

### As We See It

Carmen Flammé.  
Life in Italy.  
Haskell Leaves Russia.

The New York Public Library got three cents an hour raise... the ten that was taken from the... This was the result... famous oration of the veteran... faked William D. Mahon. The latter feared to attend a mass meeting of members of the union... He... Quinlan and Tabor do the dirty work, which they are quite capable of doing, according to the views expressed by the men. The general opinion among the carmen is that Quinlan and his official gang "let them down" two years ago and they believe the same thing opened now. The employees believe that the settlement was already made on between the union officials and the company before they sat down at the arbitration table. With the day Hoyne, ex-District Attorney... official of a stool pigeon agency... representative, the men had much chance of getting that ten cent raise as the proverbial snowball in an inferno.

It is not so very pleasant to be an editor in Italy now-a-days. The mayor of any town—and he is sure to be a Fascist—can clap an editor in prison along with giving him the castor oil injection, provided he is guilty of any one of the following crimes:  
Publishing false or embarrassing news, annoying diplomatic action, arming the national reputation abroad, arousing alarm among the population or susceptible of troubling established order by articles, commentaries, notes, headlines, illustrations or feature stories which excite class hatred, crime, disobedience to the law or employes of the public service or injure the country, king, royal family, pope, state religion, government institutions, powers or friendly nations."

Colonel William N. Haskell and his staff of the American Relief Administration were praised for their work in relieving the sufferings of the Russian famine victims by officials of the Soviet government at a farewell dinner, given on the eve of their return to America. Mr. Haskell thanked the government for its aid in making his work a success and hoped he would be able to pay another visit to Russia.

The Soviet Government will sign the convention governing the Dardanelles. It accepted the invitation to do so, not because it agrees with the terms of the settlement, but for the good reason that it wants to be in a position to keep an eye on the international bandits. This is the first time, by the way, that the Soviet Government and the powers have acted in concert in a matter of such importance. It proves that Russia can no longer be ignored.

Denmark has recognized the Soviet Republic. Perhaps the Danes are not Baptists like our whiskered Secretary of State, who deprecates the fact that the Russian workers are not allowed to organize freely into labor unions!—This is from the labor authority Gompers. Another liar informs us that Russian industry is lagging behind because the Russian trade unions dominate the government.

### Young Workers to Make Merry at Picnic on Sunday, July 29th

A fine time is awaiting those who will be the "Picnic" Field... has 25 of Chicago, Sunday, July 29, at Chernauskas' Grove, Ogden Ave. and Desplaines river. Beside the dancing and refreshments an unusually good athletic program has been arranged, including a base-ball game, relay races, sack races, pillow fights, etc.  
The famous Y. W. L. waitresses will officiate at the food canteen, where the Amalgamated Food Workers will prepare a bounteous feast for those who are hungry. There will be all kinds of drinks and refreshments to satisfy the most exacting tastes.  
Open hostilities will commence when the Young Workers' League engages the Workers' Party team in a base ball game. The League team will endeavor to wipe out the defeat they suffered at the T. U. E. L. picnic, where the umpire won the game for their opponents.  
Tickets can be obtained at the Voice of Labor, the office of the Workers' Party, 166 W. Washington St., and Vilnia, 2515 S. Halsted St.

# VOICE OF LABOR

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## Labor Party in W. Va.

BRUNSWICK 5593  
This is the Voice of Labor telephone number. If you want any information concerning the Voice of Labor call  
BRUNSWICK 5593

### SAVE YOUR MONEY BOYS! ANOTHER PICNIC IS COMING

You may remember the slogan of the labor fakers when the movement for the amalgamation of craft unions into industrial unions first began to make headway. It was "Save your money, boys! Amalgamation is coming." We urge you to save it for the greatest frolic of the season when the workers of Chicago meet at Riverview Park on August 25 to prove their loyalty to the Workers Party press.

The Voice of Labor has no hesitation in predicting that this year the crowd will break all records, that is granting the weather man does not enter into an alliance with the S. L. P. and the P. P. and rain showers of manifestos on us. But outside of the possibility of such a united front between the three of them, which would mean the Amalgamated Food Workers would have to cut three hot dogs off their order, we are looking forward to an eventful day.

Fun, you know how it was at the Picnic of Local Chicago on the Fourth of July. Keep your eyes open next week for the inside dope on this picnic. In order to keep your appetite however it is announced herewith that Mossaiye Olgin, the silver-tongued orator will be there, August 26th will be the day. Paste that in your papama. Save about ten dollars and make up your mind to walk home broke.

### The Jack-in-the-Box



Courtesy "Labor Herald."

### Workers of West Virginia Spurn the Agents of Gompers and Organize Farmer-Labor Party Representing the Agricultural and Industrial Producers in the State

(Special to the Voice of Labor.)  
By H. E. KEAS.

CLARKSBURG, W. Va.—The industrial workers, farmers and teachers of West Virginia are making history, the last pages of which shall not be written until the workers and farmers of this mountain state are the absolute masters of their lives and liberties.

Responding to the insistent demands of over 30,000 workers in the industries and on the farms of the state, the West Virginia State Federation of Labor, on June 13, issued a call for the convening of this great state farmer and labor political conference, which is now in session. This call was broadcasted to the workers, farmers and teachers over the entire state.

The basis of representation was for labor unions with 100 members or less, one delegate, and one delegate for each 100 members or majority fraction thereof. Central labor unions and building trades councils, one delegate for each five affiliated local unions. Women's labor leagues and auxiliaries, the same representation as for labor unions. For farmers, school teachers and unorganized workers—delegates from these groups bearing credentials endorsed by five or more voters of any of these groups or by a combination of five or more voters of these groups were eligible to a seat in the convention.

The response to the call was most gratifying. Three hundred delegates from all parts of the state, representing the unions, the farmers, the teachers, the World War Veterans, and many miscellaneous groups, were present at the opening of the convention. An entire delegation of workers from Fayette county came ready for business with ribbons on their coat lapels. "For Independent Working Class Political Action." All of the rank and file were determined that this convention should go down in West Virginia history as the first concrete step toward building up a powerful political party of workers and farmers that would begin a campaign which can ultimately have but one ending—the utter rout of all the forces of reaction in the state.

Taking note of the comment one finds in the different capitalist sheets scattered over the state during and preceding the conference, it is easily seen that they regard this new political movement upon the part of the organized labor and farmer forces in this state with a great degree of uneasiness which they make no attempt to hide. Both the Republican and Democratic camps are making haste to mend their political fences, but this action comes too late. The farmers and workers are done with promises. They have put their heads together to act. And both the Republican and Democratic camps fully realize the significance of the storm that is coming.

The convention was opened by W. T. Harris, acting president of the State Federation of Labor, as temporary chairman, at 10 A. M., Thursday morning, July 19. In a statement issued by Acting President Harris the day before the convention, he sets forth very clearly many of the things which have made the conference for political action necessary.

(Cont. on page 5.)

### Amalgamation or Annihilation for the Shoe Workers?

By MICHAEL T. BERRY.

This is the first of a series of three articles by Michael T. Berry, of Lynn, Mass., on the problem of organizing the shoe industry. Comrade Berry has spent the greater part of his life actively in the trade union movement and particularly in the shoe workers organizations. This article is particularly timely as the Amalgamated Shoe Workers Union will hold its convention on August 20th. Militants in the shoe industry should see that this article has as wide a circulation as possible.

The two articles to follow will deal with past efforts to organize the shoe workers, the influence of the church and betrayals by the leaders.—ED.

After decades of experience with the futility of the craft form of organization, or rather disorganization, the shoe workers of America finally started out some three years ago to get all the independent shoe workers unions to amalgamate.

gamate the independent shoe workers bodies in one union. This convention was held in Paine Memorial Hall, Boston, beginning May 31, 1922, where the delegates representing the United Shoe Workers of America, the Shoe Workers Protective Union, the Allied Shoe Workers, the Children's Shoe Workers (N. Y.), Amalgamated Fitters (N. Y.), the Independent Edgemakers of Salem, Mass., the Pattern Makers, and one or two locals, the name of which does not readily come to the writer's mind. After a week spent in trying to launch the ship, the convention ordered the Committee on Constitution to draft along lines already indicated, a constitution which was to be submitted to the entire rank and file represented, for amendment, alteration, acceptance or rejection.

#### Amalgamated Launched.

The convention made the requisite preparations for the reconvening of the convention at a later date to complete the programme and to launch "The Amalgamated Shoe Workers of America," the name given the new body by the convention at its first sitting. The convention reconvened the first Monday of October, and after two weeks spent in discussion most of which would be useless among men who knew the goal of the labor movement, and who were not disturbed by incidental trifles, finally as they thought, launched an amalgamated movement. But did they?

At the first session of the convention the writer introduced a manifesto, the text of which appears in the records calling for an out and out industrial organization both as to form and goal, and setting forth the reasons therefor. This was voted down by a vote of 70 to 18, as I remember. The general argument that was advanced against the Industrial programme was that the rank and file would not stand for it, not that it was wrong. In short the majority of the delegates held the position that expediency, and not right, was the North Star that was guiding them. Unacquainted with anything but the opportunistic ideas that craft union teaching has corroded their reasoning powers with and which they think is "Diplomacy," others call it "Salve," but experience calls it ignorant "bull," they were unable to understand that where there is not unity of mind there can be no unity of purpose. (Continued on page 2.)

### Dawes Minute Men Getting Ready For Strikebreaking Task

DANVILLE, Ill.—Appealing to all open shoppers to join his reactionary "army," the Minute Men of the Constitution, and declaring that labor must be forced to give up its strike weapon, General Hell-An-Maria Dawes organized here a company of his Minute Men.  
Dawes soon found that he would get no enthusiastic reception in this home of union miners and shopmen. Unable to get out a representative gathering he made the best of a bad job by accepting a few membership cards from such youthful patriotic "soldiers" as Uncle Joe Cannon.



A Group of Young Workers.

## YOUTH PICNIC, JULY 29 at Chernauskas' Grove

GIVEN BY THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE of America

Ogden Ave. and Desplaines' River  
BASE BALL, GAMES, RACES, DANCING, etc.  
Take any car to 22nd and Cicero Ave., then Lyons-Berwyn to Desplaines River.  
Tickets 35c. At Gate 50c

### Read and Learn If Your Group is Among Those Listed

The various industrial groups of the Trade Union Educational League will meet on the following dates. Every member of the Workers Party is requested to attend.

The Needle Trades Group will meet on Thursday, July 26th, at 8 P. M. at 3222 Douglas Blvd.

The Metal Trades Group will meet on Saturday, August 4th, at 2733 Hirsch Blvd, at 8 P. M.

The Building Trades Group will meet on Sunday, August 5th, at 10 A. M. at North Side Turner Hall.

The Food Workers, Tobacco Workers, Printers, and miscellaneous groups will meet on Wednesday, August 1st, in North Side Turner Hall at 8 P. M.

### Meeting to Hear Farmer-Labor Convention Report

A meeting will be held under the auspices of the Trade Union Educational League on Wednesday, July 25, at 8 P. M., in Wicker Park Hall, 2040 W. North Ave.

A report will be made on the Farmer-Labor Convention by delegates who attended that gathering. Besides the report a discussion will take place concerning left wing policies in the trade unions.

The district office of the Workers' Party has issued a statement requesting all members of the Workers' Party in this vicinity to be present.

### Four Year Old Labor Murders Go Unpunished

By JOSEPH W. LEIGH.  
(Fed. Press Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS.—The third grand jury of Washington parish, Louisiana, investigating the labor murders which occurred in Bogalousa four years ago in which six members of organized labor were murdered by members of a local "loyalty league" failed to return an indictment. Thirty-six eyewitnesses to the affair were examined by Attorney General A. V. Coo and their testimony was to the effect that the labor men were shot by a mob in a rush, on their headquarters.

Mrs. Lum Williams, widow of one of the murdered men, identified De Witt Richardson, one of the members of the grand jury investigating the affair, as being in the mob which shot her husband. Questioned closely, however, the widow could not swear whether Richardson was armed or not. Richardson claimed he was there as a spectator, arriving after the affair was over, and that he was not armed. The then acting mayor and the chief of police testified that they did not know of the affair till after all was over. Indictments had been asked by the attorney general against thirteen residents of Bogalousa.

Bogalousa is the home of the Great Southern Lumber Co., which controls all its industries. All citizens of that town with but few exceptions are in the employ of that corporation or affiliated industries. In 1919 union labor had organized the industries and things were running as smoothly as could be expected in a community opposed to fair labor conditions. There was no dispute as to hours or the scale received by the workmen. The mobbers objected to the presence of Sol Dakus, Negro organizer for one of the unions controlled by the A. F. of L., claiming that he was a fugitive from justice, and that their duty as members of the "loyalty league" demanded that he be taken into custody. A posse attempted to take him. Firing began and six labor men were shot and killed.

Two previous grand juries failed to return indictments. A short time ago organized labor to the number of 25,000 presented a petition to Gov. Parker, asking that the case be again reopened. The Louisiana State Federation of Labor made a unanimous demand. The state had no available funds and organized labor furnished voluntary contributions. Several hundred dollars were raised to bring outside witnesses to the scene of investigation.

The case can be reopened from year to year, and it is the intention of organized labor to pursue the murderers of its members and bring them to justice.

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### Canadian Labor Is Rallying to the Nova Scotia Strikers

By WM. LONG.  
(Special by wire to Voice of Labor)

CALGARY, Alberta.—Sentiment favoring immediate action in support of District 26 is sweeping through Western Canada. All the locals of District 18, United Mine Workers of America, are unanimous in favor of immediate drastic action. The Edmonton Trades and Labor Council has called a special meeting to deal with the serious situation in Nova Scotia.

Calgary Trades Council executive recommends to general meeting that resolution be sent to the government protesting against the use of troops in strike area.

William Sherman, president of District 18, United Mine Workers, states that the executive board is endeavoring to arrange with all labor bodies in Western Canada to hold a conference for the purpose of common action in case troops are used in District 26. All labor bodies in Calgary are organizing monster protest meetings, with such prominent speakers as William Irvine, Joseph Shaw, William Sherman and Fred White.

James Murdock, Federal Minister of Labor, in a telegram to president Sherman, states that troops from Winnipeg and other Western points have been stopped on their way to Nova Scotia, and also states that he is making strenuous efforts to have those now on the scene withdrawn, showing that the protests of labor are having immediate effect.

There is no doubt that the use of troops in Nova Scotia will be the signal for a general sympathetic strike, on one side of the Dominion to the

### Amalgamation or Annihilation For the Shoe Workers

(Continued from page 1.)

Business Agents Hostile. Very few of them knowing about the evolution of the system, most of them denying the evidence which the class struggle forces on all who are possessed of that intellectual rectitude which precedes clear thinking, they built an organization that is industrial in form, but even that is veiled, and ever since it was launched they have at great financial cost been forced to recognize the above stated principle, "where there is no unity of mind there can be no unity of purpose," and the end is not yet.

The convention ordered that the amalgamated start to function as near January 1, 1923 as possible. The two large groups represented were the Shoe Workers Protective Union and the United Shoe Workers of America. The first of these groups were generally speaking represented in the convention by a group of business agents who were hostile to the principle of amalgamation unless they were the ones who specified the "how" and "why," and they convulsed the convention almost to the breaking point with their hackneyed arguments concerning "property rights," which had to do with a building which is their headquarters in Haverhill. In this way they hid their real opposition which was to amalgamation, which they feared would put an end to certain salaried jobs that they had no idea of parting company with, and which are still in their possession minus amalgamation.

The United Shoe Workers, so far as delegates went, were the largest group in the convention. In fact it was in that camp that the original propaganda for the early amalgamated conferences originated, and at no time from first to last were they outnumbered in any of the several conferences held.

Bill Dwyer of Brockton. Shortly after the defection of the "Protective," which followed soon after the adjournment of the October convention, the United official family made up of Thomas F. Lynch, Gen.

Year	Estab. ments.	Average employees.	Wages.	Cost of material	Value of product	New value added by manufacture.
1880	1,959	111,152	\$43,901,458	\$192,442,442	\$196,650,354	\$ 63,607,912
1890	2,082	133,600	60,667,145	118,785,831	220,649,958	101,863,527
1900	1,599	141,800	59,440,883	168,332,654	258,969,580	90,336,926
1910	1,343	185,116	92,359,182	277,467,748	442,630,726	165,162,983

This admonition of the poet should occupy a large place in the minds of the delegates to the next Amalgamated convention. If it does not, then add one more fiasco to the already too large list of fiascos in the organization of shoe workers.

Need one go further to prove that craft unionism is but a rope of sand? Mathematically, in the above table, the creation of a census expert, and not an industrial unionist, is to be found the evidence that marks it impotent even as a palliative, to say nothing about it as a cure for the troubles that beset the shoe workers.

Shoe Workers Going Down. Here is revealed the fact that despite all the energy spent by the shoe workers in "organizing" since 1880, they have gone down the toboogan so far as the share of the wealth that falls to them is concerned. Not alone was this imbecile idea called craft unionism unable when subjected to the strain which concentrating, and later concentrated capitalism subjected it to hold the wages paid forty years the shoe workers got a reduction of approximately 6%, and yet

### The Fact Confidence Man.

They are still at it, aided by Fred Mansfield, a prominent Boston lawyer, who has sucked a good part of his living for years out of a gullible workingclass who have the unhappy faculty of seeing things as they are not, and who in this case imagine that this two hundred and fifty or more pounds of animated protoplasm, because he was a former candidate for governor on the Democratic ticket, and one of the "Red" destroyers of the Knight of Columbus, possessed of an amazing assurance of his own ability, with a "brass" that surpasses anything the writer knows about; this gent is valiantly struggling to collect \$5,300 from the wreck which he, and his, and not the industrialist, made of craft unionism in the shoe industry.

The Amalgamated will hold its first national convention, beginning Aug. 20 in Paine Memorial Hall, Boston. The lesson that has been taught them since they last met in that hall will not be too costly if they but draw the conclusion that should be drawn from it. When the Amalgamated Shoes Workers was formed, many of its promoters held up the Amalgamated Clothing Workers as something to follow, forestalling that, like Pos-

### Detroit Delegate Hails Birth of Federated Party

George M. Tries, member of the Board of Directors of the Detroit Federation of Labor, spoke from that body to the Convention, made a revealing organization, from which is quoted:

"I believe that the first time in the United States a group may join a party and still keep their separate political identity. The program and platform are reasonable. An organization campaign is starting and many of the groups in attendance at the conference signified their willingness to join."

Thinks Platform Sound. "Third parties with one exception have never gotten far in this country. The reason is that most of them were formed in times of depression and when the depression was over the party was also. In addition to that the platform and policy of most third parties are economically unsound. Neither is true of the Federated party. The only third party to be successful in America was the Republican party. This party grew out of the needs of the rising capitalist class. Our party is founded on the immediate and future needs of the worker and farmer. These two groups have been seeking a political medium through which to express their desires. This party was not organized from the top down, but was formed because of the necessity that the worker and farmer join for self protection.

"The national chairman, Bouck, is a real dirt, or (as they call them in the state of Washington, from which he comes) stump farmer. The national secretary is a union ironworker. The national executive committee is composed of members of co-operative societies, labor unions and farmer organizations. The group as a whole is well adapted to carry on the work they were elected to do.

"Six months from today the party will, I believe, be well on its way to success."

There are men who claim to be labor leaders and honest to the rank and file who dares to defend craft unionism. It is indefensible. The man who would ask the shoe workers of today to still continue on craft union lines, if he is honest in his belief he is a fool, and if he knows better and still defends such a course for any reason whatever, he is a fraud, who is deliberately gambling on the future liberties of his class to advance his own interest.

Away with such nonsense fellow shoe workers. Line up for complete amalgamation not only of the shoe, but the entire leather industry. Educate yourselves as to the case of your misery. Join with the Trade Union Educational League that are trying to so organize all labor that it may present a united front in the battle which because of the rapid concentration of industry cannot much longer be postponed, where the working class as such must choose between industrial freedom, and industrial feudalism because there is no middle ground, and the hand of evolution, "Grape Juice" Bryan to the contrary, notwithstanding will insist on writing the decree which will spell freedom or slavery for the working class according as their intelligence is developed or undeveloped. That has been the history of the past, it will be repeated.

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### The Midwest Labor News. On Federated Farmer-Labor Party

The following comment from the Midwest Labor News, published in Omaha, Nebraska, shows that the piffle in the capitalist press about the convention been "captured" by the Communists does not fool bona fide labor editors.

The Midwest Labor News is the official organ of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor, the Omaha Central Labor Union, and the Women's Union Labor League.

A real Labor Party has been formed in the United States. The daily press has fired the first gun in the attack upon it. Just wait a few days and listen to the batteries of the International Journals and reactionary Labor Leaders that will be turned loose. We can almost predict what they will say.

Workers' Party delegates were invited to sit in the convention and participate in its proceedings. Only when the Farmer-Labor Party officials discovered that an entirely new party was about to be formed did they raise the cry of "Third International" and "Force and Violence" against the Workers' Party delegates. Toi

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### Review of the Week

By CLARISSA S. WARE.  
Research Department, Workers' Party of America.

Wages. According to Babson, the financial adviser of the American investors, the wage peak is passed, and "Clients should, from now on, seek to hold wages steady and to take every opportunity to get them down. Lower producing costs are the things to aim at. Only those who can meet the mood of the buying public can hope for good business. The retailers have known this for some time. This is why they have been buying from hand to mouth. Therefore wages must come down. Those concerns which have signed up at high rates for a long period are unlucky."

This is the attitude of the employers. A new attack upon wages is being prepared.

Strikes. The strike summary for the week ending June 30 was: New England states 8, Central state 22, South 2, Middle West 5, and they cover the industries as follows: Building Trades 8, civic employees 2, clothing, millinery and laundering 7, food, beverages and tobacco 1, fur, leather and rubber goods 1, metal trades 1, mines and mining 2, millwork 1, printing 1, textiles 4, transportation 5, miscellaneous 6. (Confidential Babson report.)

Workmen's Compensation Laws, 1923. In six states and in the District of Columbia there are no workers' compensation laws. In twenty-six states there are compensation laws, but no state fund, and in fifteen states there are compensation laws with a state fund. In general the compensation laws cover all employees except farm and domestic labor. Medical care is usually provided at the expense of the employer.

It is futile for workers to look to workmen's compensation laws to solve the problem of industrial accidents. As the director of the United States Bureau of Mines states, "Investigations carried on by the Bureau of Mines for more than ten years demonstrated beyond question of doubt that such spreading of explosions by coal dust can be prevented. Responsibility for this rests upon the mine managements. Explosions can and must be prevented." This is true of many kinds of industrial accidents. The prevention of all preventable accidents is the first thing.

Coal Situation. Anthracite.—The present agreement in the anthracite region (100 per cent unionized) was made in Sept. 1922, and expires Aug. 21.

Bituminous.—In the unionized sections of the bituminous fields (approximately 60 per cent of the producing districts) the mines are working under an agreement which expires April 1, 1924.

On May 31 Mr. Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, met with the coal operators in Washington and presented a plan for the formation of committees in each coal mining district which would confer with Hoover on what would be a fair price for coal in each district, and report any unfair prices, and as Hoover said, "in each district to represent me purely in the capacity of a moral force in securing a fair price."

We are wondering if Mr. Hoover or his colleague, Mr. Davis, Secretary of Labor, are organizing committees of workers to see that what the workers consider a fair price for their labor is received by them? Meanwhile the miners have drawn up eleven demands to serve as the basis for negotiations in making a new agreement when the present one expires August 31. They are: A two year contract, covering a 20 per cent raise in wages; and an eight-hour day; the check-off; a closed shop; the rate of wages to be paid on the basis of a 2,240 lb ton; a clause covering conditions of work and pay for a day's labor. These demands, adopted at the tri-district conference held at Scranton, Pa., represent the essentials upon which a bloc of one hundred and fifty thousand miners have refused to compromise.

Anti-Fascist Alliance of North America Receives \$500 From A. C. W. The general executive board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America has contributed \$500 to the Anti-Fascist Alliance.

Immigration. According to the present immigration law, approximately 357,000 immigrants can enter the United States during the year of July 1, 1923-July 1, 1924.

Secretary of Labor Davis is planning to go to Europe to study the immigration question. No doubt he will study the technicalities involved in enacting the Contract Labor Law that he has stated he is preparing.

The selection of slave labor in Europe for importation into America is bound to cause difficulties unless all proper precautions for selection of 100 per cent American slave labor are made in advance.

Harding is deriving "great satisfaction from the definite pledge of industry's leaders to abolish the 12-hour day when sufficient labor supply is assured." It may be the Secretary of Labor Davis is contemplating to arrange for that particular kind of labor which will suit Mr. Gary.

Labor can count on one thing—whatever the immigration law that the capitalist government passes—it will not be one based on the interests of the working class. Industry—today—is not run on that basis, and government—today—is taking its orders from the industrialists and bankers.

Meanwhile we see that fourteen "prominent Chicagoans" have been insured by their firms for a total of \$15,250,000, and the question is who pays the bill?

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### Soviet Pictures Are Shown in E. St. Louis Despite Plute Chamber

The Chamber of Commerce of East St. Louis, Ill., assisted by the local "American Legion, endeavored to bring pressure to bear upon the Board of Education to force the cancellation of the contract for showing the picture, "Russia Through the Shadows," in the Public High School auditorium. Special hearings were held at which the Chamber of Commerce presented its side of the case, which was a repetition of the time-worn lies of White Guard press agents and which were refuted by representatives of the Friends of Soviet Russia and some of the local trade union leaders.

F. A. Biedenkapp, traveling representative of the picture, and some of the local supporters, appeared before the Board, along with Wm. Walters of the East St. Louis Trades and Labor Assembly, and convinced the Board that it would be the height of folly to be swayed by the venomous attacks of the Chamber of Commerce. So the picture was shown, to capacity houses.

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### Stoolpigeons Are Active In Saint Louis

By MARTIN A. DILLMON.  
(Fed. Press Staff Correspondent.)

ST. LOUIS.—An impending drive against radical labor men is indicated in increased vigilance on the part of federated agents here within the last few days, aided by local police officers.

A crowded house saw the film, "Russia Through the Shadows," despite the activity of government spies and city detectives. On the eve of the showing of the picture, Morris Becker, chairman of the local arrangement committee, and F. G. Biedenkapp, national representative Friends of Soviet Russia, were on their way to the printer to get advertising work in connection with the show. They were stopped by a pair of given detectives and questioned as to their occupations and threatened with a punch in the nose when they refused to answer the questions of the officers. The detectives denounced Biedenkapp as "a half-brained fanatic that wants to run the U. S. government like Lenin does things in Russia." The detectives then took their two victims to a telephone, called the patrol and hauled them before Chief of Detectives Hoagland. The men were further questioned, insulted and released without complaint having been made against them.

A few minutes before the showing of the picture began, one Polinsky, a government spy well known to the St. Louis labor men, appeared in the rear of the theater and demanded to know who was in charge.

Government agents have also been busy in the industrial field. Last week the coremakers, molders and helpers employed by the Commonwealth Steel Co., across the river from St. Louis, went on strike for better wages and union recognition. On the day following the strike, Chas. Blome, local secretary Trade Union Educational League, and Morris Becker, secretary local Labor Defense Council, were taken with members of the Workers' Party to a downtown office by department of justice agents and grilled at length as to what they knew about the strike. Unable to fix on them a charge of conspiracy to upset the government by force and violence, the labor men were cautioned and released.

Philip Ginsberg, a young student who has been active in the Labor Defense Council and the Trade Union Educational League, was honored last week with a call from Polinsky and his lieutenants and questioned at length. The queries took the form of, "Are you an officer of the F. S. R., the Foster League, or a member of the Workers' Party? What papers do you read? Are you a subscriber to the Labor Herald?" etc. After cautioning the father and mother to "keep your son away from the reds and radical activities," the officers left, perhaps to attend another snooping party.

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### Italians Change Political Views When Met With Hard Boiled Facts

STAMFORD, Conn.—A meeting called here for the evening of July 6 by local Fascists to organize a "black shirt" group ended with a collection for the victims of the Mussolini regime, with several of the Fascist committee themselves contributing.

The meeting, it is believed, was sponsored by local bankers. However that may be, the first fruit of their efforts is the formation of an Anti-Fascist committee of local workmen, which will arrange a mass gathering under the auspices of the Anti-Fascist Alliance of North America, with Arthur Giovannitti and Frank Biondani among the speakers.

The hall in the Italian center was filled. Of the score of "black-shirts" listed as backing the movement, only ten showed up. The most forward of these began a harangue in favor of the Fascist dictatorship. He was challenged on his arguments by Martin Romeo, representing the Anti-Fascist Alliance, and the gathering was quickly transformed into a debate.

Romeo outlined some of the history of Fascism both here and abroad. He questioned the motives of the Italian ambassador, who is encouraging Fascism here with men like Judge Gary to help him. In the end the congregated Italians not only expressed themselves against the formation of a Fascio in Stamford; but proceeded to make a collection for the victims of Fascism in Italy.

Later a committee was formed to undertake the organization of a local branch of the Anti-Fascist Alliance. Two of its members are workers, who had been induced to lend their names to the Fascist movement without at

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The Printing Industry

By ALFRED TIALA.

Supplement to Article on Printing Industry.

In the previous discussion it was brought to light, among other things, that considerably over twenty-thousand persons are engaged in Chicago's printing industry.

This is a large number, but it is undoubtedly small compared to those employed in some others of Chicago's various industries. However, there is one element in the printing industry which in particular deserves mention. It is that in the printing industry there is a larger proportion of white-collared workers engaged than in any other line of occupation. For twenty-thousand horny-handed men employed there are as many soft palms in the offices of the printing plants—advertisement writers, compilers, proof readers, stenographers, cost and file clerks and so on.

Another thing in the printing industry is that most of the workers, even including the pressmen and their class, are in closer personal contact with their employers than the workers in the more basic industries. The employer frequently works along with them. In some cases he is a hard worker who takes his tasks seriously. From him they absorb the idea that their labor is of paramount importance in society.

Parasites on Industry. Admittedly, it is important in capitalist society, where goods are produced for the sole purpose of selling, therefore the advertising of goods is a necessity. But these thousands of workers, scolded and clean, are not adding an iota to the wealth of the world. They merely consume what others produce. And yet, they cannot conceive of a social order in which nine-tenths, at least, of their labor could be eliminated and turned into more useful channels.

One of the most obvious features in this catch-as-catch-can life under capitalism is the mad scramble to get away from productive labor. If it were a desire for freedom from toil in order to have leisure for cultivating body and mind, the characteristic would be commendable, but bourgeois morals actually condemn leisure. True enough, most of the sons and daughters of the rich seek lives of ease, but they do so contrary to the best principles of their class. The enjoyment of bourgeois leisure is the "no-go-we'll" who will not work. He becomes a hero when he falls in love and under the influence of his passion puts his brain to use—either as a lawyer or a stock broker. Such are bourgeois conceptions of usefulness.

They whose economic status does not enable them to attain to the dignified rank of the professional prevaricators and drawing room gamblers must content themselves with more humble positions in offices. Fifteen dollars a week, a stiff collar and the ecstasies of an ignominious enable them to huddle about their firm in the same illiterate English with which they condemn the foreigner. They are proud of the fact, that they are "above the proletariat."

There is not the shadow of a doubt in the mind of the white-collared slave that life has graced him with crossed trousers and a starched shirt front because he is more important than the man who mucks in overalls. This is the first article of faith of his strata in society. One through—and only one—pricks him through the baseball and jazz strata with which his brain is armored. It is that in many instances the mucker in overalls, as the pressman and compositor in the printing industry, receives more pay than he. He does not question into the wherefore of the matter. He accepts the circumstance as something perverse and unalterably mysterious. At best he curses the toiler for striving after higher pay. He bla-bla's about the evil of unionism, without once giving thought whether unionism has something to do with the other man's bigger pay envelope. He is content with the master class psychology which makes individuals con-

gent with relative well being. He and his kind are content with conditions so long as someone else is worse off. If he could act to lower the mucker's standard of living beneath his own, he would celebrate by wearing a bright colored handkerchief in his outside breast pocket, and he would venture into his boss's presence with slightly more confident air, feeling that he had attained to the position for which his remarkable intellectual endowments make him deserving.

Cringing Rewarded. Each office, in a way, is a miniature replica of the capitalistic world. The slaves born of successful and unsuccessful scrambling for the "higher positions" fill the atmosphere with poisons that are particularly corroding to anyone who may happen to be distastefully minded. Not that all who work in an office are envious. Many of them are perfectly good natured. Perhaps most of them are. Also, most of them are consequently unsuccessful. They are branded as unambitious. The scumbler is the envious one whose very breath is green with venom. Usually he is the one to get promoted. The repressed longings of years—burst forth in full flower as conceit and arrogance. The manager is usually one who had been most fawning during all the years when he was a subordinate. He feels that his turn has come to be bossy. He is particularly abusive because of a firm belief that he deserves a position of superiority and that they whom he suspects are his natural inferiors.

The boss is not too modest to admit that he has the monopoly on brain power. A better brain has gotten him a better position, he will maintain. The writer once heard several of his "superiors" discussing an important question of the day—the League of Nations. One of these intellectual giants said: "Our senators think we should not join the League and, by God, their opinion is good enough for me." These superiorly endowed individuals will not always give such a frank confession, but in every instance it resolves itself to the proposition that manufactured opinion is good enough for them.

The Horse-Hoe Horse Sense. Within the extremely narrow sphere of their daily work some of them are "sharks," as they are admiringly referred to by some of the inferiors. However, it is the result of practice, not of native brains; just as an old post horse will know every bend and twist in the road he has travelled daily for twenty years. The old nag, though, has enough horse sense not to make a jackass of himself by putting on long ears of self-importance. This practical sense is entirely missing where a manager in the printing industry is concerned.

The writer is employed at compiling catalogue pages in one of the largest printing houses. Recently the management decided to change the "system" in some particulars. The result of this change has necessitated much experimentation—with time wasted, material wasted, etc. It is required months that may pass into years before the plan will be in full operation. These same managers and experts, however, are asinine enough to expect that when a working class undertakes to install an entirely new social system in a nation, that unless the new system operates perfectly at once, it is proof of its being totally wrong.

Presumably they will find further proof for their convictions of the unworkability of the new order when the real workers will compel them to do something more useful than writing: "This is the best article of its kind on the market," etc. However, here is one of the strata above the proletariat who will say: "Unite! ye toilers, and speed the day when there will be no hard working, any more than idle parasites."

THIS IS GETTING TO NEAR HOME



A West Virginia Marching Song

By LAWSON McMILLION

Tune: "Marching Through Georgia" Bring with you your pepper box, We'll take another shot; We'll clean up on them pesky thugs, And see old Shaffy scot. For he never can endure, girls, To hear our loyal whoop, When we go marching on Mingo.

CHORUS: Hi-lee, Hi-lo, them thugs have got to go. Hi-lee, Hi-lo, what makes them tremble so? Fifty thousand more good Yankee girls Will put them on the go, When we go marching through Mingo.

There will be no use of them bloody thugs To hang around to fight; For what we are going to do to them, You bet your life is right. We'll show 'em they can't trample down Our liberty and might, When we go marching through Mingo.

We'll take a rap at Logan town, The base of the thugs' supplies; We'll clean up on the pesky place And take it for a prize. The jig is up, the die is cast, We'll flay them for their lies, When we go marching through Mingo.

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LEWIS' MACHINE HITS A SNAG IN HAMMOND, IND.

When the forces of reaction, whether they be the officials of the capitalistic dictatorship, with headquarters in Washington, or their co-workers, the reactionary labor misleaders, begin to feel their foundations tottering from under them and their power being challenged by the forces making for progress they at once set into motion all of the machinery which they control in an effort to crush any and all things which show signs of progressiveness. So it is with the John L. Lewis' machine in the desperate attempt to curb the spirit of progress now sweeping the U. M. W. A.

Since the organization of the Progressive Miners' Committee, the machine has lost no time and has spared no effort in their frantic attempts to crush the progressive miners. And now in their desperate struggle to strangle progress, the machine is sending out lengthy communications, composed of lying attacks upon the progressive league, the Red International of Trade Unions and naming Wm. Z. Foster and many others, who are active in the Progressive Miners' Committee, charging them with being disorganizers, dual unionists, and about everything which they are not.

But if Lewis expects to get away with this kind of stuff, his hopes will be somewhat shattered by the action of the Central Labor Union of Lake Co., Ind. At our meeting on June 27, the above mentioned communication from the Lewis' machine was read, and as I happened to be present at the miners' convention in Indianapolis in 1921, when the Kansas miners and their fearless leader, Alex. Howatt, were expelled for defying the Kansas Industrial slave law, this gave me the best chance I have ever had to report to a body of trade unionists on the tactics of that machine as seen in action.

Many of the other delegates here of our C. L. U. also knew more about the Lewis' machine than they had ever had an opportunity to tell before, so after about one hour of discussion it was decided that the disorganizers in the United Mine Workers of America are none other than that group of reactionary officials who compose the Lewis' machine. A committee was appointed of delegates to our Central Labor Union, to draft a reply to the Lewis' communication and bring same before the delegates for approval at our next meeting. After having been approved, it will then go on its mission of shattering the hope of the machine to discredit the progressives in the eyes of the rank and file of the trade union movement. We are now looking forward to the next spasm of the reactionaries. —H. W. Garner.

Notes From Milwaukee, Wis.

(Special to the Voice of Labor.)

If American socialism is as rotten as its heart, it should not attempt to climb any political mountains. Milwaukee was once famous for its beer and the brand of Socialism that flourished here. The beer has now lost its "kick" and so has its socialism, that is, granting that it ever had any.

Of course we have a Socialist Mayor who acts like any ordinary Mayor, gives the keys of the city to divers people who come here to attend conventions, boosts Milwaukee and so forth. A few weeks ago he greeted a convention of Catholics, lay and clerical, who met to discuss ways and means of putting a mustard plaster on the capital-labor wooden leg. He is a very agreeable fellow.

Victor Berger is the Warwick of Milwaukee. He makes and unmakes mayors with his "Leader," which is owned partly by Berger and partly by Arthur Brisbane. Socialism in the "Leader" is conspicuous by its absence. But for the necessity of fighting the communists even the name would not be mentioned.

The S. P. functions here as a political machine, just as Tammany Hall in New York or the cheap imitation that the push cart peddlers and pawn-brokers on the East Side of New York are trying to build up. It functions effectively only around election time. During the rest of the year, it is as eloquent as a clam.

The skeleton Socialist Party here attempted to hold a May Day celebration. It was a great success—with the exception that the audience was missing. This in a city with a Socialist Mayor—God bless the mark, as we used to say in China—a daily newspaper and everything to create publicity. The mayor made a campaign speech and the rest of the evening was given over to a vaudeville entertainment. Barney Google was the most popular character at the red revel.

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A Miner's Wife on the Ku Klux Klan

By MARGARET FOULER

SCOTDALE, W. Va.—I am looking for a new world that will describe these shirt-tail night prowlers, self styled the Ku Klux Klan, and at the same time burn no holes in Uncle Sam's asbestos mail sack. They pose before the people as 100 per cent Americans. I want to brand that claim with the little word that is spelled with three letters.

No American worth his salt will hide his face in a night cap and stab his brother in the dark. They give us to understand that no foreigners are allowed to join them. I would appreciate it if some of these shirt tailers would just tell me who are the Americans. Being simply the wife of an humble coal miner, I am looking for the light.

A Native Born American. I was born in this country as was my grandfather before me, and I had two grand-daddies who fought for the Union, as well as a husband who has seen service. This is the house that my father built and hewed out of the wilderness, and if you will pardon me, my education has not been neglected. I was taught very early in life that this was the land of the free and the home of the brave, that our ancestors were all of foreign birth and the man or woman who was ashamed of those who brought him into being did not have much to be proud of.

In Shinston a few weeks ago a man was taken from his home and shamefully beaten by a mob of hooded buzards. What was his offense? He loved another man's wife and neglected his family. I do not say that this man did not deserve punishment, but what are court houses for? And if any one of his self appointed judges can prove to me that his own conduct has been above reproach for the past ten years, I will give him a reward of \$500 and beg for that reward from one end of the country to the other.

Professional Hypocrites. We are told that this organization, the Ku Klux Klan, is composed of professional men who are doing every thing in their power to make this country a decent place to live in and to protect their wives and daughters. I venture to say that ninety per cent of these shysters are leading lives of questionable virtue and while they go to church on Sunday start out early Monday morning on philandering missions. Yet these Philandering hypocrites pose as the custodians of public virtue! While holding no brief for a loose moral code, I would like to point out to these nincompoops that some of the outstanding characters in world history were no second editions of Jesus and it is even whispered that George Washington, the father of our country, caught the cold that resulted in his death while wading a creek, making a short cut to see a lady not his wife. To go even farther back and nearer to the biblical God, let me present you with a little paragraph from the

amorous life of King David. The latter, though having God for a companion, grew lonely and fell in love with a married woman and in order to become the only contestant in the field, he sent her husband to battle, where he had the best chance of becoming a dead hero, which he did. Yet God did not break off diplomatic relations with David, but continued on terms of intimacy with him. Had the gentlemen of the night shirt existed in those days they would stand in danger of sharing the contents of David's sling with Goliath, but being cowardly night owls, they would probably know better than to start any trouble with a man who had his shooting strings ready.

I would like to ask the gentlemen of the Invisible Hocus Focus a question. Why is it that when a workman is caught with booze he is sent away for sixty days or given two years in the state penitentiary, while his family is fed at the county sloop trough, but the professional man is allowed to keep it in his cellar and guzzle to his heart's content? How do I know these things? What I hear I take with a grain of salt, but what I know I know it well.

The Ku Klux Preacher. A few weeks ago a minister spoke in Fairmont telling the common folk the principles of Ku Kluxism. What do you think of this bogus follower of Christ bringing the peaceful doctrines of the lowly Nazarene as an ally to the terrorist? After reading how Jesus tramped the countryside preaching peace and good will it is hard to understand how any preacher with even the mental attainments of a full-fledged moron could associate his teaching with the actions of an outfit like that.

If transferring one's affections from a lawfully wedded mate to some other one of the opposite sex whose right to reciprocate is similarly handicapped by legal restrictions, is a crime, calling for a coat of tar and feathers, it should be the punishment for the wholesale murder of women and children at Ludlow? What should be the punishment for the curs who call themselves men who murdered Sid Hatfield and Sid Chambers in front of the courthouse? But there was no punishment meted out to these criminals. Their victims were workers and friends of the workers.

Miners of America, how long are you going to give a deaf ear to the cry for justice that rises from the graves of our murdered comrades? We have stood idly by and saw our loved ones go hungry in a land of plenty. It is time this reign of terror, fostered by the money power, should come to an end. Miners of America, protect yourselves against these forces of reaction and as self preservation is the first law of nature give these agents of lawlessness their own medicine. It is a poor doctor who cannot take his own pills.

DAVID CAPLAN COMES OUT OF PRISON. SAN QUENTIN, Cal.—David Caplan, one of the defendants in the Los Angeles Times dynamite case, was released from San Quentin prison July 11. Caplan was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to ten years, which, with good conduct time, is now up. At the time the Namaras pleaded guilty, District Attorney Woolwine promised in exchange to prosecute no other cases on the charges, growing out of a building fire in San Quentin. He then broke his word. Caplan and Matthew Schmidt were arrested, and the former was sentenced to ten years and the latter to life.

NOVA SCOTIA MINERS OUT. GLACE BAY, Nova Scotia.—In protest against the reign of terror and presence of troops in Sydney, where 3,500 steelworkers are striking, 12,000 Nova Scotia coal miners have declared a strike. The miners demand that the British Empire Steel Corp. and the government withdraw the troops immediately. The steel corporation owns the mines. The tactics that made the last strike famous will be employed. All barrooms will be closed tight. A large number of special police will be sworn in by the labor mayor, D. W. Morrison, who declares he is with the men heart and soul. Systematic picketing will be carried on to such an extent that only officials will be allowed to enter the mines.

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### The Party Caucus



The opponents of Magnus Johnson, newly elected senator from Minnesota, used against him the slogan: "Too much Johnson." And—judging from the election—there was.

President Harding says the United States should help Europe with the Golden Rule.

Golden Rule? That's what wrecked Europe. For a fuller measure of happiness we suggest Red Rule.

We wouldn't give a single red for all the capitalists in the whole dang country.

Judge Wilkerson declares it is not the words we utter that count at all, but the "atmosphere" in which we breathe them. It will be well for all good patriots to carry a barometer and test that "atmosphere" before letting out any remarks. Liberty is a very precious thing and we must be careful not to use up too much of it at once.

The Little Young Worker Says: The average worker is like the ditch-digger. The more he works, the farther in the hole he gets.

We learn that Charles Darwin always quit work for the day at noon. This part of the Darwinian theory has not as yet been generally accepted, though they have already made monkeys of the workers.

Send in your contributions to the Party Caucus.

President Wm. H. Finley of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, in a speech at Clear Lake, Iowa, said: "When consideration is given to the immense investment in tracks, locomotives, cars and other equipment, which are at the farmers' disposal at the rates which are the lowest in the world today, the railroads' service should be looked upon by the farmers not only with appreciation and approval, but with a generous inclination toward justice to the railroads." And the farmer remarked, as he drove another load away: "That's not my bull."

Leaving General Wood in the lurch, the Philippine cabinet resigned. It seems that just for luck they were knocking on Wood's door.

Send in your contributions to the Party Caucus.

The Little Young Worker asks us to be sure to mention that on June 29th the Young Workers' League will have their Inning—at their outing.

They helped the Party hold a successful picnic—a word to the wise—one good time deserves another.

The capitalist system continues because of sheer strength—of the arms of the workers—and the workers it arms.

Edward Bok, the well known news peddler, has offered a hundred thousand dollars for the most practical plan to secure peace.

The capitalists are not competing. They can make more from a practical plan that brings war.

A hundred thousand dollars for peace—and Dempsey gets three times that much for fighting.

Though we have a presentiment our suggestion will not cop the berries, we offer what to our mind is the best fight for the surest way to peace.

Join The Workers' Party.

WALT CARMON.

### The Last Revolution

A Comic Opera for Proletarians, in Two Acts. Book and Lyrics by Michael Gold and J. Ramires. Music by Rudolf Liebh.

CAST OF CHARACTERS: JOHN PIERPONT, FELIX DOOLITTLE, GEORGE SMITH, HENRY CABOT VAN DAM, JULIUS GUGGENWALD, MRS. HAWKINS-PIERPONT, ERNESTINE PIERPONT, MRS. VAN DAM, JUDGE BUNK, SENATOR BUNK, BISHOP BUNK, GENERAL BUNK, ROSE COHEN, TOM PETERS, FRANK MILLS, OLAF NANSEN, MIKE MURPHY, LEO CRIMPERS, MRS. CRIMPERS, GIUSEPPE TRENTINI.

PIERPONT: Come! Get away out of sight and we'll heat his brazen outpourings.

ROSE: Ha, ha! What a joke! The fool imagines he's kissing Miss Ernestine.

PIERPONT: What liberties! This is unbearable. A common foreman actually kissing my daughter!

VAN DAM: But it's only by proxy.

PIERPONT: That makes it worse.

GUGGENWALD: Sssh!

ROSE: Good. Then we can talk about our bosses.

PETERS: Let me begin—I know them better. Pierpont is a crook.

GUGGENWALD: You said something dot time, lady!

PETERS: That's nothing. They're all crooks.

PIERPONT: But I'm the cleverest crook. They'll have to admit that.

ROSE: I'll have those batteries of suspended energy for you any day now, Tom.

PETERS: Fine! Which one of the poor boobies is selling out to us?

ROSE: Why, who do you think? (Capitalists strain their ears.)

ROSE: That high-toned, idiotic Boston pinhead.

ROSE: Hello, comrades!

ROSE and PETERS: Hello!

PETERS: I thought you fellows were holding a strike meeting in your shop.

MURPHY: Swell chance! The wage slaves only elected a committee to buy the boss a birthday present.

ROSE: Well, here we are! The entire radical movement of Morganville. If there were a few more of us we'd have enough for a baseball team.

MILLS: Don't forget the housemaids.

HOUSEMAIDS: Then shout a hip, hip for us. The merry housemaids' chorus.

FIRST HOUSEMAID: What were you talking about here?

PETERS: Our bosses.

SECOND HOUSEMAID: Well don't stop on account of us. We're not sensitive.

PETERS: There's a man in our shop who despises play.

ROSE: And he simply hates the thought of pay.

PETERS: O, the boss! O, the boss!

MIXED CHORUS: O, the boss! O, the boss!

ROSE: There's a railroad man living up the track.

PETERS: And a strike to him means double jack.

ROSE: Yes, brother.

PETERS: O, the scab! O, the scab!

MIXED CHORUS: O, the scab! O, the scab!

PETERS: There's a slave with whom managers like to chat.

ROSE: And you never know just where he's at.

### Doings of Charlie and Warren



A confidential conversation between two statesmen.

CHARLIE: Connect me with the president at once. Do not accept "the line is busy" for an answer.

WARREN: What's the news, Charlie?

CHARLIE: The political clouds are ominously dark, Gamaliel. One blamed thing after the other.

WARREN: I heard, and believe me, one of those Alaskan glaciers is not a bit colder than my heart over it.

CHARLIE: I expected they would sooner or later, but did not think the storm would break as soon as this.

WARREN: Conservation does not seem to go any longer. What are we going to do to Brookheart and that gang that wants to recognize Soviet Russia?

CHARLIE: My instructions are to trot out the old reliable piece of junk about the dictatorship of the proletariat and have an interview with Gompers every time somebody suggests recognition.

WARREN: But our friend Sam tells them that the workers cannot organize unions in Russia.

CHARLIE: Not a grain. It's really funny how the old fellow has the nerve to pull that cheese after Daugherty granted a permanent injunction to the railroads.

WARREN: Say, on whose payroll is the old boy now?

CHARLIE: That is a secret. I put Burns on the job to find out, but he could not get the dope.

WARREN: But for him we would be in an awful fix. We would have to recognize Russia right away.

CHARLIE: I am afraid we cannot postpone it much longer. Our business men are getting anxious to trade.

WARREN: I did not have a new idea since I discovered normalcy.

CHARLIE: Who gave out the story that you are on the water wagon?

WARREN: It's real tough living in a democracy, Charlie. A man cannot even have his drink without affecting his political fortunes.

CHARLIE: So long!

DON'T throw away your old safety razor blades. I pay 10c a dozen.

VISIT OUR NEW HOME Ben Norsk Kafe Restaurant 2741-45 West North Avenue

### A Mystery Story

By ALFRED TIALA.

(In which we follow slipshod the slippery trail of Ole, the Ole-omargarinous.)

Fifth Installment.

Our hero was destined to learn at the country estate how solicitous for the happiness of its citizens this great democracy is at every turn.

When he replied that he had a particular fondness for lame horses, he was given to drive around from one end of the great enclosure to another an animal that was minus one hoof.

During the third day of Ole's sojourn on the estate a new guest arrived—a rather dapper young man whose honorary title was Jake-the-Jolly.

Asked Jake of Ole: "Why do you keep your nag so skinny?"

Replied Ole to Jake: "Just so's my jackass can see he has sound ribs."

This proves our hero to be a man who would take no one's chaff when he was sober.

Jake was completely flustered; but in order to retain his title among the other guests, he recounted the circumstances which had led to his being invited as an honorary guest to "this grand lodge of the free agents."

It appears that Jake had been courting a kitchen maid in the home of an influential citizen.

"What are you doing here?" the influential citizen had inquired.

"I'm calling on Maggie," Jake had replied with naive truthfulness.

"When I courted my wife I did not carry a lantern with me," one man of the house had boasted.

Jake retorted, "anyone could see that you had wooed in the dark."

Whereat the great man's friends had all burst into laughter, but the great man himself had become extremely sad.

Perhaps the care-less remark had reminded the influential citizen too forcefully of the family skeleton.

The great man, however, proved his greatness and his influence. He saw it that Jake was invited for a whole year out to the "g and lodge."

Jake and Ole could not become good friends. Perhaps it was a case of incompatibility of odors.

"Jesus Christ," he cried aloud in agony, being an extremely pious man.

"I wish you'd take that rock to hell," Jake saw his opportunity to ingratiate himself with the host and he seized opportunity by the forelock.

"I'll do it," he volunteered. "Jesus Christ is a long way from here and you may not be able to wait until his second coming.

The result was even better than Jake had anticipated. The host immediately called four servants to carry Jake in triumph to headquarters after giving him a birch bath.

It was common knowledge that the too bright sun had been playing havoc with Jake's eyes.

The other guests, of course, were extremely envious of the favorite who put on such airs that he no longer came out to the presence of others.

### Our Own Society Column

By MAX SHACHTMAN.

Among the spicy bits which the "best society" is now enjoying, is the divorce suit of W. E. D. Stokes against his wife, Mrs. Helen Elwood Stokes.

But complications have arisen. The old buzzard is now being sued by one of the co-respondents he named, Hal C. Billig, Jr., who asserts, avers and maintains that the charges made by Stokes were "false and insipid malice."

It all happened like this. In the divorce trial, testimony was a to the effect that Mr. Billig, who is a cousin to Mrs. Stokes, entered boudoir while she was disrobed and embraced, fondled and kissed her.

This roguish tale Mrs. Stokes denied on the stand. And Mr. Billig also scotched the story, and pleaded that the affection he had bestowed on the person of his cousin were purely fraternal, quite platonic, such as a brother might give to a sister.

Now, for the unwarranted accusation of osculatory obscenity: Mr. Billig, Jr., is suing the aged Mr. Stokes for the dinky little sum of \$50,000 in the Superior Court.

We sympathize with Mr. Billig. We seem to feel instinctively that he is no man to enter a lady's boudoir while she happens, accidentally, of course, to be disrobed, with ulterior purposes.

There is no doubt but that he came in to ask her what time it was by her watch; or to admire the texture of the wallpaper or the casters of her bedposts; or, perhaps, to inquire whether she had slept well last year; or to discuss the biological aspects of the political situation in southern Daghestan.

Far be it, we say, for a man like Mr. Billig, Jr. a Chicago realtor, and a stout defender of the sanctity of the home; the family, to intend, by his and embraces, to convey to Stokes any other message than of friendly, cousinly and quite respectful tribute.

As for his having written "To my sweetheart" on a picture, which he gave the Missus, he probably meant to give it to some one other than Mrs. Stokes, some other man's wife, perhaps. And the "beautiful special night gown" part can be easily explained by the lack of a hyphen between "night" and "gown," thus showing that Mrs. Stokes meant a dinner gown for that night.

What arouses our special indignation is the fact that such a plain case of injustice to a man should be given such unpleasant publicity by the press. Cannot a rich man have a little incident in his conjugal life without the newspapers giving it publicity so that some workers may read of it and become sceptical about certain aspects of our wealthy persons' lives?

It is all that our really exclusive people can do to convince them that the radicals would break up the home and destroy the family. We shall entertain a motion that all such news be specifically prohibited in the press from this moment on.

All in favor please signify by saying "aye!" Any opposed? Carried.

Hooraay! Let's celebrate by giving three rousing whistles! Hip, Hip, Hip!

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# Labor Party in W. Virginia

(Cont. from page 1.)

and some of the aims which the workers and farmers of the state hope to accomplish.

Beginning the conference with a short opening speech, Chairman Harris then called upon H. L. Franklin, secretary of the State Federation of Labor, to read the call for the conference, which upon motion was adopted unanimously, thereby putting the conference definitely on record for independent political action for the workers and farmers.

A short address was then made by Fred Hewitt, editor of the *Machineists' Journal*, on progressive political action as outlined by the Progressive Political Conference in Chicago in February, 1922, and in Cleveland in December of the same year. Reading from the Progressive Program and Principles, he stated that it was his opinion that the time was not ripe for a third party movement, but that the only hope for success the workers and farmers have is to participate in the primaries of both the old parties electing working class candidates through the old party machinery. Although the delegates listened with attention they had already indicated in many ways that they had come to this conference for a different purpose. Hewitt failed to hit home.

After a short recess for lunch, ex-Congressman John Baer, at present cartoonist for "Labor," the Washington newspaper of the railroad unions, was given the floor. Suggesting that the workers build up a class movement just like the capitalists he then paradoxically urged participation in both old party primaries, as Hewitt had done. Throwing cold water upon the idea of a third party movement by the workers and farmers, he stated a successful working class political party of the workers and farmers could not be brought forth by resolutions. But the workers and farmers of this mountain state have gone beyond mere resolutions. They have hitched up their suspenders for action. And they are determined to get it. No more old party soft-soap for them.

Baer made one statement in humorous vein that the delegates are still pondering over. He said, "I was formerly a farmer, but I am going to be a parasite now, it is more profitable than being a worker." Whether this has anything to do with the progressive policy of participat-

ing in the Republican and Democratic primaries the reader may judge for himself.

### "Progressives" Turned Down.

Both Hewitt and Baer requested of the conference that they appoint a committee to meet with them where they hoped to go thoroughly into the "progressive" policies as outlined in their addresses with the hope that they would be adopted by the conference. But the conference did not grant them a committee. They were there for more clear-sighted and militant action that the "progressives" have to offer. The conference then got down to business in earnest.

Ned Sims, veteran printer of Wheeling, was elected permanent chairman of the conference. H. L. Franklin, secretary of the State Federation, was elected as secretary. The first clash of the conference came on the matter of credentials. Although a committee of the State Federation of Labor had received the credentials of the various delegates, no report had been made. H. E. Keas, delegate from the Workers' Party, whose seat was contested, on a point of information to the chair, brought out that he had been informed by the committee of the State Federation, handling the credentials, that a report would later be made to the conference proper and the matter of his being seated placed before the conference. After a short skirmish a motion was carried that the report of the credentials committee be read. All delegates were seated, with the exception of those representing the Workers' Party.

A special committee of three was appointed by the chair to examine the Workers' Party credential. This committee made report that because of the fact that delegate Keas was not a resident of the state of West Virginia, that they recommended he be not seated. They also found thereon the names of J. DeFillippo and S. Seofare, members of the Workers' Party, who had already been seated as United Mine Worker delegates. On motion the report of the credentials committee was accepted and the Workers' Party refused representation in the conference. Many of the delegates expressed their opinion later that they were of the opinion the Workers' Party should have been given representation. They also stated that the Workers' Party in the state of West Virginia had at all times been in the forefront to build up a unified labor movement, the work of this party in carrying on its educational work for a powerful labor party being concrete evidence of the aim of the Workers' Party for com-

plete unity of the workers and farmers.

But there were certain forces in the State Federation, and in the United Mine Workers, some of those in control of the organizational machinery of their respective organizations, who apparently were determined to keep out this fighting vanguard of the American workers. Delegate Holmes, of the World War Veterans, made a short address in favor of seating Keas. This aroused W. T. Harris, of the State Federation, who jumped to his feet with a bitter denunciation of the radicals, the Workers' Party, referring to the "Voice of Labor" as a "dirty radical sheet."

### Seated as Voice of Labor Representative.

Alex Boyd, of the Fairmont Central Labor Union, arose, favoring the seating of delegate Keas, that they have many times voted for Democrats and Republicans, but strain on seating a delegate representing a definite working class group. Holmes then made a motion that Keas be seated as a representative from the "Voice of Labor" as he was also a special representative of that paper. Chairman Sims thereupon appointed a special committee to examine the credentials from the "Voice of Labor" in the form of a telegram held by Keas.

But this special committee, evidently a part of the forces determined to keep out any elements which might in the least possible way threaten their reactionary regime, refused to consider the telegram presented to them by Keas from the "Voice of Labor," and returned to the convention hall.

Many delegates later expressed it as their opinion that they would have voted in favor of the seating of delegate Keas, had they known the circumstances. I was later on told by individual delegates that the special committee appointed to examine the "Voice of Labor" credential refrained from making a report to the conference the afternoon of Thursday, but the question was again brought to the fore Friday morning on motion by delegate Marion Williams, of Morgantown, his motion that Keas be seated as a special representative of the "Voice of Labor" carrying by a vote of 77 to 71.

A resolution on organization presented to the conference, presented by delegate Joe Diggs, of the Monongahela Trades and Labor Assembly of Fairmont was lost after speeches in favor by Boyd and against by Harris. Harris, making a motion to table, the motion carried. After a great deal of fiery discussion it was left to the chair to appoint the committees. The basis was for committees of not more than nine members with no craft or group having more than two representatives.

### Committees Elected.

A committee on resolutions was appointed as follows: Joe Diggs, chairman; C. J. Massau, W. T. Dadsman, J. B. Easton, Austin McGred, Miss Lulu Montgomery, J. Boyles, Dave Ware and L. S. Foster.

On Organization and Finance: A. D. Lavender, chairman; Vance Palmer, Alex' Boyd, Robert Wegman, H. L. Harris, Albert Brecklove, Miss Jane Cochran, Joe Craddock, E. A. Anderson.

### While the West Virginia Farm and Labor Party did not in this convention definitely affiliate with the Federated Farmer-Labor Party recently organized in Chicago, it is the hope of a large number of the delegates that this will be done at the next convention which is to be held March 15, 1934.

### Engineer Elected President.

The conference created a state executive committee of a president and secretary and one member from each congressional district, and an advisory committee consisting of two members from each of the fifteen senatorial districts in the state which will act with the executive committee. This makes a general committee of thirty-eight: C. J. Massau, a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, of Montgomery, Fayette county, was elected president of the new party. Vance Palmer, at present president of the Central Labor Union of Clarksburg, and a member of the United Mine Workers, was elected as secretary.

The workers, farmers and teachers of West Virginia have performed a great task, though this task is as yet only in its beginning. Their next step in this great work of liberation from the sinister forces of reaction which rule the county with an iron hand is to affiliate with the national movement of farmers and workers which was recently given birth in Chicago, July 23 to 25—THE FEDERATED FARMER-LABOR PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES. That spells UNITY—and VICTORY!

# Cook County Farmer-Labor Party Attempts to Dictate Political Views of Trade Union Members

## Demands Delegates to Cook County Convention Sign Away Their Political Beliefs.

### Unions Refusing to Send Delegates. Carpenters Local Withdraws Affiliation to Rodriguez-Ernest Faction.

To what extent the Cook County branch of the old Farmer-Labor Party has fallen into the hands of the conservatives, and to what extent it has abandoned contact with the labor movement is portrayed in the invitation which the Cook County F. L. P. has sent out to the unions of Chicago, asking them to send delegates to the Cook County F. L. P. convention. The F. L. P. has in the past taken credit for not trying to dictate to the unions as to how they should run themselves. In their invitation, however, they part entirely with this policy by making conditions for the seating of union delegates. These conditions are that the delegates elected from the unions must have no political connections apart from the old Farmer-Labor Party and that they shall sign a pledge to accept the program and policies of the old F.-L. P.

Unions in which this invitation has been considered have bitterly resented such interference with their political opinions and political connections of their members. It has been ascertained by the Voice of Labor that many unions which have in the past sent delegates to the F.-L. P. conventions have now refused to send delegates. In local 390 of the I. A. of M. the motion was made "to non-concur in the request"; and an amendment "that we inform the Farmer-Labor Party why we withhold from sending delegates" was carried with the motion. Local 13 of the carpenters, which has been until now affiliated with the F.-L. P., has withdrawn its affiliation.

The Cook County delegation of the old Farmer-Labor Party dictated the position of the F. L. P. in the recent national Farmer-Labor Convention. In spite of the fact that Cook County delegates numbered more than half of the entire delegation, due to the heavy expense in sending delegates from distant places; in spite of the fact that the majority of the Farmer-Labor Party delegates from outside of Cook County differed from the Cook County position; in spite of the fact that the issue involved was the tremendously important one of remaining in the Federated Farmer-Labor Party or bolting from it, the Cook County delegation took advantage of its numerical strength and forced upon the entire F.-L. P. a policy to which it was opposed and which isolated it from the political life of the country.

It is interesting and profitable to consider the make-up and political outlook of this Cook County delegation. A large part of it, under the leadership of Rodriguez and Ernest, were from the beginning opposed to the calling of the national convention for the formation of a Federated Labor Party. They were particularly opposed to the invitation to the Workers' Party and to participation of the Workers' Party in a Federated Labor Party. In the Cook County Convention of the F.-L. P., which preceded the national convention, they attempted to secure the endorsement of a proposition which had as its purpose the excluding of the Workers' Party. At this Cook County convention, to which practically all of the politically conscious trade unions of Chicago had sent delegates, this faction was decisively defeated. But at the national convention it soon became evident that they had secured control of a majority of the F.-L. P. delegation. In the national convention they were repudiated by the delegates from the strongest Farmer-Labor Party state branches, but they persisted in their disunity stand.

One of the first official acts of the Cook County branch of the F.-L. P. since the national convention has been the issuing of a call for a Cook County convention. The terms of this call show how far this Cook County faction, which takes upon itself the right to speak for the whole Farmer-Labor Party, has divorced itself from the political life of the labor movement. At the Cook County convention, held June 17, this faction tried to discriminate against the Workers' Party. They were then denounced by the great majority of the trade unionists present. In the Cook County convention, which they are trying to hold on August 12, they seek to secure only such delegates who will swallow their disunity pills. They invite all unions to send delegates, but with the proviso that the delegates elected by the unions must agree to accept the program and policies of the Farmer-Labor Party, and that no delegates will be accepted who hold membership in other political parties.

This is the rankest kind of interference with the autonomy of the trade unions. In the long editorial on the F.-L. P. convention, printed in the "New Majority" of July 21, it is stated:

"The farmer-Labor Party . . . scrupulously refrains from trying to dictate to the unions as to how they should run themselves."

In their invitation to the Cook County convention the F.-L. P. scrupulously instructs and dictates to the unions as to what kind of representation they shall elect for themselves.

We do not believe that such actions nor the policies by which they are motivated are accepted by the membership of the old F.-L. P., nor by any progressive in the labor movement. They have already been repudiated by most of the functioning state organizations of the Farmer-Labor Party, by the great majority of the trade unions and by every farmers' organization which had sent delegates to the national convention. They have been repudiated by their own Cook County convention on June 17. They have been repudiated in Cook County by most of the Chicago trade unions, which have been sending delegates to the past Cook County convention and which now refuse to continue.

We say to these unions and to the other organizations which have turned their backs on this small Rodriguez-Ernest faction and what they represent, "Your place is in the Federated Farmer-Labor Party, alongside of all the working class organizations that are fighting for unity on the political field."

We say to the champions of disunity, "Go your way. You will go alone and no one will miss you."

# West Virginia War Veterans



Left to right sitting:—Lawson McMillon, Miss Nellie Wilson, Roy Hamrick. Standing:—John Samarra, Emil E. Holmes.

# World War Veterans Aid Workers in West Va. Strike

By EMIL E. HOLMES.

FAIRMONT, W. Va.—Upon my arrival here I found Electrical Workers' Union Locals 755 and 756, Fairmont and Clarksburg, on strike against Monongahela and West Pennsylvania Service Company.

This strike began at midnight on July 1, 1923, just following the termination of the contract which the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers had with the Public Service Company.

The union demanded union foremen and helpers, and a wage increase of sixty-five and half to eighty-seven and half cents per hour for journeymen; line-men, 39c; and 40c to 50c per hour for common laborers; and 72 to 96 for electricians; 70 to 95 for foremen and those similarly classified.

These demands the union leaders claim to be very reasonable, especially in view of the fact that cost of living in Clarksburg and Fairmont is far above that of the country generally. The electrical workers, however, being the third lowest paid in the electrical field in the nation. Union leaders also stated that in the houses owned by the company, where employees live, notice has been served on them that rent will be advanced on August 1 five dollars per month. Yet the company declares a wage increase out of the question.

After hearing the story of the electrical workers, and convinced of an injustice being done them, I decided to secure, if possible, an interview with Captain Alexander, president of the Public Service Company. The Captain began by telling me that the trainmen signed a new contract,

without much trouble. He then showed me copies of the old contract and finally agreed that perhaps they might be mistaken and that the company was ready at any time to submit the question to arbitration. He tried to also convey that the men went out before termination of the contract, and seemed especially grieved at the fact that the boys claimed they went on vacation. This, I suppose, because of the termination of the contract.

I did not notice any of the union men ashamed of the fact, however, that they were on strike. The Captain has a hobby of always talking about the Golden Rule and has gained a reputation as "The Golden Rule Man," but it would be well to hang a sign over the Captain's desk, which reads, "There are always two sides to a question, the wrong side and our side."

The Captain told me he was a World War soldier, that he saw service with the Ordnance Department at Washington, D. C., during the war. He proved himself a swivel chair soldier, when confronted with demands by the union, calling his bluff on the Golden Rule sermon. He resorted to tears, and between sobs, as the tears flowed down his Christian cheeks and the boys feared a flood, he made them understand how he loved them all, how his heart ached for them, his thoughts always for their welfare and that of their loved ones at home, but in the voice and gesture of a Napoleon he announced there would be no wage increase.

# Trade Union Men Tortured Into "Confession" in Kansas City, Mo.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—On Monday, July 2, J. A. Rose a seab electrical worker was accosted on the job and solicited to join the union. He started to climb down his ladder, stumbled, fell and sustained injuries from which he died that afternoon. An ambulance was phoned and after its departure, the union men drove off. Such a case was too good to be passed up by the Open Shop crowd and another seab on the job proved a ready tool. His cock and bull story that ten men "boiled" Rose to death with their fists" was featured by the pro-shop press and galvanized the "guardians of our rights and safety" (if you don't recognize them under that phrase—the police) into activity. According to the papers they rounded up all findable building mechanics and seab Olden obligingly identified two of the prisoners as "members of the party." According to the police both men and the business agent of the Fixture Workers Union—Frank Ecker—have made full confessions. This statement makes me shiver.

Knowing the sort of vermin that compose the Kansas City police force, every prisoner suspected of possessing knowledge of value to the police is tortured into "confession." The man is lucky, who escapes with half an hour's punning from a dozen yellow finks. A member of the local Painters, Glaziers and Decorators' Union had his jaw broken in two places last week—HE was suspected of "vagrancy."

When they wish to fasten a felony on some prisoner they are willing to go to a lot more trouble. They decided last winter that Clyde Gibson should be convicted of some highway robbery or other.

Apparently he had no information to divulge since they indicted him for a dozen different robberies. He has been tried for three—two acquittals and one hung jury. The St. Louis grand jury after investigating such practices over there expressed their unqualified approval stating that: "The guardians of property and public safety are justified in the use of any methods to put fear and respect in the criminals." We wish to point out that Missouri is not only civilized but also Christian.

# Gagged, Bound and Stabbed to

By HARRISON GEOR

This is a mild way of citing what happened to the "cratic" liberties of free speech and assembly also the right to use the mails, the telegraph even walk upon the street, by Wilkerson, who seems to be to get the next appointment Supreme Court, got through injunction against the railroads crafts last week.

The injunction was "made nent." And likewise was manifest the fact that in the with labor the forces of go are openly arrayed on the the great corporations and a suppress all semblance of con tional rights so often held up as that in America we do have "a ure" (as a liberal told me years of free speech and democracy.

Instead of enjoining the rail trust from "interfering with state commerce" by refusing th demands of the unions and th lining the strike—causing it, in—as should have been done by government responsible to the in ests of the majority of the peo Wilkerson torture logic into justit tion of an utter denial, a whole slaughter, of all popular rights.

In the war time protests against the I. W. W., Landis held although the demands of the co and lumber workers were just their strikes were legal, the "men whereby the strikes combined in union were, merely because of co bination, a "conspiracy" and theref illegal! In the case of the shopp "twas vice versa: Wilkerson hold that although the strike was "c ouraged by open words and deed, which in themselves appear peace ful and lawful," the "manifest pu pose was to cripple and destroy in terstate commerce is therefore un lawful, and it may not be carried out be means that otherwise would be legal!

And there you are! The aim may be legal, but if so the courts say, the means to get it are illegal; or the aim may be illegal and therefore use of legal means save the strike from the crushing power of govern ment! But in any strike of consequence it can be relied on that the courts will trot out one or the other of these methods to suppress it. The truth is that workers have a right to strike so long as they don't strike; but if they do strike, they lost the right to strike!

And when the communists assert, merely, as a matter of historical truth, that any effort of the working class to emancipate itself from capitalist exploitation will be held illegal and, if pressed, will culminate in the use of force to decide the issue, they are themselves held "illegal" for exposing the hypocrisy of our democratic pretensions and are convicted, as was Ruthenberg in Michigan, for "criminal syndicalism" or anything else handy. The Wilkerson injunction, indeed, was first sought by Daugherty at the time he ordered the raid on the communist convention, and thirty men yet face prison in Michigan for the crime of "assembling."

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