

# WORKERS AGE



Workers of all Countries, Unite!

For Communist Unity in the Revolutionary Class Struggle!

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS AND FARMERS

VOL. I, No. 7.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1932.

PRICE 5 CENTS

## Workers Age Builders

More shares have been bought. The following is the list of new members in the Association:

P. Halonen, B. Herman, J. Goldman, S. Nahama, E. Lee, S. Mesnil, W. Moran, M. Reed, H. Kaplan, P. Tauber, A. Fox, H. Taublieb; "A Milliner Worker"; Pearl Halpern, M. Rogers, S. Wohl, A. Schwartz, R. Fisher, R. Macklin, R. Michael, I. Steinberg, B. D. Wolfe, Bess Lerner, H. Zam, P.G.; DETROIT: W. Miller, Jr., G. Miller, W. Miller; PHILADELPHIA: J. Wackshul.

The theatre party of the Needle Trades unit was very successful. As a result the Needle Trades Unit bought seven shares for the Unit.

Comrade W. and G. Miller of Detroit had an addition to the family. They bought a share for the little fellow. He will be an active member of the Association representing the baby pioneers.

The meeting of the Association will take place Thursday evening, March 10, at 228 2nd Avenue.

Comrade Lovestone will make the report for the WORKERS AGE. The officers of the Association will be elected and other business will be transacted.

Buy your share now and come to the meeting. Shares are \$5 each. If you don't have \$5, buy a share on the installment plan by paying down \$1 on account.

Buy a share yourself and get your organization to buy shares also so that it can send representatives to the Workers Age Publishing Association. Fill out the blank and mail at once to the Workers Age Publishing Association, 228 Second Avenue. The blank is on page 2.

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- 2. "Social Implications Of Art," by Diego Rivera.
- 3. "Lenin," by D. S. Mirsky.

## SMALL ELECTRIC USERS ROBBED

Pay "Twice As High As They Should," Cooke Article States

Rates for electric current charged to the domestic and small commercial consumers "are perhaps twice as high as they should be," Morris Llewellyn Cooke, trustee of the New York State Power Authority, declares in an article published in the March number of *The Survey Graphic*. In this article Mr. Cooke adds that these classes of consumers "represent certainly 90% of the population."

"While the domestic and small commercial consumers demand a relatively small quota of the current generated, they contribute the lion's share of the revenues. Of the nearly \$9,000,000,000 in revenues collected by

## BRING THE WORKERS AGE TO THE MASSES OF WORKERS

the industry during the five years 1926-1930, these 'lighting' customers contributed nearly \$5,500,000,000 or 61%. They used, however, during the same period only 100,000,000,000 kilowatt hours out of a total of 334,000,000,000 kilowatt hours sold, or 30%.

## Stimson Declares Japs "Broke Treaties"; USSR Protests Jap Aid to White Guards

Diplomatic Program Of Wall Street Bared; Jingoist War Mongering Grows In U.S.A.; Workers Must Fight War By Fighting U. S. Imperialism

A sharp protest against Japanese troop movements in Manchuria and against the Japanese organization and incitement of the White Russian bands against the Soviet Union, was launched by the U. S. S. R. in the form of an interview between Assistant Foreign Commissar, L. M. Karakhan, and the Japanese Ambassador to the U. S. S. R., Kioki Hirota.

The question of the Japanese use of the Chinese-Eastern Railway for war purposes came under view. In this connection, Karakhan informed the Japanese Ambassador that a limited number of troops would be transported over the railway as far as Hailin only. The use of the railway for strategic movements will be

regarded as a violation of the Portsmouth treaty, the Soviet Commissar emphasized.

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*The Japanese Offensive Around Shanghai*

After weeks of bitter fighting, involving many casualties and great destruction of wealth, the Japanese forces, increased by reinforcements of two new divisions amounting to about 30,000 men, thus bringing the Japanese total up to 50,000, have made little headway against Chinese resistance. Chapei is still not taken and the fighting is still concentrated in the villages around Shanghai.

The Japanese still adhere to their (Continued on page 2)

## On the Fifth Anniversary!

# C. E. Ruthenberg

by Jay Lovestone

The following estimate of C. E. Ruthenberg, the outstanding leader of the American Communist movement, who died five years ago (March 4, 1927) forms the concluding paragraphs of the critical introduction by Jay Lovestone to the booklet of speeches and articles by C. E. Ruthenberg published by the International Publishers in the "Voices of Revolt" series.

Ruthenberg hated capitalism with an immeasurable vengeance. He hated capitalism for what it meant for the workers. He always wrote about the meaning of capitalism and exploitation in simple but telling language. He wrote in 1912: "The capitalist system means the existence of a master class and a dependent class. The wealth which the workers produce and don't receive is paid to a parasitic class in the shape of interest and dividends. The evils of the capitalist system which are everywhere apparent in the squalor and misery of the tenements in which millions exist, in the diseases resulting from poverty which yearly take the lives of thousands, with its consequent suffering for the unemployed and their families, in the general insecurity of the lives of those subject to whims of the industrial masters, who know not whether on the morrow their means of livelihood may not be gone, are the by-products of the private ownership of industry and profit making through the exploitation of the workers."

In 1911 and 1912, while the Socialist official leadership was driving headlong to the right, Ruthenberg emphasized Leninist faith in the masses which was a welcome revolutionary antidote. "The rank and file are not subject to influence which capitalism can bring to bear. They are the victims of capitalism. They suffer from capitalist institutions which they can be depended upon to remain an uncompromising opposition to capitalism until the organization which they are building up will have acquired the strength to transform existing social institutions into a new social organization which will realize the aim of socialism."

"We socialists have faith in the working class. We believe the workers have advanced too far and are too dependent upon industrial slavery and therefore are confident that they will assert their power to bring into existence the only alternative to capitalist despotism. . . . The working class has the power and to save itself must establish socialism."

Ruthenberg was born at a time (July 19, 1882), when American imperialism was being reared. He inherited the weaknesses, the haziness, as well as the spirit of militancy which characterized the early movements of opposition to the rule of monopoly capital in the United States. As imperialism grew, the clarity of revolutionary perspective and program of the most advanced workers grew. Ruthenberg symbolized this growth in all its stages. From the very first

moment of his acceptance of Marxism as his basic guiding principle, he progressed without any wavering or hesitation in his work of changing the Socialist Party into an effective and Marxian party of proletarian leadership. Unable to achieve this task, he became the leader in the foundation of the Communist Party. Vacillation, pessimism, lack of faith, temporary reversion to paths deviating from Marxism-Leninism are not to be found in Ruthenberg's inspiring revolutionary career. It can be said of Ruthenberg that he was the outstanding American proletarian revolutionary leader who followed the most consistent and logical line of revolutionary development through his participation in the revolutionary labor movement.

Ruthenberg lent a certain Bolshevik poise and confidence to the party work and to those associated with him in this work. As a Leninist he fought courageously and consistently for revolutionizing the American labor movement, in the interests of the whole proletariat.

Death removed Ruthenberg from his revolutionary post while he was still comparatively young—at the age of forty-four. These lines are being written on the eve of the first anniversary of his death.

(Continued on Page 4)

## FARLEY REMOVED BY ROOSEVELT

Ousts Tammany Sheriff As Election Trick; Another Tammany Man Coming

ALBANY.—Thomas N. Farley, of the "wonderful tin box" fame, Sheriff of New York County, a pillar of Tammany Hall, a close friend of John F. Curry, Tammany leader, has been removed from his office by Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt. Charges against Farley were presented to the Governor by Samuel Seabury, counsel of the Hofstadter committee. The charges rotated around three central points: the gambling and other illegal activities conducted in Farley's district club, Farley's retention of interest on public moneys in his charge, and Farley's refusal to explain his tremendous bank deposits, far in excess of the income he received from his public offices. Governor Roosevelt threw out the first two charges but took his action on the third.

Governor Roosevelt's action is very obviously a phase of his pre-Convention drive for the Democratic Presidential candidacy. It involves no break with Tammany, however. Farley is to be sacrificed for the greater interests involved and another Tammany man is to be chosen to replace him who will be if not more honest, at least more careful.

## Dressmakers Strike Ends; Settlements Reached With Affiliated and Jobbers; Workers to Continue Struggle in Shops

### SPAIN BANS USSR RECOGNITION

Reactionary Character Of Spanish Republic Bared; French Power Rules

MADRID.—On February 25, the Spanish government sent a telegram to the government of the Soviet Union refusing the negotiation of a commercial treaty or diplomatic recognition. At Geneva, Litvinoff, Soviet Assistant Foreign Minister, approached the Spanish Foreign Minister suggesting Spanish recognition of Russia or at least negotiation of a commercial treaty. The telegram from here was the result.

The real character of the new Spanish republic is laid bare thru its attitude towards the U.S.S.R. The "Republic of the workers of all classes," as it cynically calls itself, the pride and joy of all reformist Socialists the world over, the model of a "peaceful revolution" (not counting, of course, the butchery of hundreds of Spanish workers and peasants!), refuses to recognize the Soviet Workers Republic or to enter into commercial relations with it. The truth is that the present Spanish republic is not the government of the democratic revolution but is the government of the bourgeois anti-democratic counter-revolution. Its foreign policy is completely dominated by French imperialism, the inveterate enemy of the Soviet Union.

### "JOBLESS PARTY" SET UP BY COX

Clerical Demagogue Takes Advantage Of Errors Of Communist Party

PITTSBURGH.—The first step toward the establishment of a new political party for the 1932 elections, to be known as the "Jobless party", led by the Reverend James R. Cox of this city, was made on February 27 when papers preempting the name in the state of Pennsylvania were filed in the county court. The new party is to participate in the presidential elections besides putting up a state ticket.

Reverend Cox, the initiator of the new party, obtained great publicity a few months ago thru organizing and leading a conservative hunger march to Washington. His political connections with the politicians of the big boss parties are extremely close, also he fervently asserts his "opposition" to both the Republican and Democratic parties.

The headway of this clerical demagogue is able to make among the unemployed and in the direction of a third party movement is made possible thru the complete failure of the Communist Party in its unemployment work because of its sectarianism and thru its opposition to the Labor party movement.

*Le Travail (Labor)*, organ of the Social-democratic party of Switzerland.

### OUR AIM: 500 NEW SUBSCRIBERS TO THE WORKERS AGE

land, makes the following startling declaration in its manifesto on the Disarmament Conference:

"The Social-democratic party of Germany has made its peace with Hindenburg. This party has become the chief support of the republic and its leaders are trusted with state secrets. But misery weighs upon the land. Never were the workers so oppressed as in the period in which Social-democratic police presidencies are so numerous in Germany."

"The Second International has become the last bulwark of the capitalist regime."  
Surely its Swiss section ought to know the character of the Second International today!

### 15-YEAR PLAN FOR P. I. "FREEDOM"

Senate In Scheme To Keep Disguised Control Of Philippine Islands

WASHINGTON.—A "formula" for Philippine "independence", under which the United States would retain military and naval privileges and control in the islands, was agreed upon on February 26 by the Senate Committee on Territories and Insular Affairs. (Continued on Page 2)

### Zimmerman Exposes Sabotage Of Right-Wing Officials As Responsible For Failure To Score Decisive Victory; N.T.W.I.U. Scabbery Hurt Strike

March 1, 1932.  
The New York Dressmakers strike has come to an end after another week of militant picketing. The last week of the strike was marked by more than usual police brutality and mass arrests. Last Friday over 100 strikers were arrested for picketing. Among them was Chas. S. Zimmerman.

During the week the strikers held many enthusiastic hall meetings. One of the most successful meetings was the one held at Bryant Hall Wednesday, February 24, addressed by Ben

Gitlow, national secretary of the Communist Party (Majority Group).

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### The Settlements

While the halls were jammed with strikers and bustling with activity, negotiations were proceeding between the International officials of the I.L.G.W.U. and the employers. As we go to press, a settlement has been reached with the Affiliated Association and with the Jobbers. So far no agreement has been reached with the third association, the contractors. Negotiations are still going on between this employers association and the union. In order to resist the demands of these bosses and to enforce certain minimum conditions, the union is going ahead with independent settlements with shops affiliated to this Association.

The settlements arrived at with the Affiliated Association and with the jobbers are on the basis of the employers withdrawing their demands and maintaining the old agreement with some modifications. Among the bosses demands which the workers beat back and forced the manufacturers to drop are: (1) 10% reorganization every year, which would mean that the employers should have the right once a year to discharge at their will 10% of all the workers employed by them; (2) a general reduction in scales and wages of all crafts; (3) two weeks trial period; (4) that the employers shall have the right to employ non-union sample makers; (5) the right for every manufacturer to work Saturdays whenever he considers it necessary.

These demands of the employers were dropped by them under pressure of the union and the agreement was readopted with the following modifications:

- (1) All piece-rates to be settled on the basis of a schedule to be worked out between the parties to the agreement. This schedule will provide for definite rates for as many parts of the garment as possible and will be based on the hourly piece-rates now provided for in the agreement. This new schedule is to be worked out and put into effect within 15 days after the settlement. (2) The minimum scale of sample makers is to be \$35 a week. (3) Instead of the 5-day agreement for the continuation of work because of dispute in prices there should be only a 2-day period within which disputed prices shall be settled. (4) In case a firm fails to comply within 24 hours either with a decision of the union or the Affiliated or a decision of the impartial chairman, the firm will lose all rights and privileges of the collective agreement and the union will be free to take any action it sees fit, strike, etc., to enforce the agreement immediately.

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### The Shop Chairmen's Meeting

While the above settlement was being negotiated last Saturday arrangements were made for a general meeting of all shop chairmen for Sunday morning. The meeting of 1500 shop chairman and active members gathered Sunday morning, February 28, at Beethoven Hall and was presided over by Schlesinger, International president of the union. Julius Hochman reported on the negotiations and settlement.

Many workers put questions to the chairman. A vigorous discussion followed. Among the speakers was Chas. S. Zimmerman. Zimmerman sharply criticized the conduct of the strike and exposed the false policies and tactics of the leadership not only in the strike itself but in the preparations for the strike as well. He tore to pieces the arguments of Schlesinger and Hochman which centered around the fact that we are now in the midst of a very severe economic crisis and that all the unions are accepting wage-cuts and that therefore this agreement should be approved. Schlesinger, Hochman and their associates harped on the fact that even the railroad workers organizations, which are the strongest and richest unions in the country, had just been compelled to yield to the demands of

(Continued on page 2)

## HATCHING THE "BIRD OF PEACE"



## WORKERS UNITY NEEDED TO DEFEAT FASCISM IN GERMAN ELECTIONS

Big Protest Among Social-Democrats Against Support Of Hindenburg; Fascist Drive Gains; Communist Opposition Urges United Front

BERLIN.—By a vote of 289 to 264 the Bruening government was upheld in the Reichstag on February 26. After that the Reichstag adjourned.

The series of no-confidence motions were introduced by the Communists, the Nazis, the Nationalists and the Peoples Party. The Social-democratic and Center parties along with the middle bourgeois groups supported Bruening.

In the last hours of the session the Communist fraction introduced a resolution demanding that the Reich continue payments for reparations and private debts due abroad. The Nazis, who claim to be against the reparation payments but who uphold the "sanctity of private debts," were very much discomfited at this resolution and abstained from voting. The Communist resolution was lost by a vote of 368 to 70.

Berlin, Germany.

With the brief session beginning on February 22, after four months of dissolution, the Reichstag has become the scene of sharp political struggle in connection with the Presidential elections to take place on March 13, in which there come to expression the basic forces in the political life of Germany today. The session of the Reichstag, which has become an empty and impotent institution in this era of Presidential decrees, was called to take certain nec-

essary formal action of the coming elections.

Joseph Goebbels, Nazi Reichstag leader, opened with a sharp attack on von Hindenburg as the upholder of the "Weimar system", i. e., the German republic, and upon his chief supporters, the Social-democrats, as "deserters." The president of the Reichstag suspended him from the house for the rest of the day for his remarks about the Reichs-President. General Groener, the inveterate enemy of the working class, defended von Hindenburg in his vigorous speech and was loudly cheered by the Social-democratic deputies. But the climax came when Dr. Rudolf Breitscheid, Social-democratic floor-leader, and his colleagues, began a veritable orgy of eulogy of von Hindenburg, the symbol of all that is rotten and reactionary in this country! Nor did the Social-democrats fail to vindicate their loyalty, past, present, and future, to the capitalist Fatherland! It was a self-exposure complete!

Speakers for the Catholic Center and other middle parties followed in support of Hindenburg.

### For A United Anti-Fascist Front!

Tremendous discontent is being manifested in the ranks of the Social-democratic party and its affiliated organizations at the policy of the party leadership in supporting von Hindenburg in the March 13 elections, in

(Continued on page 2)

RUTHENBERG MEMORIAL - MARCH 4 - Stuyvesant Casino



# THE MURDER OF JULIETTE DERICOTTE VICTIM OF THE COLOR-LINE

### A Picture Of American Civilization Today

The March 1932 Crisis contains an article that is absolutely startling in the incredibly withering light it throws upon American Jim-crow civilization of the year of grace, 1932.

Juliette Dericotte was the Dean of Women at Fisk University, a well-known center of higher education for the Negroes. She was a Master of Arts from Columbia University, a member of the staff of the National Student Council of the Y. W. C. A., an adviser to the Women's Home Mission Council, a member of the National Committee of the World's Student Christian Federation, a member of the National Board of the Y. W. C. A., a member of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, etc., etc. In brief she was the very flower of bourgeois "respectability" in the most fastidious sense of that term. But she was a Negro . . .

Now, early in November last year, Miss Dericotte, accompanied by three other passengers, a student town in Georgia with a population of 8,160, of whom 1,028 are Negroes. In Dalton, Mr. Davis began asking "where a hospital was." Now, in Dalton there is a splendid new George W. Hamilton Memorial Hospital, supported by public taxation. But Miss Dericotte's skin was black and this was in the South. "A few did not know," continues Mr. Davis, "others said there was no hospital for Negroes."

Mrs. Ethel Gilbert, a white woman interested in Negro education, later pressed the question. She asked Dr. Steed, a local white physician: "To your knowledge was any attempt made by anyone to get them into Hamilton Memorial Hospital?" Answered Dr. Steed: "Oh, no! We don't take them there. . . You see we don't even have any wards for them there."

And so the integrity of "white supremacy" was vindicated! The

"white" hospital was spared the contaminating presence of the dying women. They were taken to what is described as "a colored sanatorium," a dirty, old house conducted by Mrs. Wilson, who is "without formal training or professional standing."

Misses Dericotte and Johnson died, victims of the color-line . . . It is only necessary to add that the Commission on Interracial Cooperation of Atlanta conducted an "investigation" which was a complete whitewash—in the name of "maintaining good relations between the races."

Juliette Dericotte was murdered—just as surely and just as literally as if a pistol had been fired at her head. She was murdered by no single individual—she was murdered by a system. She was murdered by the infernal, class-ridden system of race prejudice, of Jim-crowism, that constitutes the proud boast of twentieth century American capitalist civilization. Juliette Dericotte—murdered by the Color-Line!

## 15-YEAR PLAN FOR P. I. "FREEDOM"

(Continued from Page 1)

The formula was written into a bill to be introduced into the Senate by Senator Hawes. According to this plan, which is called a fifteen-year plan, the island government is to adopt a constitution acceptable to the President of the United States. This constitution is to be placed before the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands for a referendum vote at the end of the fifteen year trial period. If approved the Philippine Islands are to have the status of an "independent nation under the protection of the United States" (1), a status very much like that of Cuba except that the U. S. A. will retain direct control of all "fortifications, navy yards and all other property and rights deemed necessary by the President." During the first ten years of this "trial period" there is to be limited free trade between the Philippine Islands and the U. S. A., that is, certain minimum amounts of sugar, oil, hemp, cordage, etc., are to be admitted free into this country while exports in excess of this amount are to be under full duty. All American imports into the islands would be free in this ten-year period. For the next five years, or possibly longer, the Philippine government would be required to collect a tax on exports of the above-named article to the United States on a graduated scale, the "revenue to be applied to a special fund from which payments on Philippine bonds."

Real Philippine independence cannot be won thru the good graces of the American government; at most a change of status may be obtained from an open colony into a disguised colony, a protectorate even more under the United States control than Cuba is. The form may change but the substance will remain. Real independence can be obtained only thru a national struggle of the masses of the peasants, workers and city middle classes against the American iron heel.

## IRISH LABORITES BACK DEVALERA

DUBLIN.—The Irish Labor party decided on February 26 to support the DeValera proposal of to abolish the oath of allegiance to the British King now required of all members of the Dail. The Irish Labor party is not, however, ready to support the Fianna Fail in an assault on the treaty under which the Free State was established in 1921.

According to present information the Labor party will not enter into a coalition government with the Fianna Fail but will give conditional support to a straight De Valera government. DeValera is dependent upon this support since his party, also having a plurality, has no majority in the Dail. Besides the oath question, the repeal of the Force Bills and the repudiation of the land annuities owed to the British Treasury are the chief measures in the joint program of action, although the Labor party insists that the latter be done by "friendly negotiation" with the British government.

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# FASCISTS DRIVE IN FINLAND

### Lapua Forces In Big March On Helsingfors; Attacks On Labor Growing

HELSINGFORS — A nation-wide drive of the organized Fascist elements, known as the Lapua movement, against the already semi-Fascist government is getting underway. A march upon this city is being prepared. The head of the movement is General Wallenius.

The chief demands of the Fascists are the resignation of a number of cabinet officers and provincial officials. Attacks on working men's clubs and associations have been increasing in brutality and numbers in the last few weeks and in these attacks officers of the Civil Guards have participated. The Communist and Social-democratic parties and affiliated organizations have already been suppressed as illegal.

## BIG MOONEY MEET IN DETROIT

A monster mass meeting demanding the release of Thomas J. Mooney was held here on February 12 in the auditorium of the Northern High School which taxed the capacity of the hall. Frank X. Martel, President of the Detroit Federation of Labor, presided. The speakers were Al Renner of the Marxian Labor College and Mayor Frank Murphy of Detroit.

Renner showed how Mooney was a victim of the class struggle having aroused the ire of the ruling class in California by his untiring efforts to bettering of their conditions. Murphy spoke on the case from its legal aspects.

The success of this meeting was due mainly to those workers who so conscientiously worked to advertise it. The last two days before the meeting the people of Detroit were treated to one of the most novel advertising schemes that they have seen for some time. About a dozen workers appeared on the streets in prison garb bearing the number of Tom Mooney. They paraded all thru the downtown district for hours on both days bearing banners inscribed with statements of persons connected with the case and advertising the mass meeting. Other workers went along distributing leaflets to the crowds on the street. By the time the meeting was called to order, hardly a person in Detroit did not know something about the "Mooney case."

On March 18 the Detroit Mooney Defense Conference will hold another in the Cass Technical High School at which they will put on a play of the trial of Mooney with one of the leading judges here to act as the judge in the case. The conference is already at work to make this coming affair a success with the object in view of building up the interest in this case until we can send forth a mighty protest from a meeting of seventy-five thousand in Cadillac Sq.

GET A SUBSCRIBER TO THE AGE!

as was done some years ago.

The action of the official C. P. regarding this meeting has called forth a lot of criticism from many workers here on the street. The last three days prior to the meeting there were members of the Party and the Unemployed Councils speaking on Grand Circus Park denouncing the Mooney Defense Conference and calling those participating in it "social-fascists" and renegades, and urging the workers to boycott the mass meeting.

"Makers of Miracles  
"Transformation of a nanny goat into a beauteous maiden," writes the *New York Times*, "will be tried out by a group of German and British psychic researchers under the direction of the National Psychological Research Laboratory of South Kensington." The scene will be the Harz Mountains, the "scientific method" used will be the witch formulae of the middle ages. These psychic researchers may not succeed in changing a nanny goat into a beauteous virgin but they certainly have succeeded in changing "science" into an old witch.

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# BIG FREE MOONEY MEETING IN THE ANTHRACITE; UNIONS IN MOVE

### Lovestone Speaks At Hazleton, Pa.

The Anthracite Free Mooney Committee has brought to a close the first part of its campaign to arouse the workers of the hard-coal fields for energetic struggle for the release of Mooney and Billings. Very successful and enthusiastic meetings have been held at Nanticoke, Oliphant and Hazleton.

A meeting was held in Hazleton on Feb. 28 and was addressed by Jim Daly and Con McClocken of the General Miners Committee of District 7 of the United Mine Workers of America and by Jay Lovestone of the Communist Party (Majority Group). A special rank and file committee was elected to make arrangements for broadening the mass campaign and drawing in all other local unions and labor organizations as well as mobilizing every U.M.W.A. local in the tri-district territory. Among those elected are Con McClocken, Joseph McCloy and Nick Borich, secretary of the Anthracite Free Mooney Committee. This meeting adopted strong resolutions for the immediate unconditional release of Mooney and Billings and for freedom of Hightower, Jones and other Kentucky miners facing heavy penalties for the union activities.

So far thirty-two locals of the United Mine Workers of America have affiliated with the Anthracite Free Mooney Committee. The General Mine Committee of District 7 of the United Mine Workers of America has endorsed the Anthracite Free Mooney Committee.

Tom Mooney himself has hailed this rising mass movement with the following inspiring telegrams of greetings from jail:

FROM CELL WHERE I HAVE ROTTED SIXTEEN YEARS BECAUSE LOYAL TO LABOR I GREET YOUR CONFERENCE. NO EVIDENCE REMAINS AGAINST ME YET GOVERNOR ROLPH DOES NOT INTEND PARDON. HE DELAYS DECISION TO FOOL WORKERS INTO STOPPING FIGHT FOR MY FREEDOM. ON FEBRUARY 24 ANNIVERSARY OF MY DEATH SENTENCE

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EVERY MILITANT AND REVOLUTIONARY WORKER MUST DEMONSTRATE FOR MY FREEDOM. THE PLUNDERBUND MUST BE SHOWN THAT IT IS WORSE FOR THEM TO KEEP ME IN PRISON THAN TO RELEASE ME.

TOM MOONEY

A second telegram from Mooney followed:

FROM THE PRISON CELL WHERE I HAVE SPENT ALMOST SIXTEEN YEARS BECAUSE OF MY LOYALTY AND DEVOTION TO THE WORKING CLASS I GREET YOU ON THIS DAY THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF MY DEATH SENTENCE. IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT NOT A SHRED OF EVIDENCE REMAINS AGAINST ME THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT GOVERNOR ROLPH WILL ACT FAVORABLY IN MY CASE. THE WORKING CLASS MUST CONTINUE TO HOLD EVER LARGER DEMONSTRATIONS FOR MY UNCONDITIONAL PARDON THE WORKING CLASS MUST NOT REST UNTIL THIS HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED I HAVE BECOME A SYMBOL OF LABORS STRUGGLE FOR A BETTER LIFE. MY FIGHT IS YOUR FIGHT MY VICTORY WILL BE YOUR VICTORY FOR LABOR THE WORLD OVER.

TOM MOONEY 31921

## HONOR RUTHENBERG IN ANTHRACITE

A very well attended Ruthenberg Memorial Meeting was held in Wilkes Barre at the Workmen Circle Hall under the joint auspices of the Communist Party (Majority Group), Anthracite District, and the Lithuanian Communist Opposition organization. Over 150 workers were present and responded enthusiastically to the plea of Jay Lovestone, principal speaker of the evening, for Communist unity to enable the working class to advance in the present economic crisis. Communist relations with Tokyo. Here too the Communist Party leaders are doing their share thru their slogan of "expelling" the Japanese diplomats from the U. S. A. As against all this poisonous confusion, it is necessary to spread among the American workers the idea that their struggle against the danger of war must be a struggle in the first place against "their own imperialism, against Wall St., against the murderous American government. We must remember Liebknecht's words: "The enemy of the people is at home!"

Defend The Soviet Union

The danger of a Japanese attack on the Soviet Union is clear in all information that comes from the Far East. "Behind the smoke screens in Manchuria and Shanghai, Japan and Russia appear to be drifting closer to a military clash," declares the *New York Times* (February 23, 1932). In an attack on the U. S. S. R., Japan would be in fact the representative and vanguard of all imperialist powers and the Tokyo statesmen are playing very cunningly upon this fact to weaken foreign, especially American, opposition to their aggressions on the continent. "Considerations of this character," admits the *Times* correspondent, "are unquestionably playing a part in the American and Japanese diplomatic attitudes toward the Far Eastern crisis where Japan is girding herself against Russia . . ."

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## KINDERGARTENS IN U. S. S. R.

The following account of the kindergarten system of the Soviet Union is by an American educational worker who has recently visited the U. S. S. R.

The kindergarten work in the Soviet Union is still largely experimental. The first detailed program was only drawn up in 1930—but certain definite principles are basic. According to the official program these are:

1. The actual participation of children in building their own lives.
2. Emphasis on socially useful labor.
3. The establishment of the closest possible connections with contemporary life.
4. The study of nature and the development of a materialistic outlook of the world.

Methods of Kindergartens

The skeleton of the school day of the Soviet kindergarten is similar to that of a nursery school in America, and the organized children into three age groups, one made up of those from 3 to about 4½, a middle group, and the oldest composed of 7-year-olds.

From the more elementary forms of self-service with which they become familiar in the creche the children are gradually led into more social types of labor, such as waiting on the table, helping to keep things orderly and clean, caring for animals and flowers, shoveling snow—always being carefully watched so that they may not exceed their strength.

There is great emphasis on nature study. The "complex" method of the regular schools is used, the subjects, instead of being taught separately, be-

rade Vilkelis spoke in Lithuanian and received hearty applause for his plea for the Communists again becoming the champions of working class unity and setting the example in militant proletarian activity so as to help the workers score victories against unemployment, wage-cuts, for stronger unions and the defense of the U. S. S. R.

The workers manifested special interest in the explanation given by Lovestone of Ruthenberg's contribution as revolutionary organizer and fighter against imperialist war, as Leninist tactician and the founder of the Communist Party of the United States. Special interest was shown by the workers in Lovestone's explanation on how the Communist Party (Majority Group) is pursuing the general tactical policies fought for by Ruthenberg as leader of the Party. Lovestone showed that precisely because the Communist Party (Majority Group) stood for these policies, it was expelled from the Party.

A deep impression was made upon the workers in this expression of the situation inside the Party as evidenced by the present Party leadership, for obvious political reasons, giving up all efforts at Ruthenberg Memorial Meetings and hiding from the Party the true role of Ruthenberg as its founder, leader and advocate of correct Leninist tactics.

The Lithuanian Communist Opposition in the Anthracite has been making real headway despite the fact that it has recently lost thru death some of its most active and capable workers like Dominick Goodfellow.

The sectarian Party-wreckers under the leadership of Binba have been decisively defeated among the Lithuanian workers in the hard coal fields.

ing all grouped together in the study of some total phase of life. One frequently sees excellent little museums of objects gathered by school children who have taken as their project the study of the region around them.

They make a beginning of this in the nursery schools. On their walks the children collect flowers and leaves and mosses which are used in the kindergarten for both instruction and decoration. Care is taken always to point out to the children the relation between the things they see growing and their actual use in every-day life—how a tree may become the furniture and paper they use, flax their clothing, wheat their bread.

All The World a School

The next step for the children after observing nature, is to make things grow themselves. All kindergartens have flower and vegetable plots of some kind. Where the environment permits, the kindergarten will grow some of the vegetables they actually use, the children assisting in the whole process from the planting to the harvesting. In the case of kindergartens attached to State and collective farms the children sometimes have small chores to do connected with the grown-ups' garden. Sometimes they raise chickens or rabbits.

In the beginning of the school year certain things are deliberately left unfinished so that the children may have a part in building up the institution. A room, or a "corner" is usually set aside as a workshop where the older children may begin to experiment with hammers and nails and raw materials. The children themselves have a part in making the workshop. First they are taken to visit shops outside to see how things are done, and to collect odds and ends of materials to use themselves. Then they are taken to the store where tools are purchased. The practice is to permit the children to experiment with tools and learn how to use them themselves, guided only when they get into difficulties.

There are frequent outside excursions. When shoes have to be mended children are taken to the shoemakers' shop to see it done. They visit local blacksmith shops and print shops and mills. First they observe mechanical work has to be done with in the kindergarten, it becomes a part of the school program. I was visiting a kindergarten in Moscow one day when the plumber arrived. The children were not shod out of the way; the visit was at once turned into an exciting educational event to initiate the children into the mysteries of plumbing.

(Concluded in the next issue)

## DRESS STRIKE IN N. Y. ENDS

(Continued from page 1)

the employers for 10% wage-cut. Zimmerman emphasized that it is not true that the crisis alone was responsible for the dressmakers not scoring a victory at this time. He said that the railroad workers, prior to the wage-cut, were still maintaining their basic pay schedules and that the 10% wagecut came only on this basis. With 15,000 or more additional workers, to draw into the strike 15,000 more still unorganized dressmakers, then workers could have scored a decisive victory in this strike.

Zimmerman went on to explain why it was that the union did not succeed in bringing down an additional 15,000 workers in the strike. "Without mincing words, he exposed Schlesinger's role in actually resisting the strike being called. Zimmerman stressed the fact that Schlesinger, Hochman, Antonini and their whole crew had not really been for the strike, that they wanted to get rid of the strike once it was declared, and that only Local 22 had actually been for the strike and actively engaged in its preparations.

A deep impression was made on the workers by Zimmerman when he emphasized that he had criticized the strike preparations long before the strike and that this was not the first time he was making this criticism. It was only Local 22 that helped raise finances and finances could have been raised if a serious effort had been made. He took Schlesinger and his aides to task for not demanding financial support from the A. F. of L., which Green had promised to give. Nor had even the cloakmakers, who are very much affected by the developments and outcome in the dress strike, been called upon for help.

The workers expressed their approval of Zimmerman's sharp criticism, particularly on page 3)

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The Path of Hitlerism to Power

Hitler, Thyssen and Capital

A Letter From Germany

Berlin, February 10, 1932. The Nazi terror in Germany grows daily. Assaults on workers accumulate. The Fascist Storm-Battalions parade through the land under the protection of the German Republic. Homes and workers meetings are attacked and gatherings of unemployed disrupted. In Braunschweig, where the Nazi, Klaages, is the Minister of the Interior, the terror has almost reached the level of civil war. But in the press of the National-Socialists, the bloody phrases are disguised. According to their version, they are the victims of attack. They demand the immediate installation of military courts. They demand the illegalization of the Communist Party, and of all labor and anti-Fascist organizations. They never cease proclaiming the decisive struggle.

Whoever doubts these connections should learn from recent developments. In Duesseldorf there recently took place a banquet of the Ruhr and Rhine industry of Germany, the so-called Northwest Group. This group is the decisive group of German heavy, middle and light industry. In general, Bruening scrupulously obeys it. From this camp come orders for wage-cuts, for cuts in social benefits. It is this industrial group producing for the domestic and foreign markets, that has the greatest influence in German foreign policy.

At this banquet Hitler was received like a conquering hero. In Cologne there was in session the convention of a member association of the Northwest group. This gathering adjourned and went in a body to Duesseldorf to hear Hitler. About 700 big industrialists heard Hitler with great enthusiasm. The discussion took on the form of tasks laid before Hitler—and why not? Don't they pay him—haven't they got the right to order him around? The press was excluded from the whole proceedings and the reports have been obtained indirectly.

The Catholic Koelnische Volkszeitung has something to say about these events. It speaks with a certain bitterness because it stands between two fires. This paper maintains its contacts with Bruening (Center) and with the industrialists. It frankly states that trust-capital is behind Hitler and that the Hitler demonstration at the Duesseldorf banquet is of primary significance. Trust-capital de-

monstrates for Fascism, for the Fascist dictatorship. This is the decisive point. The Koelnische Volkszeitung continues:

"To Herr Thyssen (the outstanding big industrialist of Germany—Editor) falls the role of carrying over Hitler's prescriptions. After Thyssen's break with the Nationalists, this adherence of Herr Thyssen to the Third Reich cannot surprise us. The good old German cry: 'Heil!' has become a National-Socialist slogan!"

The Voelkische Beobachter, the central organ of the Nazis, does not dare to give a full report of the events in Duesseldorf. The misled thousands of workers and petty bourgeois, caught by the Nazi phrases against capitalism, are not to be informed of Hitler's hobnobbing with the big powers of trust-capital!

Duesseldorf shows how things are shaping themselves in Germany. The danger of a Fascist dictatorship, the way for which has been prepared by the Bruening-tolerance policy of the Social-democracy, is growing daily.

The Fascist forces are being concentrated and united. But the anti-Fascist forces are split and divided. And a good share of the responsibility for the coming events will fall upon those who, thru a false policy, are paralyzing the powers of anti-Fascist struggles who, thru ultra-left phrases, are deceiving themselves and the masses to the advantage of Fascism.

The Offensive Against The Communists

THE "RED" TRIAL IN CANADA

by William Moriarty (Toronto)

Toronto, Canada. The Communist Party of Canada is now an outlaw body in the Province of Ontario as a result of the Appeal Court decision of February 19, which confirmed the findings of the previous jury trial that the Party is an illegal organization. Furthermore, since the decision of the Appellate court was unanimous, the sentenced comrades have no power to carry the case to a higher body. It is now only a question of time before the eight other Canadian provinces follow the lead of Ontario and put the Party under an official ban. They are permitted to do this under the terms of Section 98 of the Canadian Criminal Code, used for the first time in this case, and proven to be good capitalist law.

The eight comrades who are now on their way to the pen are: Tim Buck, John Boychuk, Tom Hill, Mat. Popovich, Malcolm Bruce, Toy Edwin Cohen (Carr), Tom Cacic. The first five named have been members of the Party from its inception, the last three being new comers into the country. Comrade Cacic will serve two years, the rest five years apiece. Deportation awaits all, with the exception of Comrade Bruce, he being Canadian born.

The court scene today revealed the fact that the authorities were obviously nervous. A dozen dicks patrolled the corridors, later being in days this militant strike as a fake strike, the N.T.W.I.U. under signature of "Left Wing Groups of International Members", issued a leaflet calling upon the workers to "continue the strike for better conditions." This was the first time that the N.T.W.I.U. had even called this a strike after repeatedly branding the militancy of the workers as a "false strike."

In the last few days, the N.T.W.I.U. set up a new organization called "Rank-and-File Committee of 50" This committee asked the workers not to return to work, despite the fact that the N. T. W. I. U. had ordered its handful of members to return to work in the very first days of the strike—in many instances under the same conditions or even below union standards. The important demand of a guaranteed minimum wage-scale which the N.T.W.I.U. had advocated before the strike was dropped even in its strike declaration. The I.L.G.W.U. fought for this demand of a guaranteed minimum wage-scale but for the reasons given by Zimmerman was unable, at this time, to win it.

The most unfortunate feature of the whole conduct of the N.T.W.I.U. and its "United Front Committee" was that the self-styled "revolutionary" union, at the very peak of the strike, went on to make settlements of shops which were working for jobbers against whom the union, the I. L.G.W.U. had called the strike. Thus, the N.T.W.I.U. was actually scabbing on these workers who were out on strike in response to the call of the I.L.G.W.U. The workers interests were seriously hurt by the fact that these self-proclaimed "revolutionaries", instead of being constructive and militant forces in the strike, actually carried out a policy leading to direct scabbery against the striking workers.

However, it is significant that many workers learned from their experience in this strike to resist the policies and tactics of the reactionary bureaucrats, Schlesinger, Hochman, Antonini, Vasilevsky and their like, on the one hand, and the splitting disrupting policies and tactics of the N.T.W.I.U. on the other hand.

terspersed among the spectators in the crowded court room. When the five judges were seated there was a long period of silence, probably longer than ever before experienced in any case. Sir William Mulock, the grey-bearded 88-year old capitalist jurist, presided. The age for retirement for Canadian judges is 70, but Sir William is supposed to be in full possession of his faculties yet. Quaveringly he made the court aware of the oneness of the decision. He then outlined reasons for the refusal of the appeal. "It was not for the court to weigh evidence, but to determine whether there was a case to go before the jury. We think there was." He went on to say that there were some points of law taken up as to the sufficiency of the first two counts against the prisoners. These charged that the comrades were members of the Communist Party, which is an unlawful association. The third charge, that they were guilty of seditious conspiracy, was considered "bad". This "victory" for the defence means little for the sentence on this count was two years for all to run concurrently. No need to dwell upon the other remarks, which were of the usual character. The written statement covers 54 pages.

It has taken five weeks for the judges to arrive at their decision. An unusual period for this country. What the immediate results will be it is hard to say. After the court had risen, the crown prosecutor in the original trial offered a statement to the press which contained a copy of a telegram sent by the Canadian Labor Defense League to the International Red Aid at Berlin asking for aid in conducting defense work.

This action contains the hint of action against the C.L.D.L. (the Canadian I. L. D.—Editor) which has been active interest in the trials and leading conferences in an effort to have section 98 repealed. Toronto today is practically hall-less as far as working class groups are concerned. Even the mild mannered Reverend Hahn of Buffalo was recently stopped at the border when entering the Dominion for a meeting. He was subsequently allowed in. One or two forums are running and even these innocuous affairs are pin-pricked by the red squad. The workers cooperative restaurant, primarily a Finnish concern has received its death-blow following cancellation of license because Communists were permitted to eat there. Never before has Toronto seen such reaction, and never before the workers less united and equipped to combat it.

An Inexcusable Step!

The Soviet citizenship of Leon Trotsky has been cancelled by the Presidium of the Central Committee of the All-Union Soviet Congress. Along with Trotsky a number of others, including the notorious Dan and Abramovich, have also lost their citizenship. This step was taken, according to official report, because of the "counter-revolutionary activities" of those involved, because they were "active enemies of the Soviet power."

The withdrawal of the citizenship of Comrade Trotsky is an act that is certain to have a dangerous boomerang effect upon the Soviet Union and upon the revolutionary labor movement of the world. It is an act that deserves the sharpest criticism of every Communist and militant worker.

It is an act of shameful factional vengeance. The differences of the Communist Opposition with Trotsky are many and fundamental. We have continually reemphasized that, on the questions of the economic and political developments in the U. S. S. R., Trotsky's analysis is correct, and basically and fatally wrong; they have indeed adopted a position that is more than implicitly anti-Communist. On other questions, also the errors of Trotsky are not so deep-going, our differences are serious enough. But the struggle over these questions must be fought with ideological and party-political methods and not with administrative State measures. The arrests and exile of the Trotskyites in the U. S. S. R., the deportation of Trotsky to Turkey and now the withdrawal of Trotsky's Soviet citizenship are all methods that have no place in the struggle of tendencies in the Communist movement. In this sphere they are dangerous in themselves and are doubly dangerous because they include serious issues and make an objective consideration of them impossible.

Most revolting of all is the bunching together of Trotsky with Abramovich and Dan. Abramovich and Dan are out-and-out counter-revolutionaries and every administrative step taken against them by the Soviet power is most thoroughly justified and necessary. But Trotsky, in spite of all his mistakes, is and remains a Communist with a record of service and loyalty to the revolutionary movement that few can match.

The step that the Stalin leadership has taken will certainly bring no credit to itself nor, unfortunately, to the Soviet power. It is a step which no honest revolutionary worker can take responsibility.

A. C. W. MEMBERS IN BIG MEETING

New York City

On Saturday, February 27, a big mass meeting of men's clothing workers was held in Stuyvesant Casino. Over a thousand workers were present.

This meeting was called by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Progressive Circle for the purpose of starting a movement against the present miserable conditions existing in the industry and against the class-collaboration and do-nothing policy of the union officials which plays into the hands of the manufacturers. That this meeting meant business was shown by the fighting spirit and the seriousness on the part of those who were present, when Brother Ostrinsky, a member of the executive committee of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Progressive Circle and once a member of the Executive Board of Local 5, who was expelled because he fought against the present policies of the bureaucratic leadership which brought the union to the present chaotic condition, read the program and resolution to the meeting. Every one listened attentively, absolute quiet prevailed. The resolution was accepted unanimously. A discussion followed in which many workers participated: Goodman, Riger, Schneider, Jacobs, Pessicoff, Kweet. Many suggestions were added to the program. The last two individuals mentioned above spoke in the name of the so-called "rank and file committee," a cover name for the Industrial Union. They repeated their famous proposal and magic number, to elect a "committee of 25." Except for their sworn followers no one at the meeting took them seriously. Evidence of this fact is that when the rank and file committee called their own meeting on February 6 when Foster and Gold were present about 300 responded while to this mass meeting over 1,000 answered the call. This is only a beginning. Bigger meetings will follow.

An A.C.W. Member

A Ton of Chaff—A Pound of Grain!

Trotsky and the Far East Crisis

by Herbert Zam

The feature in the current issue of Liberty is an article by Leon Trotsky (reading time: 11 min. 5 sec.) in which, in discussing the Japanese seizure of Manchuria and its relation to the Soviet Union, he comes to the conclusion that the danger of war upon the Soviet Union comes from Germany! In characteristic Trotsky fashion, this article contains a few indisputable truths and a good many serious errors. The fact that Trotsky is wrong in his analysis and prophecies regarding important events is of course nothing new, but the article deserves consideration in view of the extreme importance of the questions discussed, and in view of the danger of permitting any errors in analyzing them and drawing practical conclusions.

The Analysis of Japanese Imperialism Trotsky's first serious error deals with the analysis of the condition of Japanese imperialism. He compares it, on the one hand, with the internal situation in Russia in 1905 and, on the other, with the internal situation in Spain during the Moroccan adventure. Nothing can be further from the truth! Japanese imperialism is in an extremely unstable position, but this instability is not due to the struggle between the feudal and the capitalist forces. It is due primarily to the fact that the material base for imperialism within Japan is extremely narrow. Japan is compelled to develop a base for its imperialism outside its own boundaries. Korea, Formosa and other territories having proved inadequate for this purpose,

new adventures must be embarked on, of which Manchuria is the present center.

One phase of Moroccan analogy holds—namely the possible development of revolutionary sentiment at home. But here again, the analogy is limited. In Spain, the result of this revolutionary sentiment was the break with the feudal remnants and the setting up of a bourgeois republican regime. This cannot be repeated in Japan. Japan is a bourgeois democracy with strong feudal forces. Revolutionary developments can take place, but only on a proletarian basis. Trotsky's belief that "as a contemporary nation Japan can only ultimately take form on a new and democratic basis" as well as his belief that "Manchuria may well become for the Japanese monarchy what Morocco was for the Spanish monarchy" indicate that he conceives the bourgeois-democratic revolution as the next phase of development in Japan, and that therefore the present Japanese government is the "government of a pre-revolutionary epoch"—all that is missing is the "constituent assembly" to complete the picture! And this is the picture of "left", "revolutionary" internationalism. In India—a proletarian revolution; in Japan—a bourgeois-democratic one! Many are the tasks of the bourgeois-democratic revolution, particularly the agrarian revolution, to be solved but this will be done by the proletarian revolution. In this respect the Japanese situation is more analogous to the Russia of 1917 than to the Russia of 1905—of course, as far as the stage

of development is concerned and not the degree of ripeness of the revolutionary situation.

The Anti-Soviet War Danger

The second serious error consists in the complete underestimation of the danger of a war against the Soviet Union as a result of the Japanese occupation of Manchuria. Trotsky sees no serious danger of such an eventuality, not only because the Soviet Union is opposed to a war and will do everything to avoid it (of that there can be no doubt and there is no dispute) but also because there is very little likelihood of Japan attacking the Soviet Union. Trotsky declares:

"Japan will only weaken herself with her Manchurian undertaking. The conditions in the Far East are such that there is no reason to fear from that direction an immediate, or even a somewhat remote, danger to the vital centers of the Soviet Union, including of course, her Asiatic centers." (Emphasis mine—H.Z.)

What sublime faith in the peacefulness of Japanese imperialism disguised with flowery analysis. Even if Trotsky had not read General Honjo's circular to his officers in which he outlined the plans for an attack on the Soviet Union (General Honjo is still commander of the Japanese troops in Manchuria, in spite of Comrade Trotsky's) Japan's plans and intentions are clear even to a child. Here for example is a dispatch from Shanghai printed in the New York Times of February 23, 1932:

"The unexpected opposition which Japan has met at Shanghai is believed to have hampered seriously her plans for a further expansion to the north on the Asiatic mainland, and has led to a steady, well-informed foreign diplomatic circles take at its face value the recent Japanese admission that the Manchurian move was not aimed against China but was rather the first step in a 'defensive expansion' against the dreaded Russo-Japanese conflict."

"In many quarters it was expected that early Spring would witness a forcible Japanese occupation of the Russian half of Sakhalin, as well as an attempt to occupy Primorsk. It is now revealed that the Russians apprehended such a move, for that has been a steady, unhesitant movement of Russian women and children from Vladivostok toward the Siberian interior." (Emphasis mine—H.Z.)

Of course it is only a bourgeois journalist writing, but if he errs it is certainly not on the side of the Soviet Union.

Practical Conclusions

The practical conclusions of Trotsky are very interesting. There is no need for the Soviet Union to prepare for a possible attack by Japan! "It," he says, "has not the slightest reason for haste." With this no revolutionary worker sympathetic to the Soviet Union can agree. It is absolutely essential for the Soviet Union to make all necessary preparations to defend itself in case of an attack, even if such an attack does not come immediately. For the developments in the camp of imperialism are pointing more and more in that direction.

And the Other Imperialist Powers?

The third serious error of Comrade Trotsky lies in his complete failure to see any other imperialist power involved in the present events in China. How can any one fail to see that the present events in China are a further chapter in the partition of China among the imperialist powers, which means fiercer flaming of the imperialist antagonisms. It is true that Trotsky wrote his article before the Shanghai events, but this would hold true nonetheless, even if the Shanghai events had not taken place. As early as November, the writer of this article pointed out in a lecture at the New Workers School Forum that the Japanese invasion of Manchuria indicated a sharpening of the imperialist rivalries. Japan no longer felt satisfied with a "sphere of influence" in which it might have to make concessions to rivals. It preferred to make of Manchuria a second Korea. The events in Shanghai have absolutely confirmed this. For precisely this reason the Manchurian invasion was a swift triumph, while the Shanghai occupation has become a fiasco for Japanese imperialism. The longer this situation lasts, the sharper will the antagonisms among the imperialists become, with a war in the Pacific (outside of the attack on the Soviet Union) as a not unlikely outcome. Already the powers are maneuvering for position and casting about for allies. Important realignments are taking place. That these specific realignments are only temporary is true, but that they are important cannot be denied, nor that they are replete with the danger of further wars.

The defeat of the Chinese revolution of 1925-27 laid the basis for new inroads by the imperialists into China and the subsequent sharpening of their rivalries. The revival of the Chinese revolution will very likely see a united front of the imperialists against the Chinese revolution, but also, in view of the developments already discussed, against the Soviet Union. In any case it is incumbent upon the Soviet Union to stand on guard, and not be lulled by "calm" advice of the kind our friend Trotsky is handing out thru the columns of Liberty. Perhaps a closer investigation will disclose that the Trotsky Thermidor theory (In the present article he declares: "Of course the Soviet revolution is far from being completed!") and the Trotsky theory of Japan's peacefulness are not entirely unrelated.

For A United Front Of Labor

TRUTH ABOUT THE MARINE DEFENSE

Statement Of The Marine Defense Committee

(Continued from last issue)

The Attempt to Disrupt the Legal Defense on Eve of Trial

Rejecting all appeals to help in the organization of the workers solidarity movement, the I. L. D. resorted to an insidious campaign, thru its lawyers, to demoralize the prisoners and induce them to change counsel at the last moment. Taking advantage of statements of the prisoners that they wanted the help of the I.L.D. as well as that of all other organizations—which was likewise the policy of the committee—the I. L. D. lawyers tried by every means to induce the prisoners to sign a statement repudiating their defense committee and the legal counsel employed by it and to turn the case over to them.

When the nature and seriousness of the charges against the marine workers is taken into consideration—charges of having committed specific crimes which carry a penalty on conviction of as much as forty years in prison, with an agent provocator and perjured evidence to combat which requires the most thoro and skillful legal preparation—one must be appalled at such a criminal maneuver. To propose the discharge of able counsel, thoro familiar with the case and prepared by weeks of patient work to conduct the trial, and substitute new lawyers whose specialty is minor cases in the Magistrates Court—is that not playing with the lives of men? Is it any wonder that the prisoners, who would be glad to have their help if it were given in good faith, recoiled against this infamous proposal with the bitterest indignation and refused to talk with them any further?

It was in answer to these machinations that all three defendants sent their telegram to the mass meeting and declared: "We reaffirm our fullest and unswerving confidence in the committee handling our defense and appeal to all workers everywhere to give the committee its fullest cooperation and assistance." On the basis of that express declaration of the prisoners themselves, which is only a restatement of what they have said on every occasion when the matter was called into question, the defense committee resolves to continue its work and calls on the I. L. D. to cease its disruption.

The Fraudulent Issue of "Class Struggle Defense"

Condemned by their own record in the case from its inception, their dishonest maneuver repulsed by the prisoners, and their own rank and file members protesting against their pol-

icy—the disrupters seek to justify themselves with a final argument. They want "all workers and workers organization to fight this case along class lines, along the lines of mass defense." This argument against the Defense Committee is just as false, just as dishonest as all they have said and done in the case. The Defense Committee has worked from the beginning to convince the workers that this case is an issue of the class struggle, and by no means an ordinary criminal case. Its chief activity has been to organize the united front of labor to protest against the frame-up and defeat it. It was for this aim that the cooperation of the I. L. D. was requested in written form three different times. But instead of cooperation to build a united mass movement of the workers the I. L. D. offered unqualified lawyers to replace the counsel already retained. At the eleventh hour they promise a workers mass movement, and begin with an attempt to disrupt the movement that has already been organized while they kept silent. Their own statement in the Daily Worker testifies to the effectiveness of this movement. When they say in this statement that the "International Labor Defense considers this case as a direct attack upon the workers in the marine industry" they are only repeating what they learned from the publicity material of the Defense Committee. What they have yet to learn is that all workers have a common interest in repulsing the attack and that they must fight unitedly to that end.

The Defense Committee appeals to the honest workers of all sections of the labor movement to join and support this united fight and condemn the attempts to disrupt it. If Soderberg, Bunker and Trajer do not stand alone before the court as they stood in the first days of their arrest, this is due to the principle of labor solidarity which called the Defense Committee into existence. Labor solidarity is the best, and—in the final analysis—the only real defense of persecuted workers who fall into the hands of the class enemy. Those who violate this principle, who put narrow factional interests above it, who seek to disrupt the movement organized on that basis, are acting against the interests of the class. A defeat of these disrupters will be a victory for the class and for all class war prisoners, now and in the future.

Build a stronger movement of workers' solidarity for the imprisoned marine workers!

Defend all class war prisoners regardless of their views or affiliations! Collect funds to help the defense of Soderberg, Bunker and Trajer! Marine Workers Defense Committee 82 E. 10 St., New York City

FREDERICK DOUGLASS INTERRACIAL FORUM

Elmer A. Carter Editor of "Opportunity"

"WORKERS—WHITE AND BLACK"

HOWLAND STUDIO 1660 Fulton St. Brooklyn, N. Y. SUNDAY MARCH 6—4 P. M.

The Economic Week

THE formal enactment of the Glass-Steagall bill and the lowering of the rate by the New York Federal Reserve Bank have failed to arouse improved sentiment. Apathy and dullness grip the Stock Exchange. January motor output was smallest since 1922. Steel production registering a new low. Freight cars in service today are only one-third of last year. Car loadings and power output were heaviest losers during the week to precipitate the business index reaching another new low for the crisis. Unem-

ployment has reached new peaks in some basic industries with about ten million now fully jobless. Bank failures continue at alarming proportions showing 467 so far for the year with deposits of over one-quarter of a billion dollars involved. The Federal government's report on total bankruptcies shows 1931 to have set the record with 60,000 involving a loss to creditors of \$911 million as against 15,000 with only \$144 million in 1921. The 1932 first quarter dividend payment prospects are particularly

bleak. Interest payments will likewise fall because of heavy defaults on foreign issues and bad realty investments. The foreign situation continues complicated with the gold outflow continuing, the Bank of France gold holdings now being only \$37 million less than the Federal Reserve's. Germany's dwindling export surplus is endangering the Mark, especially in light of German industries working at about only 30% capacity today. There is increasing talk of inflation policies in Germany.



# Workers Age

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## CHAUVINISM IN OUR PARTY!

EVERY real social crisis brings into new and bolder relief the attitudes of the various social classes and the various tendencies in the labor movement towards the great problems of the day and forces a serious reformulation of aims and tactics. For the American Communist movement the present Far Eastern crisis has been of very great significance in this respect.

The Japanese invasion of Manchuria found the official Communist movement in America, as in all other capitalist countries, totally unprepared for the emergency. Ideological impotence, political confusion, organizational chaos! There followed that monstrous nightmare of confusion in the Party press that even the masters of confusion in the Comintern were forced to protest. All this, unfortunately enough, was to be expected in the present posture of affairs in the world Communist movement.

Political confusion and ideological corruption are rich soil for the most noxious weeds. After months of floundering around, passing from one extreme to another, the official leadership of the Communist Party has finally worked out a "viewpoint" on the Far Eastern situation. And it is precisely this "viewpoint" that bears within itself the germs of threatening disaster.

The first slogan concluding the manifesto of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. published in a recent issue of the DAILY WORKER (February 22, 1932) is: "Demand the expulsion of the diplomatic representatives of murderous Japanese imperialism from the United States!" But what is the meaning of this slogan? It is straight-out CHAUVINISM! It is the deliberate incitation of a war of imperialist America against imperialist Japan and a promise of support of this war. Suppose the U. S. government were to follow the benevolent advice of the Central Committee and expel the Japanese diplomatic representatives, which would, of course, lead to war—would the Central Committee support U. S. imperialism in a war brought about by the execution of its own slogans?

But this is no accidental or isolated outcropping of chauvinism. It is the legitimate offspring of an illegitimate theory. All the world knows that behind the Chinese "central" government in the struggle around Shanghai is the United States, Wall Street imperialism. Everybody knows that the struggle around Shanghai reflects a definite alignment of imperialist relations centering around the American-Japanese antagonisms. But to the DAILY WORKER the picture is quite different. Japan is attacking China while the U. S. A. is standing aside. (In some issues of the DAILY WORKER, it is true, the U. S. A. is described as "helping Japan," as "in alliance with Japan.") The Chinese struggle against Japan is being waged by the "revolutionary workers of Shanghai," even by the "Red Armies." The Nineteenth Route Army, the DAILY WORKER (February 24, 1932), suddenly discovers, "has strong Communist elements in its ranks." And so, the Central Committee appeals to—no, demands of—the U. S. government to break relations with Japan, to take the road of war against it in defense of China! Wall Street, the hangan of the Chinese Revolution, is to be the champion of the integrity and freedom of China! Is it any wonder then that the DAILY WORKER (February 25, 1932) features the headline: "U. S. Warns Japanese On China Loot," is it any wonder then that from "loyal" Party members are heard undisguised apologies for an American war with Japan on the basis of shameful speculations on supposed "advantages" to the Soviet Union. Incredible it may seem—incredible but true! So far has political degradation gone!

This is chauvinism pure and simple—chauvinism, the crassest form of opportunism! This is the chauvinism against which Lenin and the revolutionary Socialists fought so desperately and so single-mindedly in the days of the World War. This is the chauvinism in the struggle against which the Communist International was born and grew strong. And today it finds sustenance in the Communist movement, not in some isolated circles, but in the Central Committee itself!

Chauvinism in the labor movement is an infection that is absolutely devastating in its contagion. If allowed to take root it is a cancer that corrupts the flesh and converts the healthy organism into stinking carrion!

It is not too late yet to stem the contagion. Let the Party members, Communist sympathizers, militant workers awake! The poison of chauvinism is being introduced into our Party by the very same people who have expelled loyal Communists as "agents of American imperialism." We must all arise and immediately recall the Party to the path of Communism, to extirpate the menacing signs of chauvinism in Party ranks, to force a sharp turn of Party policy on the Far Eastern crisis.

## Capitalist "Planning" and Socialist Planned Economy

# Planned Economy in the USSR

by Jay Lovestone

(Concluded from last issue)  
Lenin Showed the Way in 1918

All of these arguments about the Soviet Union retreating, all of these false estimates of the policies of the U. S. S. R., arise from a failure to grasp the dynamic processes, the dialectical course of the proletarian revolution in Russia.

Lenin, in his masterly "Program Address" delivered to the Congress of Soviets in the Spring of 1918, gave a clear and challenging answer to all these hostile critics of Socialist economy when he said:

"The first problem of any rising party consists in convincing the majority of the population that its program and policies are correct . . .

"The second problem of our Party was the danger of the present period—the suppression of the resistance of the exploiters . . .

"We are now confronted by the third problem which is the most urgent and which characterizes the present period—to organize the management of Russia . . .

"We are now in the third stage. Our gains, our decrees, our laws, our plans must be secured by the solid forms of every day labor discipline. This is the most difficult, but also the most promising problem, for only its solution will give us Socialism. We must learn to control the stormy, energetic, breaking of all restraint on the part of the toiling masses, with iron discipline during work, with absolute submission to the will of one person, the Soviet Director, during work . . .

"The Russian is a poor worker in comparison with the workers of the advanced nations, and this could not be otherwise under the regime of the Czar, and other remnants of feudalism. To learn how to work—this problem the Soviet authority should present to the people in all its comprehensiveness . . . The possibility of Socialism will be determined by our success in combining the Soviet rule and the Soviet organization of management with the latest progressive measures of capitalism. We must introduce in Russia the study and the teaching of the Taylor system and its systematic trial and adaptation. While working to increase the productivity of labor, we must at the same time study and the teaching of the peculiarities of the transition period from capitalism to socialism which require, on the one hand, that we lay the foundation for Socialist organization of emulation, and, on the other hand, require the use of competition so that the slogan of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat should not be weakened by the practice of a too mild proletarian government . . .

"Among the absurd falsehoods which the bourgeoisie has concocted about Socialism, is the one that Socialists deny the significance of emulation. In reality only Socialism, destroying classes and, hence, the enslavement of the masses, for the first time opens the road for emulation on a really large scale. And only the Soviet organizations, passing from the formal democracy of a bourgeois republic to the actual participation in management of the masses, for the first time puts emulation on a broad basis." (Lenin's emphasis).

How correct an analysis Lenin made of the tasks confronting the Soviet Republic has since then been borne out more than once and particularly by the policies of the Central Committee of the C. P. U. S. in its Five-Year Plan providing for maximum tempo for heavy industrialization and the speediest collectivization of agriculture. Today not even the best brains on the Social-Democratic dare challenge the fundamental socialist nature and success of the system of planned economy in the Soviet Union. For instance, even Otto Bauer, leader of the powerful Austrian Social Democratic party and among the most outstanding figures of the Second International, in his latest volume, "Capitalism and Socialism Since the World War," is compelled to admit that he and his colleagues were wrong in their original estimate of the Soviet drive for planned, social economy, and that actually the U. S. S. R. is making big headway in the construction of socialist economy.

### The Soviet Union and the World Situation

The Soviet Union is today the most constructive force in the world crisis. It is the only country where social services are on the up-grade, where living standards are rising, where economic progress is constant and rapid. Even in the richest cities of the richest countries bankruptcy stares in the face even the municipal governments. The financial plight of the city administrations of New York, Chicago and Philadelphia, illustrates this truth beyond a shadow of doubt. The leaders of the bourgeoisie the world over, and to no small extent the spokesmen of the American bourgeoisie, have been compelled to recognize the Soviet Union in a manner far more serious and significant than any mere diplomatic recognition could ever bring. America's scientific management experts are now studying the Soviet Union and are working diligently to try to learn from it, with a view of course of doing some desperate patch-work on the tatters of capitalist economy in the U. S. Symbolic of this trend is the position taken by Dr. H. S. Person, managing director of the Taylor Society, who declared to the New York Times, on October 11, 1931, upon his return from the International Planning Congress, last summer:

"I believe the Russian experiment has made great strides from a technological point of view, and to a degree which exhibits a new world force, whatever happens politically. It is also my opinion that the United States will have to adopt in a modified form some of the technological practices of the Russians in order to avert the social and political effects which accompanied the Five-Year Plan." (Dr. Person's emphasis).

Dr. Person, an eminent authority on scientific management in industry, will certainly need to have more compliments for the Soviet Union as it makes still more rapid gains in technology, which the Soviet workers are only now learning. But Dr. Person tries to do the impossible when he attempts to separate the social and political phases from the economic. Perhaps, however, the old gentleman will learn, as he gets older, judging by the fact that as a spokesman of the most highly advanced country in capitalist technic he is already prepared to learn from the Soviet Union's technology, only yesterday among the most backward.

In this light, it is also significant to examine the findings of the well-known German economist, Professor M. J. Bonn, in his latest book "Prosperity." In his conclusions, Professor Bonn expresses great fear of the serious danger that "the mass of Americans in their painful disillusionment may go to the extreme of condemning capitalism altogether." Professor Bonn's fear is based on the fact that he has found in the United States "a fascination for Soviet Russia." Very likely this German economist, who is at such a loss to explain this phenomenon, could learn the why and wherefore of his fears, if he would examine the history and specific peculiarities of American economic development.

The bourgeoisie, the world over are very much disturbed at the fact that the Soviet Union, precisely because its planned economy stands out in bold sharp contrast to the chaos and planlessness of capitalist economy, will prove a force which will aggravate the world crisis of capitalism to a point beyond repair. This fear is thus clearly expressed by Dr. Toni Stolper, editor of *Der Deutsche Volkswirt*, in its last annual number, December 2, 1931. Dr. Stolper said:

"Then it can be quite generally stated that Russia, with its planned economy, has become the greatest element for planlessness in the world . . . Presently the Russian planned economy is working not in a planful sense but in the sense of disturbing many plans in the world. Will this victory finally lead to a return to the system of a free market or to further building of a system of monopolistic (complete) planned economy?"

### The Victory Ahead

Of course, the road to complete socialist construction is not a straight path, smooth and without any difficulties. This road has its ups and downs and winding ways, steep hills, and peaks and valleys. It could not be otherwise in the process of building and rebuilding not only machinery but actually man himself, particularly man as a social animal. Already sufficient vitality and progress have been displayed by the Soviet Union to guarantee the success of the Socialist program not only on the economic front but also on the cultural front. For instance, today, the theatre in every country of the world is on the downgrade except in the Soviet Union. This is the conclusion arrived at by Mr. O. M. Carter, after his latest visit to the Soviet Union. Mr. Carter is a recognized authority on the theatre in general and on the Soviet Stage in particular. Similar conclusions in the field of music have been arrived at by Mr. Leopold Stokowski, conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra and by Mr. Coates, well-known British director. Speaking of the Soviet Union and opera Mr. Stokowski declared:

"It was simply marvelous. I had never heard opera until I heard this finished Moscow company. They are alive and enthusiastic; and they are singers. There is a surprising equality in the entire company; no particular singer stands out as exceptional. If any part of it is outstanding, it is the chorus composed exclusively of artists. One hears the mass chorus and yet hears the individual singers in the chorus—they are such singers . . . Nothing I've ever heard compare with it. You look back across the audience and

find them breathlessly still. No one moves. They sit enthralled. They have floated out of themselves."

Mr. Coates, after visiting the principal European musical centres, declared that the only source of optimism in this field that he could find today is the Soviet Union.

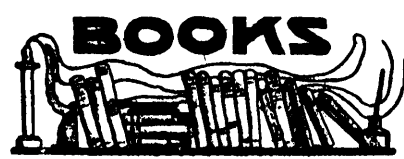
And literacy has already risen from one-third to three-quarters. . . . But many theoreticians might make the concession, so to say, that planned economy is suitable for the U. S. S. R. but not for other countries. For instance, Dr. Stolper defending this viewpoint said that: "The Russian experiment in planned economy could actually begin with a beginning (An einern Anfang anfangen)." Dr. Stolper argues that in Russia the war destroyed the previous economy; that in Russia the Revolution destroyed the capitalists and feudalists; that in Russia there has been established a proletarian dictatorship; that because of the many years of war and civil war life is very cheap in the Soviet Union.

This is somewhat original but really poor thinking. The destruction by the war of even the backward Russian economy did not help in the construction of socialist economy in Russia. Had our Russian comrades taken over an industrial machine as well developed as in the United States, they would have a much easier time constructing socialism today. Of course, Dr. Stolper is correct when he lays stress on the victorious proletarian revolution and the establishment of a working class dictatorship as essential prerequisites to the initiating of planned socialist economy. Should the American or German proletariat vanquish the capitalist elements it would be much easier for them to proceed with socialist construction precisely because of their having inherited a much more highly developed capitalist industrial mechanism.

There is nothing purely Russian either in origin or in contents about the Five-Year Plan. It is only the idea of scientific socialism which for the first time in history has been brought into reality in revolutionary Russia. No leader of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union or of the Soviet Government claims any monopoly or patent rights for the ideas of the Five-Year Plan. In fact, Communists *throughout the world*, in the U. S. S. R. and in the capitalist countries, are working to hasten the development of conditions under which the working classes of the various countries will be able to launch similar programs of socialist construction in their respective countries. However, it must be emphasized with equal force that there is little hope for the bourgeoisie in any of their attempts to copy formally one or another of the features of the program of the Five-Year Plan in the U. S. S. R.

Genuine, planned, socialist economy has shown its capacities and achievements. The Communist Party of the Soviet Union has shown its ability to lead the working class to overcome the capitalist elements within the Soviet Union. Planned economy, genuine, social economy, is bringing about an economic order in which the solution of the problems of production means the solution of the problems of consumption, where the economic system is free from contradictions, lack of equilibrium, disemployment, and costly chaos. Today even H. G. Wells can no longer dare to speak of the Kremlin as "this dark crystal of Russia." Wells and his ilk can no longer laugh at the electrification plans of Lenin, as he did in 1920. Then Lenin answered this author of fantastic bourgeois stories: "But these are only sketches and beginnings. Come back and see what we have done in Russia in 10 years time."

Pursuing the policies of Lenin, the Soviet Union, particularly under the Five-Year Plan has been energetically building planned social economy, has been going forward at a remarkable stride. The victory of the Soviet worker is a victory for the entire international working class.



THE CABIN IN THE COTTON, by Harry Harrison, Roll Ray Long and Richard R. Smith, New York, 1931.

After the ordinary run of novels, this novel of class struggle in the South comes like a breath of fresh air after a smelly swamp. Its central theme is the struggle of the white share-croppers against their oppressors, the Southern planters. The story itself is simple. It concerns the inner struggles and vacillations of a young share-cropper who, raised to a position of trust by the "benevolent" planter, is utilized by the latter in betraying his class. Occupying the position of planter's agent and bookkeeper, he is forced to judge the books, overcharge, cheat. He helps keep his own people in bondage. Suffering from the pangs of conscience he is nevertheless unable to break the chains that bind him to the planter. He has social aspirations; he wants to rise out of his class, to be accepted as an equal by his social "betters." The planter's daughter, a physically beautiful, morally unrestrained, helps to lighten the chains. The climax of the story comes when he finally does revolt against the oppressive agrarian system of the planters, denounces them, and definitely throws in his lot with his own class.

From the self-searchings of this central individual figure, there objectively emerges a vivid picture of the class oppression of the Southern planters. The style is excellent—simple direct and powerful—well-suited to the materials at hand.

The book has its defects. The canvas is too small, too limited. An author obviously has a choice of subjects and treatment. But anyone who places the theme of class oppression in the South squarely in the foreground has certain demands made upon him as to completeness of detail. From this point of view there are omissions and distortions. The Negro is left out completely. The struggle of the share-croppers is too little tinged with consciousness. And the way out for the share-croppers, hints our author, can only come thru good-hearted and just lawyers.

The author's sympathy is obviously with the share-croppers, and it enables him to wield, at times, a bitterly eloquent pen. Had his social vision been equal to his sympathies, he could have written a much more powerful novel.

—JIM CORK

## AN ESTIMATE OF C. E. RUTHENBERG

(Continued from Page 1)

niversary of his death. As the years go by and the American revolutionary movement of which he was so much a part broadens and deepens among the American working class, a proper appraisal will be made of his place in the American labor movement, and the quality of his leadership will be more pronounced. But he will not only be a part of the revolutionary traditions of the American labor movement. His incomparable services to the cause of the emancipation of the workers of the world have made him a part of the traditions of the world's proletariat. "We deeply grieve with you at the loss of Comrade Ruthenberg, leader of your party

### MAKE EVERY READER A SUBSCRIBER TO WORKERS AGE

and of the international labor movement, whose ashes will rest beneath the Kremlin together with the heroes of the November Revolution," cabled the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to the Workers (Communist) Party of America, when they learned of Ruthenberg's untimely death. The revolutionary honor accorded his memory by burying his ashes in the Red Square in Moscow bespeaks the esteem in which the Russian workers held the activities of Ruthenberg in the revolutionary movement of the international proletariat.

The press reports that negotiations are under way to get Clarence Darrow, the great American lawyer, to defend Mrs. Granville Fortescue and the three others who have been indicted on second degree murder charges in the notorious lynch-slaying of a Hawaiian, Joseph Kahahawai.

Definite information on Clarence Darrow's stand is not yet available but his acceptance of the Fortescue case would be an irreparable and deplorable error, an error that would ruin a whole career. From the champion of the oppressed and persecuted, Darrow would be transformed into the defender of the vicious representatives of American imperialism in Hawaii. From the champion of the colored peoples, he would be transformed into the defender of the poisonous doctrine of "white supremacy." It is to be hoped that Clarence Darrow will not take this fatal step.

### Talking Thru His Hat

Prof. Nystrom, the great salesman "economist" of Columbia, has a sure cure for depression. "There is no anodyne so effective for depressive blues," the Doc told the Great Millinery Association, "as the purchase of a new capoteau. This use of millinery may be confidently urged as an important sales point for the use of retailers so long as the depression lasts."

From now on the millinery bosses will begin praying for the depression to continue and we can expect ads like: Chase those blues with a Goldstein Ltd.



## NOTHING DOING ON THE EASTERN FRONT

League of Nations Commission Grants Exclusive Interview to War Correspondent of Hammer and Anvil

"What is the League of Nations doing about the war in China?" I asked Sir Eric Drummond. Sir Eric, disguised as a Chinaman, was touring the shell-ridden battlefield near Woosung in a high-powered Isotta Fraschini but I recognized him in spite of his disguise by the fountain pen he had borrowed from me at Geneva to sign the Kellogg Pact.

"What is the League doing about the war in China?" I repeated.

"There is no war in China," said Sir Eric severely as he ducked a shell that nearly clipped off his left ear.

"What is there in China?"

"In China there is a Commission of the League," he answered.

"What is the commission doing in China?" I asked.

"Investigating."

"Investigating what?" I persisted.

"Sh!" said Sir Eric mysteriously, putting his finger on his lip. "We're investigating disturbances in barometric pressure occasioned by the bombing of Shanghai. We're projecting an international weather report to outlaw disturbances which may handicap bombing planes in the pursuit of their duty. We . . ."

"We're here to maintain peace," interrupted an almond-eyed member of the commission whom I recognized as Baron Sato. "We're here to stop Chinese aggression, to prevent bombardment of the international settlement to ask the Chinese to cease their aggression. We're visiting Mr. Paet Kellogg who is lying sick in the League Patrol - Army-Base-Lying-In Hospital. We're here to back Japan which is protecting civilization and the interests of Lithuanian citizens in the Chapel Corridor . . ."

"We're holding the door open," interrupted another individual with an unmistakably New York accent. I turned in the direction of the voice and perceived a man in a brown derby who indeed was holding open a door—the door to what I could not tell, for the entire house had been shot away except for the door and door frame.

"I represent the Hammer and Anvil," I stammered in my surprise at the strange sight. "Okey," he answered, "I represent the Sewer and Bathtub myself." He confided: "I've spread them everywhere from Byrdland to the Cape of Good Soap, I . . ."

"What are you doing now?"

"Here's the key to the situation," said the strange gentleman importantly holding up an enormous key.

"What situation?"

"Sh-h," he said furtively "must be maintained at all costs—except cancellation. It's the open door. If it shuts . . ."

"Whee—eee!" His words were interrupted by a screeching shell that whistled past his hand sweeping away key, brown derby, door and door-frame.

"Dayuh tink dere'll be hostilities?" he queried anxiously, and suddenly I realized the now bald head and Columbia accent that the Empire-State-Building disguise concealed the round figure of President Butler.

"Would some of you gentlemen get off my face for a moment," asked a plaintive voice, "I want to sneeze."

I looked down in surprise to find that the whole commission was standing on its Chinese member, Mr. Cant Kash-check. I was indignant, but my open mouth was closed by the soft answer of Sir Eric: "We mustn't leave Chinese territory you know, and the rest of the place belongs to Japan . . ."

"Rat-tat-tat-tat-tat."

"Rat-tat-tat-tat-tat-tat. Sput-sput. Sput-sput . . ."

A terrific hail of machine gun fire swept the place wiping out the whole commission and everything around me. Only the head of Cant Kash-check, the Chinese diplomat was still to be seen. I ran over to it and bent over. "It's the lets," it whispered feebly.

"The lets?"

"The lets—the Chinese Soviets. They've taken Hankow and now they're taking Shanghai. And I'm going to sleep with my honorable ancestors." And with that the head closed its eyes and I realized the interview had terminated. It had become too exclusive . . . —B. D. W.

# Ruthenberg Memorial

Friday Eve., March 4th, 8 P. M.

Ben Gitlow

Secretary Communist Party U. S. A. (Majority Group)

Jay Lovestone

Editor "Workers Age"

Minnie Lurye

Secretary Youth Section C.P.U.S.A. (Majority Group)

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