

THE NEW MAGAZINE

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ALEX BITTELMAN, Editor

THE POWERS OPEN ANOTHER KEG.



JOHN BULL: Come on. Let's 'ave another drink all 'round.

In the Wake of the News

By T. J. O'FLAHERTY

THE Cantonese may remember the saying about Greeks bearing gifts when Great Britain's representative offers them a compromise. And what a magnanimous compromise! England is now willing to allow the Chinese to run their own country, but there are sure to be some conditions attached. Until recently the British adopted a truculent attitude towards China. The idea of the "heathen Chinese" being on equal terms with Britain! But force is a great convincer and now England is ready to allow the Chinese a few rights in their own home.

THE armed power of Chinese masses led by Kounintang and supported by propaganda has proved mightier in bringing the long oppressed people of that country to the threshold of national deliverance than all the puny efforts of all the pacifist well-wishers that ever lived. The failure of the robber imperialists to agree among themselves helped. The powerful aid of the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union was at least equally effective. In all probability the Cantonese will have succeeded in unifying China by next summer. Then there is certain to ensue another struggle between the reactionary Chinese who wish to develop the country into a capitalist exploiting hell and those who wish to begin laying the groundwork for a Workers' and Peasants' government.

THERE is a very interesting trial going on in London. The ashes of the notorious hypocrite Gladstone are being raked and the result is not soothing to the nostrils of British liberalism. Gladstone was the most nauseating blue-nosed moralist in England. He posed before the public as a paragon of virtue. He admitted that he was a pillar of rectitude. When at the height of his career as liberal leader he was confronted by his master in the person of Charles Stewart Parnell, the Irish nationalist leader, Gladstone set about to devise ways and means of ruining his political foe. He found the means in the person of Kitty O'Shea, the wife of a British army officer.

WHEN the news about Parnell's relations with Mrs. O'Shea came to light, Gladstone, who posed as a friend of the Irish cause, turned his eyes to heaven, beat his breast and with bell, book and candlelight pronounced the sentence of political excommunication on Parnell. An immoral man was not fit to associate with the purified statesmen of Great Britain! The catholic clergy, those vultures who are ever ready to plunge their beaks into a militant fighter against the ruling classes, sided with Gladstone. So did the majority of the politicians who knew that Parnell stood between them and the money bags of the British treasury. Parnell died a ruined man.

"NOW it can be told" about Gladstone. The truth about the shining example of moral rectitude has been exhumed and the British are learning something they didn't know about one of their favorite historical fixtures. A writer who knew a good thing when he saw it spilled "the dirt" on Gladstone. He got a hearing immediately. There is nothing the public likes better than to catch their heroes in a compromising position. The writer proved that Gladstone was by no means what he cracked himself up to be. For one clandestine love affair Charles Stewart Parnell had, the liberal leader had one hundred. What of it? That was the old man's business! People do not love Anatole France less because he loved well and perhaps wisely. But the French are not the British and a novelist is not necessarily a politician.

FOR ages the ruling classes have handed a moral code to their slaves and compelled them to live up to it under penalties, the penalty de-

pending on ability of the ruling classes to inflict it. In the twelfth century an English king, possessing much less power than that possessed by Gladstone could command his funkeys to seize a damsel and take her into his castle by force. His subjects would continue to till the soil and think nothing of it. To them it was just as legal for the king to do that as the average worker of today thinks it is for the capitalist to exploit him in a factory. But in Gladstone's days the masses did not have the same mental attitude towards their rulers. They kept an eye on them. Therefore Gladstone had to prowl around Hyde

Park and see what might come his way. He had to be cautious, since he was a statesman. And it would not look well for the man who hounded Parnell to his grave over an infatuation for another man's wife to be exposed as a sensualist.

A TALE without a moral would be a tale without an end. One of the most favored arguments used by pro-capitalist orators against socialists, when socialists were socialists, and today against Communists is that the introduction of the new order of society would destroy the home and the family, introduce polygamy and in general turn society

into a sexual madhouse. The capitalist hacks knew they were indulging in rubbish, that all thru history the ruling classes observed the moral ethics of the barnyard and that even if radicals set out to deliberately bring society to a lower moral level than prevails under capitalism they would find the task impossible. They are simply using a prejudice planted in the minds of the masses by the capitalists themselves to poison the workers' minds against the message of Communism, just as the hypocrite Gladstone used it against Parnell to wreck the Irish revolutionary movement of which Parnell was at the time the "legal" leader.

Secret Banquets and Open Attacks

By WILLIAM PAUL (London)

IN a hundred different and devious ways the federation of British industries and the government are continuing their attack upon the trade unions.

The capitalists and their press, with the aid of the right wing, are doing their utmost to destroy the prestige of well-known left wingers, and, at the same time, to praise those leaders who called off the general strike. This is being done so that the general council may achieve a reactionary triumph over the miners' leaders at the forthcoming conference of trade union executives on January 20.

The government and the mine owners are deeply interested in helping the general council to whitewash themselves at this conference. A triumph for the general council will mean a triumph for "industrial peace" and defeatist tactics in coming struggles. It will mean the temporary ascendancy of those leaders who helped the government to defeat the miners, and who, by their subsidized writings in the millionaire press, are preparing the way for the government's legislation against trade unionism.

Reaction's United Front.

Baldwin, Churchill and lord Wimborne remember how the general council saved the government and the mine owners by calling off the general strike when the masses were sweeping forward to victory. It is, therefore, necessary for the government and the mine owners to see to it that the general council score heavily at the conference of trade union executives.

To attain this end Baldwin, Churchill and lord Wimborne—backed up by the powerful millionaire press and the federation of British industries—are leaving no stone unturned to attain their object. This may be seen in the secret banquet recently given by lord Wimborne, and attended by Winston Churchill, viscount D'Abernon, sir Hugo Hirst, Philip Snowden, J. R. Clynes, Arthur Pugh, C. T. Cramp, and Robert Williams.

Every honest worker knows that lord Wimborne, the mine owner, and the members of the Baldwin government—which starved and imprisoned the miners—do not dine and win labor leaders because they are anxious to see them happy.

Important problems, of vital interest to the workers, were discussed. We know this because of what has happened since the secret dinner took place.

The Price Paid.

We know, for example, that one of the first things that happened was an outrageous attack upon the miners' leaders, in the capitalist press, by the right honorable Philip Snowden, M.P., P.C., I.L.P. A. J. Cook, who loyally carried out the delegate conference decisions of the Miners' Federation, is compared to Judas.

Snowden, in his frenzy against Cook, declares:

"He has wrecked the Miners' Federation, destroyed the thirty years' work of infinitely better men than

himself, given to the mine owners a power they have never before possessed, given the conservative government an excuse for lengthening hours and making a general attack upon trade union rights, reduced practically every trade union to a state of bankruptcy, and inflicted permanent injury upon British trade."

Not one word against the government; not one word against police terrorism in the coalfields, or a protest against the starving of children and women by Baldwin and Churchill; not one syllable against the use of the press and pulpit to insult the

miners—of the general strike, the refusal to impose the embargo, and the treachery of the right honorable labor leaders who accepted twenty guineas per article from the millionaire press mongers to attack militant trade unionism. One man alone is to blame—A. J. Cook!

Snowden also attacks Russia. And by so doing shows that he is leading an offensive against militant leadership at home and abroad.

Anglo-Russian trade union unity is the one real link of international

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Hugo Gellert in New Masses.

A Triple Alliance.

May Day Raids, 1923, Inspired By Lewis

By ROBERT DUNN

A DOCUMENT has just come into my hands which may be of interest to those who are following the miners' convention at Indianapolis. If my good friend Powers Hapgood is butchered up by the brass-knuckled agents of Mr. John L. Lewis and Mr. Pat Fagan it is certainly no surprise to any of us. We know what that union machine can do against its enemies. This document gives an instance.

As a background to our story it is necessary to remember Mr. David J. Berry, formerly of Pittsburg, Pa., and his National Labor Journal, published for many years and as late as the spring of 1924 in that city. It called itself "Organized Labor's Official Newspaper" and declared that it was published "in the interest of the American Federation of Labor." The office of the general manager and editor was in the Union Labor Temple at Pittsburg. The list of organizations holding stock in the paper and appearing on the masthead were the Pittsburg Central Labor Union, the United Mine Workers of America District 5, Street Railway Employees Div. 85, Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 27, Bartenders Local 188. The "advisory board" of the paper was made up of gentlemen from these organizations. The journal carried the press service of the A. F. of L. Mr. Berry claimed to be an intimate of Samuel Gompers, indeed this was his premier asset, and stock in trade in making approaches to manufacturers.

Flags and Real Estate.

It is unnecessary to describe the National Labor Journal in detail. It was a gorgeous mixture of American flags and real estate ads, flattering sketches of republican politicians and stern attacks on the labor radicals. On one occasion the journal announced that "as the official mouthpiece of organized labor in the Pittsburg district, we can say without fear of successful contradiction that the labor organizations affiliated with the Pittsburg Central Labor Union are composed of men who desire not the wealth of the world, but a fair wage and working conditions which enable them to live according to the American standard." (It may be observed in passing that one of these members, Mr. Robert Beattie of the Firemen and Oilers Union certainly lived according to the workingclass standards—several motor cars, diamond stick pins, \$15 a day plus expenses from the Railroad Audit and Inspection Co., industrial spy corporation, in addition to his union wages which were by no means meagre.)

Enter, Brother Berry.

It goes without saying that brother Berry did not love the radicals. He featured anything that hit them below the belt. As far back as the great steel strike he was engaged in the sort of red-baiting that has now become so popular even in so-called socialist unions. During the strike, his paper, appeared in Pittsburg, the heart of the struggle, with no word of encouragement for the strikers. Only colorless accounts marked by prejudice against the strike leadership. At the same time he played up stories headlined "deportations should be speeded up," "there is too much radicalism in the labor unions," "labor awakened for battle with radicals." The radicals, it will be remembered, were chiefly William Z. Foster, John Fitzpatrick, yes, and Jim Maurer of the Penna. State Federation of Labor, whom Berry bitterly hated. He tried to link up Jim with Ludwig Martens, the Soviet representative in America at the time.

The Blackmail Tour.

There is no space here to recount the various exploits of Berry except a few that lead up to the lawsuit from which our document derives. It is possible to summarize them—1. Berry went to a number of employers in the Pittsburg district and promised them that if they would contribute money he would see that a certain person was elected president of the Iron City Central Trades Council. He picked up several thousand dollars. Then he made a compromise

with the supporters of the other candidate, Mr. Phillip Murray, now the vice-president of the United Mine Workers of America, by which Berry's candidate was to withdraw and run instead for the presidency of the Penna. State Federation of Labor. Then Berry toured the state picking up funds from employers to elect this man to the state office. This blackmailing tour netted Berry about \$22,000. He and his followers pocketed the money and their candidate was not successful. The employers who had been shaken down were naturally pretty sore.

And Papa Gompers.

2. Berry had also been the Pennsylvania representative of the notorious American Alliance for Labor and Democracy which was fathered by Samuel Gompers and other labor chauvenists in order to offset the activities of the Peoples' Council in the war days. Berry attended the congress of this alliance held in Minneapolis and came back with a wad of money to spend on the enterprise in Pennsylvania. The money was spent for other purposes connected with Berry's own private business.

Berry's Private Business.

3. Part of this private business was the "settlement" of labor disturbances. The employers of the Pittsburg district were given to understand that the alliance above mentioned, was a patriotic body to which a manufacturer could turn if he had any "trouble" with his foreign-born workers. One, Chas. P. Matheson, superintendent of the Tyler Tube and Pipe Co., of Washington, Pa., thought there was a strike brewing in his plant. He called on Mr. Berry. Berry visited Mr. Matheson in his home and told the latter he must have \$350 in cash before he could take any action in the matter. He got the cash, and assured Mr. Matheson that he would adjust the trouble and that he had with him an agent of the department of justice who was assisting him.

Two Hundred Berries More.

Matheson heard nothing more of Berry for a few days when he received a phone call. Berry was speaking: "Matters are still in a very bad state. I will have to do some additional work. I want \$200 more." Matheson drew a check made out to Berry's Journal and mailed it in to the Labor Temple.

Meanwhile Matheson became suspicious of brother Berry and discovered at the D. of J. office in Pittsburg that Berry had not had any agent with him when he went to Washington to head off the strike. Berry was subsequently backed into a corner and forced to confess his blackmail game. He signed a statement to this effect.

Saving His Reputation.

These were just a few of the tricks that Mr. Berry pulled and none of them seemed to win him favor with the employers. He simply could not deliver the goods. The candidates he

supported were not elected; the strikes he attempted to prevent broke out. The employers decided to expose him. Lead by the Employers Association of Pittsburg and its secretary-manager, E. B. Moreland, they charged Berry with much dirty work, and issued a long statement against him on May 10, 1923. Berry, to save his "reputation," filed a suit for \$200,000 damages against the employers. The suit was filed in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny county in 1924. The plaintiff's statement in this suit is the document which has just reached my hands. It contains the confidential statement of the employers issued in 1923 and dealing with the activities of brother Berry. And it tells us something about the officials of the United Mine Workers of America.

Cops Celebrate May Day.

Workers may recall the raids made on the headquarters of the Workers Party of Pittsburg just before May Day, 1923. They were conducted by federal and local agents, professedly to forestall a May Day celebration. Twenty-three persons were arrested and held in bail of \$5,000 to \$25,000 under the state anti-sedition act. The brutalities of these raids and arrests were investigated by the American Civil Liberties Union, whose officials including its chairman, Dr. Harry F. Ward, pronounced it one of the most unwarranted and illegal attacks made on workingclass liberties since the war.

U. M. W. of A. and The Raid.

It will also be remembered how Tom Meyerscough, one of the leaders of the Progressive Miners Committee which had been formed in Pittsburg, was arrested a few days later as he was going to take bail to some of the arrested workers. The police seized all of Meyerscough's books and business papers. Later when Ellis Searles, editor of the United Mine Workers' Journal issued his ponderous newspaper exposé of the militants' work in the mine workers' union we noticed that much of the material used was that which was supposed to be under seal at the office of the department of justice in Pittsburg. It was clear that there had been some collusion between the United Mine Workers' officials and the raiders and prosecutors of Meyerscough and others. The attempt to frame-up Alex Howat while he was stopping at a Pittsburg hotel will also be recalled.

The May 10, 1923 statement of the Employers' Association of Pittsburg which is appended as Exhibit "A" to this damage suit of Berry's clears up some of the mystery surrounding these raids, and makes it plain as daylight what forces were behind them. The document tells us bluntly:

"The recent red raids in Pittsburg which have received considerable publicity in the local press were inspired by the United Mine Workers of America."

Why did the United Mine Workers inspire those raids? The document goes on to tell us how the Workers' Party, at that time lead in the Pittsburg district by Fred Merrick, "had met with considerable success in the newly organized mine fields, particularly those controlled by the H. C. Frick Coal and Coke Co. Their influence within the ranks of certain elements of the miners from this field has been very embarrassing to the so-called reactionary leaders of District No. 5, of the United Mine Workers."

Strikebreaker Lewis.

The story reviews the calling off of the strike in this field by the International and the formation of the Miners' Relief Committee through which food was distributed to those workers who remained out and who refused to be trapped back to work by the Lewis order. It tells about the conference of militant miners to protest against the action of the machine.

Howat on the Job.

"These various conferences," the document continues, "resulted in forming the Miners' Progressive Committee and the calling into the field of Alex Howat of Kansas strike fame Howat is an expelled officer of the United Mine Workers, as a result of his defiance of the Kansas Industrial Court and incarceration in jail for defiance of this court. The Miners' Progressive Committee immediately started to coordinate the work of all the disgruntled factions of the United Mine Workers of America, centering their activities in the Frick field."

It then tells how several conferences of the militants "were broken up by the officers and followers of the regular officers of District No. 5." However, it admits that Howat and others had developed quite a following and had arranged for a national conference which was to convene in Pittsburg June 2. This made the officialdom of the miners' union desperate. This is how the employers' document puts it:

Enter "Justice"

"Naturally, all this has resulted in considerable embarrassment to the regular officers of the United Mine Workers with the result that a few weeks ago, they called upon the Pittsburg office of the United States department of justice with a complaint against Merrick, Howat, et al. with a request that these men be prosecuted because of their activities in the Workers' Party. It was explained to these leaders that there was no federal violation by citizens in participating in the Workers' Party activities, but that there was a state violation under the anti-sedition act. It was suggested to these leaders that they use their influences with the county and city officials and the state police and if they could get these officials to act the government agents would lend all of the expert assistance possible."

The statement of the employers' association continues:

"Mr. Mitchell Palmer" Lewis.

"The Mine Workers' officers followed these suggestions—some of the International officers coming to Pittsburg to push this prosecution. (italics ours). As usual, in cases of this kind, where politics is the ruling force, the aid of the county, city and state officials was easily secured, particularly when the possible votes of the United Mine Workers in elections were dangled before their eyes. When these officials agreed to act, the head of the department of justice was officially enlisted with the result that arrangements for the raids were made by the department of justice men who instructed the city, county, and state police as to whom to raid, the manner of making the raid, etc."

This, it will be recalled, is just what happened. A department of justice dick named Lennon, was the technician in charge of the raids. But the prosecutions were brought by county attorneys under the state anti-sedition act. All of these gentlemen inspired by the lofty ideal of saving the United Mine Workers of America

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What He Gives With the Right He Takes Away With the Left.

Youth and the Textile Industry

By CLARENCE MILLER

The textile industry in the United States at the present time is undergoing a partial crisis. This is due particularly to the introduction of the speed-up system and labor saving machinery, but it is even more due to the competition which is growing, especially with the German textile industry, which due to the introduction of the Dawes plan has cut the standard of living of the German workers to such an extent that it can compete with American interests in America's own home market in spite of our high protective tariff rates.

The present crisis does not effect so much the profits and dividends of the stockholders as it does the standard of living of the textile workers. The mill owners utilize this opportunity to carry on a campaign to maintain and even raise the already high tariff as well as utilize it for a wage cutting campaign.

Another interesting feature in the textile industry today is the development that is going on in the South. Cheap labor supply of both white and colored workers, and nearness of the raw materials is helping the growth of the textile, especially of the cotton industry in the South.

The Largest Industry

The textile industry in this country employs the largest number of workers. There are approximately one million workers employed in the textile industry. At least 40 per cent of these are child and youth laborers. Thirty-five to 40 per cent of the million workers are females. The percentage of female workers is probably a little higher amongst the youth.

Geographically the textile industry

is distributed as follows: Connecticut about 40,000 workers; Massachusetts about 200,000 workers; New Jersey, 75,000 workers; New York, 90,000 workers, many of these are up-state New York; Pennsylvania, 150,000, and the rest of the textile industry is primarily in the South.

Of the 610,000 textile workers in the East there are 191,000 cotton workers, 141,000 woolen and worsted workers, 118,000 silk workers, 104,000 knit goods workers and 50,000 dyeing and finishing workers.

Economically the textile workers, especially the child and youth laborers are among the most exploited. Eight to ten dollars per week is not an unusual wage. On the other hand the profits of the mill owners in many cases reach to the 1,000 per cent. It must also be born in mind that the textile industry has a protective tariff of an average rate as high as 75 per cent, which helps to maintain these high profits.

The introduction of the speed-up system taking the form of the introduction of new machinery, labor saving devices, increased number of looms per worker, etc., continually displaces large numbers of workers by youth, and child laborers, and adds to the already large number of unemployed textile workers. Unemployment in the textile industry can be said to be almost chronic. This last is especially true in the New England states.

The hours in the textile industry range from 48 to 60 and more hours per week. In some states the law provides for a shorter work day for the child laborers, but there are many ways by which the manufacturers beat the law. Wherever it is en-

forced the work day is in no places less than eight hours for the child laborers. In some very few places the 44-hour week has been achieved, but this is very insignificant for the industry as a whole. At the present time in New England there is a tendency, as shown in Salem, and Mannville, to introduce the 54-hour week instead of the 48-hour week that is prevalent in the New England mills.

The sanitary conditions in the textile industry are very bad though the technique and nature of the industry permits better sanitary conditions. The death rate and industrial diseases in the textile industry are higher than in any other industry. Investigations by the Workers Health Bureau of the Passaic strikers disclosed that the young textile workers especially are affected by tuberculosis.

Workers Unorganized And Divided

Of the one million workers in the industry not more than 50,000 are organized and these are organized into several unions. The largest of these is the United Textile Workers having about 15,000 to 20,000 members including the new Passaic locals; the second largest is the Federated Textile Unions of America, a federation of several loosely-connected national bodies with a membership of about 10,000. Then comes the Associated Silk Workers of Paterson with a membership of about 2,000. The other independent organizations are the United Front Committees, Textile Workers Clubs, etc.

Some time ago the progressive textile workers had a conference in New York at which they decided on a program of work that is needed to

organize the textile industry. It was shown that only the progressives can force the present unions to start an organization drive in the industry as well as push forward amalgamation which is so important in this industry.

The progressives also realize that if we are to be successful in organizing the textile workers we must reach the young workers who form such a large section of the workers in the industry. The conference therefore decided on the following program:

1.—All progressive blocs within local textile unions shall nominate upon their slate at least one youth worker to local union executive boards and upon all union committees in order to carry out the program for organizing the large number of youth workers in the textile industry.

2. Local progressive committees shall try to draw in as many young workers from local unions, unorganized mills, social clubs and sports organizations as is possible.

3. A special youth program shall be drawn up for each local committee and special committees shall be created to carry out this program to organize the youth in the textile industry.

4. A youth and children's section to be included in the progressive textile publications to be prepared by a special editor under direction of the executive committee.

This program should help to draw the young workers into the campaigns that are initiated by the progressives and it will help make the progressives the champions of the interests of the young textile workers.

Open Shoppers Endorse Right Wing Socialists

By JACK STACHEL

The New York Commercial has now merged with the Journal of Commerce and the combined paper was bought by Ridder Brothers, the owners of the New York Staats Zeitung. The editor of the New York Commercial was the "Keyman Marvin" described by Robert Dunn in the Jan. 24 issue of the DAILY WORKER. With the merger of the two papers there passed out of existence the famous "Searchlight" which was edited by Mr. Marvin for the benefit of his "Keymen." In this column there appeared daily reprints dealing with Communist activity which Mr. Marvin peddled as great discoveries on his part, but which his readers might have gotten by merely reading the DAILY WORKER.—Editor.

The attack against the New York Joint Board of the Cloakmakers by the Sigman machine, has not only the backing of the entire bureaucracy of the American Federation of Labor, but the active support of the bosses in general and the open shoppers in particular. In this there is nothing startling. It is natural for the employers to initiate, let alone support a drive against these in the trade union movement that are opposed to the policies of class collaboration, and still, not only believe in the class struggle, but actually dare call strikes in the interests of the workers, and furthermore compel the employers to make concessions. It was the left wing in the Furriers that first won the 40-hour week, followed by the New York Joint Board of the ILGWU after and in the midst of a betrayal of the interests of the tailors in New York by Beckerman and Hillman, when they even failed to put forward the demand for the 40-hour week.

But the New York Commercial, one of the bitterest open shop papers in the country and at the same time a paper that can boast of more stool pigeons on its staff than any other

paper in this country in a very interesting and instructive editorial lays down the conditions of its support to the labor bureaucracy and also quite correctly lays down the "limits of the United Front."

"While the New York Commercial is an open shop paper in that it does not believe the principle of the closed shop is the best for wage earners, employers, or the general public, it is ready to join at all times with the American Federation of Labor or any other organization or movement, no matter under what name it comes, that is ready to destroy Communism and Socialism in this country. . . We hope that when the activities of the American Federation of Labor have run every Communist out of this country, they will turn their attention to an equally dangerous group, the Socialists and likewise give them a little 'buggy ride.'"

In the above quotation we have the policy of the bourgeoisie in all countries when they support the socialists. In the needle trades, where the struggle is against the left wing that stands for militant unionism the bosses are ready to support the Socialist Sigman in the struggle against the Communists and the left wing, but as soon as the left wing is defeated they demand a fight to a finish against the Socialists. We saw this on a larger scale when, with the votes of the Liberals, the Labor Party in England was allowed to take power. This was necessary for the bourgeoisie in order that the Labor government headed by the Socialist MacDonald, could take up the struggle against the revolutionary movement in Britain that was growing too rapidly, and against the revolutionary nationalist movement in India. As soon as the bourgeoisie felt again that its position was secure, the Labor government was kicked out. The same role is played by every Socialist government on the Continent. But just as the Socialists of Bulgaria have convinced

the bourgeoisie there, that they are capable of the same deeds that any genuine Fascist is, Sigman is trying to prove to the open shoppers that they can rely upon him. Again the Commercial says:

"When the American Federation of Labor adopted a resolution in Detroit to organize the automobile trades, it took a step that brought comfort to the Communists. Any attempts to enforce through a strike, the closed shop principle in the automobile industry will be 'meat' for the Communists because it will give them an excuse to cause rioting and violence. Moreover, if the American Federation of Labor believe they can prevent the Communists from injecting themselves into such a controversy they show a complete lack of knowledge of Communist tactics. Long before the resolution was presented to the American Federation of Labor to 'close' the automobile industry the Communists were active in forming their 'centers' in every automobile plant in this country. They are in the key positions. They have gained as their supporters the key men. They have laid their plans with care and skill. They are now awaiting the time when the American Federation of Labor calls a strike to take complete and absolute control of its management.

The above is an open bid to the A. F. of L. officialdom that they must refrain from organizing workers. It is at the same time a threat. The New York Commercial is no doubt correct, that it was thanks to the efforts of the Communists and the left wing that the resolution to organize the automobile industry was passed at the last convention. The Greens, the Wolls, and the Lewises never had any intention to organize the automobile industry. The resolution was due to the pressure of the unorganized masses who responded to the work of the Communist nuclei. It was a gesture that was never meant to be carried out.

It is up to the rank and file in the unions to compel the American Federation of Labor to put the resolution into effect.

The New York Commercial is also correct when it warns the A. F. of L. that in the event of a strike in the automobile industry the Communists will be there. Wherever there is a struggle in behalf of labor, particularly any attempt to organize the unorganized, the Communists, the left wing, and all militants in general are to be found the most active and self-sacrificing in the interests of the masses. The A. F. of L. officials on the other hand fear and shrink from the organization of the unorganized because it means bringing into the fold of the American Federation of Labor large masses of unskilled workers who are not receiving the benefits of American Imperialism and who will form together with the left wing among the workers already organized a powerful bloc that will wrest from the labor bureaucrats the control of the American labor movement and free it from its policies of class collaboration and lead it in the direction of bigger struggles against American capitalism.

The only guarantee against strikes, and against the organization of the unorganized is to clean out the Communists and the left wing. This is the meaning of the drive against the New York Board of the ILGWU. This is the meaning of the investigation against the militant Furriers. This is the reason for the big election steal in the miners' union.

The New York Commercial gives its final warning to the A. F. of L. officialdom in the following words:

"We join with the American Federation of Labor in this fight so long as its fight is to destroy the common enemy (Communism—J. S.). When that has been done we will again take issue with it in the matter of the open or closed shop."

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Spring Laughter

A Story

By ALEX JACKINSON

The heavy gates adjoining the West 30th street police station swung wide open allowing Dutch to ride his brown stallion to the rear of the court, where a row of stables quartered the horses belonging to the mounted police.

The arrival was in a nasty temper, that was visible from the way he dismounted, not smilingly as was his want, but dejectedly as tho he was angry at something. Well Dutch was angry, and there was no secret about it as far as he was concerned.

It was a beautiful spring day, and he had just murdered a man. Fresh from a cold blooded killing was he. Dutch could almost feel the warm blood of his victim oozing through his thoughts. It was a man he had murdered altho in the station house they let it go by calling him a "Bolshevik" but even Bolsheviks are human and that is what troubled Dutch, not that he was sentimental or anything. Policemen aren't brought up that way, but killing a fellow being is not exactly pleasant, even if it be sanctioned by law. In tomorrow's paper he would read "One killed in 'Red' riot." That's the way it was always done.

Little freshets of water running from the brook of memory flooded his thoughts with ghastly reflections. He kept thinking much against his will of that blood-smear'd face of his victim whose body was just sent for safekeeping to a black vault in the morgue. He couldn't help think about it. It was the first time his mistress Law and Order called upon him to kill anyone, and the mere recollection of it stung him like the bite of a wasp. There was something uncanny and unpleasant about killing that Dutch never took cognizance of before.

After dismounting Dutch pushed open the door leading to the barn, into which his horse entered instantly burying its head into a bag of oats. "Whoa there," escaped the policeman's lips as the horse whinn'd softly as tho he too felt that there was something wrong. Dutch grunted. A half crazed notion to shoot the animal darted thru his head. That would have satisfied his anger. For it was the horses iron shod hoofs that did the actual killing. It was only a notion, which he quickly dismissed from his thoughts. His grunting gave way to a profane swearing as his steed pranced up and

down the hay littered floor. His right arm reached out after stroking the mane of his horse. Dutch spat on the floor and walked across the yard to the station house.

After reciting the course of events to the desk sergeant Dutch lounged around the waiting room. He tried forgetfulness by inhaling mouthfuls of smoke which he later transmitted thru his nostrils. It didn't work, that blood-smear'd face kept circling around his thoughts. Frenzied cries of "murderer" still rang in his ears.

"Jesus Christ" he soliloquized, "Am I never going to forget it." It was duty he assured himself that was to blame. The word duty stood out in his thoughts, but even duty is no consolation for a man who just sent a fellow being to his grave. He lit another cigarette and continued musing. "I'm worse than an old woman—moonin' over a lousy killin' and a trouble maker at that. Those guys had no permit to march anyhow." It was a spiritless and futile effort to shake off a troubled uneasiness.

Dutch rose and walked to the window. It was the first of May and a bright cool wind, pregnant with the first approach of summer breezed gently thru the air. He leaned against the high sill, peering blankly into the street. A few minutes later he joined a fellow policeman in a game of dominoes. The white dotted oblongs slipped thru his fingers. His mind wasn't on the game. Dutch kept thinking not of dominoes but of the perplexities of life.

Some two hours before Dutch was riding leisurely along a quite avenue, comfortably astride his well groomed horse. His brass buttons shone conspicuously against their blue setting and his lips whistled the gayety that was in the air. It was May the first and everywhere the streets were astrigent with spring laughter.

He rode block after block, leaving behind him columns of moving people. Horns honked and automobiles drew carefully aside, giving him unmolested passage. Dutch was in fine spirits. It was his afternoon off that day and he had already made up his mind to take in a ball game later. His eyes shifted from sidewalk to sidewalk everywhere people hurried on. Men and women shuffled up and down the streets in continuous procession.

In the gutter he watched a street cleaner spray a fountain of water

over the grey asphalt which covered the streets with a refreshing layer. Little streams formed at the curbstones which flowed along, finally emptying into a corner sewer. Everywhere people moved, people nodded to one another, and people loved. For it was spring. The season when all life begins to animate anew. There is always a harmonious feeling suffused in the air of a spring day which makes oneself radiate with a tangible joy. Dutch felt that way too. His lips parted soon, giving way to a broad grin. It was the spring laughter which he was inhaling seeking an exit.

From one of the side streets a long line of marchers suddenly swung up the avenue. Idle passers-by paused to look at them, wondering what it was all about. They were workers from the needle trades who have answered the call of their unions to "down tools on May day." And were now on their way to Union Square for a mass demonstration, having stopped work at ten o'clock that morning. Red flowers were prominently displayed in the lapels of their coats.

Dutch was some distance away when he discerned the advancing throng. The smile faded from his lips as he saw the crowds pressing steadily onward, like some giant force rushing on to an unknown fate. He wondered vaguely what to do. For he had received orders previously in the day not to allow a "public demonstration," and Dutch knew what that meant. The police in turn were acting under silent orders from the officialdom of the A. F. of L., who were fearful lest the growing left wing movement in the needle trades spread to other localities.

Dutch cogitated awhile. He disliked to interfere with the marchers. There was a time when he too was a worker. That was years ago, before he joined the force. He was a teamster then, and a union man. He recalled those days but only for an instant. A troublesome dialogue kept running thru his head.

"It's orders I've got to carry out," he kept repeating. "Orders. Orders. Damn the orders. I'm gonna let 'em pass." He would have liked to, but the word "orders" swirled about his thoughts until he felt groggy. Overwhelmed him. With that a sudden hate gushed to his face. It was a blind hate aimed at himself and the

system which makes unwilling puppets of men.

As the workers advanced Dutch jerked his night-stick out of a sheath in his saddle and swinging it in the air cried:

"Go 'wan, get out of here, the whole damn lot of you."

The impetuous marchers were not to be easily cheated of their desire to celebrate their great holiday. Steadily they advanced, swarming all about the infuriated Dutch, who kept bouncing in his leather saddle like a child prancing on a hobby horse. Stirrings of an innate violence suddenly burst in his throat. He deliberately tugged at the reins held in his hands. His trained mount thus lead, raised its forehoofs into the crowd. Men and women broke ranks and screamed.

One of the workers, unable to escape, rolled under the horse, his chest crushed by the iron-shod hoofs. Dutch lifted the cap off his head and after wiping beads of perspiration from his brow, galloped down the street.

(Continued from page 2)

solidarity in the world labor movement. The government fears it, and the moderate leaders in the general council dread it. The triumph of Anglo-Russian unity means that the British trade union leaders will be pledged to a struggle against capitalism. For this reason it is assailed with great violence. And it has been attacked by another of lord Wimborne's guests—W. Citrine, general secretary of the T. U. C.

Who instructed Mr. Citrine, the secretary of the Trades Union Congress, to send his attack on Anglo-Russian unity to the press? When was the document he quotes discussed by the members of the general council? Why did he decide to choose Friday as the day for launching his attack? Was it not because the question of Anglo-Russian unity must be faced at Amsterdam next Wednesday and Thursday by the International Federation of Trade Unions?

Mr. Citrine does not analyze one single principle regarding Anglo-Russian unity, but uses a sharp criticism directed against the general council by Losovsky, of the Russian T. U. C., as a smoke screen for his attack.

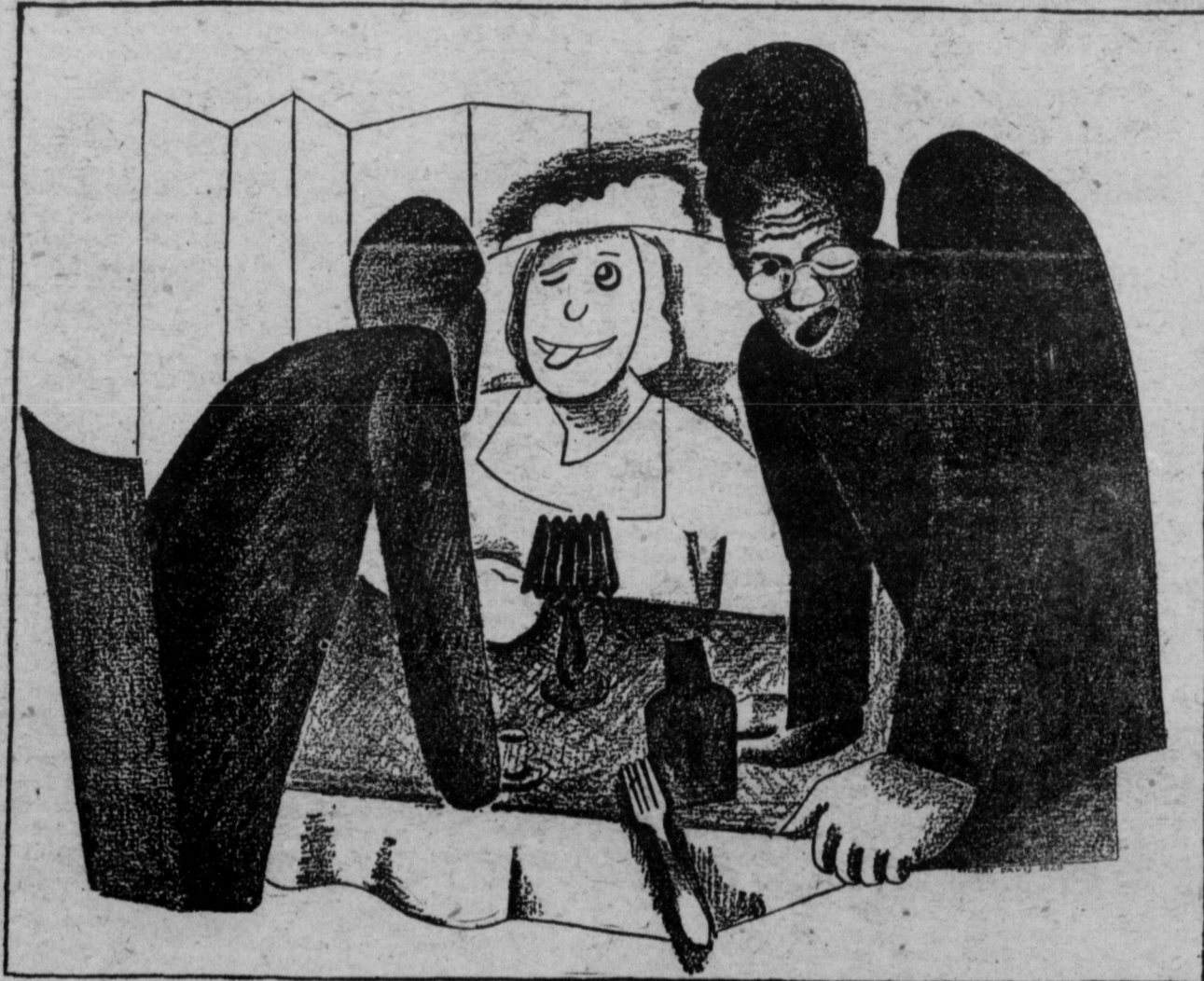
Thus the government and mine owners are helping the general council to fight and defeat the miners' leaders at the conference of trade union executives on January 20.

This united front shows where trade unionism in Britain is going. The power of the official bureaucracy is being strengthened, and the rank and file—who have not yet seen the report of the general council for calling off the general strike—is completely ignored.

The minority movement conference that are being held in the district will enable trade unionists to voice their condemnation of the tactics of the general council and those who attend secret banquets organized by the open enemies of the labor movement.

Free State Disclaims Responsibility for Great Britain's Chinese Policy

DUBLIN, Ireland, Jan. 28.—An official statement on the attitude of the Free State government towards Britain's preparations for war on China stated that the Irish government accepted no responsibility for the British action towards China. It is well known that should the Free State government assist Downing Street in this war it would jeopardize its own existence in view of the hostility of the great majority of the Irish people to giving any aid to British imperialism.



A Green Witch and Two Thinkers.

Flashlights on Lenin, The Man

By ERIC VERNEY

MUCH has already been written about the greatest revolutionary leader, thinker and fighter of our times—Vladimir Ilyitch Lenin. But we have mainly seen Lenin from the angle of his theoretical conceptions and his practical policy, expressed in the Russian Revolution. We are now also beginning to study his political and economic doctrines and put them into force. But how many people know the human side of Lenin, how he worked and how he rested? Little is known as yet of the inner side of Lenin's life in his schooldays, in exile and in emigration.

It is true we get some "close-ups" of Lenin from the works of John Reed, Ransome and other writers. But only from those Russian comrades who lived and worked with Lenin on intimate terms can we get a real insight into Lenin's personality. With the exception of writings by Trotsky and Gorky, practically no Russian biographical material on Lenin has appeared in English. Meanwhile, the literature on Lenin in Russia is increasing year by year. Besides the valuable reminiscences of Lenin's wife and sisters, there is a multitude of books, pamphlets and articles by intimate comrades of Lenin. These biographers include the compositor who for years set up the type of "Iskra" and other Bolshevik papers in Geneva and elsewhere; the worker who hid Lenin in Finland in 1917, Lenin's chauffeur, telephone operator, secretary and many others who have lived or worked with him. This is all material for the all-embracing biography of Lenin which is bound to see light some day.

Meanwhile, I will endeavor to present English readers with a few sidelights on Lenin's life, revealing traits in his many-sided character hitherto unknown to most people. Everyone knows what colossal brain power, indomitable will, superhuman energy, courage and audacity Lenin had. He is also known as a ruthless and bitter enemy of all and everything standing in his path—the path of the workers' revolution. But Lenin was also extremely gentle and a loving comrade, a lover of children and of nature, a man of extreme simplicity and rare modesty. Some people picture Lenin as a kind of ascetic. This is quite incorrect. Lenin knew how to enjoy life. Nothing that was human was alien to him. He liked to observe human life and absorb everything surrounding him. He was cheerful and optimistic even at the time of the most difficult trials.

Lenin's Schooldays.

Those who remember Lenin from his schooldays say he was a bright youngster with fair curly hair and mischievous eyes. He was the liveliest child in the family. He was inventive, fond of playing pranks and the ringleader in many escapades. One of Lenin's favorite games in his early childhood was to play at soldiers with his brothers and sisters. He would line them up in the garden and bawl out commands at them. He also liked to play at hunting and was fond of gymnastics, especially parallel bars.

Though he disclosed great talent in school, young Volodya (as he was called in his childhood) was just as playful as the other boys. He loved to throw snowballs at passers-by from behind the garden wall. He liked swimming in the neighboring river, shooting with a catapult, catching birds and fishing. On holidays he would often get a rouble from his father to buy birds, and let them out of the cage next morning. Like most children, he was very fond of sweets.

As he grew older, though becoming more serious, Volodya lost none of his vivacity. His school reports revealed him as a gifted, studious and industrious pupil. He used to cope with his lessons with the greatest ease, and was never encumbered with unfinished homework. His schoolmates used to come to him for aid which he gave readily. He helped one student with languages for eighteen months without any compensation. Lenin showed great ability

for French, German, Latin and Greek.

By the time Lenin was 13, he was an ardent chess player and bookworm. Tolstoy's "Anna Karanina" was one of his favorite books at this period. His father having liberal views, Lenin had a fair amount of freedom. Although there was a reasonable amount of discipline, he could develop his inclinations as he wished. As a youth, Lenin was extremely interested in everything surrounding him and very impressionable. It is not known exactly when he first became infected with revolutionary ideas, but he was undoubtedly greatly influenced by his elder brother, Alexander Ulianov.

He loved to sit listening to the various political exiles or revolutionaries who came to see his brother. Once a visitor when speaking on secret matters pointed to the young Vladimir sitting nearby. "Don't worry," said his brother Alexander, "he is a born conspirator."

The execution of his brother Alexander Ulianov, in connection with a plot to assassinate Tsar Alexander

being the youngest out of thirty-two participants. He was expelled for this exploit. It was in Kazan that Lenin first studied the works of Marx. After getting his degree in law at St. Petersburg, as an external graduate, Lenin settled in Samara. At the age of 22 he worked as assistant juror in the Samara district court. In this capacity he had to defend many peasants tried on various charges, such as stealing. He nearly always pleaded for reduced sentences. In one case, when a merchant was charged with whipping his wife with a knout, the young juror, Lenin, was asked to plead for a reduction of sentence. This Lenin refused. During this period Lenin took part in Samara Marxist circles.

When he came to St. Petersburg in 1893, this was ostensibly also to practice at the bar. He actually defended a few criminal cases, wearing his father's black frock coat. But he soon established contact with workers' circles and started revolutionary activity. The police were immediately on his track. But even by this time he was skilled at conspirative work. He not only knew how to dodge de-

Marx's "Capital." He tried to make acquaintance with the local "intelligentsia." However, the teachers whom he approached preferred to drink and to play cards with the priests, merchants and other members of the local aristocracy.

After a while, Lenin was joined by Krupskaya, who was also exiled to Siberia and was accompanied by her mother. As it was difficult to employ a girl in the winter months, they did their own cooking. The food was very simple. Bread, milk and sometimes mutton. It could not be otherwise, for political exiles only got a "grant" of 8 roubles per month to cover all expenses. However, there was a kitchen garden by the house, so they grew their own cucumbers, carrots and beetroots.

Work in Exile.

Lenin accomplished a tremendous amount of work during these years of exile. In the mornings, together with Krupskaya, he would translate Sydney Webb's book on trade unionism. After dinner, they would write out "The Development of Capitalism in Russia," which he had commenced in prison. At this time a wide correspondence was maintained not only with the Social-Democrats in Russia, but also with the exiles in Siberia. This was difficult as the police were vigilant and correspondence had to go by way of indirect addresses. Lenin always looked forward eagerly to the post which came twice a week.

His sister, Anna, used to write all the St. Petersburg news. The correspondence covered Russian news, plans for the future, new books and philosophical tendencies. Lenin did considerable translation work from English, German and French into Russian, assisted by Krupskaya. They translated, at this time, Kautsky's "Anti-Bernstein" in two weeks.

Another of Lenin's occupations in exile was chess playing. Lepeshinsky recounts how he used to play chess with Lenin for hours at a stretch, when the latter used to come to visit him at his place of exile in Minusinsk. Lepeshinsky could never win a game. Once he organized an "alliance" of three comrades against Lenin. Lenin began to lose piece after piece. But stubbornly, persistently he fought them, concentrating the whole strength of his mind on the board. So great was his effort that the perspiration was dripping from his brow. At that moment nothing would have moved him from the board, not even the cry of "Fire." Lepeshinsky compares this game of chess to Lenin's own life work.

In the evenings, after work was finished, the chief recreations were walking, fishing and shooting. He was specially fond of hunting wild duck and hare. Krupskaya tells how Lenin was absolutely bubbling over with high spirits on those Siberian evenings.

Love for Nature, Music, Poetry.

Lenin was passionately fond of nature. He loved to walk miles along the river on autumn nights, and hear the thin ice cracking beneath his feet. In the summer he would sit by the running river, which reminded him of his native Volga. He was very fond of music, but what music there was, was very primitive in these parts. The harmoniums of the village youth pleased him none the less. When he returned from the evening walk his reading generally comprised the philosophical books of Hegel, Kant or the French materialists. When he became tired he would turn to the poems of Pushkin, Lermontov or Nekrasov. It has been said that Lenin only liked "serious" books and never read novels. This is a legend. He read Turgeniev, Tolstoy, and was very fond of the classics. It is interesting here to note that he kept a photograph album containing portraits not only of famous contemporary revolutionaries, but also of Emile Zola, Herzen and Tchernyshevsky.

On returning to Russia from exile, Lenin gave up chess playing. "It gets too much of a grip on you, and hinders work," he said. And as he did not do anything by halves, but always put his whole heart into all he accomplished, he was unwilling to devote himself to chess even when resting

Cont. On Page 7

White Terror In Poland.



Horrors of Prison Life.

III, made a tremendous impression on Lenin. He was only 17 years old at the time and was greatly attached to his brother, but he took the terrible blow calmly. "Tears are of no avail," he said, "I must avenge him." And from this time on he became more serious and began to think profoundly. At this time the whole country was seething with unrest; peasants were burning estates, Tsarist oppression was at its fiercest. Lenin also felt the oppression of the narrow, religious, conservative atmosphere of the petty bourgeois provincial town he lived in.

Meanwhile, there was already a stigma on the Ulianov family in connection with the eldest son. On leaving the high school, Ilyitch was only granted his gold medal with reluctance. All the former friends of the family deserted them. Life became unbearable and the family left for Kazan. All these factors and the execution of his brother made Lenin think about the necessity of the revolutionary struggle.

Refused admittance to the St. Petersburg University, Lenin entered the University of Kazan. Here he took a leading part in a students' riot,

He taught the comrades how to inscribe various secret signs, how to write with "invisible" chemical inks, how to make codes, etc.

In Prison and Exile.

In 1895, Lenin went abroad to establish contact with Plekhanov. He returned to Russia with illegal Social-Democratic literature. He was shortly afterwards arrested and imprisoned for over a year. He soon learnt the technique of getting things out of prison, and maintained contact with the outside world by corresponding in books, and passing out notes in his soiled linen.

He even wrote whole pamphlets which he got sent outside while still in prison. These included "On Strikes" and "Draft Programme of Russian Social-Democracy." This term of imprisonment was spent in writing his first important work, "The Development of Capitalism in Russia."

In 1897, exiled for three years to the little village of Shushensk in Siberia, he lived in a small clean room in a peasant's house with whitewashed walls. There were only two other political exiles here—a Polish worker and a Finn. Lenin soon began to teach them Marxism and explain

(Continued from page 6)

he was always able to give up anything that hindered his work. When still at school, for example, he used to love skating, but found he got tired and sleepy after it, and therefore gave it up as it hindered his studies. He was also very fond of Latin, but he also gave this up as it hindered more important work. Krupskaya, in her reminiscences, alludes to the fact that several writers have compared Lenin's style and phrasing with the phraseology of the Roman orators. She thinks that this is not by chance, but under influence of his former enthusiasm for the Roman writers.

Meanwhile, throughout these years of exile, Lenin's interest and enthusiasm for the revolutionary movement did not subside. On the contrary, as the termination of his exile drew near, his hopes for the future increased with his impatience to be free. Already before his return, he was planning the work for the formation of a compact Party with a clear-cut ideology. He spent many sleepless nights thinking out detailed plans for a Party paper published abroad, means of illegal transportation into Russia, and so on. He communicated these plans to Martov and the comrades in Russia.

Return From Exile.

In March, 1900, Lenin's exile ended. Day and night he travelled in a sleigh across the Siberian snow—300 versts up the River Yenesei, dreaming of the future. Returning to Pskov, he began organizing a network of connections for the future Social-Democratic paper that was to be published abroad, but he was soon to leave Russia to join Axelrod and Plekhanov. Just as he was about to leave Pskov for abroad, Lenin was arrested in the street together with Martov. He had 2,000 roubles in his pocket. He explained to the police that he had got the money from his "aunt." Luckily, the list of contacts for the newspaper was written in chemical ink and covered with faked calculations. If the gendarmes had thought of heating this piece of paper, the entire scheme for the newspaper might have been wrecked. However, Lenin was released after being under arrest ten days.

In August, 1900, Lenin came to agreement with the Plekhanov group for the publication of "Iskra." After a short stay in Geneva, he settled in Munich, where he was later joined by Krupskaya, who had just completed her Siberian exile. Krupskaya relates an interesting incident connected with her journey abroad. She had been given an address in Prague. On arriving there, she found Lenin was actually in Munich and the Prague address had only been a point for the dispatch of correspondence. Occurrences of this kind were frequent in the history of the illegal work of the Party. Shliapnikov, for instance, once went to Genoa instead of Geneva, while another comrade was almost sent to America instead of England. In this case, Krupskaya was sent on from Prague to Herr Rithmeyer at an address in Munich. She arrived at a beer-house and inquired for Herr Rithmeyer, expecting to be presented to Lenin. But again it appeared she was on the wrong track. "I am Rithmeyer," replied the owner of the beer-house. But he told her there was a Russian gentleman staying there who was expecting his wife from Siberia. Fortunately, the Russian gentleman turned out to be Lenin. He had written to her to come to Munich, but she had not received his letter.

Krupskaya found Lenin living very simply. The owner of the beer-house to whom the room belonged, was a Social-Democrat. His wife, a buxom German woman, used to feed Lenin on mehlspise (a kind of pudding) while he used to get his breakfasts and suppers himself. He drank out of a tin mug which he himself washed out and hung up on a nail by the tap. Although the Russian emigrants in Munich mostly lived legally, Lenin and Krupskaya lived apart from the Russian colony in order not to compromise comrades coming from Russia on Party work. Krupskaya was appointed editorial secretary. Together with Axelrod, Vera Zassulitch and Plekhanov, they organized the production of "Iskra" and its illegal transportation to Russia. It was generally sent to various arranged addresses in Russia, "to be called for."

While in Munich, Lenin commenced his famous book, "What is to be

Done?" First, he would pace up and down in deep thought. Then he would sit down and write for hours at a stretch. Krupskaya never interrupted him with questions while he was working. But afterwards, in the evening, they would walk right out to the quietest part of the suburbs, and he would outline with great enthusiasm the main content of what he had written. They would then return to their room where the meetings of the Editorial Board were held.

Martov used to come in the morning to look over the post and sit nearly all day long smoking and telling all the latest news. He used to go on and on, jumping from one subject to another. "Martov is a typical journalist," Lenin often said. "He is extremely talented, seems to grasp everything immediately, extremely impressionable, but takes up a light attitude towards everything." Other comrades used to drop in and they had long, heated arguments for hours at a stretch. Most of the Russian emigrants preferred talking, smoking and sitting round the table drinking endless glasses of tea. Lenin, however, could not stand this and whenever possible he tried to slip away for a walk. His love for Nature attracted him to the river, or far away to the outskirts of the town. Seeing that the long arguments and talks fatigued Lenin, and were detrimental to his health, Krupskaya went round to Martov and asked him to come to see them less frequently. It was agreed that she should go to Martov and report on all the letters received from Russia. But after two days the whole scheme broke down. Martov could not live without the long talks.

In London.

In April, 1902, Lenin came to London. As Lenin had translated Webb's "Theory and Practice of Trade Unionism" from English into Russian while in exile in Siberia, and as Krupskaya had learnt English from a self-tutor while in prison, they both thought they would be able to speak the language. To their dismay, they found that no one understood a word they were talking about. Nor could they understand a word of English "as she is spoke." However, they started learning the colloquial language assiduously. They went to all kinds of meetings, sat in the front, and attentively watched the speaker's mouth. Lenin used to go to Hyde Park to hear an Irish Atheist whose pronunciation he found easier to understand than the London accent. He also advertised and got two Englishmen to exchange English lessons for Russian. Lenin was thus able to learn the language fairly thoroughly.

Lenin also took great interest in studying London. Except for the British Museum, where he spent half his time in the library, he did not like visiting museums. Egyptian mummies and Babylonian cuneiform wearied him. The only museum of which he never tired, was a little museum of the 1848 French Revolution, in Rue des Cordillieres, Paris. Very fond of going round London on top of the bus, he would observe the comfortable semi-detached houses with gardens in the residential parts of the city and the squalid slums of the workers' districts. "Two nations!" he would mutter through his teeth in English to Krupskaya. He always felt an attraction towards crowds, and often took a bus ride on Saturday night through the working class-districts, watching with interest the long rows of barrows with flares, and the people doing their Saturday shopping.

Already in those days, Lenin had great hopes in the British workers. He always tried to get as near to the rank and file as possible. He not only listened to the Hyde Park orators, talking about atheism, garden cities and the bad conditions of shop assistants, but also went to various Socialist meetings in the suburbs, and a Socialist church in Seven Sisters Road. He used to go to Whitechapel and talk with the Russian sailors and listen to the troubles of poor Russian Jew immigrants.

Even in whirling and smoky London, Lenin's love for Nature did not diminish. To use Krupskaya's own words, "... even in London we managed to get a glimpse of Nature, and this was not so easy in this smoky, foggy city—especially when we could not spend more than three-halfpence for a bus." When a comrade once said that Lenin only sat in the British Museum, Vera Zassulitch burst out

indignantly: "He passionately loves Nature." During this period, Lenin paid a visit to his mother in Brittany. He loved the sea; its continual movement and great breadth soothed him,

and he felt rested. While in London, he was very fond of the Zoological Gardens. He often walked up Primrose Hill and admired the view of the city.



Capitalist Tout to Farmer:—The worker back there in the to blame for your troubles.

"NEW MASSES" WRITERS TALK WAR

By S. A. GARLIN.

The February issue of "The New Masses" is practically an "oil" number. The daring exploits of the American capitalist imperialists in the Caribbean area are described with much gusto by Scott Nearing, with the active assistance of several of the cartoonists of the magazine.

In an article entitled, "Uncle Sam—Buccaneer" Nearing, in his customary crisp manner, tells some of the reasons that make it necessary for the Coolidge administration to have 15 warships and several hundred U. S. marines in Nicaragua.

"Uncle Sam needs another canal across the Isthmus. The Panama Canal is getting crowded and besides, in time of war its locks and slides are indefensible against an attack from the air.

"Nicaragua, has the only alternative route, thru the San Juan River and Lake Nicaragua. To be sure, Costa Rica claims a voice in the matter as the San Juan River borders that country. But Costa Rica will be dealt with later."

The role of Adolpho Diaz as a petty henchman of American business interests is explained by Nearing in this article, who points out that the present "head" of the government was a clerk in the office of an American corporation operating in Nicaragua when he advanced \$600,000 to finance a revolution that was supported, recognized and defended by the U. S. State Department.

In another article on the present situation in Mexico, Nearing puts down all the current troubles of the Mexican people to the discovery of oil in that republic in 1863.

"If the keeping of the Mexican oil fields costs a few rivulets of working-class blood—well, at any rate, Standard will have the oil—and oil is thicker than blood any day."

John B. Chapple, who shows an intimacy with the struggle of the American farmers, writes in this issue on their growing disgust with petty reforms on the one hand, and patronizing "scientific agriculturalists" on the other.

Declaring that "the dirt farmers are hungry," the writer says that they are being driven off the farms throughout the United States.

"Their costs are going up and their receipts down. Taxes and mortgages have them helpless. Insurance companies are cancelling policies, because the value of farms has dropped below what the buildings were insured for a few years ago, and the companies fear the temptation to set the buildings on fire is too great."

"Love Feasts for Labor" is the title of a bristling article by Robert W. Dunn. Discussing the recent outpourings of sociological blah about the "way to handle the labor situation," and how "labor and capital can work together," Dunn gives the laugh to the pompous hypocrites.

There is an interesting article on "The Russians in China" by Lewis S. Gannett, an editor of The Nation, who spent more than a year investigating conditions in that no-longer benighted country.

(Continued from page 4)

the whole drive against the Communists at this time. The Communists stand for the class struggle for better conditions for the workers, for the organization of the unorganized, against class collaboration. They must be destroyed. The bosses enlist the aid of the American Federation of Labor, the Socialists to help them in this work. But they do not stop here. They do not want any kind of unionism. They want the open shop. When the Communists are cleaned out, they want the A. F. of L. to aid them in cleaning out the Socialists, and when that has been done the open shoppers will begin their campaign to destroy Unionism in this country and proclaim the open shop.

But the New York Commercial and the bosses as a whole will find that while they may and are enlisting the American Federation of Labor officials and the Socialists in the united front against the Communists and militant unionism, they will not destroy the Communist movement and they will not destroy the trade union movement. The Communists will continue their work. The left wing in the trade unions will continue their work. What the New York Commercial and similar agencies are doing is to expose the Socialists and the trade union bureaucrats before the broad masses of organized and unorganized workers, and hasten the process of cleaning the labor movement of the agents of the bosses and prepare the ground for a bigger, broader and more militant trade union movement in this country.

"Against the united front of the government, the open shoppers, the Socialists and the labor bureaucrats there will be formed the united front of all militants in the American labor movement."

(Continued from page 3)
from Alex Howat and the progressive miners!

But although the Employers' Association of Pittsburg did not inspire the raids they refuse to be pushed back of the scene even by John L. Lewis. They say that the raids were not timed properly and that this left "open to arrest and identification every operative who had furnished the information on which the raids were based." This is a pleasant pickle. Some of the poor stools in the radical ranks were picked up in the raids. But, as I recall they—whoever they were—were quickly released and the

charges against them dropped. The Employers' Association also tells us that it "drew the briefs and furnished practically all of the information on the Blankenstein case, which is being used as a precedent in this case. The Employers' Association furnished all of the information on which the search warrants were based in the recent raids."

Gold Star For Lewis.

Well, let them have some of the credit. Let them share it with the officials of the United Mine Workers of America. Who would begrudge them this, several years after the event. Incidentally Blankenstein was

a W. P. member who received a 2-year sentence for having some party literature in his parlor. That's all. The Flynn anti-sedition law is an effective weapon against the thinking worker. The United Mine Workers' officials knew this when they plotted these raids.

One final word from the Employers' Association statement: "The nature of the activities of the Workers' Party down to its most minute detail has been known to the department of justice from information furnished by the Employers' Association and others. (italics ours.) These raids could have been made at any time for the

past year. However, no action could be gotten until the United Mine Workers brought their political pressure to bear to have this work done."

And David Berry? God knows what has happened to him and his damage suit. Our last information was that he had been arrested in Washington, D. C., for issuing bad checks. He's probably in an alcoholic ward somewhere, or shaking money out of a boss. Wherever he is, he has our thanks for bringing that suit. It helped us to confirm a few suspicions we had about those raids—and to learn more about Mr. Lewis and his gang.

WALL STREET'S EXECUTIVE PUPPET.

