the National Textile Union.

Over two thousand silk workers

in Pawtucket, R. I., have not waited for the silk code to "settle" their grievances, but thru a militant strike in over eleven mills silk weavers won wage increases from \$1.10 and \$1.20 to \$1.85 per 100,000 picks.

The most outstanding example was the recent strike in the Pequot mill, Salem, Mass. Here eighteen hundred workers, over sixty-five per cent of whom are women, struck against a vicious stretch out system which would have eliminated some three hundred fifty workers. The company had proposed that the married women be the ones to be fired. The workers voted nine to one against the company proposal to fire 350 married women.

The United Textile Workers Union officials, McMahon, Gorman and O'Connell instructed these workers to accept. The workers answered with a strike. The UTW officials declared the strike illegal. It was then that the National Textile Union stepped into the situation and gave daily guidance and help to these workers, with the result that after ten weeks of heroic struggle against the company, the local politicians and the UTW officials, the workers won a complete victory.



By CARRIE SMITH

I worked for the same company, am 42 years old, married. I have the Funstan Nut Co. of St. Louis for the last 18 years. I have worked in every one of their shops, in the last shop I worked for the last three months. I belong to a fraternal organization, and to a church. Before the strike I was earning \$3.00 per week, after the strike and at present I am earning \$9.00 per week.

I didn't know about the movement or the union until a week or ten days before the strike. Laura, a girl in the Easton shop, told me about the union, and how we can overcome our miserable conditions in the shop. I had worked in the Easton shop and quit because the boss used to curse at us so much. When I heard about this movement, I was in a hurry to get in. The next meeting was on a Wednesday night, but I joined on Sunday night, and the strike was pulled in a week later.

To be Thrown Out of Jobs

I heard that the Easton shop was to close down and move into Kinlock County, thus throwing the girls out of work. I let the girls in that shop know about it. Comrade Shaw, the organizer of the Communist Party in St. Louis, asked me when the best time to pull the strike, and I said Monday morning, because the shop was to close down the following Thursday.

The Strike Spreads

Monday morning when I came to work, I told the girls, "In here with your heavy stuff!" They wanted to know what I meant, and I told them that the girls in the Easton shop were striking at 7:30 that morning and would be here at 8:00 a.m.

They were to signal me, with a whistle, but I never heard it, but looked up and saw a truckload of girls and told those in my shop, "The heavy stuff's here!" Get your hats and coats and let's go."

The foreman went to lock the door, I said, "Don't lock it a second time!" He said he wasn't going to lock it, I said, "Darn it, get away from that door." Then I called to the girls to come, girls from both sides marched.

Negro and White Join Strike

The white girls stayed inside. The floorlady told them that all the colored girls were going on a picnic, one white girl looked out, and she knew what kind of a picnic it was.

The floorlady told her that if she looked again, she wouldn't have a seat. She saw enough to know that we were not on a picnic. Tuesday morning all the white girls went on the picket line, joined hands with the colored girls and went side by side.

When we walked out, we marched to the 15th St. park, there they made me chairman of the strikers, ten workers were elected as a committee and we went to the main boss. He said he would see only two girls. We sat in conference with him for two hours. He said he couldn't raise wages. We left, and went back to the headquarters, there we consulted our organizer, and the next morning we decided to call Mayor Dickman.

Wednesday of the next week, Rabbi Isman had the committee to meet with him and his council. After talking he said he would take it up with Mayor Dickman, but that was the end of the story. On Monday we had a demonstration at the City Hall. I was the first speaker and Mayor Dickman was the second. The committee went upstairs with him and we made arrangements to meet with him the next morning at 9:00 a.m.

We went the next day and the Mayor asked me, "Why didn't you get in touch with the Urban League to represent you instead of the Communists?" I told him, "The Urban League and all the rest of

them knew we were sitting in that sweat shop for nothing. None came to our rescue but the Communist Party and I think that I have just as much right to choose who I want in my council as you have in yours. As for the Communist Party, I was with them."

He told me, "Leave the City Hall at once." But I just sat there, and he got so mad he left himself. We were excused for lunch and told to come back at 3:00 o'clock. When we came back the Mayor was smiling at me. He said, "Mr. Funston wouldn't pay \$1.00 per box."

Mayor Sides With Boss

I told him that we were working people and couldn't have a decent living out of our work, why couldn't we, we obeyed the laws of the city and loyal citizens. Why can't we get a living wage? He said, "Mr. Funston wasn't making much and could not pay the dollar." We said, "If he won't pay the dollar, we won't take under 90 cents per box." They let us go and called Funston back. Funston agreed to pay 90 cents then

However, I must say that the Funston Nut Shops are closed and that no one else except members of the union can work in this shop. On thousand eight hundred ninety two girls joined the union and 52 girls joined the Communist Party. Over 50 the Young Communist League. The girls are loyal to the union. "You better not say anything against the union or they will fight you."

GIRLS PICKETING Sopkins sweatshop dress factory in Chicago. The solidarity of the Negro and white workers helped win the strike.



WE STRIKE AND WIN

By CARRIE SMITH and CORA LEWIS

The working women should follow the example of these militant and courageous working-class leaders, and have faith in their own abilities to struggle, fight and organize. What has been done by the comrades in St. Louis can and should be followed in every section of the country in struggle against the slavery imposed upon the women through the National Industrial Recovery Act.

By CORA LEWIS

I am 43 years old and a widow with six children, the youngest being eleven years old.

I belonged to the Good Samaritan Lodge, and belong to a church.

Before the strike I was earning \$3.00 per week, today I am earning \$6.30 per week.

I work in the Easton Shop. One of the girls working in the shop was asked by her brother who is a Communist about conditions in the shop, and he got her to get a group of girls together to take up the grievances in the shop.

I heard about it and fell head foremost into the work. At first we met at homes. At the first meeting there were only three girls. At the second there were five, at the third there were six, at the fourth there were twelve, and that the fifth meeting we began to discuss the demands.

At this shop I was made chairman. In the discussion someone proposed higher wages. The first demand was ten and four (10c for picked half shells and 4c a lb. for broken pieces).

We Organize a Union

At this meeting the eight girls were already organized into the union, and they succeeded in beginning the strike. At the next meeting we had about 92 girls, a committee of ten girls went to see the foreman with the following demands, 10 cents for picked half shells and 4 cents a lb. for broken pieces; definite answer within ten days, and

that if we wouldn't get an answer to our satisfaction, then we would walk out.

At the end of ten days we went to the foreman again. He wouldn't say, he didn't know, and if we didn't like it to get in the street and find a job.

Win Weak Sisters For the Strike

One girl who walked out of the Easton went back, served dinner and returned to work. Her sister came and told the Party what she did.

Carrie Smith and I went to her home. Carrie won her to the strike again.

Next morning the picket line began. Four girls picketed, two white and two colored, and the International Labor Defense worked with us side by side and helped to get us out when we were arrested. The foreman promised us that if we didn't walk out that he would call the boss and see what he could do, but instead he called the police.

Communist Party on the Job

The Communist Party had trucks there, and the police told them to move on, one girl got scared and jumped off the truck.

The girls did not want to picket the back entrance because they could not see what was going on, but we must say that brothers, sisters, daughters, mothers, children and all went on the picket line. *One man said, "that his wice was earning the living and that she went on strike in order to get higher wages, and that if anyone lays a hand on her, they would never live to see the day thru."*

The children took it for granted, that they should go on the picket line.

My daughter pickets all the shops in the city. The strikers met every day and every night. Committees from all the shops met at the headquarters.

At the beginning all but 22 girls joined the union, but now all the girls are in 100 per cent. Our demands to the boss were the following:

1. Ten and four.
2. All strikers to go back to work before anyone else.



3. Equal pay for Negro workers for equal work.
4. No cheating on scales.
5. Removal of general inspector.
6. Recognition of shop committees of union.

We Won All Demands

We won all these demands, the grievances in our shop are all done away with, and all are settled with the shop committee of four and the union.

I was elected to be chairman of the shop committee. The girls are all tickled to death with the union. We have no more terror from the foreman, he quit, and a new one was hired. The girls are loyal to the union, and meet regularly with us.

When we went to the Mayor in discussion, I told him that my youngest boy in the reform school. He wanted to know why and I told him, "Working for Funstan, five days and one half and one hour over the half day in a week with such low wages, I was unable to support the boy, he tried to support himself, in doing so with whatsoever was in sight, police arrested him, carried him to the House of Detention, gave him a trial and sentenced him indefinitely to Bell Fountain Reform School. That was in the last council

The Mayor Can't Fool Us

"Mrs. Lewis," he said, "you certainly fought a hard fight. You have gained a victory without a blemish, so I am bound to give it to you."

But I must say that it was not he who helped us, but because all of the girls white and colored stuck together and determined to win this strike, that is why the victory was gained.

SOLIDARITY NOT CHARITY

WORK OF

*The United Women's Councils in the
Bronx Laundry Strike*

By Anna Eisenberg

Thousands of women are employed in the laundry industry. A great number are married women, both Negro and white. These women helped to build up the laundry industry, an industry which is today worth millions of dollars, work under the most miserable conditions, under a vicious speed-up in places of excessive heat, especially in the summer months. Very often the workers faint at their mangals and iron. And all this for a miserable wage of twelve dollars a week for fifty and more hours. But they seldom make a full week, although they are forced to spend most of the time in the shops. They only get paid for the hours they are working, which sometimes means only a few hours a day and the rest of the time is spent in waiting for work.

These workers were never organized. The American Federation of Labor never made an attempt to organize the inside laundry workers. It is therefore no accident that when a few weeks ago the Industrial Union called a mass strike to improve working conditions in the recent weeks in the Bronx laundries the women workers responded to the call and went out hand in hand with the men workers, who are also compelled to work under not much better conditions.

Once these women were awakened to the struggle, they proved to be excellent strikers and stayed until part of the demands were granted and when they went back to work they pledged to join the Union to better their conditions.

Scabbed Councils Mobilize Support

The role of the United Councils of Working Class Women in this strike was a very important one. When the call of the Strike Committee issued a call for assistance, it was met with a quick response.

We immediately understood the importance of this strike. Our committees reported to the strike halls for all sorts of work, such as picketing, collecting food for the strikers, which was necessary from the first day of the strike because of the impoverished conditions of the workers even when they work. Our members also helped in preparing foods. Special credit is due to Council No. 3 for splendid work as far as feeding the strikers is concerned, although all the other councils in the Bronx section did their best.

Appeal in Neighborhood

Our Section also issued 5,000 leaflets calling the working women and housewives not to send their wash to the laundries on strike and to support the strike in every possible way. We carried thru a house to house canvass and explained to the housewives the conditions of the women in the laundry shops. We brought the facts to the homes of the workers wives, facts that are so little known to the average woman



because we do not come in contact with the inside workers. We only know the drivers who in fear of losing their job will not reveal the real misery of those workers. We found a very sympathetic response to our calls.

Workers Solidarity—Not Charity

We also participated in the mass conference and asked financial help to the strike fund. The strikers, seeing our work at first thought that we were ladies of some charitable society, but when our members explained to them that we are also workers and workers' wives and that their fight is our fight, that our organization supports every struggle of the working class in the neighborhood; that we support the fight for Unemployment Insurance, and that we take an active part in the fight at the home relief buros, some of these strikers expressed their readiness to join our organization.

They have realized the importance of our work. We are now following up some of the contacts we have made. My opinion is that our organization did quite well and that we have also learned how to better work in the future, through which we are bound to gain members in our Councils.

We Fight For Relief

By C. AUERBACH, Council No. 2

Women's Council No. 2 for the past few months has been very active in unemployed work. The work consisted mainly in taking families to the Home Relief Buro. We succeeded in getting rent for a number of them.

But what convinced me to write for the WORKING WOMAN was an incident that happened at our last two meetings. When we were discussing the report from the Provisional Committee Conference two women came in and asked if they could stay to our meeting. They were very interested in the discussion.

After the discussion we told them the aims and work of our Councils and they promised to come to our meetings. They came to our next meeting and asked for the floor. They told us that they have dispossessed and they were convinced from what they have heard at the last meeting that the Council could help them.

(Continued on page 12)

You're telling me!

Drawings by
GROPPER

Woolworth's Wedding Bargains



So Barbara Hutton bought herself a cast-off Russian prince. Didn't pick up this bargain at the Woolworth 5-and-10 cent stores. But Barbara sweated the money to buy the prince from the girls behind the Woolworth counters. Barbara, you see, is the Woolworth heiress. She has \$20,000,000 to spend for herself.

What price she paid for her paunshop prince is not told, but "friends of the prince stated that he had received a large marriage settlement." Every prince has his price, especially one who has been kicked out of the country he was born in. The working and farming men and women of Georgia, USSR, decided they could do without the prince years ago. They like the Soviet system, where they run the government, industry and farms themselves. Better than rule by princes, the Soviet Georgians say.

* * *

A Prince Must Live—So—

But Prince Alexis Mdivani has to have some excuse for living. So he calls himself "Secretary of the Georgian Legation at Paris." All that means is that he collects money from wealthy fools who think the princely and his fellow White Guard Russian exiles will some day get back their old jobs in Georgia. Of course, Prince Alexis would rather play polo now than meet his end fighting the Soviet Georgians.

* * *

Some Wedding Outfit for Five and Ten Cent Dame

Did Barbara buy her wedding outfit in the family store? Coat—\$4,575; ermine coat—\$5,999; \$200—powder, rouge and make-up; four street pocketbooks—\$320; three evening purses—\$150; underwear—\$500; \$180 for one dozen pairs of stockings! Caviar sand-

wiches for the wedding reception—4,000; champagne—\$6,000; and "other details"—\$10,000. Jewels worth a million dollars were flashed by the grabber society guests.

* * *

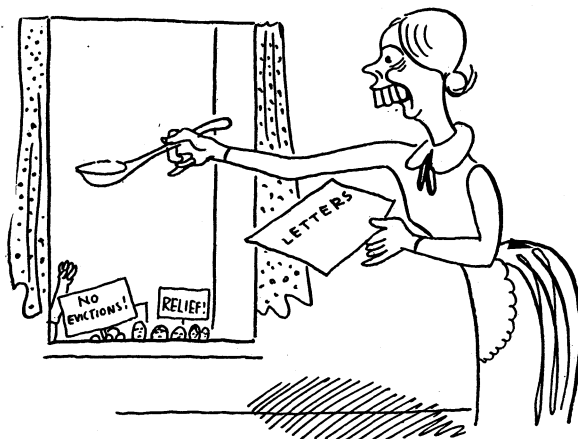
The Woolworths always were importers of cheap foreign goods, said a woman worker reading about the princely purchase.

* * *

Salem Witches and Strikers

Salem, Mass. boosters say, "No witches ever were burned in Salem." Too bad the town got such a bad name. But they admit that twenty witches were hanged on Gallows Hill. So what difference?

Any woman who had a new idea was likely to be called a witch. Textile mill bosses of Salem would like to call the striking girl and women workers of Naumkeag Steam Cotton Co. "witches." But they're just workers with good sense who are fighting against being speeded to death. "Research is the bosses' polite name for "stretchout" at Pequot mill. It doesn't fool the workers. Ann Burlak of the National Textile Workers Union has been helping the Salem strike in their fight against inhuman speed-up—and the dismissal of 350 married women.



Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt is starting another writing racket with her daughter. They are running a page in the Woman's Home Companion. They are inviting letters; so, working women, let's tell the fine laides a few.

* * *

A Century of Progress

Chicago school teachers who are owed \$18,000,000 in back pay put on a show, "The Strangest Interlude in a Century of Progress." They sang about the bankers who called them "trouble makers":

"We are the bankers,
We are the swankers,
We have you by the throat,
And we won't accept your note,
When we fail, you are the goat."



An Opinion of the "WORKING WOMAN"

By DORA RICH

Woman's Council 8, New York.

We have in the United States thousands of women's magazines of real bourgeois character. Their contents are mainly of love stories, styles, beautifying homes, etc. They toally ignore the life struggles of the working women.

Our daily press, for lack of space, gives very little attention to the special problems which concern the working woman in her everyday struggles. This is why the WORKING WOMAN, the only working woman's magazine in the United States, is of greatest importance to the women workers of the United States.

This magazine deals with the specific problems of the women workers in the shops, mills, factories and homes. Let us examine the last May issue of the WORKING WOMAN. Being a May edition, we find first a short history of May Day, the international day of struggle, then a splendid call for a mass demonstration from Lucy Parson, the wife of one of the Haymarket martyrs, Albert Parson; two letters from two textile workers, one from an American woman worker and another from a Soviet worker. And what a great contrast between these two worlds. Misery, starvation, highest exploitation and speed-up on the one hand and happy work under workers control with a bright outlook for the future on the other hand.

Splendid Articles on Soviet Union

The article by Alice Withrow Field, "Happy Children in the Soviet Union" is a splendid picture of all the miseries and troubles which surround an expectant mother and child in the United States and the far different condition of the mother and baby in the Soviet Union.

By reading this magazine the woman worker gets acquainted with the outstanding cases of our political prisoners, such as Tom Mooney, the Scottsboro Boys and Edith Berkman. It is becoming clear to every reader why the capitalist class is throwing workers into jail, deporting and lynching them.

Three pages are given to the Workers Correspondence, "The Woman's Voice." These short letters are really "true stories" of life echoes of a dreadful struggle to eke out a miserable existence in the mills, factories and at home.

Raises Birth-Control Problems

On the last page is a very important article by N. H. Irish on childbirth. The article brings to the knowledge of the reader important facts of untold misery of the working women under the capitalistic system, where birth control is forbidden.

This copy contains also a story from the life of the peasants of the far North in the Soviet Union. It clearly shows that only under a proletarian dictatorship can the woman be freed from their slavery. There is also a humorous page with attractive cartoons.

What I would suggest is that the cover of the magazine should be carefully chosen, more colorful, more attractive and should deal with an American type of

WE FIGHT FOR RELIEF

(Continued from page 10)

working women. Most of the articles should confine themselves and reflect the life and struggle of the American workers and working women in particular.

Unemployed work, however, is not the only work of the Council. We are participating in the bakers strike and in all the campaigns we raised \$10.00 for the Communist Party.

Why Don't Strikers Wives Join Us?

What I would like to know is this. Whenever a union calls a strike they come to the Women's Councils for help such as picketing, collecting food, etc. Those strikers have wives. Why don't they send them in the Women's Councils? One of our comrades asked in our Council when a furrier appealed to us to help them on the picket line. She asked, "Where are the wives of those thousands of furriers? Why don't we see them in our ranks? Let them come and help us build strong Councils and carry on the work for the revolutionary movement."

Council No. 2 has moved to 892 Home St. We meet every Thursday, 8 P. M. We have lectures and discussions. We appeal to every housewife in the neighborhood to come to our meetings and help us fight in an organized manner for better conditions for the workers.

The Treat Us Bad in Georgia

They have a charity here in Atlanta but I can't even get any help from there. I have gone there the third time and fail at last to get help. Run away by the law and they kick and beat Negroes like they were dogs when they feel like it.

I am forced to work my rent out and try to feed my family too out of ten cents out of a dollar, that's all I get.

BROWN.

More articles on current events, which should reflect outstanding struggles of the previous month should be given in every issue of the magazine. I also believe that this magazine should contain more and more pictures of the class struggles.

Considering the great importance of this magazine, we, as class conscious working women must do the utmost to reach every workers home with the WORKING WOMAN. Our magazine shall serve as the best medium for our propaganda to bring in large masses of unorganized women into our ranks. Our slogan shall be:

Every Working Woman a Reader of the
"Working Woman".

Fought Bosses War

My husband served in France during the whole war. I belonged to the Red Cross in my home town in Pennsylvania and knitted things for all the soldiers. I used to send him cigarettes and other things while he was there. He enlisted in the 16th Engineers and was there from 1917 to 1919. While he was there, he was hurt pretty bad on the head. But he isn't getting any compensation for it. All he got was the half of his bonus.

When he came back, he found it pretty hard to find a job. But after a while he did get one. He worked for the American Express for seven years and also in a chain store. But they laid him off a long time ago and since then he's been out of work. And we've got two small children. He was given a city job and is working 10 days a month.

When he had a job we bought a house. We have already paid \$3,800 to the owner, but now that my husband is out of work we haven't been able to buy all the things that we need and out of the ten days pay that he gets, we can't pay the mortgage.

Will Be Thrown out of Home

Yesterday, the marshal came to the house and told me that we would have to get out if we wouldn't do it peacefully that he would send men to take the furniture out. We won't have any place to go when he does that. This is the thanks my husband gets for fighting in the war.

My two brothers are having just as much trouble. One of them was 16 and the other 18 when they enlisted. They both served on the Mexican border and then were shipped to France. They were in the 28th Division, 109th Field Artillery. My older brother was gassed while he was there, and he's been sick ever since. He hasn't been working for a long time. He has a wife and two children. Neither of my brothers are getting any compensation and they're finding it next to impossible to get any job in the mines in Pennsylvania where they live.

Misled by Roosevelt Promises

They voted for Roosevelt because they thought that he would help the veterans, but they have learned different now. I have been talking to them about the Workers Ex-Servicemen's League and to their wives about our Auxiliary. They're beginning to learn that the veterans and their families have have to do some fighting for themselves for a change.

Mrs. JOHN KRYZAK

**FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR!
JOIN IN ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATION ON
AUGUST FIRST!**

**SEND DELEGATES TO THE AMERICAN CONGRESS AGAINST WAR—IN NEW YORK CITY
SEPTEMBER 2nd, 3rd and 4th**

Teach Children Truth About Patriotism--War

Mrs. F— is the mother is six children, the youngest a twin three years old. Her husband is out of work for the longest time. How do they live? They don't live, they suffer!

When I came in I found them all in the dark. The candle which gave a little light made the house look still gloomier. The children were frightened of their own shadows.

Electric Shut off

Before I had a chance to ask anything, Mr. F— told me that the electric company closed the electric because the Home Relief does not pay the bills. Mrs. F— is lying in bed with swollen feet, sick and tired of running around the entire day to get the electric opened.

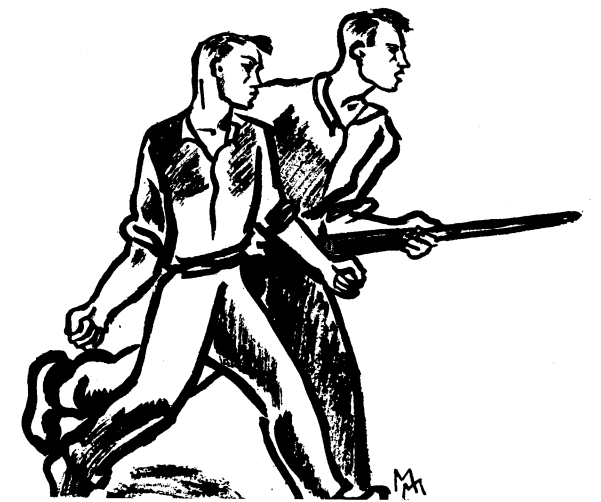
I asked her how she manages to get food for her family and if any of her children work. A bitter smile came as an answer and she said: "My two older children cannot find any work, but these two (pointing to her two younger boys, one eleven and one nine), they go out to shine shoes after school and sometimes they bring home a few pennies."

Son Will be Drafted

The oldest of the children is a boy of eighteen. When war will break out, he will surely be called to give away his life for the Morgans, Fords, Rockefellers and other rich people of the land. This bosses' government which does not support hungry children in the time of crisis has no right to call them to war, and if the boys go, they should know who their enemy is.

Mothers! Prepare your children to meet the attack. Tell them in whose interest millions of workers gave their lives. Don't let the poison of patriotism taught in the schools sink into their young minds. Take them along with you when you demand relief. Get them to fight side by side with you for social and unemployment insurance. Let them learn the lesson of the class struggle now. When your sons are sent to war they will know who their enemies are.

F. R.





Speed-up Kills Woman

MARY ROZICK

Mary Rozick, 24 years old, worked in Department 27, Highland Park Briggs Plant, Detroit, was killed on July 13 by the inhuman speed-up. She worked on a punch machine for nine hours on night shift, though there is a law against night work; it was never enforced. Women receive 30c an hour and bonus, providing they reach the quota of production, which very seldom is reached, so as a result they only receive \$1 a day. There is not a day that a girl should not have a finger cut off or injured. The foreman is constantly on their backs. They are working under extreme conditions.

Only Support of Family

Mary Rozick had to support a family of five; she is a mother of a three year old boy, wife of a husband who lost a leg in the Ford Motor Co., and is still ill, an old mother, and a brother who is 21 years old, out of work for the last three years. They had a notice to move, no lights or gas in the house, or food.

Mary Rozick met her death at the punch machine, the machine was old and worn out and not oiled. The axle of the fly wheel was cracked. No inspection was ever made. A steel net ¼ inch thick is supposed to be around the place where she worked. No safety devices were ever given to the workers.

Speed-Up Kills Mary Rozick

Under the rapid speed, the wheel broke off and smashed her face. It demolished her face beyond recognition. She died instantly. It took four people to lift the eight hundred pound wheel. Mary Rozick had a hard life. She had past experiences of speed-up. Her husband was crippled in the Ford Motor Co., her father was killed on the railroad, while working there. Briggs has taken its toll of the workers. Mary Rozick often told her friends that she was sorry she had to part with her husband, not being able to support the family. She had not enough to live on. Her little boy, whom she adored as a mother would, had often mentioned that she would rather take care of her boy than work in the factory under this inhuman speed-up.

Broken Homes—A Worker's Lot

These are the conditions in the Briggs Highland Park. Speed-up. Breaking down the workers' health, dividing families, suffering, starvation for the benefits of the bosses. We must organize and prevent many cases like Rozick's. Form grievance committees in the shop. Demand that safety devices be installed in every department. Ask for a living wage. Stop the monstrous speed-up system.

Women, you who are doubly exploited, organize Negro and white, we must organize and fight these conditions. Join the Auto Workers Union.

These are the facts given to the *Working Woman* magazine by a worker of Briggs Highland Park factory, Department 27.

R. B.

Sweatshops Strike

Dear Comrade:

I am going to write you a report of my last arrest for the WORKING WOMAN. I wanted to send my picture but haven't been able to get it taken. We are still struggling hard over here on the South side. I think we are doing some good work now. Five of Sopkins shops are out on strike. About fifteen hundred girls. The shops are closed this morning and the girls are on the picket lines. I am so glad they are holding out so good. Since I have got out of jail the girls won't let me go on the picket line, but there is plenty for me to do and I do all I can.

All the girls are colored and they are sure militant fighters. I am proud to see them do so well and do hope they keep up the good work.

Sopkin's Sweatshops on Strike

The girls of Sopkins and Sons at 3900 and Mich went on strike June 19 on account of the miserable low wage they were getting and speed-up and rotten conditions they were working under had become unbearable and as I was in sympathy with them as I have been a slave all my life I was out to see them and the hired slugs come along and dragged me in the patrol wagon and kicked me and punched me with their clubs and called me all kinds of dirty names and took me to the 48th St. Wabash Station.

There in the stairway two big police officers beat me till I was almost unconscious all over my head and chest and shoulders and wrenched my arm and at present I am unable to hear out of my left ear. They beat many other women. One had to have six stitches taken in her head. One comrade was beat up in court and they held us from Wednesday till Friday, without booking us.

How long are we workers going to stand for such treatment? Organize and fight against this.

MARY SALLEE

EDITORIAL NOTE: *Since this letter was written the strikes at the five Sopkins shops in Chicago have been won.*

The women were not terrorized by the brutalities of the police, the agents of the bosses, politicians and their likes. Because they carried through the fight, their conditions in these factories now, bad as they are, are a great improvement over what they were. Organization is now going on in these factories to take up the daily grievances which arise in the shops, such as the question of prices and sanitation.

WOMEN MILITANT

Dear Comrades:

I am in Dayton trying to organize the women into the Unemployed Councils. And I have been here a month and I have never seen a copy of your wonderful *Working Woman* magazine. I know if you could send ten copies I would be able to sell them and also to subscribe for it here. I think I will here sometime, but the women must know what other women are doing for the revolutionary organizations in the U.S.A. I will do all I can to get more women, children and also men into this organization.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

Comradely yours, IDA BRAZELTON.



MARY ROZICK

MENTAL HEALTH

By DR. LONE

Good or Bad?

Understand Your Child

A LITTLE boy of six is brought by his aunt to my hospital clinic of mental hygiene. This child has had many adventures in his young life. His mother, a feeble-minded person, incurable, landed in a catholic house where such individuals are kept and taken care of. There was no father. He had been an alcoholic and died soon after the birth of the boy, who was given out by the County administration to one family after another. They all refused to keep him, because, as they said, he was terribly mischievous and he spoiled their own children. Finally this aunt adopted him and she found him a bad problem to deal with. Moreover, the authorities through whose hands he had passed thought him "mentally retarded" and attributed his "stubbornness" and "badness" to his backwardness.

Intelligence Above Normal

A few conversations with the child and a psychological examination changed the situation entirely. First of all, it was revealed that, far from being mentally deficient, which was taken for granted because of his parents' unfortunate conditions, the little boy actually happened to be bright. His I Q (Intelligence Quotient) was 120, which means 20 per cent above the normal 100 per cent.

True, he was bad and cruel. But that was not his inherent nature. It was due to the fact that wherever he went he was insulted, mistreated, persecuted. Instinctively he felt that he had to retaliate, that he must take his revenge against the world. He expected to be badly handled and did not wait till that

will happen. He was the aggressor. A vicious circle developed. His environment, too, punished him beforehand and he tried to be ahead of them in repaying them in kind. And so forth. Who can visualize the daily tragedies in this child's heart?

In one of our conversations, the boy said to me: "If you want to be my daddy and take me to your home, I'll be good."

After long and patient explanations to his aunt, lasting for months, after teaching her how to behave in this difficult situation, she cooperated and the child became more and more amenable and adjusted to life and altogether more tolerant. The school teachers were also prepared by the doctor, how to handle this child who finally became a normal little person, except that he is really mentally *superior* to the average.

WE DARE NOT HAVE ANOTHER CHILD

A Letter from a Reader

THE WORKING WOMAN

Find 50c in stamps enclosed. Please put me down for one year sub to the WORKING WOMAN. Start with June issue. I have May issue. It was given me by a comrade who lives in the country. I find this to be a very interesting magazine and it is cheap enough for a poor laborer to take.

I am sending the only money I have in the world for it. But my wife says we will both get reading so the money spent will be for both of us. We are very interested in an article in the May issue, "Childbirth—a Woman's Problem," by Margaret H. Irish.

We would like to read more articles on this subject in the WORKING WOMAN. I know many men and women who are interested in this subject who would read literature dealing with safe and sane methods of birth control if there are such things as "safe and sane" methods.

My wife has given birth to seven children. The last four have died either at birth or within sixteen days after. Only one month ago we buried the last one and are therefore very much interested at this time in birth control under safe and sane methods. We have seen many many methods tried by our acquaintances and have witnessed some deaths and many instances of near death after hospital care was received. But we know of many cases where birth control methods are being practiced and the family grows larger against the wishes of those people. We know there people spend money for books and remedies but

to no good advantage. Their families increase just the same.

Our problem would not be so much on controlling birth but on sex, as our children are all boys that have lived. Our last baby was a girl and the fourth baby was a girl. We attribute the death of our last baby to malnutrition, but of course we are unable to prove it as we are living on the county relief since last December.

My wife and I are agreed that birth control should be practiced in our case as my wife is in no condition to have children again for a few years at least, as she had a child last year and one this year as she has given birth to seven children. The last four have died and we believe that if for any reason our children are not allowed to live that, that same reason should justify us in practice of some reliable birth control method, at least till conditions are changed and our children allowed to live.

I tried to have charges pressed of malnutrition prior to birth and lack of co-ordination of relief authorities in the last birth control case, but being a known agitator and organizer of the workers you can possible guess how far I go with the charges.

I would like to have this letter referred to Margaret H. Irish, and if she can help me any in getting the kind of information I seek in regard to birth control, I and my wife will sure be indebted to her and also the WORKING WOMAN and the Communist Party as a whole.

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