

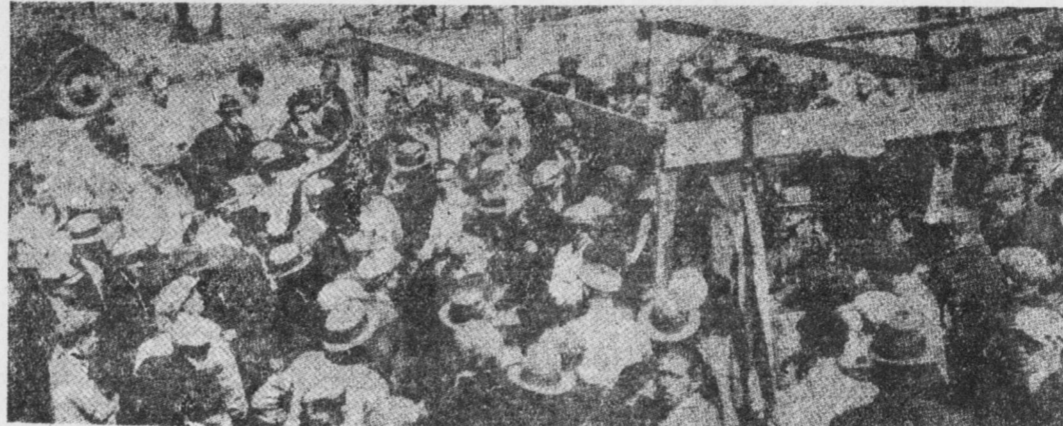
NAT'L MINERS UNION LEADS 9,000 IN STRIKE AGAINST STARVATION



Strike pickets marching to Montour Mine No. 30. Note the women in the front ranks, fighting along side of the men. Unemployed and employed united in the mass picketing. Negro workers took part in this mass picketing demonstration. Tear gas bombs were thrown at the pickets in some of the mines but failed to route the strikers.



Coal and iron police—company gunmen—waiting to shoot down strikers at the order of the bosses in the Pennsylvania coal strike.



This is a view of a group of striking miners of the Pittsburgh Terminal Mine No. 8, Coverdale, being addressed by Frank Borick, National Secretary of the National Miners' Union.



Above are state troopers with rifles sent by the bosses from Greensburg to guard the Pittsburgh Coal Co. Mine No. 10 in Liberty and to protect scabs.



Daily Worker

Central Organ of the Communist Party U.S.A.

(Section of the Communist International)

WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!

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CITY EDITION

Price 3 Cents

The Miners March Again!

By BILL DUNNE

PITTSBURGH, June 3.—The Western Pennsylvania miners are marching again and there is panic in the ranks of the coal and steel barons of this district of heavy industry. Under the leadership of the National Miners Union affiliated to the Trade Union Unity League, with rank and file strike committees elected at every mine and with the central district strike committee in session in Pittsburgh today, working out the plans to extend the struggles, the miners, their wives and children, have struck against starvation.

It is true that the ranks of the miners are thinner than in 1927-28 but already close to 10,000 miners, one-third of those employed, have left the mines at the call of the strike committees, after strike votes taken in mass meetings, have joined the marching picketers that have swept once more through the coal fields. The ranks are thinner because the speed-up, the blacklist and starvation have taken a heavy toll in four years.

"No War in Coal!" says the headline of the first page editorial of the Pittsburgh Press—the liberal Scripps-McRae sheet that is the most sensitive to the exigencies of the lords of coal and steel.

The strike is spreading. Although the miners and their families have lived on the edge of starvation for more than five years, the Pittsburgh Press has never before got excited about this fact. It is only when the revolt of the miners, as in 1927-28, is being led by revolutionary trade unionists with the Communist Party taking a leading part, that it calls the attention of its masters to the statement of the Russell Sage Foundation which, "after studying 10,000 disputes which occurred in 30 years, concludes that the coal industry's problems have come nearest to being solved where miners and operators have organized to act co-operatively and as equal partners in their enterprises."

The coal industry "is vital to Pittsburgh," says the Press. "It should have far more help and consideration from Pittsburgh as a whole, from business, professional and labor leaders, than it ever has had. If we have leadership in the Pittsburgh district, now is the time for it to show itself."

It concludes: "Above all, let's have no violence."

This is the kind of strike-breaking hypocrisy which forms the basis of the united front between the local capitalist press and Fagan, secretary of the one skeleton local of the Lewis U. M. W. A., composed of company hangers-on, in this district.

The local press has been trying for four days to hand the leadership of the strike to Fagan but the miners will have none of it. Not a single mass meeting, to say nothing of a strike meeting, has been held by Fagan but the press nevertheless, as the Sun-Telegraph, for instance, continues to refer to the "leaders of the U. M. W. A. who are instigating a strike at other mines in the district," and to the "two-fold phase" of the strike.

As for the call for "no violence" issued by the Pittsburgh Press this is sheer provocation against strikers since the various police agencies—state cossacks, coal and iron police and special deputy sheriffs—are already in the field in large numbers. Their activities at this stage can be judged from the following description in the Hearst sheet—the Sun-Telegraph:

"The coal and iron police, armed with heavy caliber revolvers and their maces, kept the strikers moving. The state police, in three automobiles, each containing a sergeant and three men, kept moving up and down the highway."

A dozen arrests have occurred, a number of women numbered among them.

This strike is a strike against starvation. There are concrete demands which have to deal with this major question in the strike call and program of action adopted by the district strike committee today, but both strikers and unemployed—between whom there cannot be seen the slightest rift—understand fully the nature of this struggle.

It is for this reason that the district strike committee meeting, composed of elected representatives of the local mine strike committees, and because of the success of the NMU in developing and carrying through the policy of stimulating leadership directly from the ranks of the workers, affords a sight that is still too rare in the United States—a meeting of working men and women, Negro and white, with large numbers of Negro women, working out together their demands for strikers and unemployed, and developing the central plan of campaign on the basis of their experiences of the bitter struggle all of them have left for but a few hours to carry out this important work. Here is a battle staff with the marks of battle on it. (Remember that only four years ago the Negro workers were lured into this field to take the places of the strikers.)

Thousands of applications for the union have been received. No one can say exactly how many because two typists have been busy for two days compiling the applications, assigning them to their respective mine locals, etc., and the work is not yet finished.

Two great tasks confront the district strike committee:

The first is the extension of the strike to the Eastern Ohio and Northern West Virginia fields where conditions are as bad or worse than in Western Pennsylvania.

Second, the organization of strike relief. It must not be forgotten that these miners and their families have no reserves—either of money, food or clothes. Eviction notices have already been posted for many of them. The slow starvation while at work is replaced by a more rapid progress of actual aching hunger.

The strike committee plans to have the wives and children of the strikers and the unemployed organize and carry through mass campaigns for relief in the cities and towns of the district—in Pittsburgh first of all. We will see whether the apostles of "cooperation of miners and operators" will respond to this form of cooperative appeal.

Some immediate relief will be secured in this way but the Workers International Relief, the Metal Workers' Industrial League—so closely connected with the struggle of the miners in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia—and other working class organizations, must assist in every way possible to give the miners and their families the sinews of war—for war it is, a war of workers for the right to live.

Rally with all forces to the striking miners whose unbroken spirit and fighting will show the way to the whole American working class.

Warning!

Readers:

Today is the crucial day in the life of the Daily Worker. Yesterday only \$612.75 was received and we still are \$3,146 short of the \$5,000 that had to be raised within three days. Unless we receive a substantial part of this money today, we will not have sufficient paper to get out tomorrow's issue. Only you, the workers, can save the Daily Worker! What will be your answer? Keep our Daily alive and fighting! Rush contributions by wire to the Daily Worker, 50 E. 13th St. New York City.

Daily Worker Management Comm.

NEWS FLASH

We have just received an urgent appeal from Pittsburgh asking us to send bundles of Dailies to help spread the mine strike. We must have money to meet this demand. What will be YOUR answer to this appeal, comrades?

Hearings Today on Motions of I.L.D. For New Trials for 9 Scottsboro Boys

Many Organizations Wiring Demands to Trial Judge

CHATTANOOGA, June 4.—The hearing on the motions filed by the International Labor Defense for new trials for the nine Scottsboro Negro boys facing the electric chair on a vicious framed-up charge of having raped two white girls, will take place today in Scottsboro, Alabama.

The International Labor Defense in its motions for new trials for the boys challenges the boss court lynch verdict which in the first farcical "trial" sentenced eight of the boys to burn in the electric chair on July 10. The trial of the ninth boy, 14-year old Roy Wright, was declared a mistrial. Two of the other boys are also only 14. The oldest boy is just 20.

"Tried" in Lynching Atmosphere
The boys were "tried" in a tense lynch atmosphere, with an armed mob

of 10,000 surrounding the court house and yelling for their blood. A brass band was on hand to play the "Star Spangled Banner" and "Dixie" as the first verdicts were announced. The boys were sentenced on the unsupported testimony of two white prostitutes who, at first denying that the boys had been traveling with 7 white men on the freight train which the boys had hoped in search of work. The girls at first denying that the boys had molested them were forced by the Alabama bosses and court officials to lie against the boys. In this they were ably aided by Stephen R. Roddy, Ku Klux Klan attorney who

was in the case without the consent of either the boys or their parents. Roddy declined to cross-examine the girls, in spite of the glaring contradictions in their testimony. Roddy has been denounced by the nine boys as "a traitor to our cause." Roddy is now claimed by Walter White to be representing the N.A.A.C.P.

Boss Terror Against Defense
As the hearing on the I. L. D. motions for new trials nears, the Alabama bosses finding their bloody plans for a legal mass lynching challenged by millions of white and Negro workers throughout the country, are carrying on a terroristic campaign against the I. L. D. and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, the two organizations which initiated the mass movement to save the nine boys.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)

FOSTER TO SPEAK METAL MASS MEET

Start Drive in New York Metal Shops

NEW YORK.—Metal workers from many shops and factories are expected to come tonight to the mass meeting called by the New York local of the Metal Workers Industrial League. The purpose of the meeting, is to officially open the organization drive in the shops and factories.

Machinists, tool and die makers, metal polishers, spinners, molders, auto mechanics, helpers and workers from all other trades are invited. The meeting will take place tonight at 8 p. m. at Stuyvesant Casino, 142 Second Avenue, corner 9th Street, New York. Admission free.

HURL TEAR GAS AT PICKET LINES IN MINE STRIKE

Sheriff Fails to Break Ranks; Demands Are Formulated By Strike Committee

Miner's Slogan Is: "Might As Well Starve Striking As Starve Working!"

PITTSBURGH, Pa., June 4.—Mass picketing by over 300 took place at the Cedar Grove mine of the Carnegie Coal Co., near Avella, led by Frank Note of the National Miners Union National Board. The Sheriff of Washington County ordered Note to disperse the pickets and get out of town or he would be arrested and taken to Washington, Pennsylvania. Note refused and urged the pickets to stand fast. The sheriff ordered the deputies to attack with tear gas. Tear gas bombs were thrown but the pickets held their line solid until the regular time to end the morning picketing.

Wednesday night mass picketing at the Montour mine, No. 10, at Library was broken up by the deputies' attack, but this morning 1,400 went on the mass picket line here and it was not broken up. This is the answer of the miners to the attack on the smaller picket line yesterday.

This morning the strikers of the Soudan mine of the Valley Camp Coal Co., who walked out yesterday, marched on Gibson Mine of the Hillman Coal Co. at Bentleyville and caused a hundred per cent strike of 400 miners there. They are continuing their march into the territory of the Bethlehem Co.

There is intense militancy and enthusiasm among the miners. They say: "Might as well starve striking as starve working!" The main slogan is: "Fight starvation by means of the strike." The second slogan is: "Spread the strike!" The Negroes imported in the 1927 strike are leading in this strike and are strongly represented on all committees.

Fagan, bureaucrat of the United Mine Workers here, is forming fake committees of the Carnegie Co. mines to meet the bosses and try to settle and betray the strike behind the

backs of the miners.

The National Miners' Union and Strike Committee organization of local, section and district strike committees is proceeding rapidly. Three thousand joined the National Miners' Union yesterday. Over 9,000 are out on strike.

The strikers' demands, adopted by the Pennsylvania District Rank and File Strike Committee yesterday are: "Fifty cents a ton for machine coal; 75 cents a ton for pick coal; 12 cents a ton for cutters; \$5.50 a day for day men; \$5.40 a day for day helpers; 67 cents a yard for narrow work; 15 cents a yard for cutters payment for all dead work, to be based on day man rate; outside skilled labor to be paid \$4.50 per day; outside unskilled labor to be paid \$4; all supplies to be delivered to face and adequate supplies to be on hand at all times; union check-weighman at every mine; enforcement of the 8-hour day; recognition of the National Miners' Union."

Demands for mechanical and conveyor loaders are to be formulated at the next meeting of the District Strike Committee.

(ADDITIONAL NEWS ON PAGE 3)

Workers of Detroit Rallying Against the Registration Bill And for Fight for Scottsboro 9

To Hold Mighty Protest Demonstration June 19 in Grand Circus Park Against Attacks on Negro and Foreign-Born Workers

DETROIT, June 4.—In militant protest against the new Michigan Alien Registration Bill and the Scottsboro boss court lynch verdict, the workers of Detroit will hold a tremendous demonstration on June 19. The demonstration will take place in Grand Circus Park at 5 p. m. From the park the workers will march to one of the largest halls in Detroit to be addressed by well-known working-class leaders.

The mass struggle against the Alien Registration Bill is combined with the struggle to free the nine innocent Scottsboro Negro boys being railroaded to the electric chair by the boss courts of Alabama on a lying framed-up charge of raping two white girls.

The workers of Detroit realize that it is the same ruling class which condemned these innocent boys to burn in the electric chair that has passed this infamous bill in the

Michigan legislature to photograph and fingerprint the foreign-born workers. In Michigan, as in Alabama, these vicious attacks on the working-class are aimed at crushing the resistance of the native and foreign-born Negro and white workers against the starvation capitalist system.

Only Mass Protest Can Defeat Bill
These vicious attacks on the workers, white and black, native and foreign born, can only be defeated by the united mass action of all the workers, banded together in a fighting alliance against the ruling class. The workers of Michigan are indignant over these attacks on the foreign-born and Negro workers. They are determined to fight against the registration bill. A City Committee of the Councils for the Protection of the Foreign Born has been set up,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)

N. J. State Ratification Convention of the Communist Party Opens Sunday, June 14

AT 10 A. M., LAUREL GARDEN, 457 SPRINGFIELD AVENUE, NEWARK, N. J.

RELIEF FOR JOBLESS, FIGHT ON PAYCUTS ARE CHIEF N. J. ISSUES

Republican and Democratic Parties Try Hide Real Issue Behind That of Prohibition

Communist Party Has Program to Lead Poor Farmers Into Struggle Against Bankers

By JOHN J. BALLAM.
(Communist Party candidate for Governor of New Jersey.)

The capitalist parties have just concluded their state conventions at Trenton, N. J., nominated their candidates and adopted their platforms.

Both wings of the bosses' party (Republican - Democratic) adopted identical platforms and have nominated two capitalist exploiters of labor as their candidates—Moore and Baird.

In their attempt to befuddle the workers, both charge each other with representing "invisible government"—the government of bootleggers, gangsters and racketeers—the truth being that both represent the dictatorship of finance capital.

Both candidates and platforms raise the fake issues of booze as their central plank and both stand for lower taxes for the landowners and capitalists.

Harry Heher, the chairman of the New Jersey State Convention of the Democratic Party, said:

"The republican nominee (Baird) cannot divorce himself from his financial interests."

Bankers' Candidates.

Quite so—and neither can the nominee of the Democratic Party (Moore). Here are the "financial interests" (connections) of both these candidates as recorded in "Who's Who":

David Baird—Republican candidate for Governor. President of the D. Baird Lumber Co. of Camden, N. J.; Director North Camden Building and Loan Ass.; Chairman of Board of Directors of Smith-Austerluch Co.; Director of First National Bank of Camden, N. J.; Director of Public Service Corporation of N. J. (This corporation controls trolley and bus transportation of the entire state and also gas, electric and power services. This light, transportation and power trust controls the state government, the capitalist politicians and A. F. of L. leaders, and lays tribute upon the working masses of New Jersey.)

A. Harry Moore—Democratic candidate for Governor. Director of West Bergen Trust Co.; Director Bank of Lafayette; Director Lafayette Building and Loan Ass.; Governor of N. J. during great Passaic strike (1926-27) when, at the command of the mill owners to break the strike, he arranged fake conferences with Senators Edge and Edwards and A. F. L. officials.

All the leaders of the Republican Party with whom Baird is associated (D. W. Morrow, Walker C. Edge, Hamilton F. Kean, Joseph W. Freulinghausen, Edward C. Stokes, etc.) are Wall Street bankers representing Morgan and other big business interests.

A. F. of L. and Bankers.

The leaders of the Democratic Party (Frank Hague, Edward I. Edwards, Ted Brandie, etc.) are all bootleggers, bankers and racketeers, representing big state business interests in whose services organized gangsters, including the A. F. of L. officials, are maintained to keep labor in subjection.

Both the so-called platforms of the Big Bosses' Parties are silent on the question of unemployment insurance, although they both carry a weak and inadequate statement on the appalling effects of the economic crisis on the workers and farmers of New Jersey.

With over five hundred thousand workers unemployed in the state, wage cut after wage cut is being forced upon those remaining at work reducing the already miserable wage. This is accompanied by the most terrific speed-up and long hours. The stagger system is being introduced, which still further reduces the workers' income far below the subsistence level.

Jobless Got No Relief.

The New Jersey state and city governments do nothing to help these thousands of jobless workers. Out of the score of millions of dollars annually appropriated by the state legislature, now under the control of both democrats and republicans, not one penny is devoted to relieve distress among the jobless workers and their families.

Instead the state platforms of both democratic and republican parties try out against increasing taxation

upon the rich corporations, bankers and business men who have amassed millions out of the sweat and toil of the workers.

When hungry unemployed workers under the leadership of the Communist Party, in their hunger march to Trenton, demanded that the governor an state legislature give immediate relief and unemployment insurance, they were met with blunt refusal to even consider these proposals. In many cities the unemployed were clubbed and jailed by the brutal police cossacks controlled by democratic and republican political puppets of the bosses.

Framed Five Workers.

In Paterson these same republican and democratic political stooge-pigs of the bosses are framing up five members of the National Textile Workers' Union on a charge of murder and are attempting to send them to the electric chair for the crime of striking against long hours and wage cuts and speed-up in the silk mills.

Now is the time for every worker a poor farmer in New Jersey to watch these fake candidates and their so-called platforms.

A vote for Republican-Socialist-Democratic candidates is a vote for wage cuts, speed-up, unemployment and starvation; for the attacks upon and deportation of the foreign-born workers; for the discrimination against and Jim-Crowing of the Negro workers; for eviction of workers' families from their homes; for police brutality and denial of freedom of press and speech and assembly for workers; for injunctions, destruction of workers' organizations and brutal suppression of the right to strike; for imperialist war and intervention against the workers' republic—the Soviet Union.

A vote for the Communist Party is a vote for unemployment insurance, old age pension and insurance against disability, accident, sickness, etc., for all workers.

What Communist Votes Mean.

A vote for the Communist Party is a vote to make complete social insurance for all workers including the unemployed a charge upon industry an dthe state out of progressive taxation upon all incomes over \$2,500 a year and upon all property values over \$25,000. Unemployment insurance is the chief immediate demand of the Communist Party for the relief of the hungry workers and their families. This includes payment of \$15 a week for the unemployed and \$5 a week additional for each dependent.

For the poor farmers of New Jersey, a vote for the Communist Party means a vote for radical reduction of taxes upon all farms assessed up to \$3,000; no forced sale or foreclosure for inability to pay taxes; improved township roads and reduction of electric light and power rates for small users.

For the working women of New Jersey, a vote for the Communist Party of New Jersey means a vote for equal pay for equal work, equal rights for women in every field, abolition of night work prohibition of night work and all occupations that are especially harmful to women, for all working class women social and unemployment insurance on an equal basis with men, and maternity insurance to include 8 weeks before and after childbirth at full trade union wages.

Against Lynch Terror.

For the youth and children of New Jersey, a vote for the Communist Party is a vote for prohibition of labor for children under 16 years of age, a 6-hour day for youth between the ages of 16 and 21 with equal pay for equal work, necessary clothing, food and equipment to be supplied free to all children in the public schools, the establishment of playgrounds and recreation centers in the working-class districts and vacation camps for the free use of working-class children.

For the Negro, a vote for the Communist Party is a vote against all discrimination against the Negro people, against all forms of segregation and Jim Crowing, against lynching, for full social and political equality, including the right of self-determination for the Negro nation in the United States, especially in the Black Belt region of the South, where the Negroes form a majority of the population.

Boss Parties in N. J. Dodge Burning Issues of Workers

NEWARK, N. J.—The democratic and republican party state conventions are over. Both parties have nominated candidates and have adopted their platforms for the 1931 county and state elections. In their platforms each party tries to be wetter than the other, making prohibition the major issue. Both parties give lip service to unemployment, taxation and the plight of the New Jersey farmers.

The Communist Party Election Campaign Committee of New Jersey calls attention to the fact that both conventions and the platform of each party pay no attention to the burning problem of the starving half million unemployed workers of the state, to the wage-cuts sweeping the length and breadth of the state, the part time work and speed-up of the employed workers to the fact that five militant textile workers have been framed up for murder in Paterson, or to the persecution of foreign and native-born workers, Negro and white, that is being intensified throughout the state.

Thousands of workers are facing eviction every day for non-payment of rent. Thousands of workers have lost their homes because they can't pay the mortgages and taxes. Disease and sickness are spreading among the workers. Thousands of workers' children are undernourished and underfed and go without proper food and warm clothing. In the bank crashes of Elizabeth and Linden thousands of workers have lost their lifetime savings. The Communist Party, in contrast to the democratic and republican parties, stresses as the outstanding issue of this election campaign the issue of immediate unemployment relief and unemployment and social insurance. The Communist Party Election Campaign Committee of New Jersey calls attention to the fact that when delegates of the jobsless and employed staged a hunger march to Trenton demanding relief, the state legislature, made up of democrats and republicans, refused to even consider their demands.

One department in our shop is called the "rush room," that is the girls room where they slave away for \$7 or \$8 for a whole week. Many times the girls have to work over time in order to get the work out. All they get for it is on occasional thanks from our parasites, the bosses, then the boss takes his share with a big smile on his pan.

ways wet and hale the steam from the chemical which is very injurious to the health of the workers.

All workers in the Morgan Laundry Service are urged to organize and fight against these conditions.

Elect your delegates to the Communist Party Ratification Convention to be held June 14 at Laurel Garden, 457 Springfield Avenue, Newark, beginning at 10 a.m. Join the Laundry Workers Industrial League.

The conditions of the Mangle Press and Finishing Department is terrible. The Mangle machine runs at a terrible speed which starts from the shakers and ends by the parkers. This continues the whole day thru. Most of the workers suffer from vocational diseases, especially those working by the Mangle, and are stifled by the extreme heat.

The Washers and Pullers are all NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRES EAST SIDE—BRONX

R K O
Always a Good Show
JEFFERSON
NOW - 8 - 8
8 ACTS
Doors Open Daily at 9:45 A. M.
Special Early Bird price 25c
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Except Sun, Hol.
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and others

The Whirlwind Speed-Up
The way we are driven to work fast is terrible. The boss stands behind the workers the whole day like a mad dog. The workers must report to him before they are allowed to go to toilet, then in a couple of

Participate in the Five Year Plan of the Soviet Union by helping build up Biro Bidjan as a Jewish Socialist Soviet Republic

Volunteer and Participate in the

"ICOR" TAG DAYS

Today, Tomorrow, Sunday June 5, 6, 7, 1931.

All Funds raised will be used to purchase agricultural and industrial machinery to be sent to the Jewish Pioneers in Biro-Bidjan, U. S. S. R.

Stations:

DOWNTOWN—Icor Office, 799 Broadway, Room 514; Downtown Workers Club, 11 Clinton St.; Downtown Jewish Workers School, No. 1, 134 E. 7th St.; East Side Workers Club, 196 East Broadway.

HARLEM—Jewish Workers School, of the I. W. O., 143 E. 103rd St.

BRONX—Bronx Icor, 1400 Boston Road; Workers Cooperative Colony, 2700 Bronx Park East, Shalom Aleichem Houses, 3451 Giles Place, G 32, Comrade Hoffman, Captain, Washington Heights and Inwood, 508 West 178th St.; Bronx Workers Club, 1472 Boston Road; Prospect Workers Club, 830 Westchester Ave.; Middle Bronx Workers Club, 1622 Bathgate Ave.; Tremont Workers Club, 749 Crotona Park North; Jerome Avenue Workers Club, 1645 Grand Concourse; North Bronx Icor, 3204 Wallace Ave.

BROOKLYN—Williamsburg Workers Center, 795 Flushing Ave., Brownsville, 162 Sutter Ave., 122 Osborn St., 261 Utica Ave., 118 Bristol St., 412 Sutter Ave., 313 Hinsdale St., Canarsie, 9105 Ave. L, near 91st St., Coney Island, 2921 W. 32nd St., near Mermaid, Brighton Beach, 140 Neptune Ave., near Coney Island Avenue, Bath Beach, 48 Bay 28th Street, Bensonhurst, 2006 70th St., 4080 65th St., Boro Park, 1373 43rd St.

All Jewish workers' children schools of the I. W. O. and Councils of Working Class Women, also branches of the International Workers Order, participate.

"ICOR," 799 Broadway, New York, Room 514. Tel: Stuyvesant 9-0867

Leather Workers Slave in Brunswick

(By a Worker Correspondent.)
NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.—Just a few words about the conditions of the workers in the Lefkowitz Leather Shop. Just one year ago we were working for \$18 to \$23 a week. Today we are putting out more work than ever before. We are working for \$10 to \$14 a week for the same production. Today there are just one-half of the workers left in the shop. In other words, 75 workers are doing the work that took previously 150 workers to do it. The motto of the bosses is to make two men out of one. This is what is going on in the Lefkowitz shop today. We are forced to slave the whole day without a stop, in one breath.

One department in our shop is called the "rush room," that is the girls room where they slave away for \$7 or \$8 for a whole week. Many times the girls have to work over time in order to get the work out. All they get for it is on occasional thanks from our parasites, the bosses, then the boss takes his share with a big smile on his pan.

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N.J. Ratification Meet To Expose A. F. of L. Grafters

A new scandal developed last week in the ranks of the American Federation of Labor officialdom in New Jersey. In the Building Trades, notorious for its racketeers, famous for gangsterism and graft, Theodore Brandie, organizer of the Iron Workers' Union, is now the storm center. Brandie is also general director of the bosses' Iron League of New Jersey at the small salary of \$25,000 a year, and at the same time head of the Hudson Builders' Material Supply Corporation, which controls all building supplies in Hudson County. It goes without saying that this of itself is a fruitful source of graft for

the gangsters of the A. F. of L. no doubt shared with the bosses of the Iron League, with whom Brandie works hand in glove.

Brandie's latest deal involves the firm of Meltzer Bros., who contracted for a \$500,000 apartment job in Jersey City and refused to buy the building supplies from Brandie. The Meltzer bosses claim they would have had to pay \$10,000 more for supplies if they had done so. The A. F. of L. racketeers got even, by pulling a strike on the job, robbing the building trades workers still more who have been among the hardest hit by the crisis. Meltzer took the case to court, where it is still pending, but in common with the bosses' policy gave in to the racketeers in order to have the strike called off.

Associated with Brandie are Jos. P. Pay, Edw. Shinn and James Larkin, all of them American Federation of Labor officials, members of the International Union of Operating Engineers. In addition to the millions piled up in graft each year by these gangsters, these corrupt, fascist labor fakers also draw salaries from the treasury of the union. Brandie, for example, draws salary from the union as paid organizer, while thousands of starving unemployed workers in the trade tramp the streets desperately looking for jobs.

The Ratification Convention of the Communist Party, which opens June 14 in Newark, will expose the bosses'

Colorful Program for the New Pioneer Affair Friday Eve.

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By Jorge, well-known writer of Red Sparks column, will act as chairman; the Workers' Laboratory Theatre will present a satirical sketch and also a one-act play on Scottsboro; A. B. Magil will read some of his revolutionary poems; Bill Gropper and Phil Bard will show colored slides illustrating Hap Jingles; Albert Morales will sing some Mexican revolutionary songs; Hugo Gellert and his young artists will make pictures and there will be two corking numbers by the talented Pioneer Red Dancers

Admission, 50 cents for grown-ups, 10 cents for kids.

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An Actual Photographic Record of the Changes Which Are Taking Place TODAY in the FIVE-YEAR PLAN
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Daily Worker

Central Office of the Communist Party U.S.A.

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THIS SATURDAY, JUNE 6th
ESTONIAN WORKERS CLUB, 2336 Third Ave., New York
Assupects: Unit 9, Section 4, CPUSA—8 P. M.—Admission 25 Cents

agents of the A. F. of L. leadership and its record of betrayals in New Jersey and at the same time lay down a plan of action for winning the workers into the ranks of the Trade Union Unity League during the election campaign, linking up the economic and political struggle of the working class, especially in the campaign for unemployment insurance, which is a major plank in the platform of the Communist Party.

Associated with Brandie are Jos. P. Pay, Edw. Shinn and James Larkin, all of them American Federation of Labor officials, members of the International Union of Operating Engineers. In addition to the millions piled up in graft each year by these gangsters, these corrupt, fascist labor fakers also draw salaries from the treasury of the union. Brandie, for example, draws salary from the union as paid organizer, while thousands of starving unemployed workers in the trade tramp the streets desperately looking for jobs.

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Saturday, June 6th
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given by the PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKERS LEAGUE

You Must Free the Imperial Valley Prisoners

By EMORY RAYMOND.

FOFTY-TWO years is a long time. Indeed, it is pretty nearly the average life of a worker engaged in the hammer-and-tongs struggle for existence in capitalist society.

Forty-two years!

It is a horribly long time for one to remain in a six-by-six prison cell.

And what manner act against society, undoubtedly one must ask, could warrant such brutal treatment. Murder? Yes, perhaps that would not be an excessive sentence for a cold-blooded murder. But scores of such cold-blooded killings go unpunished or even scarcely noticed in this class-ridden society of today. All depends upon the station in life of the accused.

Can it be a crime of such gravity for a worker who toils to dream of a better day for himself and his fellows?

Undoubtedly this can be no crime at all.

But such is the crime for which the eight Imperial Valley prisoners, Oscar Erickson, Carl Sklar, Braulio Oroso, Eduardo Herrera, Frank Spector, Tetsuji Horuchi, Danney Roxas and Lawrence Emery, are being deprived of the best part of their lives in California prisons, framed up under the Criminal Syndicalism Law of that state. Only criminals of the most hardened character, or men broken in body and mind could emerge from such servitude.

The sentences under which these workers are robbed of their freedom carry the catch-terms "from two to 42 years," "three to 42 years," and "two to 28 years." But make no mistake about it, fellow workers, the heart of the owning class does not soften toward members of the working class. It did not soften toward Tom Mooney and Warren Billings, Sacco and Vanzetti and the hundreds of other class war prisoners, and we can not expect this case to be an exception. The Imperial Valley prisoners will only gain their freedom through decisive action of the working class. If they are not kept in prison the maximum of the sentences it will be because the working class rises up en masse behind the International Labor Defense to fight for their release.

And what of the conditions in Imperial Valley against which the workers under leadership of the eight victims were revolting?

Although the outside world (thanks to the chambers of commerce) usually thinks of California only as a land of sunshine and happiness, these much-desired conditions of life are little known to the larger part of California's population. When the chambers of Commerce advertise California thusly, they are not thinking of the thousands and thousands of agricultural and other workers who actually produce the products so widely advertised. Little do these parasites think or care of the long hours of back-breaking toil under the boiling hot sun exacted of the workers.

No Happiness for Workers

In the Imperial Valley alone more than ten thousand workers are employed in the harvesting of crops on the huge fruit and vegetable factory-fields. Two thousand of these workers man the packing and shipping sheds where the products are crated, graded and shipped.

Mexicans, Filipinos, Hindus and Negroes comprise the bulk of the field workers who are by far the most severely exploited. In the packing sheds mostly whites are employed, the greater number of which are migratory workers. By the use of the modern machinery furnished by the large land owners to the tenants from huge "headquarters farms" a negligible number of workers are used in the actual cultivation of the fields.

Working in the blazing heat of the valley sun, most of the field and shed workers are entirely dependent upon the short harvest season. Thus they are projected from long periods of unemployment into the feverish maelstrom of the harvest season, lashed on by the whip-cracking foremen. Such a condition in itself is enough to snap the endurance of the human system, weakened as it is by the long stretches of deprivation and unemployment. Little wonder that many workers drop of stroke and sheer exhaustion. But for every worker who succumbs to press forward to take his place in a pitiful effort to secure a few cents with which to stave off the gnawing pangs of starvation. Therefore, it is of little concern to the fruit and vegetable trusts and their hirelings how the harvesters suffer. The first, last and sole aim of these trusts is to pile up huge profits for stockholders and it is the blood and sweat of the working man who pays.

And the conditions existing in the Imperial Valley present only a small picture of the exploitation and misery under which workers in capitalist countries exist.

Stir Up Race Hatred

The age-old trick of those who exploit, of playing one race or nationality against another, is prevalent in Imperial Valley. Race segregation and discrimination fostered by the bosses and their hirelings keep the workers apart and unorganized. In one section of the towns live the whites while in another dwell the Mexicans, Filipinos, Negroes and others in their ramshackle hovels. In the white sections store windows display large signs "For White Trade Only."

Race hatred is further engendered in the matter of wages. White workers in the sheds are paid at rates ranging from 60 cents to a dollar an hour, while the field workers, mainly Mexicans, Negroes and Filipinos, toil 16 and 18 hours a day at 25 to 35 cents per hour. Another dirty method of fanning the sparks of race-hatred is by cutting the wages of one group of workers by telling them that another group will work cheaper. Mexican workers are told the Filipino workers have agreed to take the jobs at a few cents less; Filipino or Negro workers are likewise victimized by lies that the Mexicans will work for less.

Defraud Workers

The vicious contract system affords another means of defrauding the workers of a part of their miserable wages. Large land holdings are leased to the tenants by the huge combines which own the land. As the harvest season approaches the tenants conclude contracts with "pickers" or labor contractors. These contractors, usually Japanese, Mexicans or Filipinos agree to furnish the laborers needed to harvest the crops. Wages are arbitrarily set by the tenants while the pickers, or contractors, receive a certain per centage, usually around two cents a crate, as commission. The tenants retain 25 per cent of the contractors' commission until the completion of the harvest as a guarantee of fulfillment of the contract. The pickers in turn hold out 25 per cent of the workers' wages until the final settlement of accounts is made. It is not an uncommon occurrence, however, for the contractor to "disappear" near the end of the harvest or the tenant refuse to pay the contractor on a pretext of bad crops. In both cases it is the worker who is left holding the short end of the stick, and the big companies which own the land are protected from any blame while at the same time they are assured their profits.

Government Serves Bosses

Recourse to the hypocritical State Department of Labor has been tried but without success. It is too easy for the large land companies to curl the labor department puppets into the palms of their hands.

Living conditions in the valley are wretched. Workers live in make-shift company camps consisting of ancient tents and brush-covered thatched shacks. Mud-caked irrigation ditches bring the workers their drinking water which is scarcely fit for animal consumption. As a result of the complete lack of sanitation, disease and death are the playmates of the workers' children.

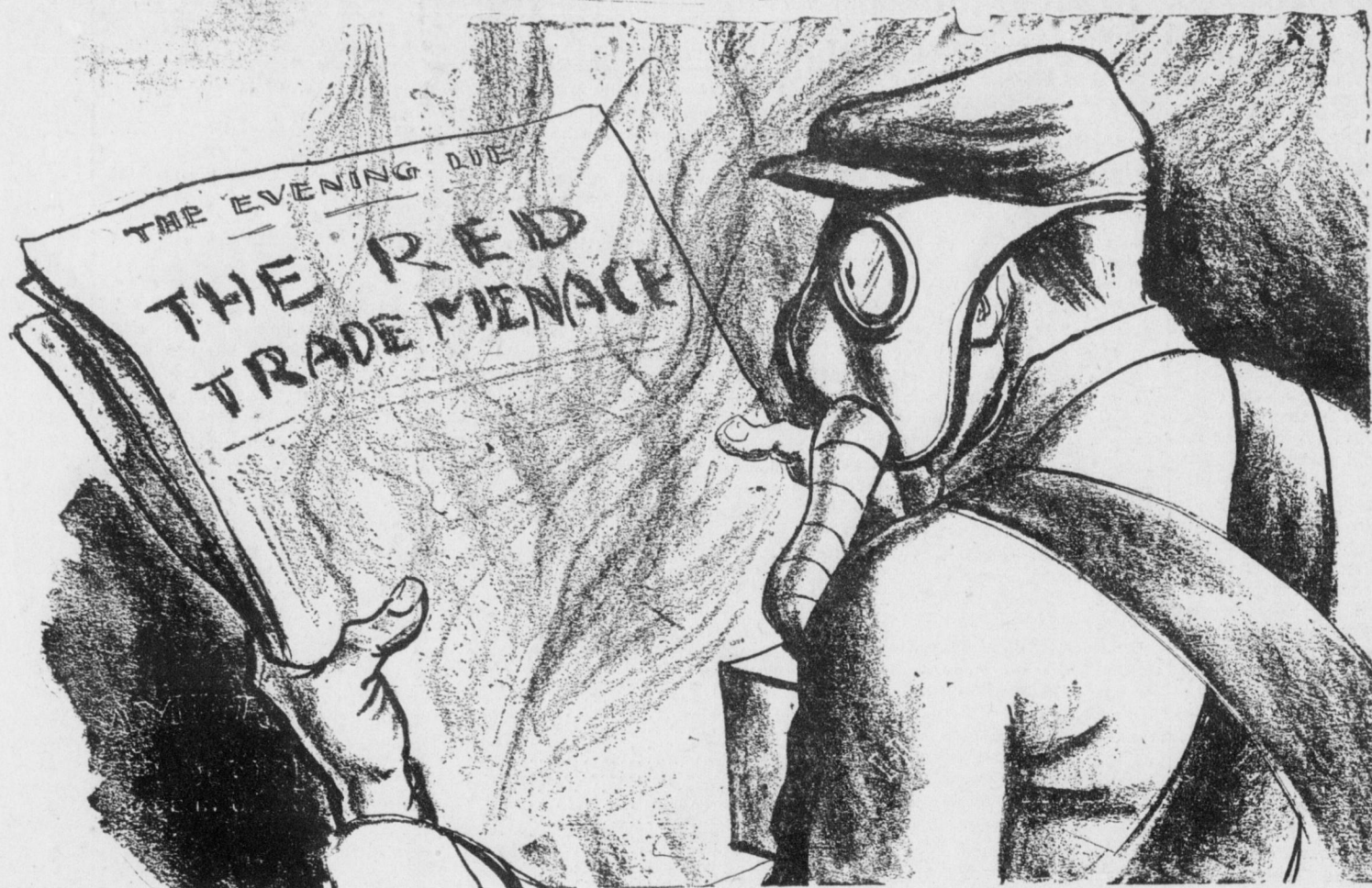
Such are some of the conditions against which the Imperial Valley prisoners were struggling. And it is for their fight that the bosses have grabbed them and railroaded them to prison under provisions of the hateful Criminal Syndicalism Law of California. The fight of the International Labor Defense and affiliated organizations against the Criminal Syndicalism Law and to free Erickson, Sklar, Spector and the other Valley prisoners is one in which every worker is concerned. This law can and is being used against any individual holding membership in any working class organization which takes up the challenge of the capitalist masters and fights for better conditions.

There is no telling who will be the next framed under this infamous class-law; our only hope is to get rid of it. Every worker is duty bound to sign the petition being prepared for circulation by the International Labor Defense for the repeal of this law. One hundred and eleven thousand signatures will be necessary to place the issue upon the ballot in the next election.

Your turn may be next, fellow worker. No worker is safe as long as this vicious law is being used as a weapon against our class.

Fight criminal syndicalism laws.
Freedom for the Imperial Valley prisoners.

G A S I



By BURCK

Red Sparks

By JORGE

Toot Your Own Horn!

"Dear Red Sparks:—In the news of the National Youth Day parade in Passaic, I found nothing about the National Textile Workers' Union Band of Paterson, N. J., which marched at the head of the parade, and of course not only marched, but played our revolutionary marches with gusto and enthusiasm.

"This may be news to you, as it was to many of the marchers, who thought we were a hired band. For this reason, and not that we want any praise, I am writing you. For by participating in parades of workers we are only fulfilling the purpose for which we were organized.

"It may also be of interest to other workers' organizations, especially youth, that our band, after only one year of learning band instruments, were able to come out in the street and play in such a manner as made comrades from other cities think we were a hired band. This should be an incentive to other workers' organizations to get busy along this line of cultural activity, so that next year's Youth Day will see not one band, but many of them, in line.—P. L."

A good idea, and we hope that your NITWU band also gets a delegate to the Cultural Conference in New York June 14, initiated by the John Reed Club. By the way, the John Reed Club has organized a special group to help song-writing workers along. To write, or help workers write, the words for revolutionary music, or the music for the words, and to do missionary work in teaching workers' organizations the many splendid revolutionary songs already available but which many organizations do not know.

American Dumping

We are downcast at the news reported in the N. Y. World-Telegram of last Friday, that American dumping has taken on a form peculiarly obnoxious to Europe.

Texas Guinan, who joined the "socialist" party last election to support Heywood "Gin" Brown and the Reverend Norman Thomas, undertook to go abroad with about twenty of her night club "hostesses," business in New York having fallen off alarmingly since the Stock Market crash.

News reports are that she was barred from England, and certainly she and her "hostesses" were prevented from landing in France. The World-Telegram, being friendly to "socialists" and "hostesses," used two columns and a front page picture telling of the outrage.

It seems strange enough, that somebody had whispered that Texas was one of those dames who makes money by introducing girls to tired business men, and that British morals might suffer if she landed with her "hostesses" or "performers," who it is said, perform things that are not listed even in the Ten Commandments.

Texas, in truly "socialist" indignation, resented the charge, offered a reward if anybody could prove it, and remarked bitterly that "England was only too glad to welcome me when I worked for her during the war." What kind of "work" she did, remains vague. Then she and her "hostesses" started for France.

But a squad of French dicks met her and refused to allow any scabbing on the girls of the Montmartre. Not a "hostess" could go ashore. She had "falsified" to get a visa. French officials said. The affair endangered relations between France and Washington.

The U. S. Consul, Edwin Kent, went down to the ship and tried to get the French to let the outfit land. Nothing doing. He pleaded that the poor girls were "forced to undergo the hardships of a cold luncheon"—certainly more than a U. S. official does for the unemployed in America. But nothing doing.

Cables to Washington, but Secretary Stimson would not send the marines—France is not Nicaragua. The French ambassador at Washington was interviewed. No, it was not a question of morals, he said. "The reasons are economic rather than moral." It appears that if Texas and her "hostesses" were moral and didn't intend to compete with the Paris girls, things would be different. "Too many night club ladies in Paris already," said the ambassador.

Meanwhile, from the top deck, Texas was screaming at the French dicks: "Hey suckers! I've been thrown out of better places than this! Is this the land Jack Pershing and 2,000,000 Americans helped to liberate? There's no more liberty here than in Russia!" That last crack was picked up straight from Heywood Brown's column in the World-Telegram.

It was all very touching. Norman Thomas should protest. The Civil Liberties Union should demand the civil rights of an American citizen be made effective. The American Fund for Public Service should send Kerensky a check to finance an appeal to Aristide Briand, and the New Republic write another editorial saying the it is all due to the "silly Communists" attacking the good, constructive "socialists."

We Set No Date

A comrade who corresponds with friends in France tells us that there, among the newspaper men the rumor is current that war is to "break out" in the coming July. Our comrade notes that this agrees with the prophecy of Ludendorff, the German general whose book on the coming war was commented on in the N. Y. Times only about ten days ago.

What do we know about it? Well, we know that imperialist war is certain as sunrise. But whether it will come in July or not we do not venture to prophesy.

Everywhere, and just as much in America as elsewhere, the imperialist governments are in a real fever of war preparations. Any day, both before and after, as well as during July, the new world massacre may begin. War hysteria, particularly against the Soviet Union, is being consciously whipped up. That is clear.

But don't be deluded by the apparent mass enthusiasm for war when it begins. Before it is over, there will be more mass enthusiasm to stop it, determination to overthrow the imperialist governments which started it and continue it.

Even the little "imitation bombs" dropped by "accident" over upper New York the other day, sent half a million people into hysteria. A lot of patriots will learn what it's like to be a Nicaraguan before the next war is ended, and they'll be ready to be called "bandits" and put an end to it.

Graft and Gangsters

By HARRY GANNES

In the last article, the role of the socialist in protecting the basis of graft in the capitalist governments was exposed. Previous articles deal with the origin of graft and gangsterism in the United States.

NEW YORK has its Capones. But Tammany Hall is wiser than to separate the functions of the gunman and grafter. It knows it is cheaper to hire the killers, when needed, than it is to let one grafter build up a big machine which may be a bit unwieldy. However, there are many who divide the honor of chief gunman to Tammany. Foremost is Bill Dwyer, who moves in the highest political and financial circles and is an intimate friend of Mayor Walker.

Dwyer's influence extends far into the confines of city hall and police headquarters. It was Dwyer who inaugurated the very practical method of running rum into New York on city garbage scoops, thereby saving the necessity of sending the scoops back on the twenty mile return trip without a pay load. The capitalist press reported the rum running but it refrained from mentioning some of the further details.

"Legs" Diamond—Strikebreaker.

"Legs" Diamond more recently has been in the public eye. He has many killings to his credit. On every occasion that this gunman has appeared in the Tammany courts he has gotten treatment that he never complained about. Four times he was discharged after being held for murder. Magistrate Andrew J. Macreary, who later was bumped off, freed "Legs" Diamond. Judge George W. Olivany, later head of Tammany, freed Diamond on a robbery charge. "Legs" Diamond is on the inside with Tammany Hall and has done them many services. At one time he was a bodyguard for Arnold Rothstein. Later he became a gorilla for Jacob ("Little Augie") Orgen, gangster hired by the bosses to break strikes.

Vaccarelli and Tammany Hall.

In his series of articles on graft in New York which appeared in the Daily Worker, Allan Johnson exposed the role of another A. F. of L. gunman, Paul Vaccarelli. Vaccarelli is the New York prototype of "Big Jim" Murphy of Chicago. Johnson wrote as follows about Vaccarelli:

"Paul Vaccarelli, alias Paul Kelly, is a convicted gunman. He has been a prize-fighter and a saloonkeeper, and he earns a very, very comfortable living today by labor racketeering, strike-breaking, supplying money to officers in A. F. of L. locals, and run-running on garbage scoops owned by New York City.

"Vaccarelli was once tendered a testimonial dinner because he refused to tie up British supplies and prevented the New York longshoremen from striking during the World War.

"The following 'personages' attended the strikebreaker's dinner: Justice Preschi, of Special Sessions commonly called the 'slaughter house' by workers; Magistrate Corrigan (one of the three 'honest' judges, so-called in New York); Municipal Court Justice Levy (an accomplished crook and now elevated to the Supreme Court); Municipal Court Justices Shtikin and Prince; Congressman George Loft; State

attend.

After making a new start we had four workers who were ready to help. Besides using these workers for getting contacts, speaking to friends and in general trying to organize workers, they are putting out a paper issued directly by them. A new method that is being utilized and is meeting with some response from the workers inside is the method of issuing little slips of papers and putting these in convenient places. This in many cases is the center of discussions among the workers because it shows that the union is inside, and a part of them. The method of chalking up walls, etc., is another method that can be used. The main shortcoming in our work here has been the complete failure of raising in an organized manner any partial demands. Because of raising these demands as they came to our attention we made a few mistakes by issuing wrong demands. Demands that the workers did not want. In those places that we did raise these partial demands they were raised only as propaganda slogans. Let us take the Polymet Radio as an example. There a simple demand based on unsanitary conditions was raised. This demand was raised in the shop bulletin as one the workers were to get only by going to the union. This demand

Senators Downing and Koenig; Assistant District Attorneys Cardone and Mancuso (Mancuso was later made a judge and helped to loot the City Trust Bank); Sheriff Riegelman of Queens; Public Works Commissioner Folks; Alderman Charles McGillicik, and Commissioner Roberts of the strikebreaking Department of Conciliation of the Department of Labor, in Washington. Strikebreakers, labor-haters and exploiters all.

"A new clubhouse, near Gun Hill Road, was opened by Vaccarelli in April, 1930. Among the gunmen, politicians, labor misleaders and professional strikebreakers who accepted invitations to the Legion's housewarming banquet were:

"Governor Roosevelt, Mayor Walker, Aldermanic President Joseph McKee, Supreme Court Justice John McCrehan and Bronx Borough President Henry Bruckner. Included in the list of honorary members of this gunman-strikebreaker organization are Joseph Miller, Borough President of Manhattan, and appointed to the Supreme Court bench; Borough President Henry Bruckner; Commissioner William Weber of the Board of Education; the Reverend James Gaffney and Alderman J. J. Hanley."

It is hard to beat the Chicago Municipal Court Judges for sheer corruption or for gangland connections. But the New York Magistrates have won this honor. Jobs as City Magistrate in New York are peddled like so many sacks of potatoes to the highest bidder. Not content with the usual "income" of the bench, the City Magistrates and Municipal Judges in New York invariably have "side-lines." An example is given by Judge Vause's case.

In 1929, Judge Vause started the Columbia Finance Corporation with the huge capital of \$128. The company later did business in the millions. It was only through the eventual bankruptcy of the Columbia Finance Corporation that it was discovered Judge Vause forged a stranger's name to a note on which he borrowed \$2,500. One slip led to another. It was further discovered that he got \$250,000 from the United American Lines for negotiating the transfer of Piers 84 and 86 in New York.

Judge Vause is not different, just unfortunate, and a bit careless.

Then there were Judges Ewald and Rosenbluth. Ewald purchased his job too openly. He paid Walker \$12,000 in 1927 for the right to evict workers and send strike pickets to jail. Judge Ewald, for instance, sent 150 pickets to prison. Coaching him on which of the strikers to give jail terms to was Samuel Markowitz, lawyer for almost all the "socialist" unions in New York. Markowitz sat on the bench next to Ewald while the workers were being "tried."

Judge Ewald was a good friend of "Legs" Diamond, and at a dinner given to Diamond on his release after being suspected of killing two other gunmen, one of those present to toast him was Judge Ewald.

Tammany Hall is not content with pulling the strings in the Municipal Courts alone. The Supreme Court judgeships likewise are for sale. Hereby hangs a sensational story.

(To be continued)

was taken all right by the workers, but where we fell down was to use such demands for taking organizational form, such as, grievance committees or else used to rouse the workers to action for winning this point. How? If the shop bulletin for instance was to arouse the workers to action in the form of say, chalking up the inside of the factory, or issuing slips of papers to all workers or organizing into a grievance committee on such an elementary issue. These are small immediate actions that lay the basis for our broader struggle against the bosses. Calling workers to organize in the abstract form will not have the effect that these small actions have.

Because of this lack of partial demands do we continue to hammer away against a stone wall. In our practical work on the outside of the plant we had to use varied methods. One of these was sports. Every noon hour many young workers would come out in front of the factory and play ball. We had comrades go out and play with them. Even some non League members who were members of the Unemployed Council helped us in this work. Here the LSU could be utilized effectively in breaking through. The mistake was that we discontinued this town of activity. Here is where we must real-

Party Life

Build Where You Work

By I. AMTER.

There is not only the tendency but the very practice for the overwhelming majority of the membership of the Party not to conduct revolutionary Communist work in the shop where they work, but everywhere else. Comrades who will not do any Communist work in their own shops, will go to other factories to distribute leaflets, get contacts, sell Daily Workers, etc. They will attend demonstrations and work hard at night they are militant fighters on the picket line—they will carry out every Party decision and instruction—but they do no Communist work in the shops where they work. This is curious, and evidently is based upon the fact that the comrades fear to be fired if discovered; and they do not wish to be responsible for their being fired. Even young comrades, members of the YCL and of the Party, who have no personal responsibilities, will hesitate and fail to do work in the shops where they work, but will be most militant outside the factory. This fear has been instilled into them by the boss—and yet many never consider that millions of workers who have not engaged in any revolutionary activity whatever, are today out in the streets, having been fired by the bosses.

True, the Party does not want members to be fired, firstly because it puts the Party members in a bad situation, and secondly because it separates the Party from the masses in the shops. But if the comrade only works for the boss in the shop, if he fails to carry on Communist work while he works, then he is of no use to the Party in the shop, and though working there, is isolated from the masses. He is isolated because today the workers are waiting for leadership and organization; they look to militant workers to give them policy. If this is not given them, the workers remain apart from the Communists, and the Communists have no influence on them.

This situation must be changed. True, it is difficult to work in the shops—but it is also difficult to get contact with the workers outside the shops. But surely when working in the shop, knowing the workers of the department, and they knowing our comrades—if we make a careful selection, it is not difficult to carry on work. It is not difficult to smuggle literature into the shop—leaflets, stickers, etc. It is not difficult to work out ways and means of reaching the workers, of providing information for bulletins, leaflets, for the Daily Worker, which are distributed outside the shops. But if the contacts obtained outside the shop, and the contacts that may be obtained inside only by the Party and YCL members who work inside the shops, are not organized with the active aid of the workers in the shops, then the work of organizing the workers is hampered.

Party members are working in some of the most important establishments in the country—and yet the movement inside the shops for the Party and the Trade Union Unity League does not move forward. This is due to the fact that that our Party and YCL members do not build up the Party, YCL and revolutionary unions where they work. Many workers inside the shops are much more militant than Party members, not because they are more revolutionary, but because they show more daring and not the caution that too many Party members display.

This situation must be changed. The workers look to the Party for leadership not only in the streets, but also in the shops. The Party members in the shops must build where they work. That is their main task—and on this depends to the greatest extent the building of the revolutionary unions and the Party in the shops.

ize a mistake—call those responsible to account and revive this activity.

Even the Young Pioneers who have a group in this section can't be utilized. Due to activity that the Young Pioneers have carried on, a child was gotten in, whose mother works in the factory. No attempt so far has been made to sound out this parent, yet here we can see what can be accomplished.

In spite of these varied forms of work that have in many cases met with partial success no systematic approach towards activity on this plant has been worked out. And only through systematizing and organizing our approach to the workers will we be able to succeed.

PRE-CONVENTION DISCUSSIONS

YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE, U. S. A.

Experiences in Shop Work

By L. COOPER (New York).

In the New York District we have gone through quite a few experiences in our work at the factories. We have made many mistakes, most of these coming from our lack of consistency in our work. We can divide our experiences at the factory concentration points into the following:

- 1.—New forms of activities.
 - 2.—Failure to raise partial demands and mobilize young workers for struggle on these.
- Let us take for example our work in the Gem Razor Plant. First in planning this factory as a section concentration for Brooklyn where we have several units in four different territories it was wrong. This whole section was to be made "Gem conscious," that is, involved in the life in and around this factory, therefore we proceeded in a purely mechanical manner to have shock troops composed of representatives from all units and assigned beside this were the three units that were around the plant to do all their work at this plant. One big mistake in this was the following—we did not take into consideration factors which are important, such as local interest in the factory and the reflection of this local interest in the life of the unit. The unit response to such a mechanical step was plain disregard of work at this factory. Although I don't want to excuse the units for not carrying out the instructions of the district, this response was a reaction to a wrong decision. The units responded either with no representation or bad representation. Taking the case of one unit (the Brownsville

unit) we see the general attitude that was taken by units that we did not feel it necessary to help. As the comrade that represented that unit stated in her own words, "I am on the shock troop because we did not have anybody else that wanted or could be on."

Practical experience forced us to drop this rather cumbersome form of organizing the work. We were forced back to the units around the plant.

In line with the procedure that the National Office has been following of sending shockers to the various districts, the district has sent the leading comrades to be responsible for the work carried on at our factory concentration points. Not only does this method gain a lot of experience for the YCL and also act as training for even these comrades but has also kept the district in direct touch with these points.

Coming to the Gem Factory we found the following situation. Not so long ago when we began work here we had a group of workers who came to meetings called by the Metal Workers' Industrial League. Everytime that these workers met, the union always managed to have a different rep. who went through the same procedure as the previous rep. Always asking their names, their addresses, their age, then leave with the assurance that the Union would do something. Always it was that the union would do something and the workers act only as an information bureau to the union. No concrete, definite activity was given these workers. These workers were not made to feel they are the union. Because of such methods we reached a period when the workers wouldn't