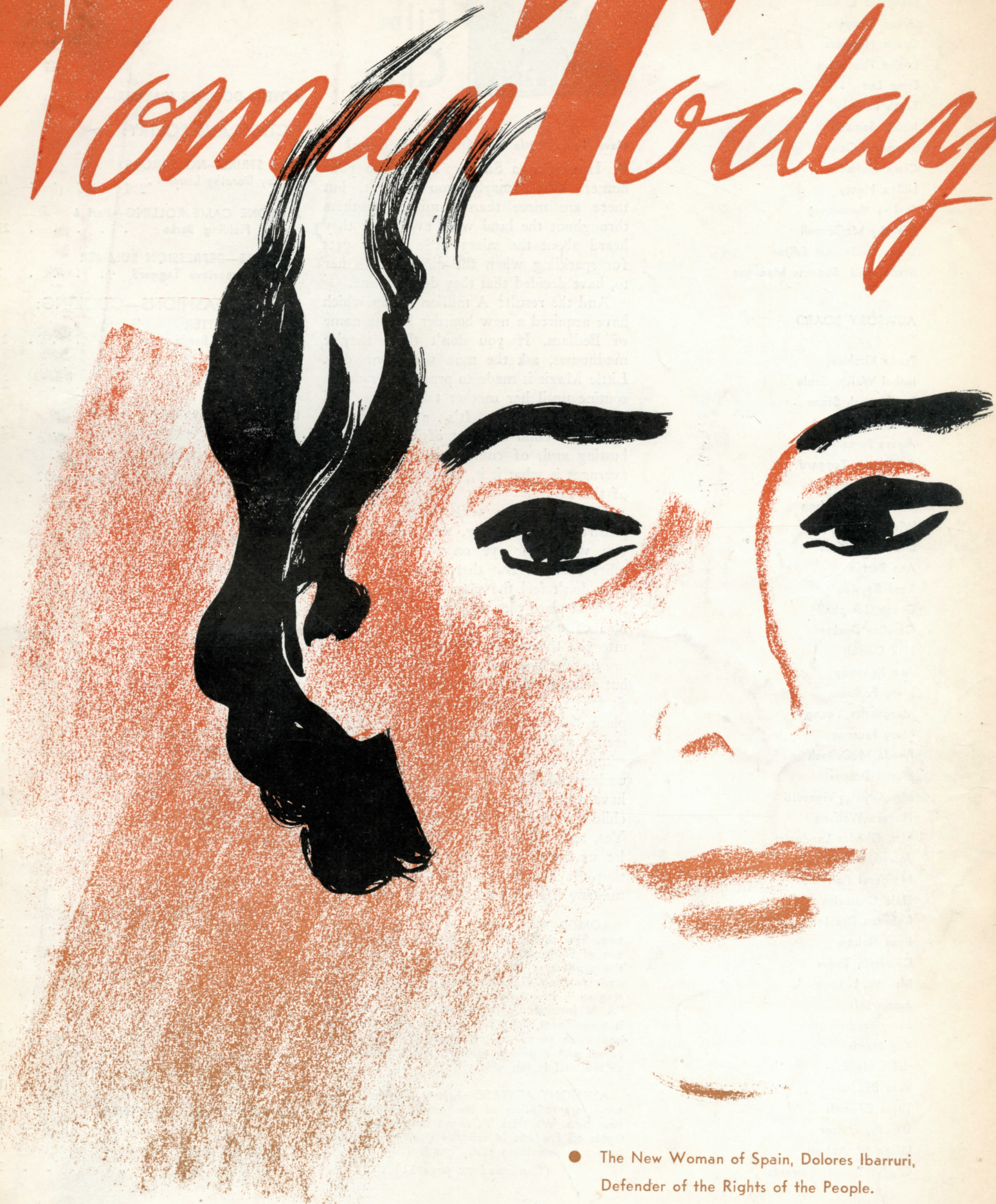


the
Woman Today



● The New Woman of Spain, Dolores Ibarruri,
Defender of the Rights of the People.

SEPTEMBER 1936

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Have You a Little Film Star in Your Home?

● Have you a Shirley Temple in your home? Well, maybe you haven't, but there are more than a million mothers throughout the land who, ever since they heard about the salary little Shirley gets for sparkling when the director tells her to, have decided that they do have one.

And the result? A million homes which have acquired a new boarder by the name of Bedlam. If you don't think they're madhouses, ask the man who owns one. Little Mazie is made to practice her dance routine until her mother takes to her bed from exhaustion. It's a matter of making a child star out of little Susie or busting and, of course, since the law of averages is what it is, busting is the order of the day.

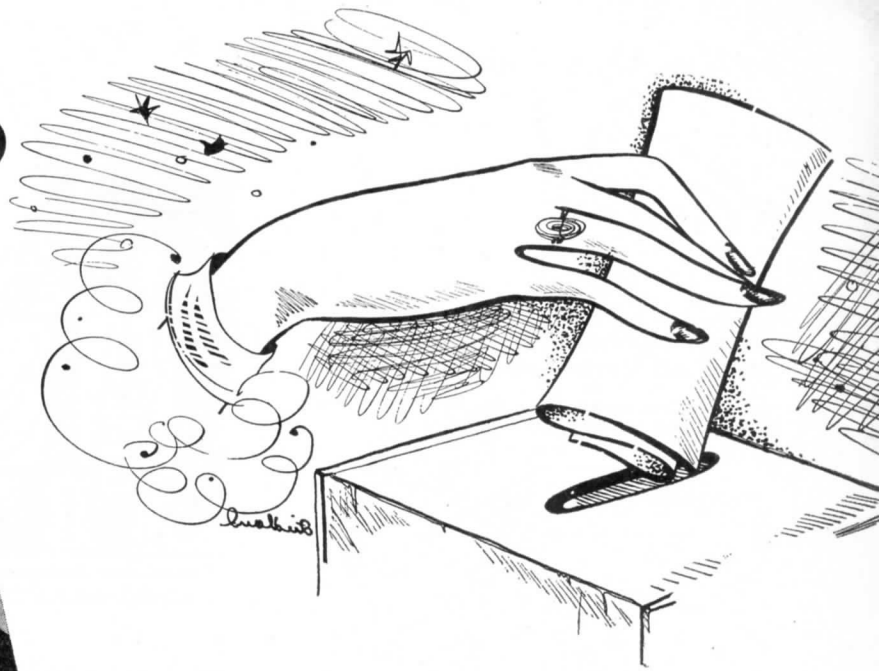
What's wrong with Shirley Temple pictures? Not a thing, the producers tell you with their eye on, the healthy box office receipts. But there are some people who don't feel the same way about it. In the first place they squirm a little over the idea of using child stars to lure children into the theatre to witness movies which are tear-jerking fare for sentimental adults but certainly not in any sense of the word fit for juvenile consumption. In the second place there are many of us who resent seeing a kid forced to mouthe lines and stimulate artificial moods which it doesn't understand. But why go on? You probably have some ideas of your own about these child star pictures. We'd like to hear them. Yes, and while you're dropping us a line let us know how you feel about movies that use kids to lisp about the glories of military life and the glory of war.

ROMEO AND JULIET—A very beautiful picture. The producers have done a fine job with one of Shakespeare's most famous plays. The entire production has been handled with taste and understanding. The naturalness of the cast and the staging is a welcome relief after the abortion of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Leslie Howard is magnificent, John Barrymore is very good also, and much to our surprise Norma Shearer comes across with a performance for a change. The rest of the cast is top notch.

ANTHONY ADVERSE—A long, boring, cumbersome, transcription of the novel. Hardly worth your time. We think it's about time they took the tight's off Frederic March and gave him a chance to act in something really good.

(Continued on page 31)

WOMEN'S VOTE



WHERE WILL IT GO?

Thelma Nurenberg

Drawing by Lilly Friedland



Mary Hillyer
Socialist Party



Mary Dewson
Democratic Party



Rose Wortis
Communist Party



Elinore M. Herrick
American Labor Party



Natalie Couch
Republican Party

• When the post of Under-Secretary of State for Scientific Research in France was recently conferred on Mme. Joliet-Curie, she was asked what further honor could be bestowed upon her sex. "The vote!" was her ready and meaningful response.

On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment, conferring upon women of the United States the right to vote, went into effect. How has this hard-won right benefited them? Have women used the ballot to improve their position?

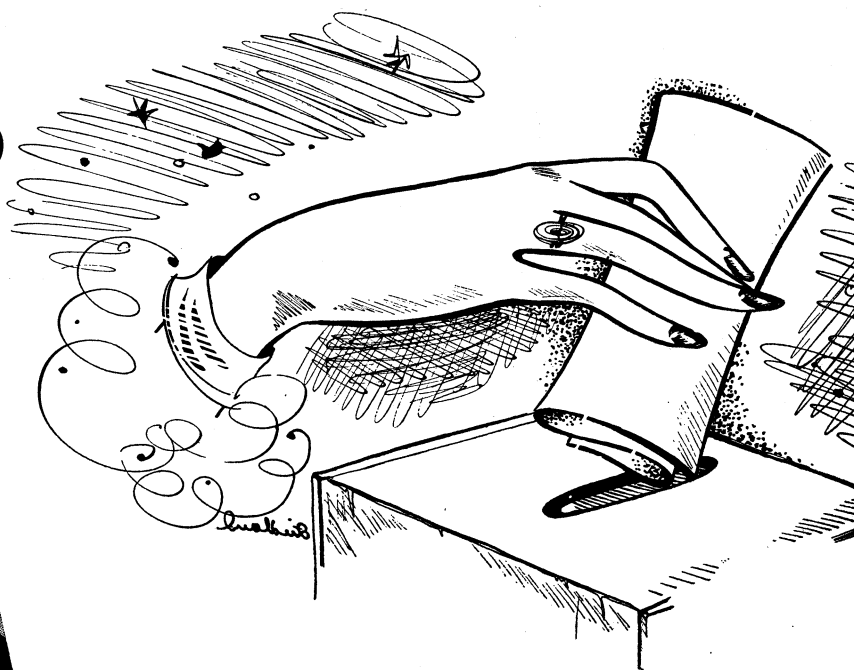
Every year there is an increase in the number of women who enter industry or the professions. A recent census reveals that 10,750,000 women work for wages, while 4,000,000 women are unemployed. Statistics also tell us that there are 37,000,000 women eligible to vote this coming election, the great majority of whom are wives of workers, while more than a third are working women. They are entitled to special protective legislation, such as minimum wages and maximum hours, safeguards in industry to health, and maternity insurance, to the proper care and education of their children, to the prohibition of child labor, to adequate housing, and to the maintenance of peace.

What have the major parties done to grant these vital needs, and to what extent can they be relied upon to pass such protective measures? It is to acquaint our readers and their friends with the position of the political parties on these important issues that **THE WOMAN TODAY** undertook a series of interviews with the women leaders of the political parties.

At the exclusive Hotel Biltmore, Miss Mary Dewson, who heads the Women's Division of the Democratic Party, was busy greeting prominent socialites when I called. Bulbs flashed while photographers snapped picture after picture. Although Miss Dewson is well on in her fifties, her boundless energy belies her years. She faced me behind a large desk, dressed in a simple print frock, while an electric fan blew constantly at strands of her iron-gray hair and the papers on her desk. She was familiar with facts and

(Continued on page 14)

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(Continued on page 14)



WOMEN

DARK REACTION has kept womanhood enslaved in Spain. The story goes that when the gay French woman Blanche, who was to become queen of Spain, crossed the Pyrenees, she was smiling. She was brought to the town of Escorial. At night her husband, the Christian King of Spain, came to her. A procession preceded him. First came a clergyman with a crucifix. Behind him walked the majordomo carrying a torch followed by two old duennas resembling witches and finally the young husband. Blanche was still smiling. Whereupon the duennas chided her: "In this country women do not smile; they pray." ● THIS IDEA of woman's proper conduct and place in society has not changed in recent times. The leader of the Spanish fascists, Gil Robles, expressed the sentiments of the reactionaries in Spain when he declared: "Woman's place is in church, in the kitchen and in bed." And the superior of a Jesuit monastery in Salamanca, addressing an assembly of landowners, merchants and colonels, smiled, clasped his hands prayerfully and said: "A girl must not be taught how to read and write, she must be taught obedience."



GIRLS dare not go out on the streets alone in Spain. In the South a girl must converse with her future husband through a wire screen like a prisoner. When a woman passes in the street, officers of the guard and sons of "first families" invariably smack their lips and shout "sweetie." They cry out gaily when they catch sight of girl students, of working girls, of women workers, even of those women of Catalonia and the miners' wives of Asturias, deep in grief over their husbands who were shot while fighting to free Spain from oppression. Primo de Rivera, when dictator of Spain, prohibited such accosting of women by special decree. But he,

TORN IN TWO by an epic conflict, Spain is emerging from chaos and black reaction through the strength and desperate determination of its working masses. And equally heroic is the fight of the Spanish women to break down the iron bars of inequality and take their rightful place in the struggle for freedom. Ehrenbourg's impressions in this article describe the conclusion and wasted lives of Spanish middle-class women. But daily events tell of another kind of Spanish woman, Milicianas, who, armed and aggressive, are taking their places in the front line with men. Their leader is Dolores Ibarruri. She not only plays a major role in the War Ministry in Madrid, but is looked on as the champion of the masses, who renamed her La Pasionara (Passion Flower) to symbolize her beauty and passion for justice. Hailing from a small mining town where she worked as a laundress, she knew the miners' problems and took a militant part in all their strikes. "The final quenching of fascism in Spain is a death blow to the forces of fascism throughout the world," declared La Pasionara in a recent broadcast in which she urged all to rise and fight this great menace. And the women of Spain are answering the call.

OF SPAIN

too, was brought up by the Jesuits and duennas. He violated his own decree and paid a fine.

● IN MURCIA I saw a house where a woman had been confined to a dark room for four years. Her parents had imprisoned her for living with her sweetheart without benefit of clergy. Whenever they brought her food they would point to the crucifix with the word "Pray." More than once I have been told, even by liberal lawyers and teachers, "Our women stay at home. We do not take them to cafes or clubs; they are too dull; they cannot be shown to people."

● THE WORKING WOMEN of Spain toil as they did five hundred years ago "from dawn to dawn." In charming Granada—its name sounds like a song—beautiful women work at machines in dark, foul smelling workshops. They work twelve hours a day for which they receive two pesetas or about fifty cents. In Las Urdes, I have seen girls of twenty, already aged, wizened. I have seen stooping, wrinkled old women at thirty. The women of Las Urdes become dwarflike. They have never tasted any meat. Bread is a rarity. A bean in their soup is looked upon as delicacy.



THOUSANDS of women have been thrown in the prisons of Estremadura, convicted of theft because they dared to take an armful of dry branches or a handful of acorns from the forests belonging to the counts and marquises. In Spain, when people have no bread they eat acorns. Along the main streets of Madrid, Barcelona and Seville, one sees many fashionable women promenading. They are usually escorted by their mothers, aunts or servants. They wear bangs on their foreheads and a romantic expression. They are searching for wealthy husbands. But I have seen the real women of Spain, in the workers' quarters · (Continued on page 30)



I am the Wife of



a Steel Worker

● Have you read the statements and advertisements of the American Iron and Steel Institute (half a million dollars worth!) to the tune that the steel workers don't want "outside" unions, that "we will protect our men" and that the pay of many workers is \$16 a day?

If you have, than you have no doubt been wondering why it is that twelve big unions of the A. F. of L. have formed the Committee for Industrial Organization, have given hundreds of their organizers and \$500,000 from their own treasuries to organize half a million steel workers, who, if the Institute's statements are correct, work under excellent conditions, receive high pay and don't want to be organized.

I'm the wife of a steel worker of the Carnegie-Illinois plant of South Chicago, which claims to be the second largest steel plant in the world, employing more than 12,000 men. What I know about working conditions and wages from first-hand experience from my husband and hundreds of other steel workers has led me to the conclusion that something is wrong somewhere in the paid advertisements of the American Iron and Steel Institute and bears investigation.



First, let me tell you what the American Iron and Steel Institute is. It is only a high-sounding name for the steel barons' union, made up of 1,140 individuals all of whom are officials, directors, and employers

\$5.00 for a suit of underwear! More than a day's pay! This is a necessary part of the steel worker's equipment.

The writer of this story is obliged to keep her identity hidden, to safeguard her husband's job.

of the steel trusts. Their main reason for existence is to keep the workers "in their place" and to prevent the organization of any union—other than their own child, the company union. It is simple then to know why they print such lying statements at this time, when, for the first time, the steel workers are being given the opportunity to join an industrial union, the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, one of the oldest unions of the American Federation of Labor with the active assistance of a large part of the organized labor movement.

The conditions under which my husband works are typical of those of the average unskilled or semi-skilled worker. His part in helping to make steel consists of various jobs from unloading cars of brick or ore to "cinder-snapping"—adding the necessary raw materials to the roaring furnaces where more than 150 tons of steel can be made at one time. His pay ranges from \$3.76 a day, laborers' wages, to \$5.70 a day for cinder-snapping several days each week. The company claims that it cannot afford to raise wages, although its profits are going up by the millions each year. Sometimes he tears down the worn-out brick-lined bottoms and sides of furnaces where they are able to work only ten-minute periods because of the terrific heat. Or maybe he cleans out the flues through which gas and air pass to and from the furnaces at a temperature of 2,000 degrees.

Heat, almost unbearable heat of the furnaces, is always hazardous to health and life. When you have to shovel 1500 pounds of manganese into the boiling steel in three minutes time your stomach begins to feel weak and your throat becomes parched. Heavy woolen underwear, costing \$5.00 or more a suit, should be worn to adequately protect one's body from chill re-

sulting from excessive perspiration. Drinking ice-water or too much water may result in serious coughs as it did to my husband. Some men have to wear their wet, dirty clothes for hours before changing, thus exposing them to colds or even pneumonia, because the company has provided insufficient showers and lockers where clean clothes may be kept.

Men are killed every week in the steel mills of America. But the newspapers do not print this news. Deadly gas, carbon monoxide, snuffs out the life of many. It costs the company money to provide safe respiratory equipment and to repair leaky, gas-filled rooms. Human lives are much cheaper for the company and so we have sickness and death. At all times the management exhorts the men "to think for safety, look for safety, and live for safety". But when the bottom of a furnace, under which men are working breaks through, and 135 tons of red-hot steel come pouring down, the "super" only bawls out the worker for not taking better care of his tools, because he dropped his shovel in an attempt to save his life.

I could write for hours about the everyday lives of steel workers and their families, but by this time it must be clear why there is a national steel drive on today, why workers are joining the Amalgamated Association in spite of the intimidation of the company. Is it any wonder that we, the wives of steel workers, are also taking up the cry of organization, are forming auxiliaries to assist the Committee for Industrial Organization in bringing our husbands into the union?

When the 500,000 steel workers of this country are organized into their own unions, all workers, men and women of every industry, will be benefited. And likewise, a defeat for steel workers in the present drive will be a defeat for all who labor.

● The steel trust has declared that it will spend every cent of its \$5,000,000,000 to prevent unionization. But the cries of the steel workers for better conditions and higher wages are being heard and answered by union organization today.



DEPRESSION SUMMER

by Genevieve Taggard

One of many patient farms under a cloud—
Clap-boarded house on upland, Yankee as cider;
Mortgage the cloud, with another, second mortgage;
One old cloud with another one, drawn closer,
Size of a silver dollar, pouring trouble;
Bad luck everyway, short rations, and the old horse spavined.
Two cents a quart for milk and the feed sky-high.

June was sinister sweet. Can you eat wild flowers?
The world outside gilt-green, inside bone-bare.
No sugar, coffee. . . . So the evil had them. . . .
Evil, devil, pain in the belly hit them.

Taxes, words with the grocer, rage. . . .
The trouble veered

And found a body small, for spring infection,
White as the May, slim shoulders and naked ear
Open for poison.

The torpor spread.

Behind June-morning eyes

Suddenly the kid was sick.

Emma found her in the yellow spare-room
That opened north, asleep across her doll
Face on the floor in stupor with thick breath.
And in her bed she hardly ever groaned.
Shut her eyes, stretched her arms up, and went down
Deeper in stupor.

And days and weeks went by.
No telephone could get the doctor.

Emma sat
Rubbing Nan's chest with goose grease, whipping egg
To make her vomit phlegm. And Tom stormed and peeped
at the child.
Banging the kitchen pots with no relief.

"Why haven't we
Medicine here, Emma," ranted Tom,
Knocking the bottles off the window-sill.
Thermometer. Damn. This is like you.
You let the time go by till the kid gets sick
Before you even think to look or get one.
Go get some sleep. We both don't need to watch.
Go on, I tell you."

Emma left the door
Open. Tom closed it. It was the closing door
That felt like death. Emma stared and stood.

And emerald lightning went on out of doors
Too vaguely flashed to rain and cut the web

Of woven heat that clustered in the trees.
And it was weeks and still she lay.
The doctor came and went and wanted medicine
No one could buy. And weeks went on.
Hot spell came on; and rank weeds wilted. Haze.
Night's indifferent noise
Went slowly on. Day was the easier night-mare.

One day no one came out to feed the cows.
The house was like a rock stuck in the earth.
Tom's half-gone Ford
Stopped in the barn-yard middle. There the hens
Fluffed dust and slept beneath it. Desolation
Sat busy in the yard somewhere. The cows stamped on
Inside the barn with caking heavy udders.
The wind-mill pined and swung a point or two.
And Fanny, the cow, bore her calf and licked it clean.
No one molested. Nothing came
Out of the house till evening.

Then poor Tom
Blundered about the porch and milked a little
And pumped some water and went in, afraid.
And the kid died as slowly as she could.

Then Emma was sick and would lie and look at nothing,
Or look at the elms and maples in the sky.
Or she spent a useless day with silent toil,
While the heat broke slowly. Cooking with no sense;
War on all living dirt; anger and fret
At all inanimate things that balked her hands.
Because the fire smoked she cried in a rage.

Tom found his cows, his second haying, found
The solid substance that he walked upon.
The roughness of his tools, the excellent
Hard silence of his clumsy cultivator.
And milking had its comfort, morning and evening.

In the gloom
He came into the kitchen, bumping in,
To warn her not to let herself go on
While he was there to eat.

Not possible now
To even roughly kiss her.

They slept apart
Like grieving beasts that fall to sleep and lie
Their sour blood, their agony in them.

They sold the calf. That fall the bank took over



TO BE INCLUDED IN "CALLING WESTERN UNION," A VOLUME OF POEMS BY GENEVIEVE TAGGARD, TO BE PUBLISHED BY HARPER'S THIS FALL.

SOVIET RUSSIA'S NEW FAMILY WELFARE LAWS

● The new family welfare laws of Russia contain several admirable provisions. The increase of material aid to pregnant women before and after child-birth; the extension of the number of maternity beds in the city and village hospitals and on collective farms; the increase in the number of nurseries, kindergartens, playgrounds, and the training of an adequate medical personnel for this purpose; the construction of additional diet-kitchens for infant feeding—all of these measures cannot but receive the fullest approval of everyone interested in social welfare. One of the strongest indictments against our present social system is the fact that so many young couples anxious to bear children are unable to do so merely because of lack of economic security. If the Soviet Government can provide adequate security for marriage and parenthood it will have solved one of the acute social problems of the day.

Not all the provisions of the new laws, however, can be approved so wholeheartedly. The practically complete prohibition, for instance, of abortions is, it seems to me, a definite backward step. Russia legalized abortions in the first place because it frankly and realistically recognized the fact that women who do not wish to bear children will resort to any measure to have their pregnancy interrupted, and because they accepted the concept that parenthood should be conscious and voluntary. This is clearly expressed by Dr. Vera Lebedeva, a leading Russian physician, and was one of the founders of the Institute for the Protection of the Mother and Child, who wrote as follows:

"The Soviet regulations concerning abortions issue from a two-fold consideration: First, because the underground abortion is dangerous to the health of the woman, it is the task of the organizations for the protection of the mother and child to remove this dangerous weapon from the hands of the woman in order to safeguard her health. Secondly, the laws of procreation before which man has always considered himself helpless and which had forced the woman to bear children often against her wish, must be placed under human control. Conception must be subjected to the free will of the woman. Motherhood must be made conscious!"

Long before the Revolution abortions were widely practiced in Russia, but because of the prevailing unsanitary conditions and the lack of medical personnel and because these operations had to be performed secretly, the mortality rates and the resulting complications were very high. The Soviet authorities, therefore, decided to remove this practice from what they called "underground", and to bring it into the open where it could be adequately supervised. Special government hospitals were set aside where the operations were performed by trained physicians and under strictly sanitary conditions.

It is quite true that even under the most sanitary conditions abortions are not without danger or harm to the woman and that in many instances they lead to chronic ailments and disabilities. It was also my impression during my visits to Russia that the privilege of abortions was greatly abused by the Russian women and that many of them resorted to this serious step without

sufficient justification or deliberation. Nevertheless, I feel that the complete prohibition of abortions, under present-day economic conditions in Russia, will not abolish this evil but may merely serve to resurrect the unhappy conditions of the past, as far as this practice is concerned.

This is clearly the attitude of a great many Russians themselves. I have before me the translations of numerous letters and discussions from Russian citizens which had appeared in *Pravda* and *Izvestia* immediately following the publication of the draft of the new law, and it certainly seems that the majority of the correspondents were opposed to the complete prohibition of abortions and felt that the time had not yet come when such a step should be taken in the U.S.S.R.

The evil of abortions cannot be eliminated by mere prohibitions. The only effective measure to combat this practice is to disseminate widely adequate birth control knowledge and materials. The new law makes no mention of contraception, and no additional funds are allotted for contraceptive clinics or research. There is, in fact, no evidence that a wider spread of birth control information than heretofore is a part of the present U.S.S.R. material health program. In a recent issue of the *Daily Worker* the statement appears that "one important object of the new law is to encourage a shift in emphasis from dangerous abortions to safe and harmless methods of contraception". One may fervently hope that this is the case, but there is no internal evidence, either in the law or in the discussions about the law, to indicate that this is a primary objective at the present time. On the contrary, there are many indications that the chief aim of the newer laws is to bring about an increased population growth in Russia.

In spite of these strictures, however, and of certain criticisms which can be applied to sections dealing with divorce and alimony, the new family laws of Russia stand out in the main as a significant forward step for the protection of the woman, the mother, and the child. Russia has shown a remarkable willingness, readiness and ability to change its policies and program whenever these have been found to conflict with public needs. If certain sections of the new laws will be found to be unpractical and unworkable they will, no doubt, be modified later to conform more closely with social welfare.

HANNAH M. STONE, M.D.

THE WOMAN TODAY

● While not wholly agreeing with the article of Dr. Hannah Stone on the new law prohibiting abortions in the Soviet Union and extending aid to mothers, we publish her article in full and invite discussion on the new law.

"The only effective measure to combat this practice [abortions—Ed.] is to disseminate widely adequate birth control knowledge and materials," says Dr. Stone.

This is not the solution. In the Soviet Union, as in no other country, birth control knowledge and materials are available to the greatest number of women. But without the tremendous improvement of the economic life of the masses of the people, the elimination of unemployment, the additional appropriation of huge sums of money to extend aid to millions of mothers, birth control would not eliminate the evils of abortion.

Fannie Sellins

● Gold flows down the Alleghany and Monongahela Rivers and up the Ohio River to coffers in tall buildings in downtown Pittsburgh. There is a steady stream from the coal mines and the steel mills—from the plants of Jones and Laughlin, Bethlehem Steel, Carnegie, U. S. Steel, Alleghany Steel, Alleghany Valley Coal. These and many other sources fill the banks and strong boxes in Pittsburgh.

Blood has flowed along these rivers—shed at the command of the owners of the strong boxes in tall buildings, and one of their victims was Fannie Sellins, mother of four children.

Fannie Sellins' grave stands in New Kensington on the Alleghany River. The tombstone, erected by the United Mine Workers of District No. 5, stands as a monument to those "killed by the enemies of organized labor".

We went to see Fannie Sellins' daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Broad, to learn about the life of this heroic woman.

"My father died when I was two years old," said the former Dorothy Sellins, "and mother went to work in a garment factory in St. Louis to support her four children. We all come from the South.

"Grandfather was a painter—had a regular job painting Mississippi River boats. He used to take mother and the children around to union meetings. I've heard union talk ever since I was a baby.

"Mother worked hard to organize, not only the men, but also their women. She used to go around to the women to tell them how important it was for them to organize. She was jailed for six months in West Virginia for doing that."

The year 1919 found Fannie in the Alleghany Valley near Pittsburgh. The little family had moved to New Kensington. Dorothy had married Fred Broad, who later secured relief for 212 miners of Russelton, and prevented their eviction by the Republic Iron and Steel Company for non-payment of rent. Fannie was continuing her work as organizer for the United Mine Workers of America.

The workers of the Alleghany Valley Coal Company, said to be a subsidiary of Alleghany Steel, were out on strike. Fannie was tireless in encouraging the workers, advising, and assisting in relief work. She did much to keep up the good spirits of the miners and their families and to rally the men to the union banner.

The coal company became desperate. Special guards were deputized—the "coal and iron police"—and equipped with guns,

clubs and other weapons, they set about to institute a reign of terror.

August 26, 1919, is well remembered by the workers of the Alleghany Valley.

On the morning of that day, Fannie Sellins rode into Pittsburgh to buy a birthday present for her grandson, the son of Dorothy and Fred Broad. The gift, a toy pony, is one of the most cherished possessions of the family today, Dorothy told us.

Fannie returned to New Kensington on the afternoon of that day, and left almost at once to answer a call across the river at West Natrona. There she found the armed guards of the coal company clubbing and shooting Joe Starzeleski, a miner. Fannie rushed in to get some children out of the way, and was herself clubbed and felled. Not content, the deputy fired a few shots into her body as she lay there, and then crushed her skull with a club.

A long legal fight ensued to bring the murderer to trial, but the attitude of the coal and steel dominated court may be gauged from the report of Samuel C. Jamison, then coroner of Alleghany County, and "six good and lawful men of the county aforesaid" who were "sworn and charged to inquire . . . when, where and how the said Fannie Sellins came to her death."

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Fannie Sellins still lives in the hearts of the workers of the Alleghany Valley. This year a huge memorial will have taken place by the time this story appears in print. The workers from Andrew Mellon's Aluminum Company of America, the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, the coal mines and the steel mills of the Alleghany Valley will meet, thousands strong, at Tarentum on August 26, to pay respect to Fannie's memory and to pledge that they will organize so strongly that such murders will not happen again.



Above: Fannie Sellins
Below: After the brutal attack

Fannie Sellins

● Gold flows down the Alleghany and Monongahela Rivers and up the Ohio River to coffers in tall buildings in downtown Pittsburgh. There is a steady stream from the coal mines and the steel mills—from the plants of Jones and Laughlin, Bethlehem Steel, Carnegie, U. S. Steel, Alleghany Steel, Alleghany Valley Coal. These and many other sources fill the banks and strong boxes in Pittsburgh.

Blood has flowed along these rivers—shed at the command of the owners of the strong boxes in tall buildings, and one of their victims was Fannie Sellins, mother of four children.

Fannie Sellins' grave stands in New Kensington on the Alleghany River. The tombstone, erected by the United Mine Workers of District No. 5, stands as a monument to those "killed by the enemies of organized labor".

We went to see Fannie Sellins' daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Broad, to learn about the life of this heroic woman.

"My father died when I was two years old," said the former Dorothy Sellins, "and mother went to work in a garment factory in St. Louis to support her four children. We all come from the South.

"Grandfather was a painter—had a regular job painting Mississippi River boats. He used to take mother and the children around to union meetings. I've heard union talk ever since I was a baby.

"Mother worked hard to organize, not only the men, but also their women. She used to go around to the women to tell them how important it was for them to organize. She was jailed for six months in West Virginia for doing that."

The year 1919 found Fannie in the Alleghany Valley near Pittsburgh. The little family had moved to New Kensington. Dorothy had married Fred Broad, who later secured relief for 212 miners of Russelton, and prevented their eviction by the Republic Iron and Steel Company for non-payment of rent. Fannie was continuing her work as organizer for the United Mine Workers of America.

The workers of the Alleghany Valley Coal Company, said to be a subsidiary of Alleghany Steel, were out on strike. Fannie was tireless in encouraging the workers, advising, and assisting in relief work. She did much to keep up the good spirits of the miners and their families and to rally the men to the union banner.

The coal company became desperate. Special guards were deputized—the "coal and iron police"—and equipped with guns,

clubs and other weapons, they set about to institute a reign of terror.

August 26, 1919, is well remembered by the workers of the Alleghany Valley.

On the morning of that day, Fannie Sellins rode into Pittsburgh to buy a birthday present for her grandson, the son of Dorothy and Fred Broad. The gift, a toy pony, is one of the most cherished possessions of the family today, Dorothy told us.

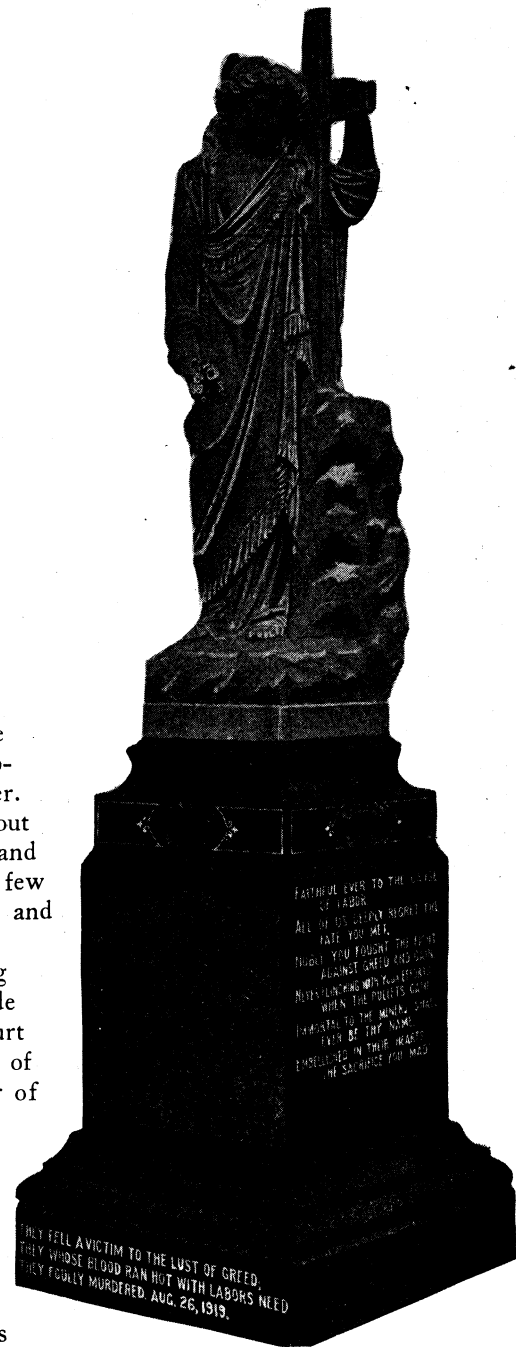
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a word to the wise

● There must be something very demoralizing about vacations, since the government refuses them to the rank and file of W.P.A. workers. If there is, it would seem hardly safe to let W.P.A. employees who are lucky enough to be on the administrative payroll kick up their heels for two weeks.

It may be that the administrators are only window dressing and that the artists, stenographers, actors, teachers, musicians and other run of the mine W.P.A. workers are doing such an essential job they cannot be spared. Still the chances are they'd prefer another kind of compliment. It's one thing to love it fifty-two weeks a year—particularly if it keeps you in the city.

If the W.P.A. workers were really boondogglers I could understand why Harry Hopkins would think that vacations were too good for them. But since he's said without equivocation that they are doing useful work and that they are federal employees and not relief recipients, I fail to see why the government does not treat them as well as my employer treats me.

Mr. Hopkins' reply might be that he'd like to pass out vacations all 'round but that federal red tape won't let him. Yet he's cut the Gordian knot of red tape before in the interests of humanity, and a good many people wonder why he can't cut it now.

Mr. Hopkins has already done a little sniping of red tape in the order that has come through from Washington ordering vacations for the members of the administrative staffs in Federal Project Number One, which includes the Theater, Music, Writers and Art projects. Formerly in this division there was no administrative payroll, technically speaking, and now under the new dispensation some 2,000 staff workers who are paid semi-monthly or monthly can get out maps and figure where they will spend their precious two weeks with pay.

But the good news that has been brought from Wash-

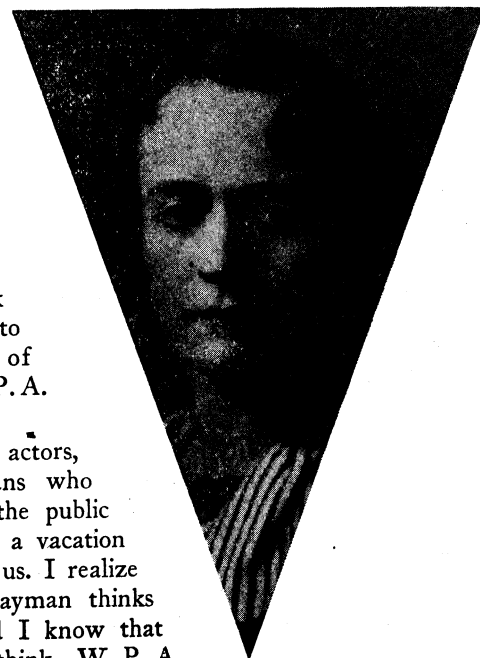
ington to New York will give no thrill to the large majority of full-time W.P.A. workers.

I should say that actors, artists and musicians who have been giving the public all they have need a vacation as much as any of us. I realize that the average layman thinks all art is play, and I know that many taxpayers think W.P.A. workers have enough green fields to lie down in right on the job.

But people who talk this way have never gone to a W.P.A. concert, seen a W.P.A. play or such a fine mural as now decorates the Julia Richman High School. If they had they would realize that such productions as "Murder in the Cathedral," "Macbeth," "Class of Twenty-Nine" and "Battle Hymn" display the excellency that comes from hard work, and nothing but hard work.

While we are talking of hard work we should not forget the stenographers and the office workers who bring up the light artillery on the W.P.A. projects. They function, too, as federal employees. So it is to be hoped that the two lawsuits which have been started to determine the status of W.P.A. employees will establish the right of full-time workers to vacations before the snow flies.

Dorothy Dunbar Bromley
Courtesy of World-Telegram



a letter from Illinois

by Kate de Rorre

● THE WOMAN TODAY . . . Greetings:

The unemployed members of the Illinois Workers' Alliance met in Staunton, Illinois, at the Labor Temple. Approximately two hundred delegates came from all four corners of the State. They had emphatically decided to make every effort to defeat the starvation program of Governor Henry Horner.

Reports from various sections revealed that horrifying conditions exist. This is the second time since the Horner administration that the unemployed have had to face relief crises which cause much suffering.

Charles Rossio, State Chairman, addressed the conference; Vice Chairman, Simon Trojar, gave a report on the situation existing in Chicago and pleaded with the delegates from all sections for their co-operation; Ed. Morgan, Secretary Treasurer, pointed out the necessity of organized labor to give their moral and financial support to the unemployed. Eighteen labor organizations were represented.

In general, relief budgets have been cut from 45 per cent to 65 per cent. In my own county (Perry) the clients are receiving little better than *6 cents a day*. With this 6 cents, food, milk, clothing, rent and fuel have to be purchased. Six cents to each client. For instance, Mrs. Keigley (a family of nine) stated she had been receiving \$47.90 a month. This last order received now for 16 days was only \$7.90. You can easily see why there is all the dissatisfaction about the new Relief Administration set-up.

I personally appeared at our County seat, elected by our membership, to ask the county commissioner to recognize the I.W.A. committee in order that their grievances could be handled as in the past. Their reply was that after the relief order was issued all they had to do was to spend it and there was no need for any grievance to be heard for there should be no grievance at all. The money appropriated would be equally divided. *No grievance with six cents a day!*

(Continued on page 22)



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"Full Owners with Men of this Good Earth"

Jessica Smith

"Women in the U.S.S.R. are accorded equal rights with men in all spheres of economic, state, cultural, social and political life. The exercise of these rights of women is insured by affording women equally with men the right to work, rest and leisure, social insurance and education, and by state protection of the interests of mother and child, pregnancy leave with pay, and provision for a wide network of maternity homes, nurseries and kindergartens."

● This is Article 122 of the draft of the new Soviet Constitution, which is now being discussed everywhere by all the people of the Soviet Union. It will be presented for ratification to the special Congress of Soviets called to convene on November 25th.

As is true of the whole Constitution, this provision is not a mere pious hope for some far distant day. It reflects a condition that has already come to pass, a condition that is written into the law of the land because it is a reality.

Women gain greatly from the new Constitution, because in all that it offers the citizens of the Soviet State in human liberty and happiness, women and men share equally. They share with men the full benefits of living in the classless society proclaimed by the Constitution, a society in which no man or woman can exploit any other man or woman and no man or woman can profit by another's work, except as the whole community profits. They share in a double way in the universality of the Constitution, which

offers identical political, economic and social rights, not only to both sexes, but to all races, and makes any manifestation of racial hostility a punishable offense. They share the guarantees of economic freedom as well as political, which places this Constitution so far above any other in the world as an instrument of real democracy.

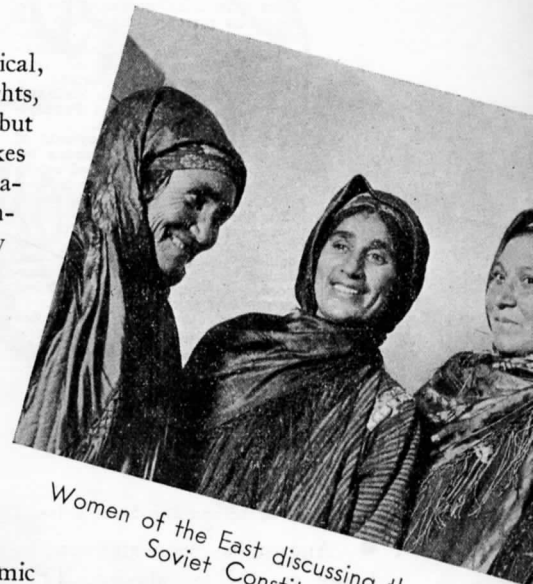
● Complete political and economic equality was given to women immediately after the Russian revolution. Every disability that had existed in the old regime, when women were subjected, not only to the general degradation suffered by the masses under the Tsar, but to double enslavement because of their sex, was completely wiped away. The early decrees gave women all the rights and duties of citizenship, established the principle of equal pay for equal work, recognized motherhood as a social function to be protected and endowed by the state, and abolished illegitimacy. The right to dissolve marriage at the will of either husband or wife, with the state intervening only to insure care and support of the children, opened the way for the sound and healthy family life cemented by mutual interests, which is the basis of Soviet society today.

The early constitutional guarantees had to be followed by the creating of new economic and social conditions to give life to the laws. The generation of women brought up in the old ways, whose opportunities for even the limited education of the old days, were far less than those of the men, had to learn to use their new rights. Men had to get rid of their prejudices. All this did not happen in a day. It took long years of work and struggle. All kinds of special organizations and methods were used in the early days to bring women into full possession of their rights. There was formerly a special "Genotdel" in the Communist Party to carry on work among women. There was the institution of "women's delegates" whereby working and peasant women were given special training courses in how to use their rights. There were thousands of courses for illiterate women.

When I was in Soviet Russia during 1922 and 1927 I saw this intensive work among women going on everywhere. Women were doing many kinds of work they had never done before, holding many positions they had never held before. But it was still largely confined to the unskilled work. Women were getting elected to serve in local and city Soviets, even as Presidents of Soviets, but there were still men who opposed this. Even in the trade unions in these earlier days it was a hard struggle to get the men to accept women in executive positions.

When I visited the Soviet Union last summer I found that all this had changed. The special organizations for work among women no longer existed. Their job was done.

(Continued on page 26)



Women of the East discussing the new Soviet Constitution.

Wives of well-known engineers pledging their aid in fulfilling these laws.



Factory workers discussing the new laws increasing aid to mothers

"Full Owners with Men of this Good Earth"

Jessica Smith

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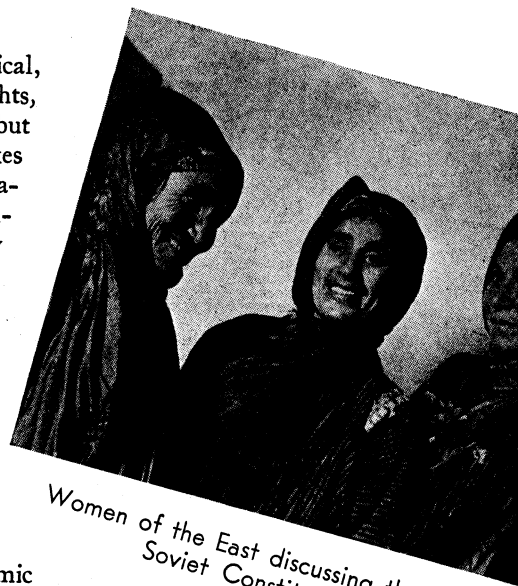
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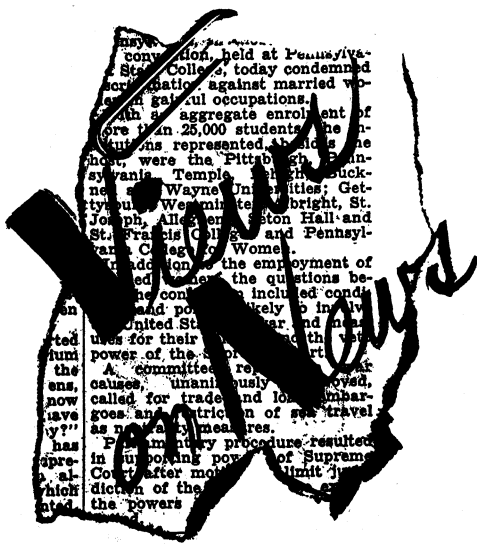
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(Continued on page 26)



Women of the East discussing the new Soviet Constitution.



The A. F. of L. and the Steel Drive

● August has been an eventful month at home as well as abroad. The American Federation of Labor is in the throes of a great conflict. The Executive Council has ordered the expulsion of ten unions which formed the Committee for Industrial Organization (C.I.O.), some months ago, for the purpose of organizing millions of unorganized workers into industrial unions. By this decision a million workers if outed from the A. F. of L. will be divided at a time when the greatest organization drive ever undertaken in the history of the labor movement is under way.

Women in industry are vitally concerned with the outcome of these new developments in the A. F. of L. Of the millions of working women, only a few hundred thousand have been organized into unions in the past and these have had hard sledding. The A. F. of L. Executive Council has never worked out a special plan for organizing women. No inducements were ever offered them to join. The Women's Trade Union League has repeatedly called this situation to the attention of conventions of the A. F. of L.

Today the C.I.O. led by John L. Lewis has initiated a drive to organize workers in steel, rubber, textile, auto and other mass production industries. Women are employed in large numbers in many of these industries and will have the opportunity to play a leading part in the great drive.

Through industrial unions the workers in the mass production industries will be able to successfully combat company unions, espionage and terror and improve their miserably low standard of living.

William Green, president of the A. F. of L. argues that the Committee for Industrial Organization is organized contrary to the constitution and that it refuses to abide by majority rule. Yet he has re-

sorted to the unconstitutional method of ousting the unions before they have an opportunity to be heard at the coming convention of the A. F. of L.

The forces backing the Executive Council want to continue the outworn and ineffectual method of organizing workers into craft unions which divides and weakens the unions in their struggle. Rather than permit the industrial union movement to advance, they would prefer to split the labor movement wide open.

Trade unions are making their desire for a united labor movement known through resolutions to the Executive Council asking postponement of action until the convention in October in Tampa, Florida. Labor united can bring trade union organization to the millions of men and women workers. Women workers should support the C.I.O. in its great movement.

Women's Rights

● Suffrage for the women of France recently became a foremost issue at the International Congress of Business and Professional Women when a number of ardent advocates of the vote demonstrated at a session of the convention. When the French Left government came to power, not only were women recognized by official Cabinet position but on the day of the demonstration before the International Congress, the Woman Suffrage Bill, introduced by the Left government passed the Chamber of Deputies with only one dissenting vote. It now remains for the more conservative body, the Senate, to act.

In China, too, the question of woman's rights has come to the fore. But the Chinese women will not fare so well under the military dictatorship of Chiang Kai-Shek. Representatives of Chinese women's associations in Shanghai, Peiping and Nanking called on Lin Sen, chairman of the National Government, and declared that women want the right to vote and to be elected as representatives of the people to attend the National People's Assembly which is scheduled to meet on November 12. Lin promised to bring the matter to the attention of the government. But all women staff members of the government were ordered dismissed by Chiang, only a few weeks ago. It is scarcely to be expected that women in China will be given political equality unless a broad mass movement forces the government's hand.

Olga Prestes—Victim of Fascism

● Olga Benario Prestes, wife of the Brazilian labor leader and anti-fascist, Luis Carlos Prestes, imprisoned in Rio de Janeiro, has been denied a writ of habeas corpus to stay her deportation to Nazi

Germany, it is reported by the Joint Committee for the Defense of the Brazilian People.

Olga Prestes was arrested after her husband's imprisonment and charged with a long list of crimes which the Brazilian police later admitted were unfounded. However they consider her an undesirable citizen and want her deported to Germany where she will probably meet death at the hands of the Nazis.

Mrs. Prestes is pregnant and expects to become a mother very soon.

The order to deport her has been signed by the Minister of Justice and now awaits the signature of President Vargas.

THE WOMAN TODAY asks its readers to aid in the fight to save this innocent woman from Nazi terror. Protests should be sent to President Vargas, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, and to Oswaldo Aranha, Brazilian Ambassador, Washington, D. C.

CHARLOTTE TODES.

● "The role of woman is not to wait until the last moment, until the eve of war or until the conflict should come, but to work constantly, making strong sentiment and promoting education for peace." Can you guess who is speaking? Strange indeed, but it is a French army man, General Georges Paul Poudroux who came to the United States recently to get support for the International Peace Congress to be held in Brussels in September 4-6.

He spoke of the splendid demonstration of Italian women who tried to stop a train in which their husbands and sons were being carried off to Africa. "The thing to do now which so many people in Europe regard as the eleventh hour, on the eve of war, is to mobilize aggressively for peace. I am sure that in this country as in France the woman has strong control over her husband's sentiments," the General declared.

The World Peace Congress will have as its major objective the unification of the world's peace forces. Over 30 delegates are expected to attend the Congress from the U.S. The delegation from the American League Against War and Fascism will be headed by Dr. Harry F. Ward. Other delegates include: Margaret Forsythe, Clarence Hathaway, editor of the *Daily Worker*, Lucille Milner, secretary of the American Civil Liberties Union, Dorothy Detzer, executive secretary of the Women International League for Peace and Freedom, A. A. Heller and Ernest Kornfeld. It is reported that the A. F. of L. will send two official observers and a delegation of 7 trade union leaders will represent the Committee for Industrial Organization.

IRENE LESLIE.

They call it southern

CHIVALRY

● In the name of white womanhood, Negroes are lynched in the South. Now we are awakening to the realization that the myth of protecting southern white womanhood is part of a screen of race prejudice used by the plantation owners and the industrialists to keep labor divided that wages may be held to a starvation minimum.

Women and children work along with the men in the cotton fields. It is hard, back-breaking labor to plant, to hoe and to pick the cotton that brings annually over a billion dollars of wealth to the bankers and landlords. The tenant farmers and sharecroppers, with their wives and their children go home after work to shacks that offer them no comfort, and eat food that keeps them undernourished.

On May 18th the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union called a strike against the unbearable conditions in eastern Arkansas. The demands were: (1) a ten-hour day; (2) \$1.50 a day for laborers, \$2.50 a day for truck drivers; (3) a union contract; (4) no discrimination against union members.

On June 8th a union meeting was broken up in Earle, Arkansas, with the use of violence. Over a dozen men and women were unmercifully beaten. One Negro woman, Eliza Nolden, received internal injuries.

Frank Weems was last seen alive during this beating. Afterward, his unconscious body was seen taken into a store by the planters where it was left overnight. There was no attempt to get him medical attention.

The Southern Tenant Farmers' Union planned a funeral for Frank Weems. When the rumor reached Memphis that he was alive it was decided to send Rev. Claude Williams, Presbyterian minister from Little Rock, Roy Morelock, and myself over to Earle to investigate. We were first to see Mrs. Weems.

Roy Morelock left us at the Earle schoolhouse and we were to meet him a half hour later after he had located Mrs. Weems.

We waited about an hour, but Roy did not appear. While we were waiting a car drove up with six well dressed men, and stopped directly across from our parked car. Five of the men got out and came over to us.

"Who are you and what's your business?"

Not satisfied with our answers they forced us to drive out Highway 75 until we came to a dirt turnoff near a deserted warehouse, about two miles outside of the town of Earle. We were ordered to stop.

Then the "southern gentlemen" demanded: "Now we want the literature you brought with you!"

"We have no literature."

"You are a liar!"

While they were searching the car, one of the men drove up to the barn in the distance and came back with a piece of harness about eighteen inches long, four inches wide, and half an inch thick. He waved this at us threateningly.

"We are going to take you down the river and make you tell the truth," he warned.

Rev. Williams was "taken down the river" first. I sat in the car not more than two hundred yards away under guard. I counted the strokes of the lash. There were fourteen.

Finally they came back. Rev. Williams was pale. He walked with obvious pain.

"Now it's your turn," they said to me.

I again told them that they knew all that I knew. But they would not believe me. They forced me out of the car.

But as they directed me to crawl through the barbed wire fence their "southern gallantry" was demonstrated. They held the wire and helped me through. They parted the bushes so that I would not tear my dress or my stockings. They helped me over a log.

But as soon as we got to the river's edge, their southern gallantry disappeared.

Four cutting blows of the strap were dealt me by a man in a well-tailored white linen suit.

They wanted to know whom we had come to see, not believing a word about our coming to investigate the death of Frank Weems. They wanted the names of the union members who lived in and around Earle.

"Where were you born?" One of them asked me.

"Memphis."

"You're a liar."

They threatened me some more and then I was taken back to the car.

I was put on the 9:19 train back to Memphis.

● On the way home I thought of Claude Williams. To tell the truth I did not expect to ever see him again.



BY

WILLIE

SUE

BLAGDEN

pect to ever see him again. Late the next day we learned that he had been held for a long time in the deserted warehouse where he overheard plans for his lynching. Then he was forced to sign a statement saying that he had come to Earle, Arkansas, to preach a "mock" funeral for a man who wasn't dead, and that he had been treated with consideration.

The "southern gentlemen" were sportsmen. They decided to give Rev. Williams a "running chance for his life".

Thugs were put into a car. Williams was given one minute head start.

"If you can get home," they told him, "you can get home."

Between Earle and Parkin, Williams was able to keep ahead but could not gain much on the car that pursued him. In Parkin he managed to take advantage of traffic and did gain some. On the road to Brinkley, the next town, Rev. Williams succeeded in getting a truck between his car and that of his pursuers. This gave him a chance. In Brinkley he got far enough ahead to pull around a corner sharply and elude the thugs. By a ruse he got on the road for Little Rock.

Sheriff Curlin tells Governor Futrell that Frank Weems is not dead. The Sheriff claims that he can produce him. But neither Weems' family nor his friends have seen him since the day that the union meeting was brutally attacked. If Weems is alive, and only his enemies know where he is, that is evidence that he is being held illegally.

But we believe that Frank Weems is dead. Those who know him are sure that if he were alive, and free he would have got in touch with his family and the union.

(Continued on page 22)



BY

WILLIE

SUE

BLAGDEN



WHERE DO THE PARTIES STAND ON THESE QUESTIONS:

1. A Constitutional amendment for a minimum wage for women.
2. Protection of women in industry; health and maternity insurance for working mothers.
3. Social insurance and old age pensions.
4. Section 213 of the National Economy Act, discriminating against married women in government employ.
5. Child Labor Amendment.
6. Peace.
7. Housing and slum clearance.

figures, and her answers were to the point. She began to work for Roosevelt's nomination as early as 1931, and has been heading the women's division in his political campaigns since then. She is convinced that what this country needs to save it from ruin is four more years of Roosevelt.

● Natalie Couch, who heads the Women's Division of the Republican Party, is a lawyer in her late thirties. She offered Landon's record as governor as evidence of what women may expect should he be elected.

"The workers will want better proof," I suggested. "Some of them will not forget that he called out the troops against striking members of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Union and helped the mine own-



MARY DEWSON, Democrat

"My mother named me M. W. D. You can really call me Minimum Wage Democrat. I believe a minimum wage should be in force for both men and women. The Democratic platform pays women the compliment of regarding them as people and wants fair labor practices for both sexes. While it seeks to meet these problems through legislation within the constitution, it has pledged itself to seek a clarifying amendment if necessary."

"The Social Security Act contributed to the Children's Bureau to carry on work for maternity and infancy. These important functions have been interrupted through lack of funds for many years. Social security funds have also been contributed to the Health Department."

"During the Social Security Act and up to August 3rd we expended for social security \$41,500,000."

"The Hoover-Signed Economy Act has in practice discriminated against married women, although not in wording. The Democratic Platform, as a statement of principle, did not deal with details of legislation. However, it assumes that both sexes are to be given security."

"The Democratic Party is on record as opposing Child Labor, and the N. R. A. was a definite effort to eliminate it. In its stand on the Constitution it mentions child labor as something to be eliminated. We are doing everything in our power to have enough states ratify the Federal Child Labor Amendment to make it effective."

"The peace leaders of the country have been coming out for the Roosevelt Administration on the basis of not only its 'Good Neighbor Policy' and its 'Reciprocal Trade Agreements' but its much stronger stand for the prevention of war through taking profits out of war, the preservation of neutrality and opposition to war as an instrument of national policy."

"The Housing project is one of the greatest programs of the Roosevelt Administration. The willingness of our people to live in condemned houses is a blot on our administration. Up to August 3rd, we spent \$32,250,000 for housing."

ers to employ strikebreakers."

"Not at all. He called out the troops to protect the lives of the workers," replied Miss Couch, utterly unabashed at an interpretation contrary to all known facts. My remark that the workers did not consider bayonets pointed at them as protection was ignored as she perused my list of questions.

● Elinore M. Herrick, who is guiding the fortunes of the newly organized American Labor Party, is known to our readers as the author of an interesting article on the minimum wage which recently appeared in THE WOMAN TODAY. She is regional chairwoman of the National Labor Relations Board, from which she has taken a leave of absence.

● Mary Hillyer, spokesman for the Social-



NATALIE COUCH, Republican

"We support the adoption of state laws and interstate compacts to protect women and children with respect to maximum hours, minimum wages and working conditions. We believe that this can be done within the constitution as it now stands."

"We support the adoption of state laws and interstate compacts to abolish sweatshops and to protect women in industry."

"We approve a 'pay-as-you-go' policy which requires of each generation the support of the aged and the determination of what is just and adequate. Every American citizen over 65 should receive the supplementary payment necessary to provide a minimum income sufficient to protect him or her from want. There are 50 million policy holders in this country which shows the American people are capable of keeping themselves protected."

"We are opposed to this section of the law."

"The proposed Child Labor Amendment was originally passed by a Republican congress. The Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor was established in 1912 by a Republican Administration."

"We shall promote as the best means of securing and maintaining peace by the pacific settlement of disputes, the great cause of international arbitration through the establishment of free, independent tribunals which shall determine such disputes in accordance with law, equity and justice."

Attacked the money-spending program of the New Deal.

ist Party, has been a candidate for office Congress. She has been an organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union as well as for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

● Rose Wortis is one of the outstanding leaders of the Communist Party, of which she is a charter member. Miss Wortis has a long record of trade union activity, having been an organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers as far back as 1913. She is the only one of the directors of the women's divisions of the various political parties who has risen from the ranks of the workers. She has been involved in many strikes in the needle industry, and is a significant figure in the campaign to organize the unorganized workers. She is Communist candidate for

AMERICAN
LABOR
PARTY



ELINORE M. HERRICK, A.L.P.

"The need for a Constitutional Amendment has been forced upon us by the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States. Such an amendment should be broad enough to meet not only the problems of minimum wage legislation but to permit enactment of a comprehensive program of legislation for the social and economic welfare of the people of the United States."

"We believe that legislation is necessary for the protection of health, wages, hours and other working conditions of women wage earners. We favor health and maternity insurance for working mothers."

"This is a major social issue and our party will work for the development of the most effective and comprehensive system possible."

"We oppose this discrimination."

"We heartily endorse the Child Labor Amendment."

"We will do all in our power to secure peace."

"We believe the development of low cost public housing in this country should be an important government function; as a labor party, many of whose affiliated unions have already pioneered in low-cost housing, we approach this problem with considerable practical experience to guide us."

judge of the New York County General Sessions Court.

The American Labor Party is a newcomer on the political scene. It is affiliated with Labor's Non-Partisan League, and confined only to New York.

Contrary to the recorded actions of the vast majority of Republicans in the legislatures all over the country, who have consistently defeated protective labor legislation, the Republican spokesman declared her party in favor of minimum wage legislation "within the framework of the Constitution." Which proves again that election promises are cheap. Besides, the lady chose to ignore the facts of recent history, namely, that when states adopt minimum wage laws the Supreme Court takes the several times, and is now a candidate for

MARY HILLYER, Socialist

"The Socialist Party is working vigorously for the passage of the Farmers' and Workers' Rights Amendment to the Constitution. This amendment will end the usurped powers of the Supreme Court and give to congress the right to enact laws for the social well-being of our people. Unquestionably this legislation would include a minimum wage law for the protection of men as well as women."

"We believe in protective legislation for women and children and work whole-heartedly in the various states for the enactment of such legislation, including minimum hours of work, health and maternity insurance."

"We stand unqualifiedly for social insurance as a function of the federal government, unemployment insurance, minimum hours and wage laws, health and accident insurance, and old age pensions. We advocate the Frazier-Lundeen Bill."

"We are opposed to this act. We believe that there is enough work to be done so that all who desire to do socially useful work should have the opportunity."

"We are leaders in the fight for the passage of the Child Labor Amendment which has been a football of both of the major parties these many years."

"The Socialist Party says: 'Not a penny, not a man, to the military arms of the government. We reaffirm the historic position of the Socialist Party of the United States of opposition to any war in which the government engages. We propose the elimination of military training from our schools; the abandonment of imperialist adventures of a military or economic nature abroad; the maintenance of friendly relations with Soviet Russia; the development of internationalism among the peoples of the world; the elimination of profits from war and war preparations, and the strengthening of neutrality laws to the end that we may avert immediate wars while fighting for the attainment of a social order which will eliminate the basic causes of war.'"

"The Socialist Party is keenly aware that one third of our people are improperly housed, and is accordingly working for an adequate Federal rehousing program for share-croppers and slum-dwellers and all who live in dwellings below the minimum of health and decency."

prerogative of ruling them out as unconstitutional. This brings joy to the hearts of the Du Ponts, Hearst and the Liberty League, who are today the main supporters of the Republican Party, but makes it harder for the women workers whose hopes for the meager minimum pay have been shattered.

The three parties representing the most progressive position declared themselves unequivocally in favor of legislation to curb the power of the Supreme Court to nullify legislation benefiting labor. The Democrats would seek such legislation only if necessary, that is when the sentiment and pressure of the people made it necessary.

On social insurance the Republicans express their belief that this is a problem for



ROSE WORTIS, Communist

"Our party has taken the lead in the fight for a minimum wage law for women. We have not only put forward this demand through our publications, but have organized meetings of working women and have awakened them to the need for such a measure."

"Our party strongly supports all measures for the protection of women in industry. We also urge the women to organize and thus achieve the power to force through the protective legislation they need."

"Our party platform declares that 'it is the obligation of the American government to establish an adequate system of social insurance for the unemployed, disabled and the sick as provided for in the Frazier-Lundeen Bill.'"

"We believe in the right of all women to work. The Democrats call the Economy Act, a 'Hoover-signed bill', but it was a Democratic Congress that passed it."

"We strongly favor the Child Labor Amendment. We are also for the American Youth Act, which will provide funds for the unemployed youth coming of age and needy students."

"Our party stands for the maintenance and defense of peace at all costs. We favor strengthening all measures of collective security. We favor effective financial and economic measures to this end by the League of Nations, against Hitler Germany, Italian fascism and Japanese imperialism. These measures should be supported by the United States government."

"Instead of ever greater armaments, we believe that the United States should develop an American Peace Policy in close collaboration with the Soviet Union, based on complete prohibition of the sale or delivery of goods, or the granting of loans to nations engaged in a foreign war contrary to the provisions of the Kellogg Peace Pact. The huge funds now spent for armaments should be turned to the support of the suffering people."

"We urge the passage of the Scott Housing Bill as one of the means of helping to solve the housing problem for workers. We also support measures aiming at the improvement of the tenements in which workers are compelled to live today."

individual, rather than government, solution. According to Miss Couch "there are fifty million policy holders in this country, which shows the American people are capable of keeping themselves protected." It is estimated that only about eleven million families are thus protected. Nearly five million workers' families lost their insurance policies through unemployment. When I asked Miss Couch what government insurance the Republican administration would give to the millions of families totally without funds or means of support as a result of continued unemployment, she replied, "This is socialism," and turned suspiciously to my next question.

It must be remembered, however, that Governor Landon appropriated a sum
(Continued on page 30)

The rollicking story of a woman who knew what she wanted—and how she got it.



One Strike — No E

● “The men’r comin’ in fer dinner, mom, look!” Martha Shultz glanced apprehensively in the direction small Bob’s stubby finger was pointing. He was right, several men were coming up the lane back of the barn. “Get your hands and face washed before they get up here! Get out a clean towel and see that the comb is handy!” she instructed excitedly. “Ain’t dinner ready yet, mom?” queried the lad. “No, it ain’t quite,” Martha admitted, “this old excuse of a stove seems to heat everything but what’s set on it to cook. I ’low it’s every bit of a hundred degrees in this kitchen, and those potatoes ain’t been boilin’ more than fifteen minutes.”

She sighed deeply and pushed back the damp ringlets from her forehead. She had been busy since daylight. She dived her head and arms into the woodbox behind the old iron range, and came up with a double handful of corncobs. Stuff in cobs was all a body got done when you burned them for fuel. She supposed she should be thankful they still had some of them to burn. But how nice an oil stove would be when a body had summer cookin’ to do.

Mary Lyons had an oil range now, and so did Addie Kissener. Mort Lyons hadn’t a fortune either, only his scant eighty, and a part of it was swampy. And Christian Kissener didn’t even own a farm of his own. He was halving on the old Peabody place. Clay it was too and as poor as an August pasture. Some men had feelin’s for a woman.

Martha allowed her gaze to pass beyond the dancing heat waves of her little kitchen to the green and yellow patchwork of fields beyond the house. Two hundred and sixty acres of the best black loam in the county, so Valentine often boasted, and yet she had to sizzle over a poky old

wood range. ‘Twasn’t fair so it wasn’t.

As she rushed from the stove to a hand made corner cupboard for a table-cloth, she noted from the window that there were six men besides her husband, approaching. She had been expecting only four, but a couple more or less didn’t matter much. When you cooked dinner for six harvest hands, you prepared enough for a dozen ordinary men anyway.

Quickly she spread the red checked cloth and rushed back for a stack of plates.

“Put the knives and forks around, Bob, soon as you dry your face,” she said.

“I get to set by daddy, don’t I, mom?” asked the blue-overall-clad youngster.

“You wait till the men take their places at the table, then you can take the empty chair. I set eight places.” Martha would wait table herself.

She glanced at herself in the cracked mirror as she emptied the wash basin for Bob. A body that was barely forty ought still to have a might of color in her cheeks. She would have too, if she wasn’t so worked down. The Nelsons always had

rosy cheeks. She was getting bony too, like the work horses after a hard summer’s work. The horses were turned out to rest and fatten up in the fall though, and she had to work harder than ever cannin’ and preservin’.

She was slicing the home-made bread into thick slices, Valentine liked it that way, when the men came in. Two of them spoke to Martha, Mort Lyons and Christian Kissener, they respected a woman, Martha reflected. The others only nodded and seemed embarrassed.

“Is it hot!” roared Valentine Shultz, spinning his huge straw hat into a corner. “I tell you boys, so hot she is mitt outd, I bet you eggs would cook hard boiled! Ven der last

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The men laughed at his crude joke. “Maybe I better go out there to cook,” Martha nervously.

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“Almost,” she answered, plunging a fork. It yielded gratifyingly. The roast was was certain. It had been in the oven since

“You need one of them new fangled Mary’s got,” suggested Mort Lyons. “The finest thing she ever had in the kitchen. no time most.”

Martha’s keen mind perceived that an excellent time to make her desire for a

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The stove was not mentioned again until it was over and the men had started back to the tine came into the kitchen for his hat.

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The Strike — No Errors

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"You need one of them new fangled oil ranges like Mary's got," suggested Mort Lyons. "She thinks it's the finest thing she ever had in the kitchen. It cooks things in no time most."

Martha's keen mind perceived that this would be an excellent time to make her desire for a new stove known.

"I'm getting one myself before the threshin' siege begins," she stated, surprised at her own outspoken decision. She watched her husband from the corner of her eye. He paused in his face scrubbing operations for a moment, but said nothing.

The stove was not mentioned again until after the meal was over and the men had started back to the field. Valentine came into the kitchen for his hat.

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"No peace of mind vill I haff," he said after a bit of deliberation, "till you haff idt. But to cash der certificates yet is to lose der interest. Vone fifty is due in a veek, and der rest a long time is yet mitt oudt. With der fifty you can get der foolishment. Lyons wass sayin' their's come nigh on forty dollars, so mit fifty you should get vone vot some better is."

Martha was overwhelmed with joy. She dried her dish-pan hands with a twist of her apron, and flung both arms about her husband's neck. He flushed and pushed her away almost roughly.

"Himmel! Look oudt! Someone vill see you," he said glancing sidewise out the door.

"Monkey!" laughed Martha, "'tain't no harm for a body to kiss her husband, is it?" Gratitude softened her voice, and brought a sparkle into her tired eyes.

He stooped and gave her a swift peck on the forehead and fled.

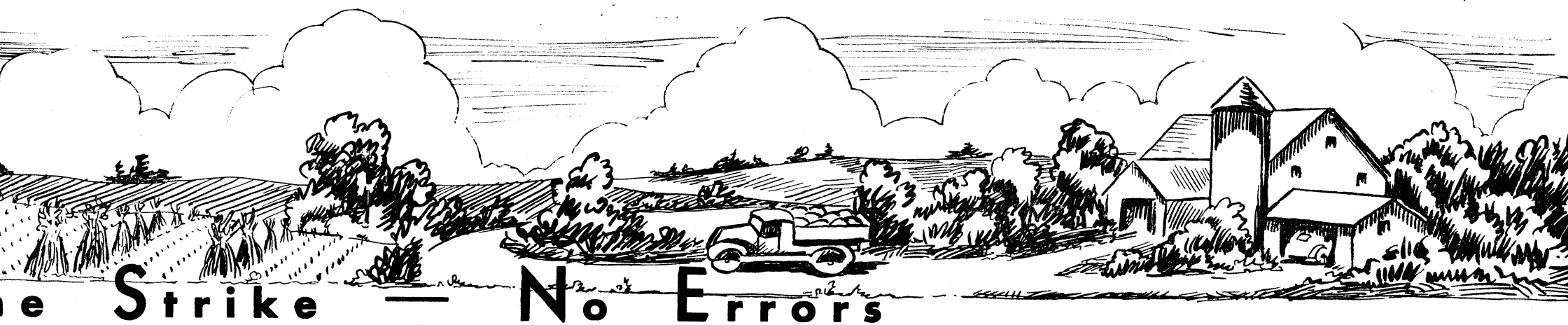
Tears of happiness and shame mingled and spilled into Martha's aproned hands. She was really going to get an oil range. The fifty dollar certificate would permit an insulated oven and a lovely white enameled cabinet. It seemed too wonderful to be true. Yet she felt guilty, even contrite. Valentine hadn't really meant to be thoughtless and selfish. She must not think such thoughts again.

With a song on her lips she rinsed out the dish cloth and stepped into the back yard to hang it upon the line. As she turned about she noticed a huge truck load of corn drive

by Dorothy Lauer
Pictures by the Author

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(Continued on page 22)





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(Continued on page 22)



Lend Us Your Strength

by VAN A. BITTNER, Regional Director of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee

● We greet the mothers, wives and daughters of the men of the steel industry, and those fine women who are compelled to labor in the steel mills of America:

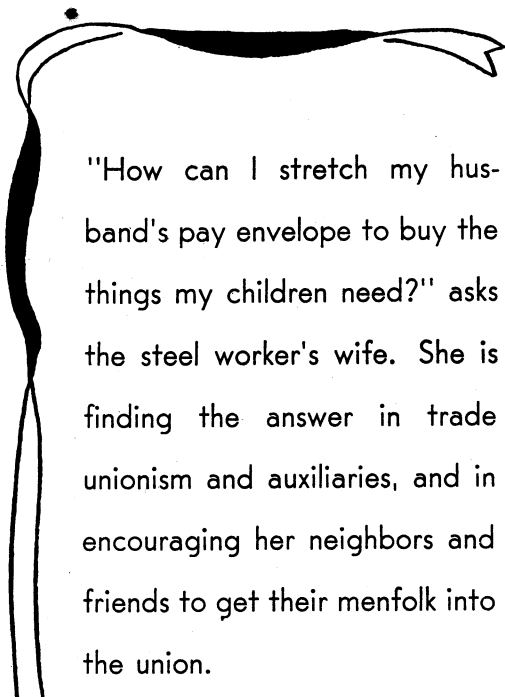
The drive of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee, under the Committee for Industrial Organization, to organize the steel workers is the most significant event in the cause of humanity and the greatest step forward that has ever been taken in the interest of labor in the history of our country.

We call upon these brave women whose lives depend upon the labor in the steel industry to join with us and play their part in making this campaign to organize steel successful. It is for the mothers and those whom we love dearer than life itself, the children of the steel industry, who will benefit most and derive greater profit and more peace of mind than anyone else. Because of the tremendous good that will come to our women of the steel industry and their children, this drive to organize the workers must be successful.

● You ask how the women may help. And we say, they have manifold duties in this organizing campaign. With their influence for good, women of steel can help most when they exercise that influence, upon the fathers, husbands and sons, in an effort to have them join the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, which, in the future, will be the great industrial union of steel. It is the mothers more than any other class identified with the welfare of the steel workers who have suffered most and who bear the brunt of the hardships caused by the control of the billionaire employers in steel who have wrung, not only from the workers, but from the mothers and children, blood and sweat that has brought these billions of dollars to the Morgans and others who have made their profits from steel.

The attitude of the women is not only an important factor in this drive to organize the steel industry, but it is vital. If every mother and every wife will tell her husband, son and father to join the union, there can be no doubt as to the complete success of bringing collective bargaining and the bigger, broader, happier life into the home of every family whose life depends upon the steel mills.

It shall be our aim during this campaign



"How can I stretch my husband's pay envelope to buy the things my children need?" asks the steel worker's wife. She is finding the answer in trade unionism and auxiliaries, and in encouraging her neighbors and friends to get their menfolk into the union.

of organization to cooperate in every way possible with the women whose lives depend upon steel, to make this organizing campaign a success, with the organizing of the steel workers themselves into the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.

It shall also be our purpose to organize the women into auxiliaries to help in this great humanitarian work. Our policy contemplates the appointment of a woman who shall be the director of the affairs of the women of steel in this campaign of organization. This woman director will be one who is a mother, wife or daughter of a steel worker; a woman who will understand the hopes, ambitions and aspirations of those fine women whose husbands, fathers and sons are dependent upon the steel industry for their livelihood. This work of organization among these women will be broad in scope. There will be community meetings of women and a general campaign of organization carried on, with the establishment of women's auxiliaries in every lodge of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers that is organized. In this way we will have a strong woman's organization, composed of the mothers, wives and daughters of the steel workers at every steel plant in America. We are sure the women whose hus-

bands, fathers and sons earn their livelihood in the steel industry will recognize the importance of using every power and influence they have to organize the steel mills of America 100 per cent.

To the women who must feed and clothe the little ones during a strike, let us point out that this campaign of organization in the steel mills is not carried on for the purpose of strikes. It is our hope, our policy and our program to organize the steel workers so that genuine collective bargaining will be instituted in the industry. We are sure no wife or mother of a steel worker desires that a strike take place in the steel industry. The one real way to prevent a strike is the formation of a strong, powerful organization of steel workers that embraces the millions of men who work in the various departments of the steel industry.

Our experience of many years has proved beyond question of doubt that there is no agency in America that will prevent strikes in industry to the same extent as a powerful, well disciplined trade union. When the women of the steel communities of our country fully understand this fact they will realize that it is their duty to lend every aid and assistance in organizing the steel industry of our Nation.

The organization of the steel workers not only means higher wages, shorter hours and better working conditions for the men who work in the steel mills, but it embraces a far-reaching program that deals with every phase of the life of the mill worker and his family. It means the ownership of home, with its comforts every wife and mother desire. It means a better education for the children that will fit them for the problems of life when they grow up. It means a finer social life for all the men and women of steel and it means a finer spiritual life for these people. The fight to organize the steel industry in its broader aspects means that real social, political and industrial democracy will prevail. For these very important reasons the women whose bread winners depend upon steel must enter into this campaign wholeheartedly.

● It is for the women and children of the steel industry we are making this fight. The blessings accruing from organization and collective bargaining will be theirs.

● THE WOMAN TODAY salutes the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers for their recognition of the importance of their womenfolk in the steel workers' fight for a better life.

Section 15 of the international constitution printed below authorizes women's auxiliaries, not as mere "ladies' aids", but recognizes both the rights and responsibilities of wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of the steel workers. That their womenfolk are encouraged to assume such responsibilities at the age of sixteen, reflects the necessity of mobilizing the fullest forces of the workers to meet the powerful opposition of the steel trust. Labor's solidarity begins at home.

Utmost unity between Union and Auxiliary is guaranteed, and the widest educational opportunities opened to the women, by the provision for an exchange of delegates at conventions of Union and Auxiliary. This assures joint counseling between men and women for their mutual welfare and progress. Our brothers in steel reveal a clear conception of the labor movement as the joint responsibility of men and women.

Indeed the brilliant record of women's auxiliaries in steel and coal is stirring thousands of women into action. Listen to Helen Jankus, leader of steel workers' wives on the Chicago-Gary front: "The miners' wives have always helped their men and we can help ours. Now that our men have given up the 'Associated Employees' and have gone into a real union, our auxiliary will do the same and we will work to bring in every steel workers' wife to help our menfolk and ourselves."

That these women are approaching the labor movement with a real understanding of its purpose, with no thought of an Auxiliary as a pink tea affair, is revealed in a vivid report to THE WOMAN TODAY from a group of steel women who with their men have dared challenge the power

drawings by C. A. Johnson



September, 1936

WOMEN'S CHALLENGE to STEEL

of the mighty Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation.

Chicago, Illinois,
July 29, 1936.

WOMAN TODAY Magazine,
New York City, N. Y.

Greetings from a group of Auxiliary Members of Steel Union of South Works.

Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation now employs about 12,000 men, producing almost as much steel as in August, 1929, at the peak of production. The independent Associated Employees' Union of approximately 3,000 members, has just voted to become a Local of the Amalgamated Association of Iron Steel and Tin Workers of American Federation of Labor.

The Women's Auxiliary, although newly formed, is growing in membership rapidly through our realization of conditions our men work under, namely:

- Terrific heat around furnaces, 2,000 degrees fahrenheit, making necessary extra expenses because of purchases which have

CONSTITUTION

and GENERAL LAWS

of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and

Tin Workers of North America, Section 15

This Association shall issue charters to the Women's Auxiliary, whose membership shall consist of any female of a good moral character who has reached the age of 16 years. Members holding honorary cards and who are not employed as foremen shall be considered as being in good standing. The auxiliary shall have full autonomy over itself in accord with charter grants, provided, however, it shall not adopt any law or principle which conflicts with any law or principle of this Association. The auxiliary shall pay into the Association annually a sum equal to 12 cents per member as affiliation per capita tax, and no other charge shall be levied by this Association against said auxiliary. This Association shall, upon application, furnish the auxiliary with all necessary supplies at the same cost as such supplies are furnished to sub-branches. The auxiliary shall be entitled to fraternal representation at all conventions of this Association and the Association shall likewise be entitled to the same representation in conventions of the auxiliary.

The proper officers of the auxiliary shall submit in writing a full report of their numerical strength, financial condition and general progress to each future convention of this Association. This Association shall at all times render every aid possible in organizing new branches of the auxiliary, and shall when called upon, counsel with the auxiliary upon any matters of mutual interest that may from time to time arise.

to be made by the men for protective clothes and metal shoes.

- Unsanitary conditions brought about by lack of locker space and showers.

- Unhealthy drinking water in some departments.

- Low wages.

- Inadequate ventilation system in some Power Stations. Although the cost is nominal the company considers money before humanity.

- In some departments there is a continual escape of gas. Instead of having proper gas masks or respiratory equipment, the cheapest material is used, which is not always adequate. There has been one death and several overcome by gas.

- There were three men killed within a month this past Spring because the safety devices were out of service, the equipment was worn out, or no safety devices were provided.

- Intimidation—coercion—an elaborate spy system, and latest set of rules for easy dismissal.

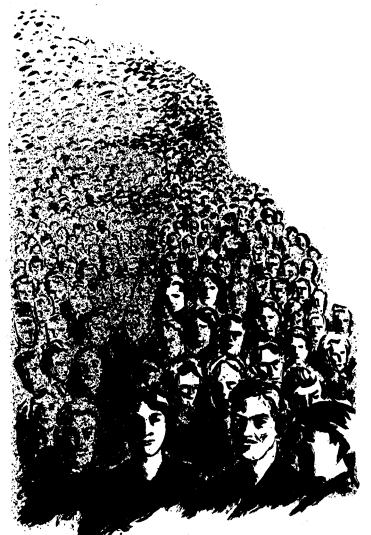
All of these things are being used to turn the men against a real union, but because of conditions at work, men know that only through a strong union, run by themselves, can they remedy their situation.

Knowing this, the Women's Auxiliary is making every effort to reach all steel workers' wives to let them become acquainted with these conditions so that they may press their husbands to take the opportunity presented by the C.I.O. for a strong National Union.

We hope that through mutual exchange of experience with other Auxiliaries we will be able to benefit thereby through the medium of WOMAN TODAY.

We recognize THE WOMAN TODAY magazine as the only labor magazine for women where the true conditions of today can be learned.

"A GROUP OF STEEL WOMEN."



HATS OFF . . . TO THE WOMEN

Agnes Burns Wieck

● "The time when women could stay behind her pots and pans and let the rest of the world go by, is decidedly at an end," declared an official of the New York Milk Wagon Drivers' Union in greeting its newly-organized Women's Auxiliary.

"The vortex of modern life takes woman out of her traditional sphere and plunges her right into the struggle against monopoly control, where she fights shoulder to shoulder with the breadwinner. We officials and members of Local 584, I. B. T. of the American Federation of Labor, are proud of our women's aid in the drive against Borden's for union recognition. Together Union and Auxiliary will go forward to victory."

Bent on debunking Borden's as "enlightened and generous employers", this militant Auxiliary was organized by the Women's Trade Union League, through its Auxiliary organizing committee, headed by Mrs. Fannie Noskin of long experience in the Typographical Auxiliary.

"We women have become a real factor in this drive for union recognition," explained Auxiliary leaders, "by our personal interview campaign to make Borden's feel its dependence upon the good will of the public. We are reaching thousands of consumers, at the doors of their homes, at public meetings, by aiding the Union's distribution of thousands of circulars, by posting placards and by ourselves wearing streamers proclaiming Borden's labor conditions. Far and wide we broadcast the story of Borden's spy system, Borden's speed-up and Borden's chiseling.

"When Borden's attempt to discipline wives of employees by threats against their staunch union husbands, we women answer with the slogan: 'Five hundred consumers for each man so molested!'

"What is the truth about this Borden corporation that deliberately set out to wreck a union of 6,000 members after the union had bettered wages and conditions?

"Many Borden drivers now work 15 hours a day in all kinds of weather. Others have routes impossibly heavy and, at their own expense, must hire casual helpers, unprotected by workmen's compensation. Borden's system of grading accidents and penalties arouses fear of suspension—naturally men withhold injury reports. Injured employees preferring their own doctors are branded with lack of 'co-operative spirit'.

"Borden's compulsory quota sale of grossly over-priced butter and eggs, forces retail drivers to compete with dairy and grocery stores at their own expense. Various subterfuges force men to bear the greater part of the cost of breakage, theft and credit losses. Transportation chauffeurs are regularly required to work lunch hour without pay.

"Borden's workers know that only a bona fide union will correct these abuses. Yet Borden's would have the public believe that in every branch, plant, shop and garage, the men spontaneously demanded a company union! Borden's specially controlled voting device went wrong when 85 per cent turned their ballots over to the A. F. of L. union.

"Borden's company union was ushered in with swarms of armed guards and spies. Special employees rode the trucks of decent workingmen, introducing certain helpers and can-

Women's Auxiliaries

vassers at the homes of customers. Platoons of thugs brutally beat up union pickets who exercised their right to free speech to enlighten the public about Borden's. One of these assailants is now awaiting trial. Even women workers were threatened with vague hints of character defamation after bribery attempts failed. Homes were not free from these slimy agents, posing as salesmen. Women were terrorized by threats of losing home and livelihood. Borden's employees hardly dared talk to each other, in restaurants and on street cars, for fear of spies listening in. This company union is said to have cost stockholders \$100,000. Borden's employees themselves own 800,000 shares of stock.

"Is it any wonder that Borden's milk and dairy products are on the unfair list of every labor organization in the city?"

"To regain their enormous loss of patronage, Borden's sales campaign goes to ridiculous lengths. Prizes—silk stockings, household furnishings, special trips to pep up sales.

"But our campaign to debunk Borden's is having a telling effect on profits. Meanwhile independent companies, under union conditions, are growing and prospering. Forcing Borden's to recognize their dependence upon the good will of the public, will prove a powerful factor in restoring genuine collective bargaining in behalf of our men."

Miss Los Angeles Steps In

● News of Los Angeles women aiding a strike of the Woodworkers' and Cabinet Makers' Union was brought to THE WOMAN TODAY by Frances Collins, young and breezy West Coast leader on a recent visit East.

"Ours is a young Auxiliary, organized last May," reported this westerner who looks her Irish name. "It grew out of a strike of Local 884, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. The men started it. The Furniture Workers' Union already had an Auxiliary and they gave enthusiastic aid.

"Soon the union hall was an exciting place, with kitchen crews organizing and cooking for strikers. With approximately 1200 men in the Union, every penny counted. An Auxiliary benefit added to the men's treasury and the women's popularity.

"Our open meetings, devoted to entertainment and lectures, prove that unions can become real social and cultural centers. There is talk of gym classes, too.

"Do we picket? Oh, yes, our women have done that, too. It certainly awakens public sentiment—they are convinced something vital is at stake. And it is a real educational experience for the women."

Miss Collins is sure THE WOMAN TODAY will play an important role among labor's women in the West.

St. Louis Leads the Way

● Led by Mrs. Mary Ryder of the printing trades, the women's auxiliaries of St. Louis exert a strong influence on the labor movement through their Joint Council of Women's Auxiliaries which boasts a ten-year record of intensive union label agitation, vigorous use of labor's boycott, and enthusiastic support of strikes and labor legislation. Fraternal delegates represent the Council at important labor gatherings. The National Federation of Trade Union Auxiliaries had its origin among these wide-awake women who raised \$100 as their 1936 contribution to the national body. A monthly bulletin is published in the interest of the affiliated auxiliaries of the following unions:

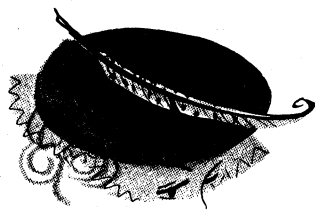
Bakers, Boot and Shoe Workers, Carpenters, Film Exchange Employees, Firemen, Machinists, Meat Cutters, Milk Wagon Drivers, Optical Workers, Painters, Photo-Engravers, Post Office Clerks, Printing Trades, Stereotypers, Electrotypers, Street Car and Bus Workers.



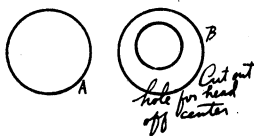
FASHION LETTER

● Toiling and moiling as we do on this, our favorite magazine, your correspondent scarcely finds time these days to make new clothes, let alone mend the old ones. "Tastefully held together with safety pins," just about describes us.

This preamble leads me to touch lightly on the shoulder-strap menace which is much in evidence this summer. Nice neat women, *soignee*, some calls them, sew, or get somebody else to, little tapes with snappers on the wrong side of the shoulder seams of all their dresses, the better to keep bra straps, etc., in place. But we, running buckity buckity on our way, stick little safety pins into all our shoulder seams and find it just as satisfactory. Don't stick the pin through the strap, but close it around the strap.



● Having learned that flocks of hats like my easiest-to-make hat are appearing in collections just off the boat from Paris, I think maybe you'd like to hear tell of it. It is a beret that looks like an English muffin and can be worn a million different ways, by as many different types of women. Made like an ordinary tam-o-shanter, except that the two circle *a* and *b* are connected by an inch wide band of belting, velvet or grosgrain ribbon, it can be run up on a sewing machine without basting. It doesn't keep its shape very well and that's what makes it good! The ways to trim it are legion, from long-stemmed flowers and feathers to bows and buttons or something out of the kitchen. Materials: felt, tweed, velvet, fur, straw or other summer fabrics.



● The response to our questionnaire cannot be called hearty—so we run it again in the hope that you won't forget this time.

GWEN BARDE

This is what we need to know

1. Would you be interested in patterns with color, fabric and style suggestions?
2. Do you make your own clothes? Sometimes Always
3. Do you make your children's clothes? Sometimes Always
4. Would you use a shopping service?
5. In what age group are you most interested—
patternly speaking?
Infants Children Juniors Misses Matrons
6. Are you often able to use the suggestions on this page?



ONE STRIKE—NO ERRORS

(Continued from page 17)

buying more corn. He had just told her he had no loose cash, except the nearly due certificate. The driver stepped out of the cab and approached her.

"Good afternoon, Mrs. Shultz," he said.

It was the local elevator man, Valentine always bought of him, she reflected.

"Is your husband about?" the man continued.

For an instant Martha was tempted to tell a white lie—but perhaps the corn was already paid for, and besides Valentine had already given her the certificate. And more than once had she heard a neighbor say that Valentine's word was as good as cash.

"You will find him back of the barn in the wheat field," she said, pointing toward the deep yellow block behind the barn.

"Thanks," he answered hurriedly. "I have a bargain in feeding corn out here. Bought a crib to shell and it's bad in the middle. It won't shell, but the outside will make some good cheap hog feed."

Martha turned back in doors with a heavy heart. Cheap feed meant more profit. A thing her thrifty husband would never pass up. The fifty feeding shoats were his pride too. The ache in her heart grew as the minutes ticked slowly away on the old shelf clock. Presently Valentine entered, and without a word thumbed through the papers in his old walnut desk. He folded one and slipped it into his pocket and went out.

Martha had never bothered the drawer in which her husband's papers were kept, but now she had a personal interest in it. He had given her a bit of that paper that could free her of much of the drudgery she had been doing uncomplainingly. She thumbed through the stacks of cancelled checks to the rubber bound pile of certifi-

icates and read their dates. It was just as she had feared. The fifty he had given her had gone to buy cheap hog feed!

Martha's tears flowed freely for a time. Her happy dream like hundreds of others was just a bursted bubble. But this time it was going to be different, she told herself determinedly. Righteous indignation took possession of her. Always had she thought of Valentine and Bob first. She had slaved for years to help him buy land and tools and stock, and now he would deny her the one thing she needed so badly. Perhaps he did not mean to be selfish, but he was, there was no getting around it. As long as a body hadn't respect enough for themselves to stand up for their rights, how could they expect others to respect them? Well from now on she was going to have some rights!

But what to do? Martha had heard vaguely of strikes. Miners strikes, textile workers strikes, even elevator operators struck with less cause than she had, she'd bet on it!

With one of Bob's crayons she printed the word STRIKE in bold black letters upon a piece of cardboard and set it upon the stove. She sliced some cold roast and brought a pitcher of milk from the milk house. A body could live on bread and milk if they had to, she reflected.

The chores were all done, and Martha and Bob had eaten their bowls of bread and milk and gone to bed, when Valentine finally decided it was too dark to see the cutting swath any longer.

"Hey!" he yelled, after surveying the empty kitchen, "ain't ye got no supper?"

Martha lay still between the cool sheets hoping he would see her declaration of war.

"Gott in Himmel!" She heard the cardboard hit the floor with a thud. Everything's fair in love and war, reflected Martha, and this was a case where both were involved, so she lay serenely still.

"I want my supper!" thundered Valentine, coming into the room and shaking her needlessly.

"Get to work!" she imagined the mill owners said to the strikers.

"Go to—" Well, she wouldn't tell Valentine that, even if the strikers did tell the owners where to go.

"Your supper's on the table," she said quietly.

"I want it varm, and your a goin' t' get it!" Valentine bellowed.

"I want my work done, and you are going to do it!" Yes that was what the slave drivers said.

"I am sorry," she said, "but I will never cook another meal on that old stove, while you have tractors, cornpickers and such to work with."

"So the cat has got claws," he jeered. "All right, all right! If I have to virk in der field all day, und cook my own supper I vill!" But he didn't. He meekly ate the cold meat sandwiches and emptied the old brown pitcher of milk. Evidently Valentine Shultz was afraid the strike would continue on the morrow, when the neighbors would again come in to exchange work with him. It would forever blast his pride if they were to learn of his wife's contrariness, as he put it.

Valentine paced the floor of the tidy little living room chewing the butt of his unsmoked cigar. Finally he stopped before the telephone and rang it long and savagely.

"Where's the fire?" asked the startled operator.

"There ain't none tonight. Give me der Frame hardware store!"

"Who's a callin' this time o' night, and what'd ya want?" came the sleepy voice of Nate Frame.

"It's me! Valentine Shultz! In der morning bring oudt der pest oil-vaster stove, what you got, und see dot you get ut here before breakfast! Dot's all!"

SOUTHERN CHIVALRY

(Continued from page 13)

The sharecroppers have reached the end of their endurance. Rickets, pellagra, tuberculosis and malaria are sapping away their strength. They have reached the stage where their very lives have become a burden to them.

No longer is race hatred and prejudice able to keep them apart. Together the tenant farmers and sharecroppers are building the union, and together they are fighting for better conditions for all.

This gives us our greatest encouragement, for if Negro and white can fight together in the South, the various sections of the working class can join their forces and with their collective strength win better conditions for all the workers in America.

A LETTER FROM ILLINOIS

(Continued from page 10)

That's what they think, but I certainly got the pleasure of pointing out to them the unemployed always had a place to place their grievances and always will whether they like it or not. After all the commission was only a tool to the politicians. I reminded them that these county taxpayers and unemployed certainly must be granted their rights.

● We marched to Springfield, August 4th. Old mothers who have reared their families and some of their grandchildren, cripples and old men said they were very glad to come along to protest against the

new relief set-up and demanded that the money allocated for relief purposes should at least be used to feed the hungry children in the state of Illinois and not used for any political purpose.

Oh, yes, we were very proud to have Margaret Cowl and Lillian Henry down with us for a day. A wonderful meeting was held at Zeigler, Illinois, for them. Johnston City, Plumfield, Du Quoin and Zeigler mothers were present. They all pledged their support to the Magazine, realizing the importance of it to the mothers.

I will now close giving the entire staff of THE WOMAN TODAY our southern Illinois greetings.

THE WOMAN TODAY

The Story Thus Far:

● Goaded by hunger into striking, the workers of Dunmow leave the mills and march into the streets. Led by Ishma Hensley, Jim Conover and other militant workers, they are determined that all looms be silenced and all tools downed until the pressure of their united ranks would wrest from the manufacturers a decent living wage.

Kik Kearns, also a worker, urges the strikers to act with Christian reserve. Early

in the strike Ishma is convinced that if Kik gains control of the situation the workers would be betrayed.

Alarmed at the growing militancy of the strikers, Kik joins the City Council in condemning agitators and Communists. At a mass meeting Kik evades the basic issues of the strike, and, urging all workers to be led by God, calls for a hymn. Protesting that events called for thought more than for song, Ishma nearly precipitates a riot. The meeting is quieted down

when Britt Hensley's strong, resonant voice rings out in hymn and others join him. Madly in love with his wife, Britt is determined to take care of Ishma while she leads the workers.

The strikers were torn between the peaceful assurance of Kik, and the militancy of Ishma and Conover. The heat of their wrongs finally rose higher than religious warmth, and Ishma realized that the moment of action had come.

Published by Longmans, Green & Co.

A STONE CAME ROLLING

VI

Hold that mill, we're coming, coming,
Throw the big gate wide.

Who can scare us, who can stop us,
Marching side by side?

The strikers moved so swiftly with their program that by two o'clock there was not a sound indicating manufacture in any shop or mill within thirty miles of Dunmow. Within the city eight thousand operatives from local plants were in the streets, and these were reinforced by seven thousand others from the surrounding country. Farmers and their families were there to swell the human flow. Dunmow stared, and stared again. The sight was not to be believed. What did it all mean? And where were the town officials?

Kik and the city fathers, coming out of a five-hour heated conference, stood speechless at sight of the stream of marchers and sidewalks crowded with lookers-on, apparently sympathetic.

Kik turned to the silent fathers. "I told you," he said, with as much defiance as he could put into a voice that poverty and caution had long subdued, "I told you that the strikers meant business. That it was a life and death struggle for them. That you would have to give them something, and give it quick. The operators had denied and insulted them. You have to do something."

"Where are the police?" shouted the city manager. "What do we pay them for? Can't we go into session without the city turning over?"

"But you gave orders that we were not to be disturbed until we came out with a formulated plan."

"And what's our plan worth now? A burnt match."

"It's not too late. We'll get the National Guards. We'll wire the Governor to send Aimes. It's not too late."

"I'm afraid it's too late to prevent tragedy," said Kik. "You see, they've tasted power."

The fathers were a little awed.

"They've tasted power," repeated one of them slowly.

But they would get into action. First, the telegraph office. No news was to be sent out—not a single telegram—unless it was countersigned by one of the council. They found that the wires had been kept hot for the last hour. Press men from Greensboro, Charlotte, High Point, Winston-Salem, were already in the city. News was raging over the country. But what had the manufacturers been doing? Had they surrendered to the mob? Where were they?

"In their country homes, no doubt," said Kik, "awaiting the result of the conference."

"They've been calling the office," said the Mayor's secretary, showing a fat sheaf of yellow slips. "I've had more calls than I could take down."

"No doubt too," Kik further said, enjoying his reversed role, "you had assured them that everything could be safely left in your hands. Their rights would be taken care of."

The fathers looked guilty, and were. But they had fight in them. They would wire the Governor for troops.

"Then blood will pour," Kik prophesied. They thought, but did not say, that a little of that from a certain source would be desirable. "Besides, do you want to tell the American nation that things here are

of workers moved on, singing, laughing, shouting. Kik's slogan belonged to the buried past. If they were not tasting power, they were at least tasting freedom. And it was glorious on the tongue released from long silence. They went to Blairwood, where the procession wound for miles around the roomy dwellings, the watered lawns, the nestling gardens of those whose lives were set in comfort and beauty. Within the houses there was amazement, then indignation, then a creeping fear. For that marching line was very long, utterly unabashed, and candid as truth.

"Can you eat while we starve? Did your babies get their milk today? Where is our supper? We've earned it! We don't beg!"



By FIELDING BURKE

out of hand? You'd better try the state road patrol first. Wire all sections to come in, from Raleigh up. The Greensboro section can be here in half an hour. With the help of citizens, and plenty of deputies, the patrol might take care of the situation. Hundreds of deputies."

The fathers looked at Kik with dawn-ing respect. From that moment he was unofficially one of the Council. And while their leader planned their defeat, the line

"What an outrage!" shuddered Mrs. Obe Stinson, behind her boudoir curtains, as the cries fell rudely on her ears. "Can you eat while we starve? Do your babies cry for milk? How many pairs of shoes you got?"

Mrs. Stinson trembled on her way to the telephone. She must ask her husband to explain this. He always knew. Hadn't he started in business on a shoestrapping, and now could count his two millions? Hadn't

she heard him say a thousand times that every man had his chance?

But Mr. Stinson couldn't be had on the 'phone. He was out of the city. "Impossible!" "Yes, Mrs. Stinson, he went to Raleigh to confer with the Governor." Mrs. Stinson, still more tremblingly, went back to her sofa, and summoned a servant to close the windows. The heat was oppressive, but those cries were worse.

Miss Maria Carter, direct descendant of the revolutionary Joseph Andrew Carter, heard the approaching storm and ran to lock up her pewter plate. She didn't think about her big block of stock in the Hamilton Furniture Company. Strange to say, it was the strikers who reminded her of it. They didn't want her pewter plate.

"Who paid for your stock? How many days did you work for it? How many days have you worked since you were born? When you goin' to give us back the wages you stole?"

Miss Maria recognized a girl among the marchers. A girl to whom she had once given a dress. A good dress, worn only on three anniversaries. And there she was!

We've made you silks and cottons fine until our backs are bare!

We've worked so hard on overalls that we've got none to wear!

We've worked so hard we can't buy shoes, we can't buy any bread,

We can't buy coffins for our guts when you have worked us dead!

You tell us where to put our hands, and where to put our feet!

"Get back to work, you lazy bums, you've no right to the street!"

But we're not scared of the Governor's men, we're not afraid of guns!

And hell will be a skating rink when a Dunmow striker runs!

They passed Judge Anniston's tall, wrought-iron gates. Was it worth the walk of a mile to shout under his windows? They thought so, and the gates were spread open. Up the long, curved drive, under the old Anniston oaks, they carried the message of the living to the dead, of the future to the rigid, inert past. The Judge was at home. The morning paper had announced that he had returned from Washington troubled with a slight indisposition.

"What about Mooney? Mo-o-o-oney—Mo-o-o-o-oney?" their wail began. "Who framed him? The Law. Who has kept him sixteen years in jail? The Law! Who's going to get him out? We are! The workers of the world! We're going to get him out! Out! O-u-ou-ou-t."

Word rolled along the line that the employees of the Tom Ray cotton mill were returning to their machines. The Tom Ray plant was immense. Under its roof cotton was processed from the raw

material in the carding rooms to the cloth in boxes ready for shipment. The workers were heavily exploited, crushed, dumb. Several of their foremen had been able to detach the Tom Ray group from the rest of the line and were herding them back into the mill. "If you don't come back now," they were told, "you needn't ever knock at the Tom Ray office again." And they were rushing back—back to their half a loaf of bread. The news reached Jim Conover's section, and his men left the line to stampede after the Tom Ray cowards. Jim got hold of his bunch and reduced it to order.

"If there's a riot, brothers," he told them, "the troops will be here before night. We don't want the troops. We've got to get those Tom Ray workers back into line without spilling a drop of blood or breaking a single bone."

No arrests were made. The city fathers heeded the advice of Kik, and decided that no arrests should be made in this critical hour. That would certainly precipitate a riot. They would be forbearing, and later take their reward by indicating as "fomenters of disorder" all whose names had been turned in to them.

Word of the rebellion penetrated Emberson Lodge. Verna reached hysterically for the telephone, and fell. "Your father!" she gasped to Evelyn, who took up the receiver and called Bly. He started for home at once.

Verna screamed. The strikers were coming! The house would be sacked! They would all be burnt in their beds!

It was hardly probable that they would be burnt in their beds in the middle of the afternoon, but Verna continued to prophesy that disaster.

"Please, please, Verna! You are disturbing Evelyn."

"Evelyn? She's as calm as an angel. I am the only person really concerned for our lives."



"Sit down, Verna. I am sure nothing will happen."

"Nothing? With that horde advancing? The hosts of Nebuchadnezzar! You will see, Bly. You will see. And you've given them everything. Ruined us to give them everything. Let them come between you and your own flesh and blood."

The sounds began to recede. "You see they are not coming here at all. They went out by Judge Anniston's."

Relieved, Verna's voice changed to subdued mystery. "I wonder if that woman is with them. I wonder how much of this is due to her."

"That woman?" But Bly's flush showed that he knew.

There were two thousand marchers in the section headed by Ishma. She had fine aids along the line. Following them was Bud Wells with a string of cars and trucks holding at least twenty-five hundred. Then Red Ewing with another big group of marchers. Jim Conover next, with his section of militants, picked and eager. Then Margaret Stacey in her own car, followed by a vehicular string that was continually reinforced from outlying districts. The cars and trucks had to move slowly in time with the marchers, but in the business part of the town they would have had to move slowly in any case, the sidewalks being thoroughly jammed and scalloped with sympathizers.

The unemployed, led by Eph Clarkson, were determinedly in line. And there were hundreds of others, mostly youngsters, who in some miraculous way had found a dollar here and there for gasoline, and full of song, banter, laughter, were darting up and down the streets and merrily struggling through temporary jams. They had no leaders, and in return for their gift of gaiety were permitted to go hither and thither, impulsive and unrepressed. It was their holiday, and they were wildly infected with freedom.

Fifteen thousand on the march in Dunmow. The region of the docile. Not a wheel could turn until they gave the word. Troops? You couldn't shoot fifteen thousand.

Fifteen thousand! The word would go out, touching workers everywhere with magic strength. To the rebel farmers of the Middle West and North; the fruit pickers of the Pacific coast, starving while orchards were being pulled up to boost prices; to the miners of Tennessee, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Utah, defiant with empty stomachs and hunger like a fox at their vitals; to the pine-country peons; the stevedores and shoremen all along the Atlantic and the Gulf. Waves, waves, everywhere starting, running together, joining other waves in an invincible ocean.

She caught sight of a sign hoisted above a farmer's truck. "Thirty bushels of rye for strike relief. Ask Britt Hensley." Oh, Britt! Of course you would do that! Oh, splendid! Splendid! Her eyes searched for him, but he wasn't in sight. Farther along was another truck with a sign painted on flying cheese-cloth. "Fifteen bushels of potatoes for strikers. Anderson's farm, Tarboro Road." And then another. "Three hundreds pounds of cabbage. Strikers come and get it. J. E. Williams." Two blocks farther she read, "Twelve bushels of corn. Come and shell it, take it to mill."

And Britt was helping. They had parted that morning in silence. He had not wanted her to come into town. And now he was

(Continued on page 28)

By Rose Nelson

Housewives Get Together...

● We have had our bout this year with Peter G. Ten Eyck, New York State Commissioner of Agriculture. A delegation from the Progressive Women's Council gave notice that we would not tolerate an increase in the price of milk at a hearing called by the Commissioner to consider the question of increasing prices to meet the "drought situation." The farmer in New York is paid 3 cents a quart for milk which is later sold to the consumer for 14 cents. The differential of 11 cents goes to the milk monopolies. The hearing was called to help them increase their profits at the expense of the consumer while pleading that drought conditions made price increases necessary. Our delegates made effective statements. We were aided by the representatives of the farmers who supported the argument that the farmer must get more but not at the expense of the consumer. This is our best guarantee of success. Farmers and consumers must join hands against the exploitation of the milk and food monopolies.

The Commissioner has withheld action on price increases thus far, realizing that the sentiment expressed by our delegates must reflect the attitude of the thousands of families in New York who are unable to provide sufficient milk for their children even at present prices. But we have to be on guard.

The food trusts are taking advantage of the havoc wrought by the drought. Prices are shooting up. Milk and dairy products are leading this advance. In Chicago, Cincinnati, Kansas City, the price of milk increased one cent. In New York, cream and butter have advanced 2 cents and 4 cents respectively. In Los Angeles a 5-cent loaf of bread sells for 6 cents.

Potatoes, formerly the cheapest and most widely used vegetable, are now in the higher price range, almost beyond the reach of the poor family. Tomatoes that sold for 7 cents a pound last year cost 14½ cents today. The lowly cabbage, 5 cents a pound last year, has doubled in price.

Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace issued a statement on July 13 that the drought situation does not as yet warrant an increase in food prices. But on July 30 the Department of Agriculture released a press story that the price of dairy products will increase during the next five months and that prices probably will be the highest in about six years. Ac-

ording to food experts we are only beginning to feel the rise in all food prices.

The Progressive Women's Council of New York is on the job. In the name of its 5,000 members, letters have been sent to the Milk Control Board of New York State and to Peter G. Ten Eyck, New York State Commissioner of Agriculture, demanding that they prevent an increase in the price of dairy products and other foods. We have charged the Sheffield Milk Co., Borden's Farm Products, the New York State Producers, Inc., and the Dairymen's League with taking advantage of the drought situation to increase prices at the expense of the people for increased profits.

Consumers and housewives throughout the land can follow this example of the housewives of New York. Why not organize committees of action in towns and cities and send delegations to the wholesale food markets and city authorities to protest against increased food costs. For it is through such actions that we will combat the high cost of living.

Let's hear what you are doing about high prices in your community.

The League of Women Shoppers in Action

● The League of Women Shoppers has made a thorough investigation of the strike of the Kitty Kelly Shoe salesmen, and is lending full support to the strikers. Conditions in this chain of stores are deplorable, and the League has asked its members to refrain from buying at the Kitty Kelly Shoe Stores until the strike has been settled.

Consumers are asked to give their support to the employees of the William Intner Company, manufacturers of bedding, mattresses and studio couches, who have been on strike for fifteen weeks in protest against the sweatshop conditions under which they worked. In order to eke out an \$8.00 a week salary, they were often compelled to work as long as 70 hours. They struck when a 35 per cent wage cut was threatened. Intner products are sold at New York's leading department stores, among them Wanamaker's, Ludwig Baumann, Buckley Newhall. Several department stores adopted a most progressive attitude by removing floor samples of Intner's. Among the stores to take this action were James McCreery, B. Altman & Co., and Stern Brothers. Persons looking for merchandise of this type can recognize



by Lucille Corcos

Intner products by their registry label, which bears the number 21.

The League is planning a department store campaign this fall to determine how many stores carry goods with the consumers' protection label, which signifies that products have been made under union conditions. The League has been informed that three stores show excellent observance of the label. They are Oppenheim Collins, James McCreery, and Sak's 34th Street. We hope that our campaign will end with every large store carrying only labeled goods.

A delegation of women from several organizations, led by the League of Women Shoppers, visited Mayor LaGuardia to protest against the handling of political prisoners in the city jails. A 21-year-old girl, one of the locked-out Ohrbach workers, was arrested on a charge of picketing in front of the store, and was sentenced to two days in the House of Detention. Upon her arrival there, she was forcibly subjected to a complete physical examination, which resulted in a severe mental and physical shock to her. It is the intention of the committee to discuss with the Mayor a change in the procedure of handling prisoners so as to prevent the future occurrence of such treatment, and to try to make arrangements for the segregation of prisoners in labor disputes.

FULL OWNERS

(Continued from page 11)

I found women not only working in every branch of industry, agriculture, science and culture, but I found them everywhere in high managerial positions, and doing highly skilled and highly responsible work. I found that thousands of women were presidents of collectives, thousands of them presidents of local soviets, and many of them in the highest governmental positions in the various republics of the Union.

In the earlier days there was a tendency for women to wear rough, man-nish clothes when they entered these new fields of work. With the great improvement in material conditions, Soviet women have turned their attention to becoming not only healthy and strong, but beautiful and charming too. Their bodies are being kept young and vigorous through physical culture, in which all the youth of the country takes part. Beauty parlors are being established everywhere. Many factories have them, for sanitary reasons. In the past few years, great interest has developed in fashions. On rest days now, and at the theatres, you see working women, clothed in gay silk dresses, well manicured, perfumed. The Red Banner of Labor, one of the highest decorations of the Soviet Government, was recently bestowed on Paulina Zhemchuzhina, wife of Premier Molotov, and head of the Cosmetics Trust of the Soviet Union, and on Liudmilla Shaposhnikova, former head of the Leningrad Cosmetics Trust, for exceeding production quotas in cosmetics for the year 1935. These two women recently visited America to study methods here, and have introduced many American beauty methods in the Soviet Union.

Soviet women greet the new Constitution joyously not so much as a promise for the future, but as a symbol of what they have already achieved. Women, with men, through the exercise of the secret ballot and direct voting for the highest government organs become a part of the most complete democracy the world has yet seen. The Soviet Constitution is a flexible instrument. It is designed to give a legal basis to existing forms. The present draft reflects the advance to the present socialist stage of development, when payment is on the basis of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work." When there are greater material things—an abundance for all—full communism can be established and people will receive according to their needs.

The submission of this historical document to the whole people for discussion and suggestions before its final adoption is the proof of the greater democracy it promises. Women are discussing it as eagerly as men. That the women for the most part are discussing its general provisions

rather than those which specifically refer to women, indicates how deeply the principle of sex equality has permeated Soviet life. Let the Soviet women speak for themselves in these extracts of discussions reported in the Soviet press.

● Anna Ivanovna Shalikhina, a worker of the Kuibyshev electrical factory:

"In the draft of the New Constitution the points which mean most to me are those about the right to education and the right to rest and leisure. The more I study the new constitution, the more I think of my own past life.

"I am 38 years old. My first nineteen years were nothing but torture. I grew up in a poor peasant family. There were a lot of children. We never had enough bread. At twelve years I went out as a nurse, my pay was a ruble a month. I was half-starved, but lived in fear that I would be driven into the street. I wanted to study, but my step-mother always told me, 'You can wash diapers well enough without going to school.'

"Now, when I read in the papers of the right of the workers to education, I want to say thank you to our government for such a life. I, an illiterate nurse girl, have now a high school education. I work in a clean, cultured factory. My wages are enough for everything I need. The factory gives me a room, I live well. With my own money I am building myself a *dacha* (summer cottage) in the country. It is strange to think that I, who never before had a corner of my own, and in my whole life owned nothing more than the clothes on my back, will now have a cottage of my own!

"I have noticed in the last few years how the attitude of our women workers has changed toward their work, their department, their factory. Now we hear 'This is all ours, and everything we do is for ourselves.' I, too have been reborn. I read, I often go to the theater, to the movies. I have read many books by Gorky and Sholokov, Alexey Tolstoy, Seifullina, Vsyevolod Ivanov, and now I am reading Balzac. Most of all I like Gorky and Sholokov."

● This is what Praskovaya Ivanovna Mavrina, peasant woman, brigade leader of the Bogorodsk State Farm, has to say about it:

"I still can't get used to it. By this time I should have grown used to it, but I can't. I look at our comrades from the district committee, with what interest they are waiting for our words . . . and I am so excited I can hardly speak. . . .

"Remember what we once were! Here am I. I had no schooling at all. Poverty—a dry, bitter crust of bread. And none of the happiness a girl should have, ever. As a young girl I was given in marriage.

I wasn't asked, just told to go, without argument. How I was beaten, how I was tortured. And for twenty-two years, twenty-two whole years, I lived not with a husband, but with a drunken bandit. And now, when life smiles on people, and when women are actually here deciding on their own rights, I look around and I rejoice and am sad at the same time—if I could just have ten years of that old life back again, to re-live now!

"I put my whole heart into the work in the collective. I saw that they respected me, that the road was open before me, that the people in the management even asked my advice: 'What do *you* think, Praskovaya Ivanovna?' They asked me, Praskovaya, for advice!

"And then they made me head of the farm. And later, to give me more experience, they sent me to the Bogorodsky state farm, as a brigade leader. I have already learned to produce sixty pigs from five. I can do even better than that—but less, never!

"And now about Article 122 of the Constitution. Well, those words must be written in gold, they shine so brightly—and I keep thinking and thinking of what we *babas* (peasant women) were before, and to what heights we have risen now! Before we were crushed and beaten, yes darker than the darkest night we were, and our only rights were to wield the oven fork, the spinning wheel, the sickle—and now we are full owners with men of this good earth!"

● Olga Gill, a student of the Steel Institute, says:

"From childhood, I used to love to show that to be a girl did not at all mean to study worse than the boys, to be interested only in women's affairs. I was always proud when I saw a woman engineer or aviator. But that used to be a rare thing. And now there are tens of thousands of girls and women who walk side by side with men, conquering the heights of science and technique.

"Not long ago the Soviet Government rewarded its aviators. How proud I was to see among them the name of Tamara Kazarinova with whom I worked in the Comsomol unit of the Dynamo factory! There are thousands of such Soviet women. Where, in what other country, could we find anything like this? Women with us have equal rights in the fullest sense of the word. There are no limits to how far women may go in any branch of science or art. Energy, persistence, the will to grow, love of life—only these things are necessary, and all the rest is guaranteed to every citizen.

"In three months I will complete my diploma work, and will enter the ranks of young Soviet specialists."

Face Crazy

● Last month in this column there was an offer to expound on the gentle art of make-up as used in the correction of wayward features. Whether you are addicted to the powder puff and rabbit's foot we do not know, but offer you these tips for what they are worth, which may be exactly nothing, if you like yourself as you are.

● But did you know that there is a simple enough way of toning down the aggressiveness of a nose that impolitely precedes you into a room? You have to own two boxes of face powder for this, the darker one to be used liberally on the proboscis, the lighter for the rest of the face. Naturally, you don't let the line of demarcation show; you do a little artistic blending where the two shades meet.

● If a face is broad and heavy it can be made to appear more slender by blending rouge heavily toward the hairline and using a darker powder around the outlines of the face. The narrow, lanky type of face can gain width by applying rouge at the center of the cheeks, blending it slightly downward toward the nose.

● If your eyes are close-set you can landscape their surroundings to make them appear wider in this way. Yank some hair from between the brows (a quarter of an inch on each will help a lot) and add the same amount at the outer corners with a pencil. Then, regardless of the color of your eyes, blend a little brown eye-shadow high on the outer corner of the lids, directly under the eyebrow. The farther out you keep this, the wider apart your eyes will seem. Some eyes look larger if brows are tweezed from the lower side, and larger still if you are not above using a little mascara on the upper lashes and the eyebrows themselves. Just be careful not to accent the inner corners of the eyes.

● The best way to apply cheek rouge so that it doesn't register in two startling blobs is the three-dot method. Cream rouge gives the most natural appearance, and if you don't possess this variety it's just as good to touch your fingertips to cold cream and rub it over your lipstick. Then you make a triangle of three small dots on each cheek, wherever your facial architecture is best suited for coloring. After that, blend the three little dots into one smooth area of color, getting lighter and lighter toward the outer edge. If you power lightly over this, and have done the blending properly, it's much less open to detection than the dry-rouge form.

● Personally, the scrubbed face without any make-up at all seems, in its honest way, the most attractive to us, but we feel it is no crime to make the most of what you have by diminishing your bad points. The important thing is to avoid a made-up look, and a little practice soon gets your hand in.

● If these above-mentioned methods smack too much of the artificial for your taste, it will certainly amuse you to know some of the tricks practiced in

Hollywood in making glamorous ladies who often were as imperfect as you and I. Out there a make-up man is a privileged and highly paid person, for in his hands often lies the fate of an actress's contract.

● For instance, Dietrich's brows never grew that way. Some make-up expert decided that they must be shaved off and new ones pencilled on at their present incredibly exotic angle. This department thinks her brows are cock-eyed, but to the general public her glance symbolizes mystery (phooey) and beauty. Garbo's lids are heavy with white make-up and heavily pencilled lines, to make them look sleepy and sorrowful. We saw the Swede some two years ago in the street, looking just as wide-awake and unsorrowful as the other citizens.

● Roughly, about one of every five stars has a set of sparkling store teeth to make up for Nature's deficiencies. No, they're not the kind they take out and drop in a glass of water at bedtime—but permanent porcelain jackets. A really good set costs several thousand dollars, made individually, to cover defective or irregular teeth.

● A lot of the "interesting" hair lines are achieved by the use of a razor, and after that, to make permanent a broad and intelligent (?) brow, electrolysis is employed. Many of the desirable widow's peaks come into being in this way.

● Artificial eyelashes are as common as potatoes, stuck on with cement and decidedly uncomfortable, we hear. The wearer usually sleeps on her back, with eyelashes waving upward, otherwise she wakes to find her eyelids half bald.

by Leona Howard



Drawing by Gwen

● Many a mole is removed by electrolysis. Eye-sockets are widened by a surgical operation (the corners are slit) to give the Joan Crawford peeled beoiled egg stare, showing a lot of white, and looking just as phoney as it is. Noses and chins are lifted, ears are pinned back, and often a depressed bosom is raised to virginal heights by plastic surgery.

● So if you use a little powder and rouge you needn't necessarily feel that you're being a slave to vanity.

● Leona Howard will be pleased to help you solve problems concerning your personal appearance. Address her at THE WOMAN TODAY.

A STONE CAME ROLLING

(Continued from page 24)

here, rushing about, she was sure, putting up signs wherever he could find a sympathizer with food to be shared. But it wasn't food only. Other signs began to appear. She could read fresh lettering in white chalk on the windows of little retail shops and stores. The small business man was aware. A barber shop announced, "Strikers welcome. No charge." A pressing blurb advertised, "Strikers served free for duration of strike." A dentist had put on his door, "Strikers, your credit is good."

Kik was rushing along at high pressure. Renfrow and Barnes were in his car, and also two members of the strikers' own Central Committee. One was Hyder Hickman, a tall, lean young man, with a calculating gleam in eyes of frigid blue. Closer than a brother he was to cling to Kik. Other members of the committee, in other cars, were riding up and down, making contacts with the marchers, giving the word to dissolve.

Kik's car halted near Ishma. "We've got them in control," he said. Ishma was indignant. That weak mouth dropping the words of a master. And the strikers had been wonderful!

"Have they been out of control?" she asked.

But the car rushed on. Not, however, until she had heard Hickman laugh. A low harsh laugh, as if someone had dropped a bag of rusty nails.

The broken line scattered. Food was the question of the moment. Jim, Red, Bud Wells, Ishma and Margaret Stacey came together for a few minutes and made quick plans to dominate the mass meeting, and keep it militant. They then separated, under agreement to meet half an hour early on the grounds of the Francis Marion School, where the meeting was to be held.

Ishma and Bud were there at the fixed time, but Jim and Red were strangely absent. Bud searched among the gathered strikers for his picked militants, and failed to find them. Many of the seven thousand who had flooded into Dunmow were gone home, or to some accustomed night shelter. But there were eight thousand strikers left within the city, and more than half of these were assembled on the extensive grounds. As they waited for the meeting to open, they began to sing some of the favorite songs of the march. While this was going on, Kik, with several hundred of the group that had begun to adhere about him, went into the auditorium of the school building and there decided to hold the meeting within doors. Word was sent out, and the strikers began to press into the building.

Ishma waited anxiously for Red and Jim. Bud said that he had left them at the Red Rooster Cafe, whose sympathetic proprietor had asked them to supper. They'd surely be along. But Ishma suspected that

they were forcibly held from the meeting. This was the case, as they were to learn next day. Three policemen had entered the cafe, where Red and Jim were quietly discussing the program, and placed them under arrest.

At the hour Jim and Red were being locked up, the strikers were pressing into the meeting, and many of them found that the auditorium was already too crowded for their admission. Bud Wells was refused at the door, and had to brush his way between objecting guards. Ishma, at the entrance, was a center of discussion. She had been unemployed when the strike began, and since all could not enter, preference should be given to those who had actually laid down their work to make the fight. That was the order from the central committee. But voices on the inside began to call to Ishma, and she was permitted to enter. Numbers of the more militant group, who had been leading spirits throughout the day, had been sent on various strike business by the committee and arrived late. These found the doors closed against them. There was room for no more inside, not one, the guards asserted.



They heard Kik speaking. "If there is anyone in the audience who would like to make a supplication to the throne of grace before we proceed to business, we will be glad to have him do so."

Ishma had heard Eph pray. "Go to it, Eph," she whispered. Eph was already on his feet. Amos Shetley was also lumbering up. "Quick, Eph, don't let Amos begin!"

"Our Father!" Eph bellowed, to head off Amos and one or two others who had risen. "Our Father!" he shouted again. "Thou hast heard the prayer of those who have plenty on the table. Hear now the prayer of those without bread. We are not full of words, O Father. We have to talk to you plain. And this is what we want. We want you to put it in the hearts of those we work for to pay us enough wages to keep our families from goin' hungry. And, O Father, if it ain't askin' too much, let us have enough to buy a few clo's. We don't ask for fine things like those we work for are wearin'. But we want our children to look nice and feel comfortable when they go to school, and once in a while we'd like good things and new things. But if this is askin' too much, O Father, just stick to the bread. Let us have enough of that. You know you said, O Father, that who works not shall not eat. But we notice that those who do the least work do the most eatin', and those

who work the hardest don't get enough. Please, O Father, make your word good. Make us brave. When they keep back our just wages, make us brave enough to reach out and take what we've earned. Don't let us be cowards, O Father. Make us brave enough to put hands on what's our own. Put righteous anger in our hearts, as the Holy book says it sometimes got into yorn, and—"

Eph's voice was roaring through the hall, but Kik, on his feet, his arms waving, succeeded in shouting above him.

"Enough! That's enough! We don't want anything but reverence here."

A man rose to his feet, tall and unashamed. "You say that the Almighty watches tenderly over His children. If my dad had such power, and gave me the tough break that we are gettin', I'd do my best to put him off the job. It's time to quit braggin' about the tenderness of the Father, when he's lettin' babies die like the one I saw last night, because it couldn't live on the fat-back and molasses the Welfare hands out."

Friends of Kik, who were massed before the platform, were rumbling up for hostilities, but Bud was a strategist. He couldn't put much pathos in a loud voice, so he lowered it dramatically and said, "I saw that baby die." A pause followed, and the workers were with him. They had to be on the side of the babies. "And I know why it died!" Bud shouted, with war in his voice. "I know God didn't kill it. You talk about bown' to God's will. I'll do that ever' time I know what His will is. But I'm not goin' to let people in white collars who never miss a meal unless the doctor orders them to, tell me what God's will is! I know who killed that baby, and if you'll all put on your thinker for a minute, you'll all know. You won't let a manufacturer that draws ever' one of his dollars out of your lives, tell you it was God! You won't—"

Hickman had come from behind Kik and was standing on the edge of the platform. He had a thin, but very penetrating voice. It pierced through the sonant bass of Bud.

"We've got to proceed with the meeting."

Kik recaptured his confidence, and Hickman sat down. Bud kept on his feet. "I'll quit," he said, and his voice was now ingratiating and easy. "I'll quit, Mister Chairman, if you'll just let me say what I think of our employers in the brief words of Shakespeare. It's what you call a classic expression, but it fits. May I do that, Mister Chairman?"

"You may quote the great bard, certainly," said the chairman.

"Well, you'll find Gray speaking in Richard the Third, act third, scene third. 'You're a knot of blood-suckers,' he says. And that's all I've got to say about our employers. They're blood-suckers."

What a spectacle! The markets teem with colorful fruits and vegetables of all kinds. There are luscious peaches—plump purple grapes—blue plums—green gages and the vegetables—golden squash—purple cabbage—red tomatoes—egg-plant. One sees all shades of green from the dark olive to the new variety of squash, called zucchini—to the live green of the fresh peppers and the translucent green of the lettuce.

The vegetable season is at its height and the good cook takes advantage of the fact that fresh vegetable combinations are possible at this time of year as at no other time.

Corn Meals

Of course we who live the year 'round so that we may enjoy the corn on the cob, come into our own at this time. But for the times when you have cooked a few ears too many, or when there is a good buy of corn that is not too fresh to get the market price, you will be interested in recipes in which corn forms the basis. They may be cut from the cob and put through the grinder if the kernels look tough, or used—as is—if they look tender.

An excellent luncheon meal which needs only a salad or a fruit dessert to complete it is:

● Corn Chowder

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1/3 c. chopped salt pork or bacon | 2 1/2 c. corn |
| 1 medium sized onion | 3 c. water |
| 2 c. diced potatoes | 1 tall can evaporated milk |
| | Salt—Pepper |

Cook the pork or bacon in a heavy kettle until it is lightly browned; add the onion which has been chopped and cook for a few minutes longer. Add the potatoes and water and simmer until the potatoes are tender. Add the corn and milk, season with salt, pepper and heat almost to boiling point. Serve immediately sprinkled with parsley.

Good old succotash is one of the joys of this season and economical too, since lima beans are cheaper now than at any other time. Lest you forget, here it is:

● Succotash

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 2 tablespoons of butter | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 2 c. cooked corn (cut from cob) | 1 teaspoon sugar |
| 2 c. cooked lima beans | 1/2 c. milk |

Melt the butter, add the corn, beans, seasonings and milk. Mix thoroughly and cook without boiling, until most of the milk has been absorbed.

● Creole Corn

(Recommended with fish)

Fry two or three slices of bacon. After removing the bacon fry a small chopped onion until a little browned. Add one cupful of corn (from the cob) and one-half cupful of sweet green pepper chopped fine, cook a few minutes. Then put in one cupful stewed tomatoes, bacon cut into small pieces, a teaspoonful of sugar, a half teaspoonful of salt and a little paprika.

Speaking of tomatoes, take advantage of the fact that they are so cheap and have them, one way or another for every meal. The popular tomato juice cocktail can be fixed at home for a very small part of the cost of one can at the grocers. Fix it in quantities and keep it in the icebox in a glass jar. The smallest and least desirable tomatoes can be used. They do not need to be skinned. Wash them thoroughly cut in pieces and boil until soft. While cooking add several onions cut in pieces and cook until done. Add salt and sugar if desired. Strain through a colander to get all the seeds and skins out, and then strain this pulp again through a fine sieve. If you wish to bottle some for the winter, put back on fire and bring to boil. Bottle immediately, keeping it at the boiling point all the time. Overflow the bottles and seal tightly, instantly. When serving add lemon juice and Worcestershire Sauce.

● Tomatoes Florentine

Select six uniform tomatoes, cut a piece from the stem end and scoop out some of the pulp. Sprinkle the inside with salt. Wash and cook one quart of spinach, Swiss chard or beet greens (only with the water that clings to them after washing) or use any left-over greens. Finely chop, season with salt and pepper and add one tablespoonful butter. Fill tomatoes with this mixture, cover top with grated cheese and bake for twenty minutes. Tomatoes can also be filled with shrimps halved and seasoned, and the tops covered with bread crumbs, for a more dressy meal.



LADY go to market

Drawing
by Horté

by Martha Grenner

Left over salads can be used to fill tomato cases as well.

Tomatoes and string beans are a combination which may interest the members of your family. Cook the string beans in as little water as possible, drain the water off and save it for sauces or soup, add half a dozen tomatoes cut up fine, a small shredded onion and teaspoonful of sugar and salt and pepper to taste, let it all simmer, add a piece of butter and serve.

● Egg-Plant Choices

How well do you know egg-plant? This is the height of its season and I believe it adds variety and interest to any menu. Dipped in flour then in egg and fried may be the only way you know it, but there are many more and it offers itself for endless combinations.

Try it as a main dish, sliced rather thin, salted and allowed to stand for a half hour, then make a sandwich of two slices with a slice of American cheese between, dip in flour or crumbs then in egg and fry. Yum-yum! Or salt rather thick slices, allow to stand, drain and dice. Fry a green pepper, and two onions. When the onions look pearly, add three tomatoes cut fine, and a small piece of garlic, if you like, sugar, salt, pepper. Blend all well. Add diced egg-plant and allow to simmer until egg-plant is soft.

● Stuffed Egg-Plant is an Armenian delicacy. Cut a good-sized egg-plant into halves or quarters, slash a cavity in each section and fill opening with medium sliced tomatoes, seasoned with salt, pepper and rubbed with garlic, cover the stuffing with sliced onions broken into rings and sprinkle minced parsley on top. Put olive oil over the egg-plant and put in baking pan with a cup of oil and water, half and half. Bake for forty minutes.

Egg-plant soufflé, and egg-plant loaf are other possibilities, also baked egg-plant, an old German dish, but space doesn't permit any more recipes. If you are interested in them write me and I will mail them to you.

● We will talk about canning and pickling next month in "Garnering the Harvest". If there are any suggestions you wish to make for these articles, write me. We will also conduct an "You ought to know" column in which we will try to answer all questions and give you the benefit of our experience in cooking and managing a household. Send in any short cuts or suggestions you may have.

WOMEN OF SPAIN

(Continued from page 5)

of Madrid, in Cuatro Kaminos, not in Alcala. Their faces are stern and troubled. They know the pinch of hunger, the hardship of bearing heavy burden.

In the hills of Albacete women wash clothes in miserable huts. In Lorca they live in caverns hardly fit for beasts. In the gloomy slums of Barcelona close to the Moorish castles built by wealthy ship-owners and brokers, one can find wretched holes without light or air. There on the floors, on heaps of rags, women give birth to their children. Across the river from Seville is Triana. No one sings serenades there.

The people of Spain are aroused. They refuse to tolerate any longer the oppression they have suffered at the hands of the wealthy landowners and clergy. A people that is fearless and generous, a people that has written beautiful songs, that is hospitable and kind, that is capable of working with enthusiasm and of dying bravely, these people no longer want to live in caverns, in huts and in slums.

Out of the masses has sprung a leader. She is Dolores Ibarurri, the daughter of a poor peasant and the wife of a miner of Asturia. People call her La Pasionaria or the Passion Flower. Although no longer young, her face expresses the stern beauty of Spain. Her eyes are fiery. She is always dressed in black. Perhaps in remembrance of those hundreds of miners who died for a Soviet Republic of Spain. When she speaks she can be heard in the largest square in Madrid. The masses, aroused to enthusiasm by her, shout "Long live Pasionaria" and she answers: "I am a rank and file member of the party. Long live our Communist Party". She is known in the caverns of Lorca and in the huts of Albacete. She travels from one city to another arousing the women to action.

When the fascists put her in jail in Madrid, she wrote an appeal to the women: "Forward for our sons, for our husbands, for our brothers, for the future of our women, for labor, for happiness, forward, women of Spain!" In the elections when the popular front candidates swept the country, she was elected to the Cortes by the people of Oviedo, that martyr city, where the streets are spattered with the blood of workers who died defending it against the fascist forces.

Then there is Dolores Alvarez, a Socialist woman. Together in united front, these two women are working to stimulate class consciousness among the women of Spain and to win them to the struggle for freedom.

Women have fought bravely with their men in the great battles to win democratic rights for the people which have taken place in Spain since the overthrow of the monarchy. In Oviedo, Liberty, the

beautiful sixteen-year-old daughter of the painter Lefuente, took her place behind a machine gun when the soldiers of the foreign legion advanced on the city. Shells were flying; people were falling, but little Liberty stuck to her post.

"Cowards, why don't you kill me?" she cried, as the Legionnaires passed her by. One of them stepped up and pierced her with his bayonet. She loved life. And for life and for the right that all may rejoice and laugh, she died amid the ruins of Oviedo.

● A few days before the fascists, aided by Italy and Germany, began their attack on the Peoples' Government in Spain, Dolores delivered a memorable address in the Spanish Parliament. She reviewed the actions of the reactionaries—who today are called "revolutionaries" in the press—in the 1934 uprising of the workers of Asturias.

This speech is especially timely. It blasts the atrocity stories which were then written about the workers—the same sort of stories as are now appearing in many newspapers to discredit those who are heroically and loyally fighting to defend the Peoples' Government of Spain.

"I shall now touch on the four basic points which made up the lying stories which, as I have stated already, had one and the same aim in view. First of all I shall touch upon the false accusations as to the violation of women. You are well aware that this was a lie because the girls who, according to your words, were murdered and before their death were violated by the revolutionists (today called 'Loyalists'—Ed.), themselves cast your foul fairy tale back into your faces with the words: 'We are alive and received nothing but care.' But this lie of yours had its purpose. The fairy tales about the violation of women spread by your press (while the Left press was doomed to silence) were to rouse the Spanish people, in whom the spirit of chivalry is so inherent, against the alleged barbarism of the revolutionaries (those defending the People's Government.—Ed.).

"But even this did not satisfy you. You tried to rouse hatred among the women against the revolution. You attempted to play upon the motherly feeling of love for their children, and to this end you speculated on the fables invented by you about the children whose eyes were put out. I must say here that our revolutionaries followed the example of the heroes of the Paris Commune and, with a view to saving the lives of the children, waited until the children and their mothers vacated the barracks of the Civil Guard before settling accounts with the men, as befits the brave. They did so with unequal arms, but were inspired by ideals, something of which you were never capable." [Applause.]

WOMEN'S VOTE

(Continued from page 15)

amounting to \$1.08 per week per family for relief for the unemployed in his state. This is an example of the "pay as you go" policy where no funds are found to provide for the unemployed and the budget is "balanced" by protecting the profits of the rich and refusing aid to the starving jobless. In this connection, the battle of the New Jersey jobless against a Republican governor and legislature is called to mind.

The Republicans have a bad record on the Child Labor Amendment. That is why it is amusing to hear their answer that a Republican Congress originally adopted the amendment. That was way back in 1924 and much water has flowed under the bridge since then. In New York State, Republicans joined with Al Smith Democrats to defeat the amendment in 1935, and in 1936 they kept it smothered in committee.

The American Labor Party, the Socialist and Communist Parties advocate extensive housing programs. The Communist Party believes that not enough has been spent to provide proper homes for the people. It has a detailed program for the enforcement of adequate housing laws.

On the issue of war and the maintenance of peace, the Republicans tell us that they seek peace by pacific settlement of disputes, but we are forced to remember the bloody record of their imperialist administration. Was it in pursuit of equity and justice that Mr. Hoover sent warships to intervene (for Wall Street owned property and industry) in Haiti, Cuba and Nicaragua? The Democratic administration has investigated the munitions makers and has declared for "taking profits out of war" and neutrality, yet it has voted the largest peace time military budget in history which contributes to the danger of a new world war.

How much more beneficial would it have been had these funds gone to reopen schools now closed for lack of funds, to build new schools in congested and rural areas and to provide adequate social insurance.

Peace is the objective of the parties whose programs are in the interest of the masses of the country, the Socialists, Communists and the parties of labor, although they have differences as to how this objective can be achieved.

● The vote is a weapon which the women must learn to use effectively and to the end that their interests together with the millions seeking security, peace and freedom will be best served.

We hope the women, in this election fight, will cast their vote against reaction.

Listen In On This



by **Bessie Byrd**

● "But why," she asked, "if your circulation is growing, should the magazine be running at a deficit of two hundred dollars a month?"

I eagerly explained.

"You can't imagine what the summer months can do to a publication. Subscriptions take a drop, payments are slower, even though bundle orders keep steadily mounting. So do the bills, which must be paid promptly in order to insure publication."

"What do you intend doing about it, skip an issue?"

"Good heavens—don't say such a thing! We *can't* let our readers down. Not now when we have so many exciting things to relate. What with the coming elections, the high cost of living, the situation in Spain, the many auxiliaries that are being formed—all these must be told because our readers get this information written from their point of view. No other woman's magazine takes the problems of women so to heart as ours does. That is why we must keep going. This magazine isn't ours. It's our readers'. Oh, we can't let them down."

"Well, why don't you tell your readers about the situation. I am sure they would understand and help if they knew about it. Simply tell them that now just as the magazine has reached the stage where it has become indispensable, you find yourselves handicapped by the lack of funds. Since no organization or individuals support the magazine financially, since your main support is subscriptions, which are coming in very slowly, the going right now is a little rough. Certainly you can speak frankly to your readers."

"I think you're right. After all it was these women who took *THE WOMAN TODAY* to their hearts and helped build its circulation. They know the value and significance of the magazine and they'll see to it that it keeps going."

My friend looked surprised.

"Keeps going, of course they will. We women would be doing ourselves a great injustice if we permitted *THE WOMAN TODAY* to postpone publication. Don't you think we realize what a force the magazine is in fighting for the rights of women—in organizing them? Just you go ahead and tell them about everything."

"Do you really think they will respond?" I queried.

"Of course they will." She was enthusiastic. "Here is my dollar now for a subscription to a friend. What else can I do?"

"Oh, there are plenty of ways you can help. You can have a bridge party, luncheon, or club affair for *THE WOMAN TODAY*. You can get your friends to form a *WOMAN TODAY* Club or they can start auxiliaries of their husbands' trade unions. You can go out right now and get at least five of your friends to subscribe."

"Stop, stop!" she interrupted. "Why don't you tell your readers about these suggestions? I'm sure they would be only too glad to know about them. Sometimes we want to do things but we don't know just what. All your ideas are swell."

"If everyone were as enthusiastic as you it wouldn't take us long to make *THE WOMAN TODAY* a bigger magazine, more color and better looking—inside and out."

"Then tell them. What are you waiting for? Time is short and you need help urgently."

"I will—this very day. It was good of you to have been so helpful. See you soon. Goodbye."

FILM CHAT

(Continued from page 2)

NINE DAYS A QUEEN—A moving and oftimes very exciting story of the brief reign of Lady Jane Grey after the death of Henry VIII. Cedric Hardwicke, and Nova Pilbeam head a superlative cast. Well worth seeing.

ADV.

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MARY OF SCOTLAND—Maxwell Anderson's play about Mary Stuart, the Queen who passed up a kingdom for a man, has been turned into an exciting movie by Dudley Nichols and John Ford, writer and director of the brilliant "Informer." Katherine Hepburn, as queen of the Scots, proves that she's an actress of charm and ability. There are also excellent performances by Frederic March, Florence Eldridge, and others.

GREEN PASTURES—A faithful translation of the famous play; so faithful that we might call it unimaginative. "Green Pastures" does its bit to preserve the myth that Negroes are a simple, child-like people, with no worries or problems, thinking of life as one monster fish fry and prayer meeting. Rex Ingram, playing three parts (why?) is very good, as, in fact, are all the rest of cast, particularly the kids.

THE ROAD TO GLORY—A love and war story with the horror sequences well done and a vicious evasion of the real causes of war. The pity of it is that so much brilliant talent and technical work had to be wasted on a picture which attempts to prove that war is an enriching experience, and its causes are not to be questioned by those fortunate enough to have the privilege of being maimed in it.

ADV.

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What brand of hosiery outwore all other brands in actual wear tests of fourteen leading brands, including Gotham, Van Raalte, Phoenix, Kayser and MacCallum? Is it cheaper in the long run to buy 50 cent stockings or dollar stockings?

These questions and others of equal importance to hosiery buyers are answered by UNBIASED experts in the August issue of CONSUMERS UNION REPORTS, monthly publication of Consumers Union of United States. If you want to know what brands of stockings will give you the least runs and the most wear for

your money consult this issue. It also rates many brands of breads; tells you what brands of laundry soaps to buy for best results and lowest cost; compares and rates oil burners, coal stokers and other automatic heating devices, and reports on the labor conditions under which many of these products are made.

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is a non-profit, membership organization of consumers with Professor Colston E. Warne, of Amherst, as president; Arthur Kallet, co-author of "100,000,000 GUINEA PIGS", as director, and D. H. Palmer, technical supervisor. It provides usable information—based on tests and investigations by expert staff technicians and reports by impartial consultants—on the comparative value of competing brands of products. This information—reported in monthly issues of CONSUMERS UNION REPORTS and in a yearly

buying guide, with ratings of brands as "Best Buys," "Also Acceptable," and "Not Acceptable"—is available at the low fees of \$3 and \$1 a year.

Fill out and mail the coupon below if you wish to receive these valuable reports. A copy of the August issue of CONSUMERS UNION REPORTS will immediately be sent you. Membership will also entitle you to a yearly buying guide to be published in the latter part of the year.

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(Note: The limited edition for August does not contain the report on oil burners.)

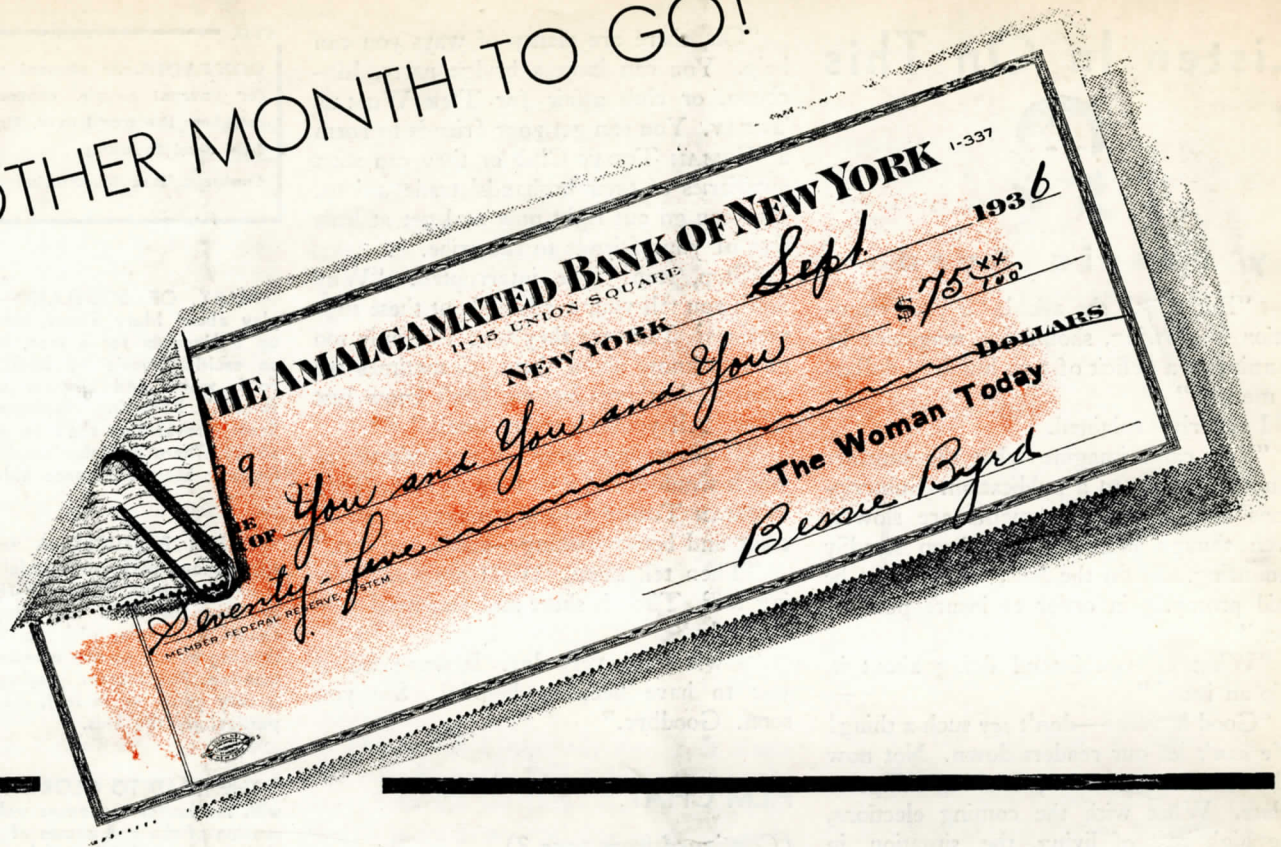
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ANOTHER MONTH TO GO!



Contest OPENED May 1st. Ends September 30th, 1936, midnight
 Due to many requests we have extended the contest to close Sept. 30th

You can win:

- \$75.00 If you send in over 300 subscriptions
- 50.00 If you send in 250 to 300 subscriptions
- 35.00 If you send in 200 to 250 subscriptions
- 25.00 If you send in 150 to 200 subscriptions
- 10.00 If you send in 100 to 150 subscriptions
- 5.00 If you send in 50 subscriptions

- RULES**
1. Anyone (except employees of The Woman Today) or any organization is eligible to enter this contest.
 2. National organizations can only compete on a local scale.
 3. All subscription, even single ones, should be addressed to Contest Editor, Woman Today.
 4. Awards will be announced in the November issue.
 5. Single yearly subscriptions only will be considered.

Two free subscriptions (sent any place) if you send in 10 subs. One free subscription (sent any place) if you send in 5 subs. Free with each single subscription, a choice of the following booklets: Women, War and Fascism or Miss U.S.S.R.

THE WOMAN TODAY
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For the enclosed \$1.00, please enter a one-year subscription to THE WOMAN TODAY, sending the next twelve issues to:

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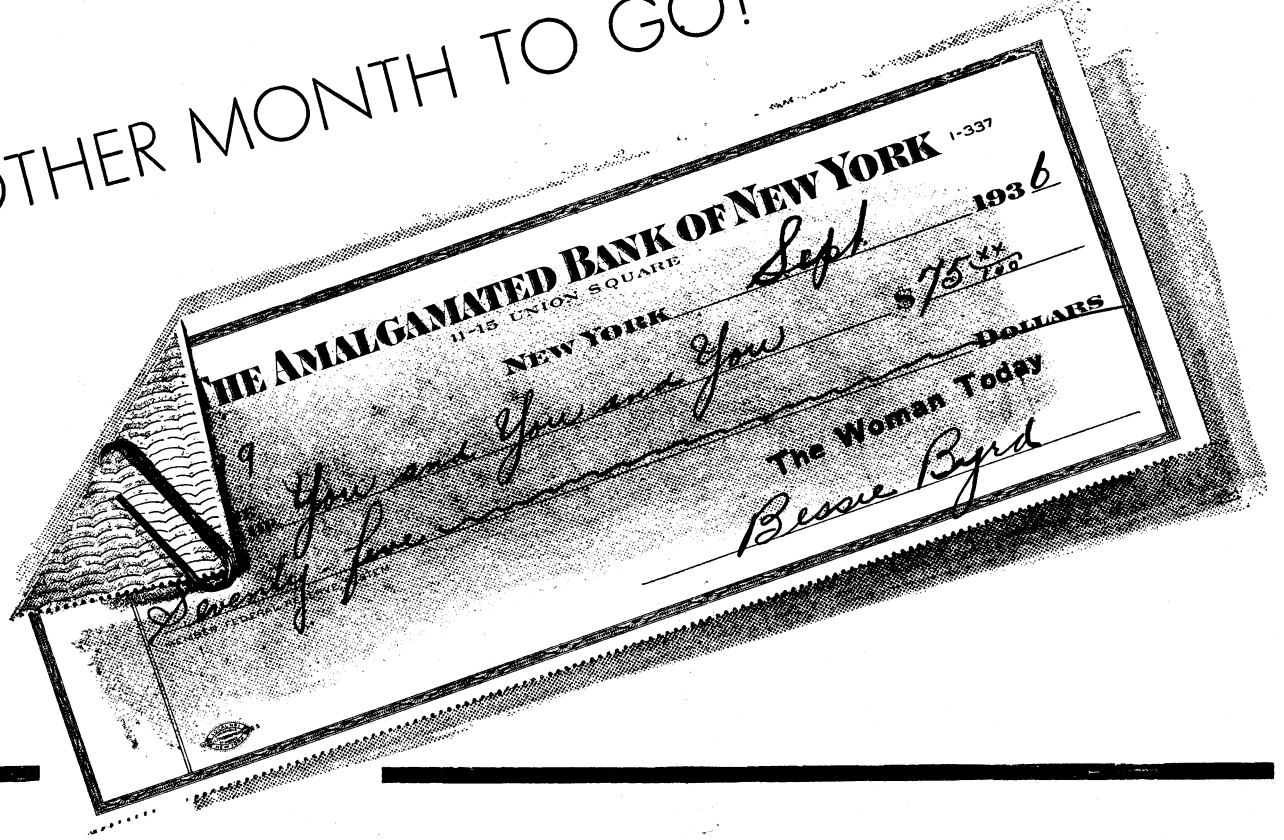
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Five cents will cover cost of booklet and mailing

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