

Maritime Labor And The Government

By James C. Rayne

Their fight against the Guffey Arbitration bill, maritime workers are now struggling at the front of all American workers...

The Railroad Labor Act was the concrete step in this direction the great mass of railroad workers know only too well.

Well do the master class understand the effect of this legislation...

More worried over the railroad vote illustrates the advantage of doing things the right way.

It is called "IT IS CALLED."

The article continues to relate all the mechanism of boards and machinery delays in strike activity...

Guffey bill is the next step—maritime workers. Then they step down the line, hog the workers in each and industry separately!

Tobin Ousts Officials Of East Bay Teamsters

Seven officers of Teamsters Union, Local 70, in Oakland were removed from office last Monday by Joseph Tobin...

Hostile Drive Launched; TWOC Announces Policy

YORK.—With 58 textile workers already brought under contract since its drive began...

BAY DISTRICT LEADERS END W.P.A. STRIKE

Stalinist Strategist Works While Unemployed Picket

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—A strike of the WPA workers of the bay area ended officially last Sunday when strikers at a joint meeting...

Men Rush Into Steel CIO Union

Company Unions Crumpling As Workers Reach For Wage Rise

Pushing ahead with its history-making campaign, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee signed 51 steel companies to union contracts...

State Relief Official Pronounced 'Unfair'

Ellis Patterson, Assemblyman from Monterey County introduced a resolution in the State Assembly condemning Mr. Harold Pomeroy...

CIO Committee Hit 'Western Worker'

LOS ANGELES.—The local C. I. O. Committee passed a resolution condemning the Western Worker, organ of the Communist Party...

HOUSTON LOCAL

HOUSTON, Texas.—Workers in and around Houston, Beaumont, Galveston, and Port Arthur who are interested in the Socialist movement...

Minneapolis Striker To Discuss Parties

"The Role of Political Parties in the Minneapolis Strikes of 1934" will be the subject of an open educational meeting...

The discussion will be led by a comrade active in the Minneapolis strikes...

The heroic struggles of General Drivers' Local 574 and the part of revolutionary working-class leadership...

A graphic survey of the Minneapolis strikes can be found in "American City, A Rank and File History," reviewed on page 4 of this issue of Labor Action.

L. Trotsky Cross-Examined Before Impartial Commission

A "Legal" Sit-down - - - By Carlo

Recounts

40 Years In Cause

Stalinist Bureaucracy Fails To Present Shred Of Evidence

MEXICO CITY, Mexico.—Headed by professor John Dewey, the delegation of prominent figures in American public life opened its preliminary hearing before Leon Trotsky...

Trotsky was cross-examined as the first witness in the ten-day hearing at Mexico City.

Albert Goldman, Chicago labor attorney, who is acting as counsel for Trotsky presented the five main accusations leveled at the Moscow trials:

- 1. That he prepared terrorist acts against Soviet leaders.
2. That he organized industrial sabotage to weaken the nation's economy.
3. That he instigated other acts, such as explosions and mass assassinations.
4. That he maintained secret relations with German fascism and Japanese militarism to defeat the U. S. S. R. in war time and dismember it.
5. That he sought to destroy socialist economy and re-establish capitalism in the U. S. S. R.

"The fact that Mr. Trotsky has personally denied these charges is not of itself a matter of concern to the commission," stated Dewey.

Besides Dr. John Dewey, the commissioners who are making the preliminary inquiry are as follows: Benjamin Stolberg, well-known labor journalist; Suzanne La Follette, author and former editor of the "New Freeman"; Dr. Otto Rühle, biographer of Karl Marx and a leading German Socialist now a refugee from Hitlerism; Carleton Beals, author of numerous standard works on Latin America; Carlo Tresca, editor of "Il Martello" and a leader of the Italian anti-Fascist movement in this country; and John Finerty, associated with the defense of Tom Mooney and counsel in the Sacco-Vanzetti and other famous labor cases.

George Novack, secretary of the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky, announced that a formal invitation had been extended to the Soviet Government, through its ambassador in Washington, Alexander Troyanovsky, to send representatives to the hearings with full rights of cross-examination.

"We have further extended a similar invitation to the Communist Party, which supports the official version of the trials," Novack stated. "Finally, in case the official organizations for any reason find it impossible to appear, we have invited Joseph Brodsky, well-known Communist Party attorney, to present testimony and to cross-examine Trotsky. In the event none of those invited wish to appear, we have asked for any material the prosecution would want to present in cross-examining Trotsky."

Intensive Activity Marks Party Growth In Frisco

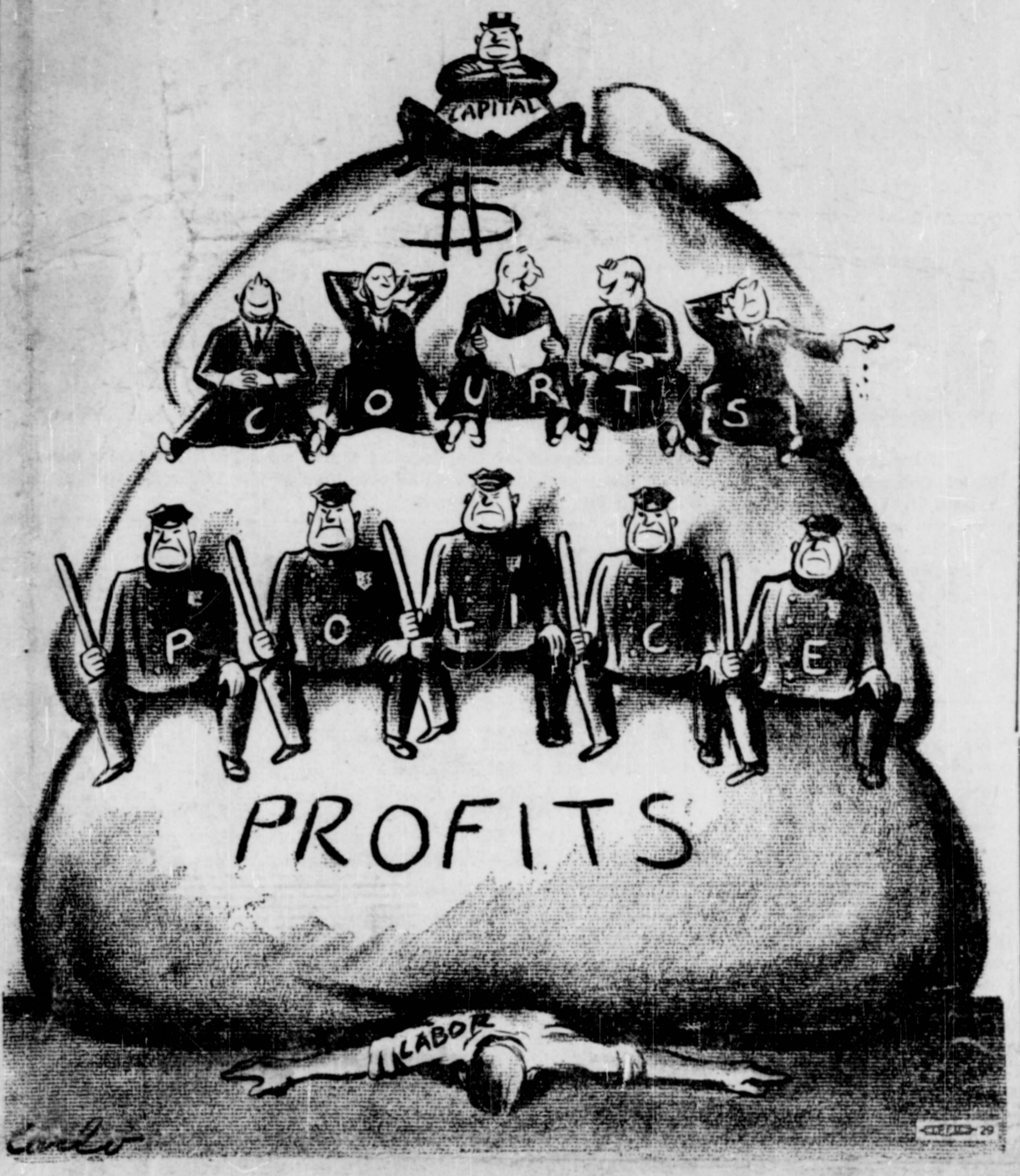
SAN FRANCISCO.—An enjoyable method of raising funds for Labor Action was discovered by members of the San Francisco branch of the Socialist party.

South San Francisco

A new comrade working in South San Francisco brought fifteen fellow-workers to the headquarters for last Sunday's forum.

A NIGHT IN MEXICO

The performance will be held at International Hall, 236 Van Ness Avenue, commencing at 9 p.m. Admission is 25 cents.



Chrysler Sit-down Concluded

Lewis Promises No More Stoppages of Work

LANSING, Mich. — Walter P. Chrysler and John L. Lewis have signed a peace treaty running to March 31, 1938. This settles the Chrysler sit-down strike.

Capture Company Unions

In the Bethlehem mills followers of the steel union virtually captured the company unions. It is estimated that of a possible 250 representatives in the four big mills of Bethlehem Steel there were 150 S. W. O. C. men elected.

Koci Deportation May Be Dropped

SAN FRANCISCO.—Deportation proceedings against Frank Koci are expected to be dropped soon, as the Government has indicated it will not seriously rely on the discredited testimony of their star witness.

Hotel Crafts Vote Strike

Hotel workers of six crafts voted overwhelmingly for strike in San Francisco, as negotiations with hotel owners were broken off after two months of parleys.

SIT-DOWNS OUT

The union agrees not to solicit membership on the corporation's plant or time, and to use no coercion or intimidation. It will neither cause nor allow any member of the union to take part in any stoppage of work or sit-down strike during the term of the agreement.

NEGOTIATIONS RESUMED

Negotiations will be resumed at once on all supplementary matters, and those not covered by the main agreement. All court proceedings are to be dismissed.

FORUMS

A symposium on the president's proposal for the reorganization of the Supreme Court will feature the forum for April 18. Sol Silverman, prominent attorney, will speak in favor of the plan.

New Local Chartered By Clerks

3,000 Department Stores Employees Initiated at Meeting

SAN FRANCISCO.—More than 3,000 enthusiastic department store employees and retail clerks were initiated into the newly chartered local of the Retail Clerks Protective Association last Wednesday night at Scottish Rite Hall.

FORUMS

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# Resolutions Go Left

## Delegates At Socialist Convention

### Convention Repudiates Disrupters

CHICAGO, Illinois.—Crushing the campaign of the Communist Party to oust militant members of the Socialist Party whom they attempted to stigmatize under the epithets of "Trotskyism" and "counter-revolutionists," the special convention of the Convention came to a successful conclusion after running its full schedule from March 26 to March 29, inclusive.

The convention which was held at the LaSalle Hotel, was marked by the progressive attitude of the left wing and the healthier atmosphere since the Old Guard left for the happy hunting grounds of class collaboration.

The frantic hope of the Daily Worker and other Stalinist publications that their campaign of vilification would end in expulsion for the "Trotskyites" fizzled miserably. The issue was not even brought upon the floor of the convention, a crystal clear demonstration of the contempt the Socialist left wing bears toward the insincerity and splitting maneuvers of the Stalinist machine.

Delegates, representing a cross-section of the most militant elements of the American working class, devoted themselves to more pressing problems facing the working class.

A strong resolution against war was passed and the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism indicated as the only possible solution for the working class to the fascist menace.

The People's Front, as exemplified in full and poisonous flower in Spain and France, was condemned by the delegates and its function as a tool of imperialism thoroughly exposed despite its stream-lined name.

The League Against War and Fascism was condemned by the convention, and the attitude of the Socialist Party toward a United States-Soviet Union war alliance more clearly defined.

Considerable time was devoted to the trade union question and the relation of the Socialist Party toward the trade unions was embodied in concrete resolutions designed to implement greater participation of the party in this field. The C. I. O. was endorsed as opposed to A. F. of L. attempts to bind the trade union movement within the craft forms, although a critical attitude was taken toward the leadership within the C. I. O.

On the Farmer Labor Party question, the delegates defined exactly what kind of combination they would participate in, pointed out the hopelessness of such a party in leading the workers to power, and re-affirmed the necessity for a revolutionary party of the working class.

The organization of the party was centralized to some extent, tying branch activity closer to the national office. At the same time provision was made for the publication of an internal organ for democratic discussion among the members of the party over the issues which constantly confront an active group. This organ will be available to all members of the Socialist party.

The California delegates took a firm position against the disruptive attempts of the Communist Party to split the only revolutionary force in America. A partial report has already been made to some of the branches detailing the convention activity.

Comrades Travers Clement, Millie Goldberg, and Clarence Rust returned last week. Comrade Ward Rodgers who was elected to an enlarged National Executive Committee stopped off at Denver before returning to the Coast.

Comrades Cray and Glen Trimble have not yet arrived as they were forced to hitch-hike back from Chicago.

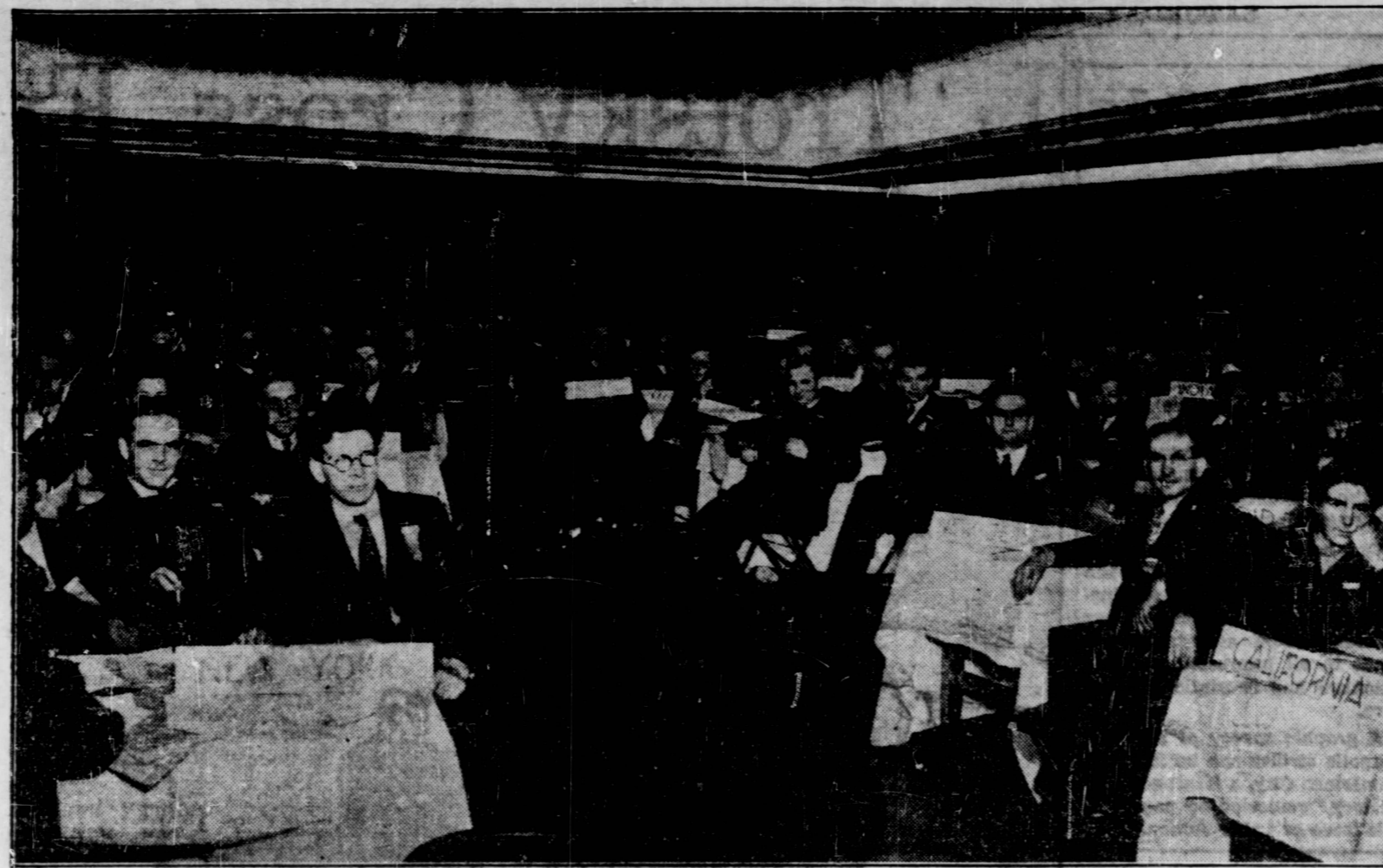
The convention as a whole was progressive and a distinct step toward the left. Especially encouraging was the contempt for the splitting maneuvers of the Communist Party. Already in the branches a renewed spurt of activity has resulted from the convention.

The Daily Worker professes to be disappointed over the convention, but in its articles of pseudo-progressiveness runs an uneasy current that is much like the quaver of a hired assassin who has failed his paymaster. Browder and Foster may yet find themselves confessing to an alliance with the Japanese secret service and the Nazi Gestapo.

The resolutions in full are now being prepared for distribution to the membership of the Socialist Party.

### New SP Members Apply For Charter

LOS ANGELES.—Application for charter for a new local of the Socialist party at Venice, California, came as a direct result of the participation of Socialists in the recent strike activity of the aircraft workers.



Delegates to the special national convention of the Socialist Party seated at their tables during one of the sessions at the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago. At the rear of the hall are party members and members of the Young People's Socialist League who attended as spectators. The sessions were closed to all but party members.

## Coal Miners Obtain Favorable Contract

### "Fascism vs. Democracy" Slogan Fails

LOS ANGELES—Whether or not fascism should be considered a felony or a misdemeanor seemed to be the main controversy of the American League Against War and Fascism, in a series of round table discussions held here over a period of two days. Not one of the vital issues of war and fascism were discussed in a serious and fundamental manner.

The tone of the whole congress, set by the Stalinists, was one of "unity at all costs," without the slightest realization on the part of the majority of the delegates present what that cost might be. In a spiritless and mechanical manner, resolutions were presented and passed, dealing with only the most superficial aspects of the burning problems of the day.

A resolution proposing American participation in a collective security pact with France, England and all the democratic countries, including the U. S. S. R., against the fascist countries as a means of preventing war, brought violent opposition from the delegates of the Socialists Party. They pointed out that the Socialist position on this question was in direct contradiction to such a proposal.

### Peaceful Capitalists

By placing the fascist countries in the role of warmakers, and purifying the democratic countries to make them appear as innocent capitalists longing for peace is to ignore the root causes of war. This policy, rather than preventing a war, would lead the people into another war under the slogan of "Democracy Against Fascism."

The Socialist delegates contended that the road to peace and the fight against fascism lay in an entirely different path. Immediately the Stalinists jumped to their feet and attempted to suppress the opposition. However, the congress had realized the logic of arguments of the delegates, and many of them rose to defend this viewpoint. So strong had the opposition to the resolution become that the Stalinists withdrew it completely, rather than allow it to meet defeat on the floor.

### Workers' Militia

A proposal was brought up on the floor asking for legislation making it a felony for any group to form separate militias. The Socialist delegates opposed this on the ground that it could be applied to workers when the time became necessary for them to form workers militias of trade unions to protect themselves against a fascist attack.

The congress of the American League Against War and Fascism presented no effective program against war and fascism, nor against any of the evils confronting the working class today.

But it did do a great deal towards preparing the people for a new world war to defend "Democracy."

Minneapolis news item: "Andrew Anderson, first beneficiary under the social security act, received a lump sum payment of \$16.41 on his 65th birthday."—Now he can retire, of course.

### Wage Boost Averts Need For Strike Action

NEW YORK—A new two-year contract negotiated between the United Mine Workers and the Appalachian soft coal operators recorded substantial gains for over 300,000 miners in a dozen states. The agreement, reached after seven weeks of discussion by a conference of 300 representatives of the miners and the operators, was signed after a day's stoppage of work that affected the soft coal industry throughout the entire nation.

The working week remains at 35 hours, although operators asked for 40 hours, and the union asked for 30 hours at the start of negotiations. Specific features of the contract are:

A flat 50 cents a day increase for day wage workers, raising the old \$5.50 rate in the north to \$6 and the \$5.10 rate in the south to \$5.60.

A 70-cent a day increase for men working on mechanical loaders and conveyors.

An increase in the pick mining rate (piece work) of 9 cents a ton.

An increase in the machine loading rate (piece work) of 8 cents a ton.

An increase of 1-cent a ton in the cutting rates for short-wall machines.

An increase for workers on track-mounted cutting machines equal to 70 per cent of the increase for short-wall machines.

The agreement affects an additional 150,000 men besides the 300,000 men directly represented, as the Appalachian scale is the basis for agreements in other areas.

A union demand for a joint committee to investigate the effects of mechanized mining on the conditions of miners and the displacement of workers, was granted in the agreement. The provision calls for the establishment of a Mechanized Mining Commission, consisting of eight representatives from the union and eight from the operators, within 60 days. A report is to be brought in March 14, 1939, two weeks before the present agreement expires.

The employers were successful in forcing the union to drop proposals seeking a two-weeks holiday for miners, and a guarantee of a yearly minimum wage. The union had originally demanded assurance of 200 days work each year for all workers covered by the agreement.

### Los Angeles Plans May Day Meeting

LOS ANGELES.—With James P. Cannon and Ward Rodgers listed among the speakers, the Los Angeles branch of the Socialist Party completed its preparations for commemorating May Day.

A mass meeting will be held at Walkers Auditorium, 730 South Grand St., at 8 p. m., under the auspices of the branch. Music will give variety to the program. Admission is 15 cents.

The Communist Party refused to discuss joint action with the Socialist Party unless it could censor the committee elected by the rank and file Socialists to prepare for the May Day demonstration.

## C.I.O. Tries New Set Up For Chicago

CHICAGO.—In answer to the emergency situation created by the tremendous strike wave in Chicago, the Committee for Industrial Organization has set-up as an experiment, a regional office in Chicago to handle union organization in fields not already covered by established C. I. O. unions.

Frank Rosenblum, organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and director of the Cleveland West section of the United Textile Workers' organizational drive is the new director of the office. Assistant director is Douglas Anderson, I. L. G. W. U. organizer, recently leader of the Taxicab Drivers' strike, and former State secretary of the Illinois Socialist Party.

## C. P. Endorse Anti-Unionists

LOS ANGELES.—John Anson Ford, vicious anti-union politician has been endorsed by the Communist Party for mayor of Los Angeles!

An out and out capitalist candidate, too brazen to don even the protective coloration of a Farmer-Labor party disguise, Ford has received the endorsement of this ex-revolutionary party.

The strike-breaking record of Ford is notorious. His present appeal for working class support has been rejected by every progressive in the Los Angeles labor movement. And the Labor Council which endorsed the district attorney candidacy of Buren Fitts, prosecutor of 347 downers at the Douglas Air Craft plant, has found itself unable to stomach such an arch-reactionary as Ford.

Denouncing all capitalist candidates for office, the Socialist Party is the only voice advocating the building of a genuine working class party for immediate struggle against capitalism as well as the ultimate struggle for socialism.

## Yipsels Set Goal In League Drive

YPSL activities in San Francisco are centered about the March-May organization drive instigated by the district committee. New members, the fulfillment of quotas for both "Labor Action" and the "Challenge To Youth," national YPSL organ, putting the district office on a stable financial basis, and other measures which will generally improve the League in the state are the goals of the drive. Quotas have already been set by the S. F. circle, and "We're on our way."

Games, hikes, singing, swell food, and plenty of fresh air and sunshine were the inducements which took the "Yips" on their recent outing to La Honda. The group went up Saturday evening, spent the night and all day Sunday at Comrade Joseph Piccarpo's cabin in the midst of "the big trees."

An educational meeting is held by the Karl Liebknecht Circle every Friday, at eight o'clock sharp, 236 Van Ness. Speakers are generally recruited from the ranks of the circle, and discussion and questions, in which all participate, follow the speaker. Friends and party members, especially the younger ones, are cordially invited to attend and participate.

## Oregon Wipes CS Statute Off Books

SALEM, Ore.—Oregon's vicious criminal syndicalism law was wiped from the statute books when Governor Charles H. Martin signed a repeal act previously passed by the state Senate and Assembly.

The notorious anti-labor law, similar to the Montana act that served as a model legal cloak for the violent repression of militant trade unionism and working class political parties during the reaction following the World War, was used to sentence Dirk de Jonge to seven years imprisonment for making a political speech two years ago.

The repeal campaign received added impetus when the United States Supreme Court reversed the conviction last January.

## Criminal Syndicalism Law Under Attack

Assembly Bill 311, of which 23 assemblymen are co-authors, and which would repeal the 18 year old California Criminal Syndicalism Law, will be presented by Assemblyman Paul Ritchie, before the Crime Problems Committee on Tuesday, April 20, at 7:30 p. m. in Sacramento.

Chances of favorable reception of the bill by the reactionary Crime Problems Committee are meager. If the bill is defeated in committee, however, Ritchie will make a motion in the assembly that the bill be removed from the committee.

Ernest Besig, A. C. L. U. director, advises all those interested in the repeal of the California Criminal Syndicalism Law to appear before the Committee at the time of the hearing.

As a reminder of the far reaching effects of the Law, Caroline Decker, one of eight convicted of Criminal Syndicalism in Sacramento in the fall of 1934 for attempts to organize agricultural workers, is being paroled Friday, April 16.

## Why I Quit The Communist Party

Civil war had broken out in Spain. To the rank and file members of the Communist Party, this was naturally greeted with hope that the Spanish Proletariat would be victorious in a workers' government.

So, when we were told by the party that the best that could be hoped for in Spain, was the victory of Democracy, it led to a great deal of misunderstanding and questioning. This confusion was further emphasized by Russia signing the Neutrality Pact and her half-hearted support of the workers who were fighting to overthrow the fascists.

DESPAIR IN C. P. As the days went on, and the fascists gained more and more territory, coming within sight of Madrid, an attitude of pessimism and despair pervaded the party and all of the leaders with whom we came in contact. They were preparing us for the success of fascism in Spain. I, as Educational director, was assigned to deliver an educational lecture at the branch. I read all

# Spanish Victory Will End Fascism States Trotsky

## Sproul Peace Meet Stops UCLA Strike

LOS ANGELES.—There will be no strike at U. C. L. A. this April 22nd. Instead the student body is going to have a peace assembly, in actuality censored by the administration.

President Sproul himself suggested that a peace assembly be held. The administration hoped by this method to rid itself of the publicity the university has received from the Hearst and Chandler papers. Sproul himself held a patriotic assembly at Berkeley the day before war was declared in 1917. Today he is attempting to rob the students of their mighty instrument in the fight for peace, the strike against war.

A United Students' Peace Committee had been formed, including many liberal, pacifist organizations, religious societies, the American Student Union, Young Peoples' Socialist League. Nationally the A. S. U. program calls for strike, and the Young Communist League, in control of the A. S. U., supposedly supports such a policy. This committee did all the groundwork for a strike including the printing of 5,000 handbills calling for a strike.

## Open With Hymns

When the committee of the A. S. U. C. L. A. met with the U. S. P. C. a Y. C. L. er, Andrew Charles, member of the national executive committee of the A. S. U., spoke for the U. S. P. C. He proposed that the peace meeting be exchanged for the genuine strike against war. He suggested a program as follows: 10 minutes singing of patriotic hymns, America the Beautiful, The Stars Spangled Banner and Our Sturdy Golden Bear led by the cheer leader and the band. A five minute March of Time reviewing the past events of the year, and four five-minute speeches on the following subjects: legislation, such as the California Youth Act and Nye-Kvale bill; fascism and war; neutrality and collective security pacts.

During the forenoon, clowns dressed as soldiers were to parade through the quad.

The YPSL present at this meeting fought against such a program, but the committee of the university student body felt that the meeting proposed by the Y. C. L. would be more amicable to the wishes of the college administration. As a compromise a Y.S.P.L. speaker will talk on the Capitalist Causes of War, but he must turn in an outline of the speech before the meeting.

## YPSL Propose Strike

That afternoon, Friday, March 23, the Y. P. S. L. proposed to the Y. C. L. that a strike be called, inviting all groups that would respond. The Y. C. L. refused to enter this united front for a strike for fear of losing their unity with the administration pacifists. They much prefer the censored meeting. In this way the Young Communist League, and its satellites, have worked hand in hand with the administration to prevent the students from actually going out on strike.

They have bargained away the students' mighty weapon against war in order to keep the college out of the Hearst headlines and to keep them under the ideological control of social-patriotic doctrine—the doctrine that will lead us to war again.

## Dangers Of Class Collaborationist Policy Pointed Out; Defeat Threatens All Human Culture

By LEON TROTSKY

(During February, Comrade Trotsky gave the following interview to a representative of the newspaper *El Heraldo*, and made the following statements. This article translated from a Mexican paper, the *IV Internacional*, Translated by C. C.

Have I given or have I not given instructions to the republican front through volunteers? I have not given instructions to anybody. In general I do not give instructions.

I express my "opinion" in articles. To refuse to support the Spanish republican forces could only be done by cowards and traitors or agents of fascism. The elementary duty of every revolutionary is to struggle against the hands of Franco, of Mussolini and of Hitler.

On the left side of the Spanish governmental coalition, and in the center of the opposition, is the P.O.U.M. This party is not "Trotskyist". I have criticized on many occasions its policies in spite of my warm sympathy for the heroism with which the members of this party, above all the youth, are fighting at the front.

The P.O.U.M. has committed the error of participating in the electoral combination of the Popular Front. In the shelter of this combination, General Franco prepared, with impunity, in the course of many months, the insurrection which at the present time is dyeing Spain with blood.

A revolutionary party must not assume either directly or indirectly, the responsibilities for a policy of blindness and of criminal tolerance. Its duty is to call upon the masses to be at attention.

The leadership of the P.O.U.M. committed a second grave error by entering the Catalan governmental coalition. To struggle shoulder to shoulder with other parties, it is not necessary to assume the responsibility of a false governmental policy with these parties. Without weakening in the least the military front, it is necessary to know how to politically unite the masses under the revolutionary banner.

Principles Must Dominate Strategy In civil war, incomparably more so than in ordinary war, principle determines strategy. As an army leader Robert Lee was surely more talented than Grant, but the program of the liquidation of slavery assured the victory of the latter.

In our three years of civil war, the superiority in the military art and military technique was greatly on the side of our adversary but it was the Bolshevik program which at the end triumphed.

The worker well understood for what he was fighting. The peasant hesitated a long time; but comparing through experience the two regimes he finally adhered to Bolshevism.

The Formula "First Win the War and Then Make the Revolution" is Tragic for the Spanish Revolution. In Spain, the Catalan nationalists, who determine the course, have thrown out the formula to which the president of the national council, Francisco Largo Caballero, has also adhered: "In the first place the military victory, and then social reform." I consider this formula tragic for the Spanish revolution.

Not seeing in reality the radical difference between the two programs, the working masses, and above all the peasant, fall into indifference. In these conditions, fascism will win inevitably because the purely military advantage is theirs. Audacious social reforms represent the most powerful funda-

mental weapon in the victory over fascism. Stalin's Policy in Spain and the Policies of Ebert and Brüno During the German Revolution of 1918. The policy of Stalin, who revealed himself as an opportunist dictated by fear of the French Bourgeoisie, and whom the French Popular front some time ago had declared... on paper, Stalin's policy in Spain, reveals, not so much a policy of Kerepinsky in 1917, as policies of Ebert-Scheidemann, the German revolution of 1918, and the victory has been the result of the policies of Scheidemann.

In Germany the punishment postponed 15 years. In Spain arrive before 15 months. Would not, however, the social and social victory of the workers and peasants of Spain mean European War? Such a prospect dictated by a reactionary policy, are radically false.

If fascism wins in Spain, it would be caught in a pair of scissors from which it could not extricate itself. The dictatorship of the workers would signify the inevitable eradication of the European War, because France with the aid of the same token would throw a blow at all human culture.

Hitler and Mussolini will be the Spanish Proletariat in Franco. Contrariwise, the victory of workers and peasants of Spain would doubtless shatter the games of Mussolini and Hitler. Thanks to their totalitarianist, medically sealed character, fascist regimes produce an immense unbreakable firmness, stability at the first serious test, the victims of internal explosion, victorious Russian revolution determined the regime of Hitler.

The victorious Spanish Revolution will undermine the regime of Mussolini and Hitler. Only the cause of this victory of the workers and of the peasants of Spain would reveal itself as a factor for peace.

The tasks of the true revolutionists of Spain are: while fighting and fortifying the military front, to break the political front of the Soviet bureaucracy to the masses an audacious program, bringing to the in exhausted and restless springs of the enthusiasm of the masses, and by these means cure the victory of the revolution and reinforce the cause of Europe. Only on this rests the future of Europe.

Chance for British Animals: "I wish your country more wholeheartedly on you. You English are kind to me."—General Franco.

# International Capitalism

By CHARLES CURTISS

One billion pesetas, gold, has been given to General Franco by a group of international capitalists. The roster of those who are bolstering up Franco includes Juan March; Sir Auckland Geddes; the House of Rothschild; the Penarroyo interests including the French financiers, Herteaux, Mirabeau, Ledoux and Homercourt; Aufselhager; Alfonso XIII; and others.

## W.P.A. STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1)

The Policy Board be set up representation from the unions. The action took most of the workers by surprise, as they had not taken a strike vote and had no committee of the AFGE. The committee was to militantly strike with the Workers' Alliance in protest over the high wages in which relief applicants and WPA workers have been denied the projects on which they were employed.

The negotiating committee of the WPA workers, which is being formed by the WPA administration, is attempting to stop lay-offs of collar workers and attempt to secure the 10 per cent wage which the Administration had directed to give. A vote was given to the committee. This committee, which is being formed by the WPA administration, is attempting to stop lay-offs of collar workers and attempt to secure the 10 per cent wage which the Administration had directed to give.

The company, which not only controls the mines at Rio Tinto but also those at Nerva and Zalamea, has always bitterly exploited their workers, as can be seen by the high rate of profit. Their treatment of the workers provoked one of the most bloody of Spanish strikes in 1920.

The House of Rothschild which already had large amounts of capital invested in Spain has increased its influence over Spanish economy by entering into the Rio Tinto company. The Rothschild interests also directly or indirectly control the mercury of Almaden, the best and most abundant source of mercury in the world, and a very important war material. Rothschild is also a prominent supporter of Franco.

The group of Penarroyo, whose offices are situated in Paris, and which is capitalized at 309 million francs, is seeking to secure a trust over the lead in Spain, after having secured control of this commodity in other parts. Spain produces more than one-half of the lead produced in Europe and 7.3 per cent of the entire world output.

In this last mentioned group we have such names as Herteaux, president of the company, Mirabeau, Ledoux and Homercourt, names well known in French finance.

Business is These, as good business men, have no qualms of conscience in conducting their business cheek by jowl with Aufselhager, one of the most important owners of the war industries of Germany, and an important financier of Franco.

Lead, like mercury, besides being a very important industrial metal, is also a basic war metal. And Alfonso XIII, erstwhile King of Spain, is financing Franco also through various individuals such as the Count of Romanos and the Marquis of Villamayor.

These financiers, besides, are in virtual control of the chemical products industry of Spain, its electrical plants, railroads and tramways.

This is the group of foreign and native capitalists who are supporting Franco. They desire to abort the social revolution to which the workers and peasants of Spain are giving birth amidst the present travail.

Jewish financiers like Rothschild and Cahen are united with protestants like Aufselhager and Weddes, and with Catholics like March and the French—to defend Franco, who proclaims himself a defender of the Holy Roman Catholic faith. But what is at stake is not Catholicism, but the private ownership of the means of production and distribution of the wealth of Spain against the socialistically inspired masses.

The "Nationalist" Franco, feels no embarrassment at mortgaging or selling the wealth of Spain to foreign capitalism. Nationalism—religion—all these shibboleths are merely bait to catch fish with. To paraphrase Marx, Franco would give up 100 per cent of his religious or national faith rather than give up 1 per cent of his economic holdings.

Common Motives The motive of Hitler and German capitalism is similar to the motive of democratic France and of England: profit. In return for aid from the Nazis, Franco has promised to cede the Spanish West African colony, Rio de Oro to Germany. Germany is also to get the Canary Islands while Italy will get the Balearic Islands.

The role of the United States in relation to the social revolution and counter-revolution now going on in Spain is very interesting. More than 90 million dollars of U. S. capital are invested in Spain. These investments include telephone, sulphur, oil and other holdings. More than one half of the cars supplied the Spaniards are of American-owned firms.

Knowing what we do of the previous operations of Wall Street we are sure that we can make the charge that numerous American interests are involved in the financing of the preventative counter-revolution of Franco.

In the American Spectator of October, 1936, Gordon Rend ends his article with an analysis of why certain oil companies are aiding the fascists in return for promises of an oil monopoly through a German company controlled by American interests. In this article Rend also points out that the powerful telephone company, American controlled, is favoring the rebels. The amor of their support is curbed only by caution because of the position of the center of the company in the midst of Madrid.

Fight Over Spoils Although international capitalism is opposed to a workers' Spain, and have united around this issue, serious disagreements take place between the bandits at the moment of the division of the spoils. Latest news dispatches at the time of this writing point out that France and Germany are at odds over the right of Germany to take the Spanish West African colonies.

The cardinal point for all workers to remember, however, is that capitalism will put aside its differences when it comes to attacking the workers. Nazi Germany, fascist Italy, democratic France, England and Wall Street's United States have united to strangle the Spanish workers. Light is thrown, therefore, upon

tendencies with a total membership of about 50,000. One of these organizations takes the Communist line, and, being illegal, is active underground (for the People's Front). There is an Anarcho-Syndicalist organization with 2,300 members. Also, there is the "Left" and pro-people's front (functioning legally) Nihon Rodo Kumiai Zenkoku Hyogikai, with about 15,000 members; three other organizations "more or less neutral"; and a national union of naval dockyard workers of 39,000 members. The bulk of the organized Japanese workers it will be noted are from among the maritime trades. It does not take much imagination to picture the havoc the latest line of the Stalinists will work with any attempts to really mobilize the backward Japanese masses.

Jugoslavia Despite the improvement in the economic situation in 1936, the wages have been dropping. According to the official statistics, taking the year 1930 as the basis of comparison, the wages dropped in—

Table with 2 columns: Year, Percentage drop. 1931: 5 per cent, 1932: 16 per cent, 1933: 16 per cent, 1934: 19 per cent, 1935: 22 per cent.

At the same time the most important foodstuffs have risen in price. Result? A strike wave throughout the country in 1935. It is still continuing. Between 10 and 15 per cent of the workers in industry are involved in these strikes.

## Air Craft Union Men Face Trial

Sit-Down Strike Issue Up For Consideration of Court

The trial of the Douglas aeroplane factory "sit-downers" is at present scheduled to begin April 26 in the Superior Court of Los Angeles county. Unless the mass pressure of the labor movement succeeds in securing the dismissal of the charges against the 355 arrested workers, this will be one of the largest mass trials in the history of the labor movement.

It is possible, according to the attorneys for the defense, that a continuance will be granted in order to permit the Supreme Court of California to decide an appeal that is to be taken from the decision of the District Court of Appeals refusing to grant a writ of prohibition that was sought by the defendants.

The defense attorneys, John Packard, James Carter, and Marshall Ross, are seeking the jurisdiction of the Superior Court to try the defendants on the charge of violating section 182 of the penal code, the crime of conspiring to commit a crime, in this case the crime of forcible entry and detainer defined in section 418 of the penal code.

The accused workers contend in this appeal that the misdemeanor of forcible entry and detainer includes within its definition a conspiracy to commit this act and therefore any conspiracy to commit this act can only be a misdemeanor and the defendants cannot be tried under the general conspiracy section, section 182 of the penal code, which is a felony.

If the strikers succeed with this writ, Attorney John Packard declared, this will substantially assist the defense and may result in the discharge of the defendants.

The defense of the Douglas strikers, known as the "Douglas 400," is part of the effort of the Los Angeles Merchant and Manufacturer's Assn. to terrorize the trade unionists and to prevent the militant efforts of the C.I.O. to penetrate into the notorious scab shop area of Los Angeles.

The Douglas plant was the first factory in the United States to be evacuated of sit-down strikers by a police measure; this was the first instance of the use of indictments charging sit-down strikers with the commission of felonies.

The conviction of these men will make difficult the use of sit-down strikes. The importance of this trial warrants the complete and persistent support of all labor in the defense of the "Douglas 400."

The C.I.O. organizational committee set up a defense committee guided by Bill Busick and Steve Roberts. It held a highly successful and well attended mass meeting at the Philharmonic auditorium March 26 at which representatives from both C.I.O. and A.F.L. unions were present, and has publicized the case through the pages of Plane Facts, the official organ of the local A.U.A.W. unions.

Labor and liberal organizations throughout the Los Angeles area have passed resolutions condemning the action of Buron Fitts and the Grand Jury for their actions in this case. The committee is endeavoring to bring Homer Martin, National President of the A.U.A.W. to Los Angeles later in the month to address a mass meeting at which time the eyes of the entire nation will be focused on the trial of the "Douglas 400."

The work of the defense committee has been hampered by the efforts of the local A.F. of L. leadership to prevent the organization of the C.I.O. unions in Southern California, making it difficult to secure complete labor solidarity in this case which effects all labor.

The C.P. has added to the difficulty by attempting to prevent the C.I.O. organizing committee from carrying out its activity under the cry that this organization was a dual organization to the A.F. of L.

The C.I.O. organizing committee has called a meeting Monday, April 12, at which time it is hoped that can set forth on a new program that will permit the continuance of the excellent initial efforts of the defense committee.

PHILADELPHIA.—After a 37-day sit-down, 400 hosiery workers returned to work at union hours and wages. The strike was called when the company, Brownhill & Kramer, threatened to remove their machinery to another city in an effort to dodge a union agreement.

## SPLIT DEEPENS, REACHES RANKS WITHIN A. F. L.

Violence Occurs In Green's Craft Jurisdictional Squabbles

The split in the American trade union movement broadened during the past week, with a barrage of words from the top, and physical violence on jurisdictional picket lines scattered throughout the nation. The restoration of unity on a correct basis was at least temporarily accomplished on other fronts as central bodies defied the splitting commands of William Green.

The Georgia Federation of Labor challenged Green boldly by refusing to carry out his demands that they expel all C. I. O. unions, force the resignation of A. Steve Nance, president of the Georgia Federation, and remove their offices from the proximity of C. I. O. offices.

In Cleveland worker met worker in pitched battle as members of the A. F. of L. attempted to cross C. I. O. picket lines in order to enforce jurisdictional claims of the reactionary craft leaders. Fists were swung and heads were cracked as the struggle between industrial unionism and craft reaction reached down into the rank and file.

Into the oil fields, the steel plants, the shipyards, every place that the C. I. O. organizing drive threatened to give the unorganized workers a position in the trade union movement, Green and his cohorts sent "organizers" to disrupt and sabotage.

The most effective weapon utilized by the American worker in gaining his elementary demands, the sit-down, was assailed by Green as illegal, and to be shunned by "loyal" A. F. of L. members. In that act he directly joined the chorus raised by the most reactionary of the owning class.

Where Green's order to "purge" central labor bodies of unions sympathetic to the C. I. O. has been carried out, the expelled unions have gathered together in some sort of conference or committee. This move, absolutely necessary if the tremendous task of organizing the unorganized is to be pushed rigorously, is now receiving the official sanction of the C. I. O. Certificates of affiliation are being issued to local bodies throughout the nation.

Such bodies, though only formed as an expedient, can very well serve as the basic structure of a national organization, should the craft bureaucrats succeed in expelling the suspended international unions from the A. F. of L. That the groups already formed contain the really progressive and militant elements is apparent by their activities.

Unity was maintained only in those sections of the country where the local membership and leadership were willing to face the threat of suspension and defy the reigning A. F. of L. bureaucracy. In New Jersey the State Federation of Labor and the C. I. O. both issued statements that close co-operation and collaboration would continue in the organizing of the unorganized.

The sentiment against Green, and further, the realization of the necessity of concrete action in defeating his splitting plans is more and more throwing the reactionary character of his kind into bold relief. The workers, be they organized in crafts or in the still untouched industries, are choosing to back the kind of unionism that can benefit the workers as a whole.

State Exec. Comm. Convened At L. A. Following the plans and resolutions formulated at the National Convention of the Socialist Party, the State Executive Committee is holding a special meeting in Los Angeles on April 17 and 18.

Conferences upon the C.I.O. drive and the agricultural drive will be held in conjunction with the SEC meeting.

All those members of the Socialist party who are interested may attend.

PHILADELPHIA.—After a 37-day sit-down, 400 hosiery workers returned to work at union hours and wages. The strike was called when the company, Brownhill & Kramer, threatened to remove their machinery to another city in an effort to dodge a union agreement.

### International MAY DAY MEETING

Friday, April 30-8:00 P. M.

—At— Walker's Auditorium 730 SOUTH GRAND LOS ANGELES

Speakers: JAMES P. CANNON WARD RODGERS

MUSICAL PROGRAM Admission 15c

Auspices: Socialist Party of Los Angeles

## The Action Army

By FRANK STERN

Once more after a delay of three weeks Labor Action greets you, and again the credit is due to a few comrades who gave or raised all the necessary funds.

Labor Action, if it is to go on, must have more solid support. Labor Action must get the sort of income that comes from day to day work in getting subs, selling bundle orders, and building a sustaining fund.

The board has decided to stabilize Labor Action as a fortnightly. If Labor Action is to appear regularly on that basis every single reader—every sympathizer and party member must knuckle down and do his bit.

With the national convention over—with the face of the party turned definitely to the masses—with our message becoming an increasingly important factor in the organization of the mass industries, Labor Action plays an increasingly important role.

The voice of the party, that is the voice of revolutionary Socialism, must serve more and more as a leader and a clarifier in the day to day struggles of the workers. Every militant trade unionist should be reached by Labor Action regularly.

Build Labor Action by spreading it. Help support it in this critical time. This is no time for retreat or

trenchment by the forces of revolutionary Socialism. This is the time for making giant strides forward... even though that entail sacrifice and self-denial.

Our enemies think that we are through. Schneiderman, state organizer of the Communist Party gloated in a recent issue of the Western Worker that Labor Action was through—that the Socialists were too weak to support it. Our enemies do not want us to continue. For them we have one answer. "You lie!" "Labor Action will continue. The forward march of Socialism in the west will go on."

Those who recognize this and have given their answer solidly are the Kerrys of Oakland who raised thirty dollars toward this issue, Comrade Schwind of Oakland, now in Mexico, remembered us and sent another \$25.00; Comrade Brownson of Upland, California, who is recovering from a recent severe illness sent \$25.00. Twelve dollars was raised at a cocktail party, given for Labor Action by Comrades Booth and Wyle of San Francisco.

These are just samples of what comrades who believe in Labor Action will do and what others can do.

The State Committee at its meeting this week will undoubtedly institute a drive to sustain Labor Action. Start that drive now—BUILD LABOR ACTION.

## Minneapolis Unionists Whip Anti-Labor Co.

With the signing of a union agreement with the Warehouse and Inside Mens Union, local 20316, one of the last, and most notorious labor hating companies the B. F. Nelson Company, paper product manufacturer has been whipped into line by the organized labor movement of this city. For years this company had been in the forefront of the labor fighting forces here, and thumbed its nose derisively at all previous attempts to unionize its downtrodden and terrorized workers.

But all this was changed with the appearance of the Warehousemen Union on the scene, actively aided by the militant elements of the local movement. As usual, the Drivers Union, local 544, rendered sterling service by refusing to take deliveries to or from the plant during the process of negotiations.

Terms of the agreement include wage increases of 7 1/2 per hour for unskilled labor, with a minimum wage of 55c per hour. Wage increases for skilled labor will be arbitrated according to classification, after which they will receive the union scale established for that classification. The Warehousemen's Union is the sole bargaining agent for the workers, with seniority established throughout the plant.

Thus the ranks of the labor haters is being depleted almost daily. Today there is scarcely a plant of any significance in Minneapolis that is not organized or in the process of doing so. The labor movement is so well organized that, given a bonafide strike backed by the employees themselves, it is practically impossible to lose a strike. Minneapolis is now, if not a union town, at least 75 per cent so, which, to all practical purposes (such as winning strikes) is as good as the real thing.

Box Makers Nearly 1,000 box shock and veneer workers walked out of seven plants about Seattle, demanding a 10-cent hourly increase.

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## Decisions Given On Union Bill

Five To Four Majority Okays Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, D. C.—By one of its habitual five to four decisions, the Supreme Court decided Monday that the Wagner Labor Relations Act is Constitutional, and that the Federal government has jurisdiction over activities of commerce affecting the stream of interstate trade.

The minority held that the effect was only incidental and that therefore the Federal government did not possess jurisdiction over such activities.

Briefly the Wagner act guarantees to workers the right of organization and forbids employers to interfere with or coerce employees in exercising that right. According to the act, employers must bargain with their workers.

The immediate effect of this decision will be the facilitation of unionization in plants where employers hold out for the brutal methods of repressing their wage-slaves.

It is at the same time a step in the inevitable process of centralization of power within the capitalist state.

Five cases involving the law were involved in the decision. In the case of the Associated Press, the minority dissented on the ground that the act interfered with freedom of the press.

An injunction was sought by the Spirella Company Western, Inc., to oust 30 women and 5 men sit-downers who have halted all manufacture of corsets and foundation garments pending settlement of their demands for a closed shop and pay increases.

## Four Important Books by LEON TROTSKY

The Stalin School of Falsification In this volume Trotsky establishes the actual relations between himself and Lenin, his real role in the Russian Revolution, the truth about his "underestimation of the peasantry," the two conflicting views about his work held at different times by Stalin and his associates, etc., etc.

A number of sensational documents are made public for the first time. Among them are the secret minutes of the Bolshevik Central Committee in 1917 which reveals the differences of opinion that actually existed among the Communist leaders on the subject of the October insurrection and shows the complete harmony on the decisive questions between Lenin and Trotsky. Stalin's thoroughly Menshevik views prior to Lenin's arrival in Russia are confirmed by hitherto unpublished minutes of the Bolshevik convention in March 1917.

In a new foreword Trotsky relates the recent trials to the material dealt with in this volume. It provides the reader with an invaluable compendium of answers to the lies and slander against Trotsky and his views. April \$2.50

The Third International After Lenin Written in his customary brilliant style, The Third International After Lenin is Trotsky's criticism of the official program of the Communist International, and an analysis of the policies pursued by the Soviet Union and the official communist parties since Lenin's death. It was around the counter-program put forth in this criticism that the Trotskyist Opposition rallied. Regular \$3.00 Popular \$2.00

Whither France? If the reader desires a classic Marxian exposition of the policy of class struggle as contrasted with the prevalent labor policy in France today—the People's Front—he cannot find it more trenchantly presented and illuminated from the historical and present-day standpoint than in the present work. Cloth \$1.00 Paper 50c

Lessons of October The most concise exposition ever written of Lenin's strategy in the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 and the opposition it encountered among the other leaders of the Communist Party. Trotsky relates his analysis of the 1917 victory to the 1923 defeats in Germany and Bulgaria. Cloth 75c Paper 50c

PIONEER PUBLISHERS 100 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

### I STAKE MY LIFE

By LEON TROTSKY

people waited in the Hippodrome for this answer to his account of the Moscow Trials, N.Y. State Publ. 100 5th Ave., N.Y.

LABOR ACTION OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE WESTERN FEDERATION OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY

Published Weekly by Labor Action Publishing Association 236 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, Calif. Phone: Underhill 9296

JAMES P. CANNON... Editor GLEN TRIMBLE... Associate Editor MILLIE GOLDBERG... Associate Editor FRANK STERN... Business Manager

Subscription Rates: \$1.50 per year; Bundle Rates: Up to 100, 3c per copy; over 100, 2 1/2c per copy

Signed contributions do not necessarily represent the policy of the editorial board. In the line of party democracy and free speech timely articles by socialists expressing differing viewpoints may be published on the responsibility of the authors.

VOL. 1, NO. 15 SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1937

Let Them Tremble!

The refusal of the Communist Party to send representatives to cross-examine Leon Trotsky at the preliminary hearing of the commission of inquiry provides one more example of the craven attitude of his organization...

Trotsky has challenged the Stalinists to extradite him upon whatever charges they may bring against him. The Stalinists have not attempted to extradite him.

The commission in the full dignity of its task to see that no man shall be condemned without a fair hearing has asked the Stalinists to send representatives to cross-examine Trotsky...

The Stalinists are too cowardly to stand face to face with their lies before the revolutionary who once headed the red army and fiercely defended the first workers' government...

When Stalin must present facts instead of machine gun slugs his tongue cleaves to the roof of his mouth.

The Stalinists have murdered fact and crucified reason. Let them tremble for their crimes against the working class.

Claws Only Sheathed

The tributes which certain labor leaders have been paying Myron C. Taylor, chairman of the board of U. S. Steel, whom they met secretly over a period of months prior to the recent recognition of C.I.O. should not be allowed to deceive anyone.

This dangerous impression that the tigers who own the steel industry have suddenly lost their stripes and become fairly godmothers to the working class because they agreed to recognize the C.I.O. should be thoroughly dispelled by disclosures of the LaFollette investigating committee.

Recently uncovered are the details of a policy against labor which for sheer ruthlessness cannot be equalled anywhere excepting in those countries where the capitalist system has been forced to openly unveil itself.

An association was formed between these subsidiaries with the sole purpose of maintaining open shop conditions. The first task of this association was the enlistment of the police force as a strike-breaking instrument.

These bribed police were used to quell labor disturbances with brutal force. Auxiliaries were obtained from the Robert J. Foster Agency to insure violence in case that the police proved "not tough enough" or "hesitated to make arrests."

contributions to the police department were made regularly "just like you tip a Pullman porter."

The baleful awareness of these tigers to class forces was shown by their paying a notorious strike-breaking guard \$50 a week and a total of \$5,600 during his trial for shooting a worker in the back and disabling him for life.

The history of the steel industry's dealings with workers, outlines in blood the ruthless nature of capitalist anarchy.

That the tiger, grown sleek and fat, has sheathed his claws does not mean that he has been chained and put on display behind iron bars.

The boss is always the enemy of the worker, even when he seems most friendly.

Strip Disrupters

The split in the American Federation of Labor created by Wm. Green and his coterie of disrupters has now been driven into the ranks of the unions and is finding its expression in clashes on jurisdictional picket lines.

That Green was "madman or fool" enough to think that he could prevent unionization of the basic industries was evident from the moment he initiated his splitting action in the Federation.

Every agent of Wm. Green, including those who masquerade in the clothing of "unity"—unity on Green's terms—must be exposed relentlessly. Wherever they crop up they must be stripped and shown in all their hideousness.

Wherever a petty faker takes up the cause of the mercenary bureaucrats of the A. F. of L. to instigate a raid upon another union for jurisdictional reasons, no matter if he is tattooed from head to foot with liberal phrases, he must be brought as sharply to account as if he were paid directly by the bosses.

On every militant trade unionist rests the responsibility of taking the initiative in organizing those millions whom Green would suffer to rot in the slavery of the open shop.

Those who attempt to block the movement for industrial unionism deserve no more than the crushing blow which upsurging Labor will deal them.

Waterfront Graft

While grand juries are investigating and the capitalist newspapers are screaming about the graft rampant in uptown San Francisco, they might well turn their attention to the graft which has made of San Francisco's waterfront a racketeer's paradise.

Ostensibly the system is a convenience to the waterfront worker. He gives his union book number and the amount due him from the company for which he has been working. The saloon cashier enters this information in his books, takes the brass identification check, and pays the worker ninety per cent of the wages which the worker otherwise could not collect until perhaps a week later when the company makes up its pay roll.

Aside from the ten per cent reduction in the worker's pay check, he faces grave danger of losing his entire wage. Strong arm men, dice experts, all the harpies who infest the waterfront drop upon him. Only too frequently wives of waterfront workers report that the family has been robbed in such a manner of its meager livelihood.

This vicious system has been wiped out of most of the ports upon the coast, but in San Francisco it is assuming proportions which make the uptown rackets look like peanut wagon enterprises.

In Seattle, Portland, and San Pedro the unions themselves took action against this system. Why have they failed to act in San Francisco?

Could it be that the great tin god with the militant halo has a personal interest in maintaining the system?

The Spoils of Victory - - - By Carlo



Carlo

Col. Sanborn, - - Red Baiter, Becomes Shy

"Decent" American Fails To Show Up Despite Subpoena

By VAUGHAN O'BRIEN SALINAS.—Six months after a reign of terror against lettuce strikers that rocked the nation, the National Labor Relations Board brought the instigators of vigilantism up on charges of violating the Wagner act.

The hearing opened last Monday, with the respondents protesting the constitutionality of being required to stand investigation for the pitched battles provoked by the growers and packers last fall.

The first witness subpoenaed by the Government was the self-styled leader of "law and order" during the strike and notorious publisher of "The American Citizen," a rag that seeks to speak for fascism in America.

Presiding was Trial Examiner Charles N. Feldelson of Atlanta, Ga. Attorneys Bertram Edises and A. N. Somers conducted the case for

Savage Fury Of Farmers

HERSHEY, Pa.—Several thousand angry farmers, uniting with scabs and thugs, drove 1,000 sit-down strikers from the "model" factory of the Hershey Chocolate Corporation in a pitched battle that sent 25 victims to the hospital.

The farmers finding their daily market for 800,000 pounds of milk suddenly cut off, armed themselves with pitch forks in order to re-open the sale for their product.

Apparently well-planned, the attack caught the sit-downers by surprise and they were thrown into confusion by the savage fury of the farmers who struck indiscriminately at women and children as they fought to overcome the Hershey workers.

Los Angeles C.P. Refuses United Front

Reject Discussing Action With Socialist Party

The Socialist party of Los Angeles on April 1 sent a request to the Communist Party asking for the appointment of a committee to meet with a committee of the Socialist party to plan a May Day demonstration.

The request for united action sent by the Socialist party ends: "With the upsurge of American unionism, with the victorious drive of the Spanish workers and peasants, with the oncoming imperialist war, a united May Day demonstration would be a substantial step forward in the direction of achieving our goal of world socialism."

The refusal of the Communist Party to form a united front came in a letter dated April 6. In this letter they refuse to so much as meet with the Socialist party unless the

"Committee for negotiating united May Day action shall be comprised of genuine Socialists who repudiate Trotskyites and their disruptive activity. If such a committee of honest, sincere socialists is appointed we will have a committee from our party meet with it to discuss united action for May Day."

In other words if the Socialists will appoint a committee to the liking of the Communist Party they will deign to meet for discussion.

NOTES UPON STRIKES

Truck Drivers

The 24-day strike of truck drivers and helpers, which brought a short general strike in Wilmington, Del., was ended in an agreement for a 15-day truce, during which negotiations for contracts will be conducted.

Sixty-nine companies which operate trucks signed the agreement under which the employers recognize Local 107, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, and Helpers of America as the bargaining agent for the strikers.

Guild Victory

A one-year contract has been signed by the New York World-Telegram and the Newspaper Guild of New York formalizing the 40-hour, five day week which has been in effect on the paper for nearly three years, and setting minimum wages.

Boy Scouts

More than 150 students of the Greenwood Park school at Westport, Mass., walked out of their classes when Dep. Police Chief William Montigny, who was also their scout leader, was ousted without charges being preferred.

Asked by the principal to see what he could do, Montigny entered the yard. "I love you all," he said. "And I appreciate what you are doing for me, but it is not the right thing to do. You must obey the law. I organized your Boy Scout troops for you and I will still

be with you whether I am a policeman or not."

Confucius and Sit-downs

Before a national radio audience, Senator Elbert D. Thomas, erstwhile Mormon missionary to Japan, went back to Confucius (600 B.C.) and Lao-tze, founder of the Taoist religion, to find confirmation of the theory that sit-downs are bearers

Plane Begins Unions' Drive

DETROIT, Mich.—An airplane equipped with powerful loudspeakers will be sent by the United Automobile Workers over the world's largest industrial unit, as the opening of its campaign to organize the world's largest industrial unit—the River Rouge plant employing more than 90,000 workers—the plant owned personally by Henry Ford.

Eight Killed

Government troops milled into a bloody fight instigated by the C. T. M. (Stalinist controlled trade union federation) against the C.R.O.M. trade-union federation at San Martin, Tlaxelucan, Mexico. Eight were killed and more than 20 injured.

Tunnel Workers

2,400 tunnel workers affiliated with the C.I.O. Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, successfully negotiated an agreement at Los Angeles with the Metropolitan Water District which includes pay increases running from 50 cents to one dollar a day.

Grave Diggers

Throwing down their spades, 40 grave diggers at North Arlington, N. J., declared a sympathy strike with ten general laborers seeking a wage increase at Holy Cross Cemetery and held up six burials.

Scab City Bows To Union Drive

By Staff Correspondent LOS ANGELES.—Nowhere is the deep-seated desire of workers everywhere for organization more clearly demonstrated than today in Los Angeles County. For years a celebrated scab center, Los Angeles now hums with organization.

New locals are springing up everywhere. The United Auto Workers, starting a few months ago with Local 188, now has established locals in every aircraft and auto plant in the vicinity of Los Angeles. They are well entrenched in several large job shops.

Agreements have been signed with Willys, Northrup, North American, Kelley-Wells and Rocky Mountain. Several other agreements are pending, with the quickening tempo giving every assurance of successful completion.

PROFITS NOT TOUCHED Strikes Fail To Nick Dividends

NEW YORK.—Strikes and wage increases don't eat up corporation profits in these recovery days. Companies are showing such large earnings that they can withstand 100-day strikes and still pay a pretty penny to stockholders.

Remington-Rand fought a strike of its employees through most of 1936. It spent hundreds of thousands of dollars for Bergoff thugs and spies, for advertisements, false rumor-mongers, fake movie riots and all the other claptrap of strike-breaking. Despite this tremendous expense, despite the starvation and despair the company brought upon its workers, Remington-Rand made a neat little profit for the last nine months of 1936 of \$1,769,932—only \$100,000 less than the profit for the same months of 1935.

The Toledo Shipbuilding Co. spent \$173,841 to fight 98-day maritime strike and came through with \$321,788 in 1936 against a loss in the year.

The Toledo Shipbuilding Co. withstood a 3-month strike, made \$70,000 profit last year. A letter to stockholders, the company's board of directors disclaims any responsibility for wage and hour conditions. The company strike is termed a "difficulty in organization over which the management had no control."

In depression times workers' wages are cut. Today wages are raised: "You are hindering recovery by striking."

Yet evidence piles up that employers can afford higher wages without hurting profits.

MILITARIZE TEXTBOOKS Teach War With Arithmetic

AMSTERDAM.—A new Nazi textbook in mathematics for elementary schools shows how the German child is being militarized. Here are a few examples:

One of our bombing planes flies 280 km. per hour in day time and 240 km. per hour at night. How long would it take to cover the distances between Berlin and Prague? Between Munich and Strasbourg? Between Cologne and Metz?

A squadron of 46 bombing planes is dropping bombs on an enemy city. Each plane carries 500 bombs weighing 1 1/2 kilo. each. What is the total weight of the bombs? How many fires will be set if every bomb is a hit?

In the World War the German enemies did each ten soldier German and her allies face a front? The World War lasted 1563 days? How many German soldiers died their life for the Fatherland of their day? Every hour? every minute?

France with a population of 40,000,000 spent 10,500,000,000 francs for armed preparedness in 1936. Germany with a population of 60,000,000 spent 650,000,000 Mark the same period. How much was spent for preparedness in Germany?

A NOVEL FOR UNIONISTS Truck Strikes, Core of Book

By ANNE ROSS AMERICAN CITY A RANK AND FILE HISTORY By Charles Rumford Walker Farrar and Rinehart N. Y. \$2.50 net.

In reviewing Charles Rumford Walker's recent book, "American City—A Rank and File History," a Scripps-Howard writer comments, "This is a book which will please neither conservatives nor radicals. It is hard to see just where he finds any basis for that opinion. True, it will not please Stalinists and other so-called radicals. Nevertheless, there is nothing in the book that will not please genuine revolutionaries, and there is much that is interesting, educational, and encouraging in this tale of American class struggle under the leadership of left-wing trade unionists. Mr. Walker has made his book an absorbing and accurate account of an unforgettable chapter in labor history."

He selected Minneapolis, he says, not because she is in every way a typical American city, but because he believes that "her history exemplifies more sharply than most the impact of forces that are typical and universal."

PEARLS FROM THE PRESS

Cracov, Poland, news item: "The Soviet government has sent 6,000 human skeletons to the United States during the past year, receiving from \$100 to \$140 each."—It should be interesting to see what kind of frames the Old Bolsheviks had.

Lille, France, news item: "Jean Destour, who was honored last year as 'the best workman in France' in the yearly competition, lost his job this week when the metal shop in

which he was employed closed."—That shows where ability can get a worker—under capitalism. And incidentally the way the French spell capitalism is Po-pu-l-a-r-F-r-o-n-t.

Berlin news item: "A Nazi scientist has figured that if dish water were retrieved and refined, the total saving in soap would be quite incalculable."—Not to speak of the increased supply of soap... all of which indicates at least one clean victory for Hitler.