

Down with exploiters, "rugged individualists" and tyrants.

LABOR ACTION

For a workers' world — peace and plenty, justice and freedom.

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Hitlerites Wage War On Workers

Nazi Regime Placed in Power by Big Industrialists Wage War on Labor Movement.

UNIONS DESTROYED

National Socialists Free From Tragic Illusions of Social Democrats.

GERMANY (Special) — In the ten weeks of its existence the Hitler government has completely revolutionized the outward forms of German life; fundamentally, to be sure, the social structure of the nation remains unchanged. In its hysterical desire to produce immediate results the new regime has attacked the various important political and economic problems of the Reich from so many varying and often conflicting angles that the kaleidoscopic picture Germany presents to the world leaves the on-looker confused and at a loss to interpret its true significance.

Only two of these problems have been met and solved with extraordinary thoroughness by the firm of Hitler, Goebbels and Goering. It has completely suppressed the labor movement, incapacitated the labor press and thrown labor leaders behind prison doors. No less ruthlessly it grasped the entire complex of problems that together represent the Jewish question in Germany by arresting Jewish workmen and good bourgeois Israelites as if they too were Socialist and Communist agitators, has robbed them of their existence and subjected the righteous and the unrighteous alike, to unspeakable physical and spiritual suffering.

First Task to Destroy Labor

Confusing as the present situation in Germany may seem to the casual onlooker, there is yet method in its seeming madness. The Nazis are working toward the immediate end they wish to accomplish with extraordinary and methodical determination. They were placed in a position of unrestricted power by Germany's big industrialists, first and foremost to bring about the destruction of the labor movement. That is the foundation and the purpose of their being. The political suppression of the Jew is the only one of their own programmatic promises to the masses, the petty bourgeoisie and the intellectuals, they have been able to fulfill. It has supplied work and nourished the hope of these deeply dissatisfied elements that better times and more favorable conditions are at hand....

The strangling of the Socialist and Communist Parties was merely the first step in the elimination of the labor movement. The more important task, that of making the labor unions instruments in the hands of the government for the fascist education and domination of the masses, has just barely commenced. The official report of a Cabinet meeting held on March 26 states that "the drawing up of a decree for the elimination of strife in industries and of another governing the rights and functions of economic organizations was under discussion. The monopolistic position hitherto held by the three existing labor union movements in Germany, will be uprooted. Their influence in arbitration commissions, labor courts, employment exchanges, social insurance as well as their representation on the Reich Commission and the Reich Post Office Commission must be curtailed in favor of National Socialist shop cells and Steel Helmet auxiliaries. That the achievement of this purpose presupposes the absolute separation of the German trade unions from every Marxist party or organization goes without saying."

Social Democrats' Answer to Hitler

The following day brought a declaration from Leipart, Chairman of the German Trade Union Federation (Continued on Page 3)

PROTEST FASCISM



"Down with Hitler!" echoed through Wall Street canyons in downtown New York when 15 hundred students and young workers with banners denouncing Fascism marched to the German Consulate with resolutions demanding an end to atrocities against class-conscious workers and labor organizations in Germany.

Representing youth sections of radical labor groups the demonstrators were told that the German Consul was "not in." Singing labor songs and chanting "Down with Hitler! Down with Fascism!" the marchers wound through Wall Street canyons eastward through the East Side tenement section.

Speakers urged the demonstrators to go back to their organizations and demand a united front of all labor groups in the fight against Fascism. Youth groups of the Socialist Party made an eleventh-hour decision to withdraw from the protest.

7000 Shoe Workers Win Closed Shops In Boston

BOSTON, Mass. — A general strike in the wage-slashed shoe industry of Boston has brought 7 thousand workers of 16 factories into the National Shoe Workers of America, abolishing yellow dog contracts and securing closed shops.

The story of the comeback after the failure of a general strike in 1929, leaving the workers unorganized and at the mercy of the employers, is covered in a statement issued by William Seligman, chairman of the General Strike Committee of the National Shoe Workers. March 7, the shoe workers voted to strike.

"Their wages had been cut 60 per cent since 1929; they were subjected to slave conditions and if they dared to raise any objection they were fired. Wells Memorial Building once more became the center of thousands of fighting shoe workers."

Demands Won

Unable to stem the wave of unionism the employers had to give in, abolishing yellow dog contracts and recognizing the union. Other concessions won by the strikers include, (1) no firing or discrimination, (2) no contracting in the

shops, (3) equal division of work, (4) the shop steward and the business agent to have the right to take up all grievances, (5) wages to be revised by April 20.

Tracing efforts made to reorganize Boston shoe workers in the past two years, Seligman's statement says:

"Since the strike of 1929 the field was practically left to one union, the Shoe and Leather Workers Industrial Union. The leadership of this union could not gain the confidence of the workers. In Peabody in 1930 a few thousand workers went on strike under its leadership. The strike was lost, mainly because the leaders instead of fighting on the local issue raised by the workers were too busy with vain attempts to make them good Communists.

"The A. F. of L. Boot and Shoe Union had a few shops under their control, but in spite of all their attempts to get the manufacturers to sign agreements with them and to collect dues under the good old plan, the 'check-off system,' the workers never responded. They knew the form of organization of the Boot and Shoe and refused to join a company union."

7000 Miners Answer PMA Strike Call Dropped From Plane in Ill.

By JAMES MENZIE

ZEIGLER, Ill.—Striking amidst gun law terror and hunger all but 15 per cent of the coal mine population in Franklin County, notorious stronghold of John L. Lewis, are struggling under the banners of the Progressive Miners of America to win recognition for the new union, and break the Lewis strangle.

Long weeks of "under-cover" work by courageous Progressives, climaxed by distributing thousands

of strike calls from an airplane, have consolidated the miners for the struggle.

Circling over the valleys the airplane filled the air above the mining towns with leaflets that floated to earth. Miners and wives read the message.

"Strike Call!"

"Miners! Strike against the robbing check-off and terror forced by the officers of the United Mine Workers of America! Against victimization of miners because of their opinions! Against the unequal division of work! Against the terrible conditions in the mines and the officialdom of the United Mine Workers of America! Strike for the recognition of the Progressive Miners of America, for restoration of our constitutional rights as American citizens, for the right of self determination, the chance for all to make a living and for a rank and file miners union.

"The Progressive Miners of America appeal to all miners to down tools on Monday morning, March 27."

Six thousand Franklin County miners struck, a savage reign of terror followed, launched by the county sheriff and professional (Continued on Page 2)

Dollar Wage Is Reversion To Dark Age

New Deal Lowering of Living Standards Scored in 10 Point Program for Reconstruction

NEW YORK.—Roosevelt's labor camps with a maximum wage of a dollar a day constitutes "a return to the dark ages," a ten point program for economic reconstruction forwarded to Secretary of Labor Perkins by the Conference for Progressive Labor Action declares:

"Not since the fourteenth century has any such attempt to set a maximum wage been made. It marks a return to the dark ages. Progressive workers will bitterly oppose this attempt at the Fascitization of the unemployed. Germany is furnishing the world with a dramatic demonstration of what Fascism means."

Proposals made by the CPLA to the Labor Department included large scale appropriations for direct unemployment relief to be administered through unions and unemployed organizations; immediate Federal legislation for the 30-hour week, with provisions that there shall be no reductions under any circumstances in weekly wages; a nation-wide system of unemployment insurance; a ten billion dollar works program; drastic reduction of appropriations for the Army and Navy; increased income and inheritance taxes; no sales tax of any kind.

CPLA Scores Trial of Scottsboro Boys

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Suggesting in a letter to the Amsterdam News, New York Negro newspaper, that the 50 thousand Negroes it has called for be joined by 50 thousand whites in the march to Washington in protest against the death sentence of Heywood Patterson and to demand the freedom of the Scottsboro boys, the CPLA, through A. J. Muste, chairman, simultaneously made public a letter to President Roosevelt pointing out that the Alabama trial had been a travesty on justice and demanding that the president help the Negroes get justice.

"Bigotry and intolerance," the statements assert, "made the trial a mockery."

Shhh-!

F.D.'s New Deal Saves Bankers

By Our Financial Reporter

What has happened to the banks? Oh sure! Roosevelt is a great man, he can perform miracles, change near-beer into 3.2 per cent and all that, but—what has happened to the banks? The papers, you know, really don't say much about them any more. Is this much about them all open again and doing business? Has the presidential smile also been able to turn Kreuger loans and Peruvian bonds into shining gold? And are the poor dumbbells who thought that banks were places in which to deposit savings all happy again? Well, let us see. "The crisis that came to a head on March 4 with the panicky closing of all banks was the result of 12 years of incredibly reckless and criminal banking," recently declared a well known financial writer to a small group of unpatriotic sceptics gathered to learn the low-down on the banking situation.

"Banks started to fail in the United States at an alarming rate in 1922," continued the financial writer whose name cannot be given, for bread and butter reasons. "By 1933 one out of every three banks had gone under, carrying away three and a half billions in deposits.

The Fire Spreads "Meanwhile, shrewd business men, realizing from the epidemic of failures the shaky condition of banking, began withdrawing money and hoarding.

"In 1930 the Bank of the United States failed, the first big one to go under. Then there was a flurry of failures in Nevada. In Louisiana one Saturday all banks were closed to save one of the largest banks in the state. In February, 1933, the governor of Michigan declared a moratorium, closing 550 banks. The fire spread.

"Alarmed, states began passing all kinds of laws. "Over 100 million a day for seven days were drawn from the banks. Newspapers were afraid to print the truth about the situation of the banks. They feared to run amuck of the 'libel' laws devised to protect bankers against depositors—depositors don't count much anyway. Thursday, before the inauguration of Mr. Roosevelt, the situation was desperate.

"Despite the suppression of news, depositors became frightened and a virtual run on the banks began. "Every thing looks very sound," said the bankers to the newspapers (Continued on Page 4)

Organize All Jobless Drive of Pa. League

UNITED WE EAT DIVIDED WE STARVE

CANFIELD, OHIO—The fight with public officials for relief which broke out in a solid strike of the Austintown Unemployed League March 27 for 45 cents an hour and at least eight hours a week for single men, and more for heads of families, is today in full swing with the unemployed standing solid.

"Trustees and clerks have been scurrying around the landscape like rats with a cat after them," says the *Unemployed News*, mimeographed bulletin of Mahoning County Unemployed League, which uses the slogan, "United we eat, divided we starve."

"On Saturday a few misguided souls were induced to scab by our friend Anderson who promised them everything but the courthouse. On Monday morning 300 men and women were on the road picketing and not a man worked."

Unemploy'd Prepare For Convention

Many States Line Up; Cara Cook Takes Charge of Columbus Office

COLUMBUS, OHIO. — Preparations for the national convention of the unemployed which will meet here on July 4-5, to draw up a new Declaration of Independence for workers and farmers of America received new impetus this week when Cara Cook assumed charge of the office here.

Inquiries from unemployed workers and farmers organizations are increasing daily. From North Carolina, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Illinois unemployed groups have already agreed to send delegates. In North Carolina and Pennsylvania active preparations are being made for state conventions preliminary to the Columbus convention.

In state after state the message of the Ohio unemployed league is having effect as the workers organize and strike against their local, county and state relief agencies.

Join March of States Toward National Congress of the Unemployed at Columbus, Ohio, July 1-4

STATE MEET JUNE 5-6

Organizing Campaign to Extend Into Every Nook and Cranny of the State

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — Pennsylvania has joined the march of the states toward the national unemployed convention of July 1-4 in Columbus. Even before the state gathering of the Ohio Unemployed League, which decided upon the national meet, the jobless organizations in this commonwealth had realized the need for wider action.

At the call of the Unemployed Workers League of Northumberland County, deep in the anthracite region, delegates from a number of leagues had met in Harrisburg and set up a Continuation Committee to arrange for a state gathering.

"Into The Grass Roots"

This continuation committee met in this city on April 5, and decided upon a state convention in Harrisburg on June 5 and 6. Elmer Cope of Pittsburgh was elected chairman of the committee and Louis Breier of Allentown, secretary. The state convention will be for the purpose of getting together all the unemployed leagues of the commonwealth, of driving organization deeper into the grass roots, and preparing for the Columbus convention. Enthusiastic interests in the national meet was reported from all sections, including counties in Western Pennsylvania which lie east of Allegheny County.

The continuation committee does not intend to confine its efforts to "mere attempts at getting in touch with leagues already organized." It was definitely decided that the biggest task ahead was the formation of new leagues everywhere throughout Pennsylvania. The work was subdivided by the various members of the committee, and it was decided to put voluntary organizers out in the field.

Means Big Campaign

This decision to extend the unemployed organization idea is perhaps the most valuable result of the Continuation Committee's conference, as it means a big campaign into every nook and cranny of the state.

Committee members present at the conference included: Larry Helmbach, Lehigh County; Mike Demchak, Northumberland County; Peter Demchak, Center County; Edmund F. Ryan, Jr., Philadelphia County; and Elmer Cope, Allegheny County. Cooperating observers included: Fellow-workers Voss and Lutz from Montgomery County; Louis F. Budenz and Cal Bellaver, representing the Ohio Unemployed League, and John Coveleakie and Joe Dempski from the anthracite region. Several members of the Allentown Unemployed League also sat in on the deliberations.

It was agreed by the committee that the meeting called for Reading, Pa., on April 22 and 23 by Socialist Party groups for all trade unions, unemployed leagues and workers organizations need not confuse the situation so far as the state gathering of unemployed organizations pure and simple was concerned. The S.P. units have their state political conventions, the trade unions their State Federation of Labor meeting, and the unemployment leagues "on a non-partisan basis" must also have their own jobless organization meeting. The necessity of extending organization and of formulating demands by the organized unemployed in a democratic manner is considered to be particularly important at the present hour.

Cooperation Essential

The unemployed, the committee definitely stated, do not want to be tied to the tail of partisan politics (Continued on Page 2)

11,500 Black and White Jobless Unite To Win Relief Cut Strike

HIGH POINT, N. C.—More than 1,000 unemployed relief workers, striking under the leadership of the High Point Unemployed League scored a partial victory here on April 4, when a number of their demands were granted. The strike, or holiday as it was called, involving 11,500 persons, almost a third of the population of the city, was called when the local relief board announced a 20 per cent pay cut. Relief project workers who had been receiving \$1 per day three days per week were to be cut to 80 cents per day.

In a spirit of solidarity never before seen in this southern town the workers, white and black, stood together and fought their common enemies. The spirit of the unemployed league from its beginning has been that the black man's stomach feels just the same as the white man's stomach when he is hungry, and that the black man's baby cries just as does the white man's baby when it is starving.

White Worker Defends Black Worker

When a Negro, one of the 11 committee men elected to represent the league before the welfare board, gave his report, he was answered in an insulting manner by Logan Porter, chairman of relief boards of

nine counties. "What church do you belong to," asked Porter sneeringly, "and who is your pastor? Don't you know that if your preacher knew about your being here you would get a scolding?"

"I resent that remark," fired back W. E. Presswood, president of the League. "This boy is unemployed and suffering just as we are. He was elected as one of the committee men representing the unemployed. You have no business to (Continued on Page 2)

HIGH POINT JOBLESS TELL THEIR STORIES

My brother was working for the city and staying with my father. My father or mother were not getting scarcely any work. They told him they could not help since he was staying with my father.

S. M. (White).

I was on the welfare list getting \$1 every two weeks, which was not enough for me and my child. I was cut off because I would not go out and work for folks—wash and iron—for nothing. They told me not to come back until I was willing to go out and work for nothing. O. G. (Colored).

FROM THE FIRING LINE

Political Echoes From Days of the Old West

Away out West among the hills there is a sheep herder who sends in 50 cents for a six-month's subscription to LABOR ACTION.

"You see, in my line of work one is stuck out in the hills or mountains with no one around to talk to for weeks and months at a time. Once in a while I meet a herder or campender who is interested in the labor movement; when I meet such fellows I always try to get them to subscribe to some of the radical labor journals. After this I shall try and get them to subscribe for LABOR ACTION.

"During the winter I succeeded in getting together a number of herders and migratory workers and formed a discussion group. From the beginning we just discussed Technocracy from the radical view point and then we proceeded to discuss different labor organizations and their forms, structures, policies and aims. By the time we were about half way through with our discussion a rumor was spread in town that we were forming a union and that we were talking about pulling off a strike on the sheep range this spring. It meant we would be raided or blacklisted and we continued our discussion in pool halls and on street corners."

"At one of our discussions I passed around to the group the bundle of LABOR ACTION. The majority of them thought that LABOR ACTION is a good paper but they could not agree with the CPLA program which includes farmers and political action. The migratory workers of the West are strictly opposed to all labor parties and to all political action; with them it is industrial organization and direct action.

"They are not interested in saving the farmer or the rancher; to their point of view the farmer and rancher is the biggest exploiter of labor in the whole western country."

The comrade's letter re-echoes the flaming western days of Big Bill Haywood when the battle cry was for One Big Union and migratory workers had a passionate

sense of solidarity. Today this is largely lost, gone with the decline of the I.W.W., but the deep rooted attachment to Industrial Unionism and equally deep distrust of Political Action still color the thinking of migratory class-conscious workers in the West. What is the answer?

In the working class fight to smash the profit-system in favor of a cooperative workers' system of industrial control and production, the chief emphasis must be upon industrial organization, industrial unionism, strength on the job, where strength counts. At the same time the other kind of political activity, putting up working class candidates, casting ballots, carrying on propaganda campaigns, cannot be safely neglected (1) be-

It Was "Organize or--" And They Organized

"Public officials don't care so long as you get enough to keep from dying. They don't mind if you are hungry on Friday, they say, 'We'll see you next Tuesday.' The two thousand families on relief in Perry County said, 'It's either organize or hold the bootstraps.'"

"And they organized." The inspiring story of how the Ohio Perry County Unemployed League jumped from seven members to 1500 in 11 weeks is told by James White, Labor Actionist in Crooksville, Ohio.

"Seven fellows met in a house on January 19. From that start we now have 9 leagues in 7 of the 14 townships in the county, and contacts made in 4 of the others.

"We held our County Convention Sunday, April 2. Over 100 were present in New Lexington Town Hall. They adopted a fighting program and elected scrapping officers, most of them veterans of U.M.W. of A. battles in the old days before it softened.

"The grievance committee went

cause it is the surest way of breaking the strangle hold the old capitalist parties have on the mass of workers and farmers, a hold that MUST be broken somehow, and (2) because the mass of workers and farmers, still beclouded by the illusions of democracy, are going to have a fling at independent political expression, whether or no, and class conscious workers, with no illusions about the matter, had better be in the main current giving it the right direction—as far to the left as possible.

The CPLA is for the "dirt farmer" and not the landlord farmer, the farmer who exploits labor. Capitalist, exploiting farmers, "boss" farmers, are like all bosses, a part of capitalism. The dirt farmer is the man who works the land with his wife and children. He belongs to the proletariat. And our shepherding and migratory friends in the big West had better have another discussion. And give LABOR ACTION a further report from the firing line.

Organize Jobless Drive in Penna.

(Continued from Page 1)

cal kites nor to be fused with the trade unions as yet. Cooperation between all groups is essential, on the basis of their separate organic problems. That cooperation can best be secured when the unemployed are organized in strong leagues of their own, with state and national affiliations, of their own.

The big drive in Pennsylvania is therefore under way. Its aim is to rally the unemployed, regardless of race, creed or political belief, to a powerful agency for their own advancement and protection. The dilly-dallying of the legislative forces at Harrisburg which is cutting off even the inadequate relief received to date, should strengthen and speed up this important movement.

Black and White Jobless Unite

(Continued from Page 1)

bring the preachers in. This ain't none of their damned business." The usual "southern chivalry" toward the workers has been displayed in this strike. From the formation of the Unemployed League, city officials, with the help of a local company union, have been doing every thing possible to start a reign of terror. One of the local papers has repeatedly published lying, inciting stories. League officers have been insulted and beaten. Thugs have been hired to break up meetings.

Thugs Identified

Friday night, March 31, after an enthusiastic mass meeting, three of these thugs forced I. M. Ritchie, secretary of the Central Labor Union of High Point, and Fred Heish, an unemployed worker, into a car, drove them six miles from the city and beat them mercilessly. When Ritchie refused to promise not to enter the Central Labor Hall again they gave him castor oil and beat him into unconsciousness.

The three thugs have been identified. The name of one, a description of all, and even the license number of the car the victims were taken away in have been turned over to the chief of police. But to date no effort has been made on the part of the police to do anything about the affair.

However, in spite of the brutal lawlessness, the workers of High Point have gained a victory. "We feel that we gained a great deal from the strike," says Larry Hogan, local organizer for the United Textile Workers. "The unemployed will now have a white worker and a colored worker to represent them on the welfare board, and the board will recognize the grievance committee elected by the Unemployed League. But most of all the unemployed have learned that they have power when they fight together. More will be heard from the Unemployed League of High Point."

Miners Answer PMA Strike Call

(Continued from Page 1)

gunmen. Two miners have been killed, a woman attacked by a deputy, a strike leader and his son kidnapped, strikers relief stations and headquarters have been ransacked and destroyed.

Legalized Terror

Rebelling against the strong-arm rule of the Lewis machine of the United Mine Workers which has been maintained in the county at the point of guns, 10 thousand miners and wives on Sunday before the strike poured into Zeigler, county headquarters of the Progressive Union. In preparation for the strike. Foreseeing the terror that would be invoked against them, they entered the struggle to carry through.

Streets and highways in the valleys are patrolled by armored cars and hundreds of gunmen have been recruited to smash the strike. United Mine Workers gangsters shot up the Progressive relief station here, destroyed the food and set fire to the building.

Mass meetings are spreading and calls for relief have gone out as the 6 thousand miners entrench themselves in the former Lewis stronghold for a bitter struggle.

"No Force Can Cow Us" "We have organized ourselves in the Progressive Miners of America," strikers of Local 111 in West Frankfort declared in a statement, "a new union, bold, unhampered by petty corruption or racketeers,

12 PISTOLS AND CLUBS GUARD SCAB MILK



Here are two of the state police, with clubs and pistols, who tried ineffectively to break a strike of farmers at Rochester, N. Y. Farmers here were getting 10 a quart for their milk. They won an increase.

Farm Leader Sees Graft; Agrarian Revolt Unchecked

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Rumblings of revolt in the broad farm belts where half of the six and a half million farmers have been plunged into ruin and bankruptcy have not been checked by the sweeping legislation rushed through Congress to "save the farmers."

While news of farmers battling with hard boiled creditors and halting foreclosure sales continued to come in, John Simpson, national president of the Farmers Union, told farmers over a radio hook-up from the Capital that "This Farm Relief measure is the biggest folly yet."

Decrying the "experimental" nature of the legislation, Simpson declared that there was no need for experimenting. "They could have copied the 1919 law that brought the wheat farmers prosperity," he said.

Worse Than Farm Board

"One of the things in the bill that will stink to high heaven before it is in operation six months is the land leasing provision. It provides for the government renting land for the purpose of taking it out of production. I can vision insurance companies going to the government with their hundreds of thousands of acres and renting it to the government at \$4 and \$5 an acre. It will be a fine scandal, this leasing part of the bill. Compared to the inevitable results of this bill the Farm Board and its policies will be popular."

Critics of the "experimental" legislation are dubious. Battered down the grand scale legislation to "save the farmers," they point out, is a complicated scheme:

- (1) to check the growing farm revolt, (2) to allay the fears and protect the interests of banks and insurance companies who collect \$999 millions a year from farmers in the form of interest on mortgages, and (3) to pass

the bill to the bread and meat eating public by a virtual sales tax (in the guise of a processing charge on millers and processors of grain and meat) which will increase the food bill of the average person approximately \$35 a year.

The act, designed to take about 50 million acres out of cultivation, was hastened through Congress in time for the spring sowing. While in theory it will apply to all farmers, in practice it will help especially the big farmers and the financial houses of the East.

Small farmers who have no acreage to reduce, it is pointed out, will be further subjected to the big land owning farmers and pushed deeper into a state of peasantry.

Revolt Unchecked

Meanwhile rumblings from the farm belt remain unchecked. Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, the National Farm Holiday Association denounced the Roosevelt allotment plan as "nonsensical and idiotic," demanding that the Federal government take all banks out of private hands and put them under public ownership.

In North Dakota, Governor Langer, elected by Nonpartisan Leagues, issued orders directing the state militia to be used in protecting the farmers against foreclosures. "It is a case of life or death, homes or no homes," Langer declared.

Langer's act is an indication of the sweeping nature of the revolt of Western farm populations against thralldom to banks and money octopuses.

Candle Light Bad On Meters

By JOHN T. CODDER

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Check and double check—Amos and Andy? Not this time. It's merely the Brooklyn Edison Company checking up on consumers meters as a result of the "Dine by Candlelight" movement in Brooklyn.

A particularly interesting case concerns a family who had an electric bill of \$3.50 in February. In March due to the candlelight campaign the bill was cut to \$1.74. The company realizing that some of their 8 per cent dividends were being imperiled hastily sent one of their demon inspectors to find out what was wrong with the meter. This inspector couldn't find anything so four more inspectors were dispatched to the scene of action. The result was that the five inspectors had to report that the meter was functioning O. K. It has been rumored that if this bill is reduced again this month Floyd C. Carlisle, chairman of the Edison Company, is going to go inspecting meters himself.

The hearing before the Public Service Commission looking into the labor policies of Brooklyn Edison has been postponed until a later date at the request of attorneys for the Edison interests, officials of which seem to be getting nervous prostration as the date of the hearing approaches. They seem to sense that the goose that has been laying the golden eggs in the form of fat dividend checks all during this depression period is about to have its head chopped on if not off.

IN NEW YORK

DANCE

A dance for the benefit of LABOR ACTION will be given Saturday evening, April 22, at 128 East 16th Street by the N. Y. Branch of the CPLA.

Real Beer?

Also something to go with it. The admission is 15 cents.

DINNER

A "Tall a Story" Dinner at the CPLA Hall on Saturday, May 13th, 7 P. M., 50 cents. "My Red Letter Day in the Labor Movement," will be briefly told by everyone present. In the evening, dancing and refreshments. Make your reservations.

CLASS

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Conducted by Walter Edwin Peck

Begins

APRIL 18

At 8:30 P. M.

At CPLA Hall

128 East 16th Street

\$1.50 for 6 Classes

Unemployed Free

ECONOMIC TRENDS

will be discussed THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 8:30 P. M.

by HENRAY PRATT FAIRCHILD Professor of Sociology, New York University.

GEORGE SOULE, editor, New Republic

WILLIAM L. NUNN Professor of Economics, Dana College.

at IRVING PLAZA, 15 Irving Place, N. Y. C.

For information write L. COPELAND, 128 East 16th Street, New York City

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on cheap reading matter — the bunk, hokey, bologna and lying propaganda of the agents of the profit system that throws 16 million workers out of work, into breadlines and charity? Are you sick of being insulted? The following inexpensive books and pamphlets will tell you the truth. Read them and be a more effective Labor Actionist.

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- How Should Labor Vote? 15
- Communist Manifesto 5
- What a Union did for the Coal Miners 15
- Book of Labor Cartoons 10
- "Left Communism," by Lenin 10
- A.F. of L. in 1931, by A. J. Muste 5
- Important Union Methods 15
- How a Trade Union Is Run 20
- Company Unions, by R. D. Dunn 25
- The Paris Commune, Lenin 20
- Our Labor Movement Today 35
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- Ending the Depression 15
- Our America, theoretical paper 5
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Order from Labor Action Bookshop, 128 East 16th Street, New York City. Include reasonable amount for postage.

Jobless College Graduate Describes Life of "Bum"

"I am a bum. Twenty-four years old, a college graduate (Phi Beta Kappa), I have done all sorts of work from reporting to pick-and-shovel. Nine months out of a job, resources of friends and relatives exhausted, all chances of ever finding another job growing less as my last clothes wear out....

"I speak for the bum—and this includes the repulsive bearded derelict on the Bowery, includes the hobo who beats his way from city to city in search of that El Dorado where he will be considered human, includes the single jobless man who by the thousand is being demoralized, driven to desperation. I speak for the man who stops you on the street to ask you for a nickel, or a penny (the ante has decreased with swollen competition) — who begs on the street, taking the chance of being beaten up by a brutal plain-clothes man for this crime. I speak for the man who steals your milk in the morning because he has been refused even the miserable slop that the Municipal Lodging House scornfully throws at us.

"A typical day for a bum in the metropolis of Wall Street: Wake up at 6 o'clock in the 'Mun' or the 'Dock' and fall in line with hundreds of other bums. Wait an hour. March down to the fumigator in the basement to our clothes. Back in line again. Breakfast of oatmeal without sugar, coffee and three slices of stale bread. Walk to South Ferry, passing the banks of Morgan and Rockefeller. Here we line up to register for another night's flop. Bitter cold; wind sweeps in from the harbor. One hour, two hours.... Finally we get inside and the clerk takes out 'yellow cards' and sends us back to the Municipal Lodging House....

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

CPLAers and sympathizers are reminded that there is a constant demand in the office for volunteer clerical work whether skilled or unskilled. Even a few hours work will be greatly appreciated.

"Labor Action Is Workers' Paper"

"Life is one line after another. And vermin....

"The great city of New York treats its homeless unemployed worse than its criminals...."

"I am 69 years old and I have been in the militant labor movement for half a century. LABOR ACTION is the workers' paper I have been looking for these 50 years.

"For three years I have not seen a payday. For three years I have looked around the corner for Prosperity.

"I not only sympathize with the CPLA and LABOR ACTION, but I find it is the organization and the labor paper I have looked for many years.

"In the 80's and 90's I was in the Anarchist movement. As the movement broke down I thought I could do better in the Socialist Party movement, but soon the reformist character of it drove me away. I thought the Socialist Labor Party was more realistic, and I got into it, but after some years I could see no headway, and concluded that my money and energies were being wasted.

"The Industrial Workers of the World was making headway, and I threw myself into this movement, only to see later that although the organization is soundly revolutionary it can never enroll the working masses, not even in the industrial field.

"If I can help you get subscriptions to LABOR ACTION I will be glad to do so. The paper is worth being handed to every worker. Labor Action! That is what is needed in this country of fools and crooks. The ten you sent me I mailed to friends asking them to subscribe.

"Put my name down on your mailing list—a dollar bill is enclosed."

S.P. CONGRESS CALL SHUNS LEFT GROUPS

CHICAGO, Ill.—A recent call issued "to the working people of the nation" to send delegates to a "new Continental Congress for Economic Reconstruction" to be held in Washington, May 6 and 7, is receiving favorable response according to the National Headquarters of the Socialist Party, chief sponsor of the call.

Signed by such well known Socialists and trade union officials as David Dubinsky, Sidney Hillman, Norman Thomas, Emil Rieve and Oscar Ameringer, the call states that the purposes of the new Continental Congress shall be to "draw up a program to right the grievous wrongs we have suffered" and "set up a national council of the people" which shall exert "the pressure of our democratic mass strength to win freedom from poverty, hunger and economic insecurity."

PROGRESSIVE MINERS FOUND NOT GUILTY

TAYLORVILLE, ILL.—After an exceedingly dumb and ineffective summary of the case of the state against Albert Mattozzo and Emil Dupire, on trial charged with murdering a mine guard, the chief counsel for the defense, Carl Prehls, rose slowly to his feet.

"Your honor, we waive any argument."

The courtroom, jammed with blue-shirted miners and their wives, was breathless with amazement. A long line of Peabody officials, thugs and scabs had paraded in and out of the witness box during the seven arduous days of the trial. The jury, composed mostly of farmers, deliberated 55 minutes and brought in a verdict of "Not guilty."

A celebration was held by members of the Progressive Miners of America next day for Mattozzo and Dupire.

Poverty Hell In Land Of "Too Much"

By GEORGE W. MILLER

Poverty is a crime. I do not mean it is a crime to be poor. Murder is a crime but it is not a crime to be murdered. And a man in poverty is not a criminal, but the victim of a crime.

Poverty is hell. Carlye was right when he said that the hell of which Englishmen are most afraid is the hell of poverty. And this is true not only of Englishmen but of Americans, but of all people. It is to escape this hell that we work and struggle.

The third charge is that poverty is a disease which poisons life for those responsible for the crime and hell of poverty.

The questions that we, as workers, must face, are these: How are the criminals who are most responsible for the crime of poverty to be dealt with, how are they to be "treated"? How is this disease to be cured? How get out of this hell? And who will do it?

Whose Crime?

It is clear that sufferers from poverty are poor not from their own fault but because of conditions imposed by society at large. Poverty is a social crime, and it is a crime because it is not at all necessary.

In rude states of society before the machine, there were seasons of want, seasons when people starved, because of crop-failures and genuine shortages. But our poverty is quite different. The peculiar characteristic of this modern poverty of ours is that it is deepest when crops are largest and goods are most abundant!

Too much! People starve and shiver and go in rags, because there is too much!

Why There Is "Too Much"

The average worker in an eight hour day does work at the rate of about 1/10 horse-power during that time. On this basis, a worker can't produce too much. But start the machines. Start up the turbine units that have an output of 3,000,000 times more horse-power, in an eight hour day, than a man. Start all the power machinery in America and you have a giant that can supply the entire world.

This explains the origin of what the economists call "too much." The machines are in the hands of a few thousand perfectly sincere social pirates and criminals. These "sincere" capitalists need fewer workers as their machines, through technological development, become more efficient and powerful. There is still "too much" and too many workers. And this muchness grows more and more alarming in its magnitude.

At the other extreme are the 15,000,000 unemployed, the bankrupt farmers, virtual long-hour slavery of men, women and children at low wages. Millions struggling for a meager living.

Why? There is "too much!" And from this poverty of "too much" the captains of industry derive tremendous advantage. It makes possible low-wages, long hours, speed-up, and strict over-seeing. Most of the factories are little better than penitentiaries. The struggle for existence becomes more and more intense as the insecurity of the status of workers increases under the machine.

Changes Necessary

Poverty and unemployment are evident products, not of the machine, not of an actual scarcity of things or too much or too little work, but of the system under which the machine is operated. The system must be changed. The giant must be taken out of the hands of the social pirates and put to use for everybody. This involves a change in ownership. And a change in ownership involves a struggle.

What must our attitude be toward the handful of "sincere" racketeers who will cling desperately to their right of ownership, their right to stop or start the machine at pleasure, though it plunges millions into misery? And what must be our attitude toward the middle-class and proletarian masses who have been taught and believe that this system is right, that it will work out all right, with themselves perhaps on top?

The obvious "treatment" for the big criminals who would smugly lead us further into the hell of poverty by using the machine for private profits is the same treatment you would give a man who

Rehabilitation?--As The New Deal Has It

By B. H. WILLIAMS

TECHNOCRACY has faded into the background—"rehabilitation" now engages the spotlight. President Roosevelt's reforestation project, promising to "enlist" a quarter of million out-of-work, putting them in camps under something like military discipline and paying each worker \$1 per day—is one of the Federal government's "rehabilitation" schemes. Governors of different states and mayors of various cities are also coming forward with proposals of similar import.

In Toledo, Ohio, a Rehabilitation Committee predominantly consisting of big business men, bankers, preachers and politicians is planning a gigantic "co-op" to mobilize the unemployed of that city for "self-help" under direction of the aforementioned Committee.

According to the Detroit Evening Times of March 24, Mayor Frank Murphy (pride of the liberals) of this city has decided that "there must be a shift in our industrial population to the farms." The Mayor is quoted: "Detroit can't keep on with this ever increasing welfare load."

Accordingly, so the News further informs us, "William S. Carpenter, state welfare department director, will make a survey of unoccupied land which has reverted to the state for failure to pay taxes. It is planned to place welfare families on this land."

"James Fitzgerald, president of the Welfare Commission, informed the Mayor that 897,595 acres of repossessed land now are owned by the state. The minimum figure to establish a family on a farm permanently is about \$600, Fitzgerald said. He believes each family should have at least 10 acres. Mayor Murphy said a state relief program must be provided immediately because of the R.F.C.'s refusal to put more relief funds into Michigan."

UNDER the "cooperative" plan of the Toledo Rehabilitation Committee the labor power of that city's workers will be made available for any purpose whatsoever with whatever conditions the bosses choose to dictate. The unorganized or poorly organized workers will have no choice except to obey orders from their masters, otherwise incurring penalties of being cut off the "relief," having their wages reduced to a "relief" basis, or being sent to jail under the vagrancy law for refusing to submit. Thus, another amendment to the Constitution (abolishing "involuntary servitude"), for which our immediate forefathers fought and died, is headed for nullification. It is the "emergency" once again!

But, wait a minute. Before we start lamenting the breakdown of our Constitution, let us ask: What does this word "rehabilitation" mean, anyway? Webster defines it in part as follows: "To put on a proper basis or into a previous good state again; to restore; to reestablish."

What then is a little thing like "constitutional rights" for the jobless of Toledo and Detroit when compared with the glowing prospect of "restored well-being" awaiting these same jobless through the manipulation of the boss-controlled "Rehabilitation Committees"? We may expect soon that wages for "public" and private work (if

had some thing which also belonged to you. In other words, you would fight him. Industrially and politically we must fight the capitalists for the ownership of the machine.

Waking the Masses

The masses who have been psychologized into being rugged individuals—into meekly accepting the status quo and fighting a lone battle against poverty, while expecting to arrive some day at the top—we must look upon these as our potential allies. They can be made class-conscious. And this is one of the immediate tasks before us. We must wake them up, win them to our ranks.

Let us be active in our unions, in labor organizations; let us talk action; let us read workers' books and know what we are talking about; and finally let us support the labor press by getting subscriptions, by finding new readers. It is by our combined efforts in this direction that we can strengthen our ranks and escape collectively from the hell of poverty.

there is any such work) in Toledo, will be paid in cash, not merchants' scrip, and that such wages will be boosted immediately to the 1929 level! Nay, brother, it will be just the opposite: work will be plentifully divided; wages will be down to the dollar a day level or lower and will be paid in merchants' scrip convertible into meager supplies of groceries, second-hand clothing and other minimum necessities. Where, then, is the "rehabilitation"? Echo answers, where?

NO wonder Mayor Murphy is worried about the "increasing welfare load." The same issue of the Detroit Times from which we have already quoted contains the following item:

"UNEMPLOYMENT HITS NEW RECORD HERE. Decrease in employment in Detroit since the declaration of the bank holiday, was measured in the Board of Commerce index, announced today. Computations on March 15 showed that 33.5 of the working population was gainfully employed. February 1, the percentage was 49.2. At this time last year the percentage was 68.0. These figures are based on estimated 100 per cent employment in the years 1923, 1924 and 1925."

So, Mayor Murphy decided, "there must be a shift in our industrial population to the farms." Michigan farmers, if consulted on the project, most assuredly would say, "No; there are too many of us hanging on by the skin of our teeth right now—why increase the volume of agony?"

But Fitzgerald of the Welfare Commission says the Mayor's scheme can be carried out; that there are nearly a million acres of "repossessed" land now held by the state, and that all each unemployed family will need is 10 acres and "about six hundred dollars" to become permanently established thereon. Does this mean that once located on the 10 acres with the \$600, a welfare family shortly would find itself physically unable to get off the place? Does the state in this scheme guarantee to

take charge of all funeral arrangements?

The writer, who has had plenty of experience connected with the struggle for existence of the Michigan farmer and farm laborer with a family, hereby challenges Mr. Fitzgerald himself to initiate his program: Let Mr. Fitzgerald choose the best "repossessed" ten acre farm in Michigan; take along with him his 600 bucks; build a shack thereon; buy stock, seed and necessary tools, together with a grubstake until his crop is harvested, and see how he makes out with this kind of "rehabilitation" at the end of one year! A "permanent abode" indeed! Sure, there's plenty of soil on the 10 acres under which to bury the state's ward and his family!

AS a solution — emergency or otherwise—of the unemployment problem, these "rehabilitation" schemes, from Roosevelt's down, are on a par with the thousand and other brilliant "plans" emanating from the "best brains" of the robber classes in America the past three years. Where these are not positively humiliating or demoralizing, from a workers' standpoint, they are ridiculously unsound and impractical.

Of course, the workers themselves, employed and unemployed, will not be consulted about their own problems by these "Rehabilitation Committees." That is, they will not be consulted as long as they remain unorganized and unable to exert mass pressure in the direction of relief and other means of rehabilitation.

Isn't it about time for all workers to get together and attend to their own job of rehabilitation?

We Must Stay Where the Workers Are

Labor Actionists contend that unions must be built upon the courage and militancy of the workers. Unions which exist by the favor of the bosses and which try to "reconcile" bosses and the workers, rather than uncompromisingly defending the workers against cuts, long hours, injunctions, yellow dog contracts and other agencies of slavery, are unsound. Because officials of the A.F. of L. have so long pursued a policy of fraternizing with the bosses, the A.F. of L. has proved inadequate in the present crisis. Many of its unions have become out and out racketeering outfits.

Nevertheless Labor Actionists have refused to engage in disruptive adventures in the unions. They are the only force which has relentlessly and ruthlessly fought against corruption, racketeering, and Social Democratic Reichstag member, that was, to all intents and purposes, a reply to this pronouncement. It was addressed to Chancellor Hitler and said, among other things: "The social function of the trade union must continue, whatever the character of the national regime... By their recognition of, and their readiness to appeal to the state arbitration system in the past the trade unions indicated their recognition of the right of the state to intervene in differences that may arise between organized labor and capital where the interest of the public demands such interference.... The labor unions demand no monopoly for themselves. The form of organization must always be subservient to the higher interests of labor. A true labor union can only rest on the voluntary organization of its members. It must be independent of political parties as of employers."

The Law, Sky Pilots and the Jobless

By BEULAH CARTER

Politicians and preachers horned in when the jobless men and women organized in Durham, North Carolina, for more relief. The politicians wanted to control the organization, the preachers wanted the hungry to accept God, and God would give them everything, they said. But the jobless thought they had better look after relief themselves. This is the story of how they organized and what they have achieved.

THERE were large cracks in the walls and floors through which the wind whistled. There had not been a fire in the house all winter. The widow woman and her six children who lived in the house had been denied all relief. Her baby was 15 months old.

"Relief has been denied them," said relief officials, "because rumors were afloat that the mother was a person of questionable character."

There were many other families in Durham, North Carolina, where everyone was literally starving until the organized unemployed stepped in and demanded relief. But in doing it they had a struggle on their hands. They had to contend with the law and the preachers who tried to horn in and break up the movement.

The Durham Association of the Unemployed with a membership of 800 was organized four months ago. From the very beginning the organization has been rooted in the community and has been open to all unemployed regardless of opinions or color. The men and women who started it have slaved in the factories here for years.

Politicians

One day four months ago, 600 jobless men and women met in the courthouse. City officials were clearly frightened and they were there in full force. A long discussion ensued, participated in by the officials, and it was decided to organize the unemployed. But no policy was worked out, and subsequent meetings of the group only

resulted in debates between city and relief officials and the unemployed.

The difficulty was smoothed over when a constitution and by-laws were adopted making only the unemployed and the partially unemployed eligible for membership. We doubt the wisdom of barring anyone from membership who is genuinely interested in the organization, yet this appeared to be the only way to keep relief officials and politicians from getting control.

An investigation committee was appointed, then, to "uncover and bring to light any corruption or incompetence on the part of relief officials," and several city officials trembled in their boots.

Evictions soon became the terror of landlords. News spread from the organization that evictions must stop. "All landlords who evict unemployed families will be advertised," the workers said. Only one eviction has taken place since.

Preachers

Meanwhile the preachers came in. Preachers have come very near breaking up the organization several times. It is an old custom in the South for the manufacturers to send in preachers to talk when there is any attempt of the workers to organize. The workers are advised to "Accept God and all other things will be added unto them."

So the preachers said to the unemployed, "Accept God and everything else will be given to you."

When announcement was made that sermons would no longer be allowed at meetings, a howl went up.

"You are trying to keep God out of the unemployed," they said.

Meetings were broken up several times. Many refused to come to meetings, but they finally came back and we are no longer worried with preachers pointing to "Pie in the sky."

Strength

That the organization has grown strong is shown by the fact that it demanded and finally won repre-

CPLA Labor Action Policies For Building Workers Republic

EVERYWHERE in the world today the masses are suffering. In the United States workers and farmers starve in the midst of plenty. Hitlerism overwhelms Germany. Japanese imperialists are murdering Chinese workers. Labor is all too weak in the face of attacks from profiteers and bosses. In the midst of this crisis it has been demonstrated once again that the policies of the Labor Actionists (CPLA) are the only ones that can lead and inspire the masses to victory.

Labor Actionists believe that the workers and farmers must take drastic action to abolish the system which has forced starvation upon them in the midst of plenty. They must do away with the Czars of business and finance, just as in the earlier days political monarchs and tyrants were abolished. They believe with Abraham Lincoln: "This country with its institutions belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of existing government, they can exercise their constitutional rights of amending it or their revolutionary right to dissolve or overthrow it." Events have justified this militant attitude of the Labor Actionists. In Europe parties dependent on mere ballot-boxing have utterly failed.

We Must Stay Where the Workers Are

Labor Actionists contend that unions must be built upon the courage and militancy of the workers. Unions which exist by the favor of the bosses and which try to "reconcile" bosses and the workers, rather than uncompromisingly defending the workers against cuts, long hours, injunctions, yellow dog contracts and other agencies of slavery, are unsound. Because officials of the A.F. of L. have so long pursued a policy of fraternizing with the bosses, the A.F. of L. has proved inadequate in the present crisis. Many of its unions have become out and out racketeering outfits.

Nevertheless Labor Actionists have refused to engage in disruptive adventures in the unions. They are the only force which has relentlessly and ruthlessly fought against corruption, racketeering,

autocracy and allied evils in the unions. Labor Actionists help the workers to build independent unions when that is necessary for the protection of their interests. They refuse, however, to engage in sectarian dual union adventures. Where the masses remain in reactionary or even corrupt unions, they have insisted that radicals must work within these organizations and build up progressive rank and file oppositions.

Labor Actionists believe that workers throughout the world must be organized for a worldwide struggle against the international bankers and profiteers and for the protection of Soviet Russia, where workers have taken control of the government against the Capitalists and Imperialists. Nevertheless the labor movement in each country must be carried on according to the conditions in that country. We must face American conditions as they are. The labor movement in this country must be built and controlled by the workers in this country. No one else can do the job here any more than we can do the job for workers in some other country. Any party which is subject to mechanical control and dictation from the outside cannot meet the needs of American workers.

For Unity

Labor Actionists stand for unity of the workers against bosses, bankers and profiteers—unity not on paper but in fact. Though we differ with the policies and tactics of certain groups in the labor movement, we are always ready to work with them against wage cuts, injunctions, official brutality and other measures used against the workers.

Labor Actionists have from the beginning of the present depression emphasized the importance of

bringing the unemployed into great mass organizations for pressure upon the Capitalists and upon the politicians who have utterly failed to provide relief. Our policy of insisting that unemployed leagues must include all workers, regardless of race, creed, color, nationality or political affiliation has been justified. Wherever this policy has been tried, it has produced results. Wherever it has not been used, the organizations of unemployed have been weakened or destroyed.

Labor Actionists stand for a unified mass political party of the workers and poor farmers. Recent events have proved beyond any doubt that if the workers and farmers are not united, they cannot resist the onslaught of Fascism. Fascism means the destruction of all liberties and the wiping out of unions, cooperative organizations, and all other worker and farmer institutions. It means bondage to some American Mussolini. Therefore, unity in a mass labor-farmer party must be achieved.

Other political organizations and groups have failed. The CPLA is the only militant rallying center to inspire and guide the working masses in this crisis.

Failure to measure up to our responsibility now will be treason. We shall move forward in the unemployed leagues; in the campaign to destroy the labor racketeers and revolutionize the unions; in the building of fighting mass organizations of the unemployed; in building a unified mass party of the workers and farmers.

FORWARD TO THE OVERTHROW OF THE BOSSES, BANKERS AND PROFITTEERS!

FORWARD TO A NEW DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE FOR AMERICAN WORKERS AND THE BUILDING OF THE WORKERS REPUBLIC!

Hitler Regime To Nationalize German Working Class

(Continued from Page 1)

tion and Social Democratic Reichstag member, that was, to all intents and purposes, a reply to this pronouncement. It was addressed to Chancellor Hitler and said, among other things: "The social function of the trade union must continue, whatever the character of the national regime... By their recognition of, and their readiness to appeal to the state arbitration system in the past the trade unions indicated their recognition of the right of the state to intervene in differences that may arise between organized labor and capital where the interest of the public demands such interference.... The labor unions demand no monopoly for themselves. The form of organization must always be subservient to the higher interests of labor. A true labor union can only rest on the voluntary organization of its members. It must be independent of political parties as of employers."

This statement represents a complete capitulation of the free German trade unions. They offer to Fascism the separation of the trade union from its traditional allegiance to the Social Democratic Party in the hope of thereby rescuing their own organizations. In this they will be bitterly disappointed however. For the Nazis will not stop at their demand that the personal union between the party and the trade unions be once and for all abolished, that henceforth no trade union leader may actively participate in Social Democratic propaganda. They will not rest until they have succeeded in making of the trade unions an instrument against the Social Democracy. For this purpose the newly appointed state governors (Statthalter) have already issued instructions for the unions in their respective districts which will remain in force until the question of trade union organization is nationally regulated. Under these instructions all unions connected with the Gewerkschaftsbund are placed under the supervision of National Socialist directors who shall direct all trade union activity and all financial transactions and see to it that "no unreasonable demands are made of their employers." Every union or business meeting must be reported to the authorities 48 hours before it takes place, public trade union meetings are forbidden until further notice and all communications

directed to the union as well as all outgoing correspondence must be brought to the attention of the Nazi supervisor.

Hitler Cannot Help the Masses

Under existing conditions these measures on the part of the government are self-evident. The National Socialist regime is no more able to bring better conditions, even for its supporters, than any other capitalist government in the world. A few millions will be placed in jobs of various descriptions—the administration of the dictatorship has already given temporary employment to thousands all over the country and additional thousands were placed in the public and private posts vacated by the expulsion of Jews, Social Democrats and Communists—but not for 17 million. The National Socialist regime will be unable to improve the lot of the masses who look to them for better times, because it cannot liquidate the crisis. From its point of view, therefore, it would be little short of madness to legalize uncontrolled economic organizations that would become the meeting place and organizational center of all who are dissatisfied. If only for this reason, it will therefore be impossible for the Nazis to adopt the Lelpart premise that "a true trade union must be predicated on the voluntary union of its members."

The National Socialists will destroy the trade unions because they have no Social Democratic illusions. They do not delude themselves or their followers with the belief that they will be able permanently to dominate the membership of the trade unions by the simple expedient of placing their own functionaries at the head of these organizations. The Nazis of Germany learned from their Italian progenitors. Not until the Italian trade unions were completely demolished and rebuilt into state controlled organizations of labor were trade leaders—provided they had become unqualified supporters of the Fascist regime—permitted to place their experience and knowledge of trade union mechanics at the disposal of the Mussolini regime.

Roosevelt tells congress he wants to restore to the farmers — not their land—but "the hope of ultimate free ownership of their own land."

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Under Direction of the National Executive Committee of CPLA

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FORCE THE FIGHT!

REACTIONARIES, enemies of labor, are on the job 24 hours in the day and every day in the year. Reformers always make the mistake of making a grand spurt and then taking it easy. Workers many times organize, strike, gain a glorious victory, and then let organization break up, so that all gains are lost.

The unions, the unemployed leagues, farmers organizations, must not make that mistake now. We must force the fight everywhere.

In some circles there is a tendency to think that Roosevelt will solve all our problems. As a matter of fact, it still remains to be seen whether he will solve any. A lot of banks were closing; Roosevelt closed them all; then he opened some, and a lot of people think all is well!

In many places—among the milk farmers in New York, the shoe workers in Massachusetts, the unemployed in North Carolina,—the workers have recently fought and won. Whether conditions improve somewhat or get worse, the fight must be pressed. There is no other way to get results.

THE THIRTY-HOUR WEEK

THERE is a bill in Congress to put industry on the 30-hour week. This measure, the Black bill, provides that for two years products may enter interstate commerce only from establishments on a 30-hour basis. It has passed the Senate and is now before the House.

Now the stalling begins. The Roosevelt administration, which is going to do big things for the country, says that this bill is not, or at least not yet, a part of its program. Speaker Rainey of the House says that this bill "has dynamite in it" and the House is going to think twice before passing on it, even though it has been carried in the august Senate!

Yes, this bill has dynamite in it. If it is passed, with the proviso that weekly wages must in no case be reduced, it will put workers back to work and raise the purchasing power of the masses. It will establish a precedent for Government regulation of hours and wages in the interest of workers and not profiteers.

Because this bill has dynamite in it for bosses and profiteers, because it will, properly amended, go further to help the workers than any of the Roosevelt measures about which such a terrific hullabaloo is being made, therefore the bosses and profiteers are against this measure. The corporations are passing the word around that it must be stopped. Congressmen hear "their master's voice" and whisper that there is dynamite in this bill.

We want the thirty-hour week! Without any reduction in pay! Let organized and unorganized, employed and unemployed, raise their voices, demonstrate, agitate! Expose the puny palliatives, the measures in the interests of the big bankers, which the Roosevelt administration is so smoothly putting over! Demand the 30-hour week without reduction in pay!

WHY WE MUST RECOGNIZE RUSSIA

THE United States must recognize Soviet Russia, and we must have regular trade relations with that country, because American workers must be put back to work and building up trade with Russia is one way to do that. Secretary of State Hull said the other day that world-trade could be raised from the sixteen billion dollars which it is today to fifty or sixty billion dollars if good trade relations were established with other lands. The United States alone might do six or eight billion dollars more business annually.

One of the biggest fields for the sale of our machinery and other products is Russia. Trade with Russia and put Americans to work, we say.

In the second place, the workers want peace. They do not want to be loaded with the burden of paying for another war. There can be no peace in the world so long as a hundred and fifty million Russians are kept out of the councils of the peoples. We deal with Japan which has flouted treaties, with Germany where Hitler commits his atrocities. Why not with Russia?

The bankers and bosses have spread many lies about Russia. They make a mountain out of every least mistake its government may make, because the Soviet is a government of the workers and not of the profiteers. That this government differs from that of the U. S. is certainly no excuse for non-recognition of Russia when we recognize such governments as those of Japan, Italy and Germany.

Write your congressman—write Secretary Cordell Hull at the State Department in Washington, that you want Russia recognized by the U. S. Trade with Russia and so make jobs for American workers!

Quaker City Jobless Endorse Ohio Call For Convention, July 4th

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Faced with a complete shutting down of relief through political maneuvering in the Legislature, the Quaker City organized jobless have opened a fight for "a square deal." Over three hundred thousand are facing the possibility of having no food, clothing or shelter as a result of legislative inertia.

The Citizens Unemployed Co-operative League called upon Mayor J. Hampton Moore, "as the head of a city in which there are hundreds of thousands of unemployed," to go to Harrisburg personally and take up the fight for adequate relief.

The league has also decided to initiate a campaign for free gas and electric service. This has been hastened by the report of the Philadelphia Electric Co., owned by the United Gas Improvement Co., which shows that it made more money in 1932 than ever before in its history, despite the depression.

The company's net income was swelled to more than \$22,000,000.

Wholehearted support has been voted to the state convention in June and the national meet in July. In order to do its part, the league has started an organization drive of its own, with speakers recruited from its membership. The recently elected officers—John Fitzgerald, president; Arthur Flansborough, vice-president; Edmund F. Ryan, Jr., secretary, and Charles Whitaker, treasurer—are giving full co-operation to this campaign, which is advancing from Kensington into other districts.

BUSINESS IS ROTTEN, SAYS OPEN SHOP CHIEF

CHICAGO (F.P.) — "Practically all manufacturing operations during the last 18 months have been carried on at a loss," declares Pres. Thomas S. Hammond of the anti-union Illinois Manufacturers Assn.

CAPITALISM

THIS IS HOW IT WORKS

By H. A. H.

"We must make the world safe for democracy," yelled the politicians in 1917, jailing all who doubted. "This is a war to end war," aped the pacifists, helping to run down their followers of yesterday who had not yet fallen into line. "Those who refuse to fight in this holy war must be treated as mental defectives or as traitors to humanity," bellowed the preachers, humanitarians and liberals. "The Hun is at our gates," shouted the munitions makers. "We must defend our hearths and our homes," wept the dollar-a-year patriots, as they hurried to Washington to sacrifice for their country and their god.

Now it is 1933. Fifteen years have passed since we won the "war to end war," since we made the world safe for democracy. New millions of young workers have grown up to replace those millions slaughtered to keep the Hun from our gates. Grass and flowers and trees grow from the soil fertilized by their flesh and blood.

Well, what have we today—how goes life for the great masses, the workers of the world? We were the heroes in 1918, remember. We were the darlings of all the great patriots, the dollar-a-year men who did their sacrificing safe at home in their counting houses, who eulogized us in their public speeches. We were the ones upon whom the generals and admirals pinned badges. And we were the ones who lived in stinking trenches, who ate the rotten food of the patriot profiteers, who wore the shoddy clothes—who were gassed and maimed and killed. Workers, shall we remember?

Shall we remember—tomorrow? We know that we were fooled in 1917. We know that those to whom we looked as leaders, the preachers, the statesmen, the professors and the business men—we know now that they lied to us, that they swindled us. They won the war, they, the bankers, the politicians, the boss class. But we lost.

We, the workers of all the nations—we lost. We are starving today. Millions of us, British, French, German, Italian, American—we are all starving together today. When we protest, when we demand decent treatment, relief for our starving children, wages that will enable us to live like human beings—we are called agitators, reds, and beaten up.

But we are going to be asked to fight another war soon! Capitalist nations throughout the world are preparing for another war. Their system is breaking down again, and we the workers are going to be asked to kill one another. The munitions makers are busy these days. The militarists are practicing on land and sea. Billions of dollars are being squandered in preparation for another great slaughtering of the workers.

In Germany, the monster, Hitler, has been brought to power by the money of the great industrialists and land owners. With indescribable brutality the militant class conscious German workers are being clubbed and tortured, their organizations destroyed, their papers suppressed, their leaders jailed and murdered. In Italy, Mussolini has succeeded in making virtual slaves of the workers. In Great Britain, the once powerful Labor Party has been sold by its pious leader, MacDonald, to the imperialists whom he aids to exploit and oppress the Indian workers. In France, in Poland, in Hungary, in China, in Japan—throughout the world save in Soviet Russia the workers are being starved, and clubbed and tortured. And they are being prepared by devilishly clever propaganda for another slaughtering.

Here in America, in the democratic United States, our newly-elected liberal President is making a great noise about dictatorial power. He must be given war time power else he cannot save us. He must be allowed to establish militarized labor camps. He is dealing with a great emergency and he must have discipline, loyal obedience. "We must move as a trained and loyal army, willing to sacrifice for the good of a common discipline. . . ." And now, just as Woodrow Wilson in 1917 had us observe hours of prayer for the "war to end war," so Mr. Roosevelt is going to ask us to observe a day of prayer for the capitalist system.

Workers, do we remember? Or shall we remember—tomorrow? We know that those to whom we looked as leaders, the preachers, the statesmen, the professors and the business men—we know now that they lied to us, that they swindled us. They won the war, they, the bankers, the politicians, the boss class. But we lost.

Fascism In Action--United In Chains



In Germany the workers were strong, they had a great labor movement, but that movement was divided, split into two great parties. These parties had "policies" which prevented the workers from getting together in the fight to check the rise of Fascism.

A divided labor movement could not check Fascism, and today Hitler is the dictator of the German people, destroying workers' organizations, wrecking their political parties. The artist pictures German workers united at last—in chains.

F. D.'s New Deal Saves Bankers

(Continued from Page 1)
after a hasty meeting in Wall Street.
"But on Friday the bankers were panicky. Financial centers were mad houses. On Saturday all banks in the United States were closed for the first time.

Money Changers in The "Temple"

"By 10 o'clock Sunday morning President Roosevelt, who had talked to the American people about 'driving the money changers from the temple,' was in audience in the Federal Treasury with the big bankers from Wall Street who were telling him what to do.

15 KLUXERS SENT TO JAIL

LOS ANGELES, CAL.—(ACLU)—Fifteen alleged members of the Ku Klux Klan were lately sentenced to six months in jail and each fined \$250 for raiding the home of David Milder in Long Beach, California, last November and beating Mr. and Mrs. Milder, their son and daughter, and several guests, following a radical meeting in their home.

Judge Robert H. Scott of the Superior Court in Los Angeles severely reprimanded the defendants for "perpetrating an outrage under the cloak of patriotism."

The "Solution"

Between 3,000 and 4,000 banks have not reopened since the moratorium. Perhaps a fifth of the bank deposits of the country are in these institutions.
"Doubtless many will be reorganized," says Colston E. Warne, financial writer for *Federal Press*. "Losses will, however, be great and what is even more serious, the freezing of depositors' money in these closed institutions will increase the deflationary trend, impairing the solvency of banks which remain open. It would be most conservative to estimate that the bank failures of March will alone equal or exceed the figure for all of 1932."

I Join The Labor Actionists

And this is the "solution" of the banking crisis to date. A great many big bankers have undoubtedly been saved, by the "new deal." But to date nothing has been done for the unemployed worker whose few remaining savings have been swept away.
The banking system has not been touched by our smiling President.

I Join The Labor Actionists

We can do it!
This message for labor action can be spread post-haste to the working and jobless masses—to the hundreds of unemployed organizations—to the unorganized workers—to the dirt farmers—

From North to South, from East to West, our comrades will hear the challenging reveille—wake up and march forward—to a strong nation-wide organization of the jobless—to a strong nation-wide party of workers and dirt farmers—to the 5-day week and 6-hour day—to more buying power in the hands of the masses—

And when we say we, we mean you—you—we lock hands—we march together—we build an army of Labor Actionists—and from ten thousand copies, as at present, LABOR ACTION, the drum, the bugle of Labor Actionists, will climb to 15 thousand, 20, 25, 30, 50 thousand—and up, up—

In six months Labor Actionists can sound a call through LABOR ACTION which the poorly paid and jobless masses will hear and answer— And a movement will start in this country that can take control of the worker-enslaving billion horse-power productive machinery that the profit-mad handful of owners have jammed—

We can do it! And we mean you when we say we—don't forget that!
Here is the plan, and it is easy.
JOIN THE LABOR ACTIONISTS.
Clip and mail—

Labor Actionists,
128 E. 16th St., New York City.

I hereby join the Labor Actionists.
I pledge a penny a day for six months to the national propaganda campaign for LABOR ACTION for a 5-day week, 6-hour day, a strong nation-wide organization of the jobless, a strong nation-wide party of workers and dirt farmers, and more buying power in the hands of the masses.

Send me a PENNY-A-DAY LABOR ACTION-CAN. I will ask my friends, neighbors, comrades to join this campaign to get our message, published in LABOR ACTION, to the unemployed masses, and to build a national circulation.

I am to receive LABOR ACTION, beginning with the next issue. I enclose 10 cents to start the campaign.

Or I enclose \$1 for a year's subscription.

Name

Address

The Devil You Say

By TESS HUFF

"Happy Days Are Here Again!"
He was one of the millions who dwell in the city.

He looked out the window, and what do you think he saw? Spring! He looked out the window and there it was, balancing itself on a clothesline, in the form of a perky little bird. And singing! You know how a bird can sing in the Spring. The sky is all suffused in bright mellow sunlight and the city skyline expands and expands like an animal arching its back after a long sleep and down in the streets the bustle of life rings out cheerily and the birds sing and sing. Oh, isn't it nice, though! Good old Spring! Good old Spring!

He was carried away. Listening to the happy bird he grabbed up his coat and hat; he had to walk. He had to go down to the Battery and see the harbor. He would walk through the clean sunny streets. He would look at the tall buildings, pass beneath the skyscrapers, and in the harbor he would see a majestic ocean liner, speedy and clean and monstrously beautiful. Oh, how nice is Spring! How painfully nice in the big city!

"Just to think," he said to himself on the street, "flowers used to grow here, where these stones are, and old Walt Whitman used to walk here, singing songs to America's builders."

The elevated trains whipped by above with loads of passengers. He marveled that everything was so precise, so timed, so efficient. "And it is not just here, either," he said. "This efficiency is not only in New York, but it is everywhere in America, just as Spring is everywhere in America, making people aware and happy and thankful."

He looked up from his musing and discovered that his way was blocked by a huge crowd, and he stopped. Fully two thousand men stood before him. They leaned against walls and stood in various lines three abreast and the fringes of the crowd surged midway across the street.

"What's this?" he asked a man. "You! Get out of there!" cried a square-shouldered cop, pointing past him at an elderly man.

"I've been here since six-thirty," said the man. "I know I have. Look here"—he gripped the muscle of his right arm—"How's that for ye? Some work left in that, eh? Ha, ha!"

"By God, dad," said a young man, a lock of hair dangling on his forehead, "that's an elephant's muscle! If they're going to select us for our muscles I might as well go home. Not struck a tap in over seventeen months."

Looking at the men, the square-shouldered cop, his birdie-springlike exaltation shriveled up. O Spring! He returned to his room. And on his way he saw an eviction. The furniture was being carried down a dark hallway and piled on the street.

The city! The misery!
He stood at the window of his room and looked at the city. Across the street was a huge picture of a happy family on a brick wall, bearing the legend "They Saved" and the name of a bank.

"Lies, lies, lies," he said. "You have crushed your builders. Your strong men cry for bread."

And seeing that the beautiful city was nevertheless a place where the powerful make use of the devices of modern industrial efficiency to prey upon the workers, he thought of the millions who dwell therein, penniless, of whom he was only one. And he wept.

"The oppressed, the workers, the builders! They will smash this crazy system of oppression and evict the oppressors. Yes, yes! they will take the city! But they are not ready to do it yet. . . ."

And forgetful of the warm day, and of Spring, the young man gazed at the uneven skyline before him, skyscrapers and tenements, and asked: "What must I do to help them get ready for that day?"

ROOSEVELT'S SON-IN-LAW JOINS GRAM GAMBLERS

CHICAGO (F.P.)—Pres. Roosevelt's son-in-law, Curtis B. Dall, has acquired a seat on the Chicago Board of Trade, the world's greatest wheat gambling pit. Dall is also a member of the New York Stock Exchange and the Cotton Exchange, also institutions for gambling in commodities and securities.