

Resolutions Go Left

Convention Repudiates Disrupters

CHICAGO, Illinois.—Crushing the campaign of the Communist Party to oust militant members of the Socialist Party whom they attempted to stigmatize under the epithets of "Trotskyism" and "counter-revolutionists," the special convention of the Convention came to a successful conclusion after running its full schedule from March 26 to March 29, inclusive.

The convention which was held at the LaSalle Hotel, was marked by the progressive attitude of the left wing and the healthier atmosphere since the Old Guard left for the happy hunting grounds of class collaboration.

The frantic hope of the Daily Worker and other Stalinist publications that their campaign of vilification would end in expulsion for the "Trotskyites" fizzled miserably. The issue was not even brought upon the floor of the convention, a crystal clear demonstration of the contempt the Socialist left wing bears toward the insincerity and splitting maneuvers of the Stalinist machine.

Delegates, representing a cross-section of the most militant elements of the American working class, devoted themselves to more pressing problems facing the working class.

A strong resolution against war was passed and the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism indicated as the only possible solution for the working class to the fascist menace.

The People's Front, as exemplified in full and poisonous flower in Spain and France, was condemned by the delegates and its function as a tool of imperialism thoroughly exposed despite its stream-lined name.

The League Against War and Fascism was condemned by the convention, and the attitude of the Socialist Party toward a United States-Soviet Union war alliance more clearly defined.

Considerable time was devoted to the trade union question and the relation of the Socialist Party toward the trade unions was embodied in concrete resolutions designed to implement greater participation of the party in this field. The C. I. O. was endorsed as opposed to A. F. of L. attempts to bind the trade union movement within the craft forms, although a critical attitude was taken toward the leadership within the C. I. O.

On the Farmer Labor Party question, the delegates defined exactly what kind of combination they would participate in, pointed out the hopelessness of such a party in leading the workers to power, and re-affirmed the necessity for a revolutionary party of the working class.

The organization of the party was centralized to some extent, tying branch activity closer to the national office. At the same time provision was made for the publication of an internal organ for democratic discussion among the members of the party over the issues which constantly confront an active group. This organ will be available to all members of the Socialist party.

The California delegates took a firm position against the disruptive attempts of the Communist Party to split the only revolutionary force in America. A partial report has already been made to some of the branches detailing the convention activity.

Comrades Travers Clement, Millie Goldberg, and Clarence Rust returned last week. Comrade Ward Rodgers who was elected to an enlarged National Executive Committee stopped off at Denver before returning to the Coast.

Comrades Cray and Glen Trimble have not yet arrived as they were forced to hitch-hike back from Chicago.

The convention as a whole was progressive and a distinct step toward the left. Especially encouraging was the contempt for the splitting maneuvers of the Communist Party. Already in the branches a renewed spurt of activity has resulted from the convention.

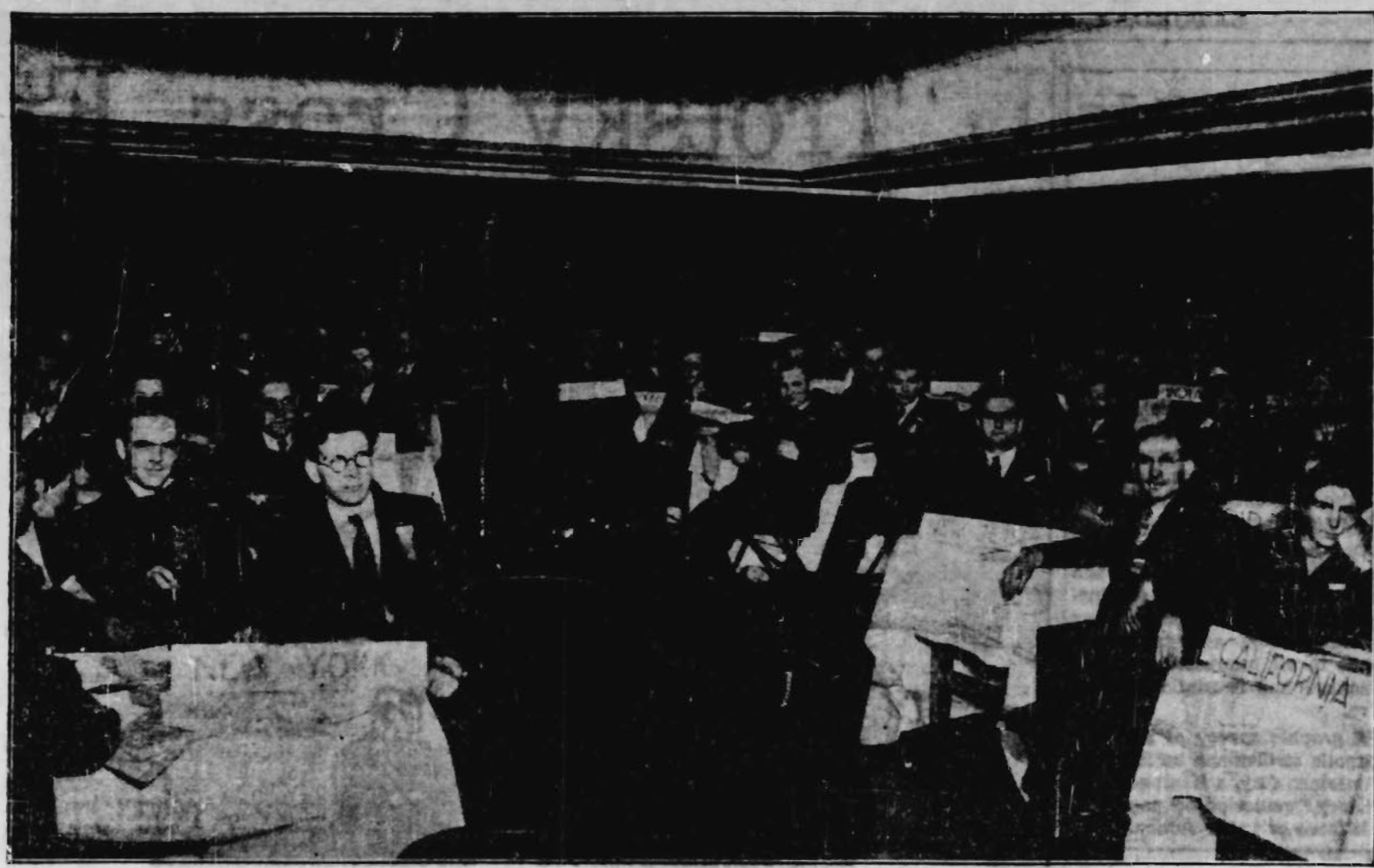
The Daily Worker professes to be disappointed over the convention, but in its articles of pseudo-progressiveness runs an uneasy current that is much like the quaver of a hired assassin who has failed his paymaster. Browder and Foster may yet find themselves confessing to an alliance with the Japanese secret service and the Nazi Gestapo.

The resolutions in full are now being prepared for distribution to the membership of the Socialist Party.

New SP Members Apply For Charter

LOS ANGELES.—Application for charter for a new local of the Socialist party at Venice, California, came as a direct result of the participation of Socialists in the recent strike activity of the aircraft workers.

Delegates At Socialist Convention



Delegates to the special national convention of the Socialist Party seated at their tables during one of the sessions at the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago. At the rear of the hall are party members and members of the Young People's Socialist League who attended as spectators. The sessions were closed to all but party members.

Coal Miners Obtain Favorable Contract

"Fascism vs. Democracy" Slogan Fails

LOS ANGELES.—Whether or not fascism should be considered a felony or a misdemeanor seemed to be the main controversy of the American League Against War and Fascism. In a series of round table discussions held here over a period of two days. Not one of the vital issues of war and fascism were discussed in a serious and fundamental manner.

The tone of the whole congress, set by the Stalinists, was one of "unity at all costs," without the slightest realization on the part of the majority of the delegates present what that cost might be. In a spiritless and mechanical manner, resolutions were presented and passed, dealing with only the most superficial aspects of the burning problems of the day.

A resolution proposing American participation in a collective security pact with France, England and all the democratic countries, including the U. S. S. R., against the fascist countries as a means of preventing war, brought violent opposition from the delegates of the Socialist Party. They pointed out that the Socialist position on this question was in direct contradiction to such a proposal.

Peaceful Capitalists

By placing the fascist countries in the role of warmakers, and purifying the democratic countries to make them appear as innocent capitalists longing for peace is to ignore the root causes of war. This policy, rather than preventing a war, would lead the people into another war under the slogan of "Democracy Against Fascism."

The Socialist delegates contended that the road to peace and the fight against fascism lay in an entirely different path.

Immediately the Stalinists jumped to their feet and attempted to suppress the opposition. However, the congress had realized the logic of arguments of the delegates, and many of them rose to defend this viewpoint. So strong had the opposition to the resolution become that the Stalinists withdrew it completely, rather than allow it to meet defeat on the floor.

Workers' Militia

A proposal was brought up on the floor asking for legislation making it a felony for any group to form separate militias. The Socialist delegates opposed this on the ground that it could be applied to workers when the time became necessary for them to form workers militias of trade unions to protect themselves against a fascist attack.

The congress of the American League Against War and Fascism presented no effective program against war and fascism, nor against any of the evils confronting the working class today.

But it did do a great deal towards preparing the people for a new world war to defend "Democracy."

Minneapolis news item: "Andrew Anderson, first beneficiary under the social security act, received a lump sum payment of \$16.41 on his 66th birthday."—Now he can retire, of course.

Wage Boost Averts Need For Strike Action

NEW YORK.—A new two-year contract negotiated between the United Mine Workers and the Appalachian soft coal operators recorded substantial gains for over 300,000 miners in a dozen states. The agreement, reached after seven weeks of discussion by a conference of 300 representatives of the miners and the operators, was signed after a day's stoppage of work that affected the soft coal industry throughout the entire nation.

The working week remains at 35 hours, although operators asked for 40 hours, and the union asked for 30 hours at the start of negotiations. Specific features of the contract are:

A flat 50 cents a day increase for day wage workers, raising the old \$5.50 rate in the north to \$6 and the \$5.10 rate in the south to \$5.60.

A 70-cent a day increase for men working on mechanical loaders and conveyors.

An increase in the pick mining rate (piece work) of 9 cents a ton.

An increase in the machine loading rate (piece work) of 8 cents a ton.

An increase of 1-cent a ton in the cutting rates for short-wall machines.

An increase for workers on track-mounted cutting machines equal to 70 per cent of the increase for short-wall machines.

The agreement affects an additional 150,000 men besides the 300,000 men directly represented, as the Appalachian scale is the basis for agreements in other areas.

A union demand for a joint committee to investigate the effects of mechanized mining on the conditions of miners and the displacement of workers, was granted in the agreement. The provision calls for the establishment of a Mechanized Mining Commission, consisting of eight representatives from the union and eight from the operators, within 60 days. A report is to be brought in March 14, 1939, two weeks before the present agreement expires.

The employers were successful in forcing the union to drop proposals seeking a two-weeks holiday for miners, and a guarantee of a yearly minimum wage. The union had originally demanded assurance of 200 days work each year for all workers covered by the agreement.

Los Angeles Plans May Day Meeting

LOS ANGELES.—With James P. Cannon and Ward Rodgers listed among the speakers, the Los Angeles branch of the Socialist Party completed its preparations for commemorating May Day.

A mass meeting will be held at Walkers Auditorium, 730 South Grand St., at 8 p. m., under the auspices of the branch. Music will give variety to the program. Admission is 15 cents.

The Communist Party refused to discuss joint action with the Socialist Party unless it could censor the committee elected by the rank and file Socialists to prepare for the May Day demonstration.

C.I.O. Tries New Set Up For Chicago

CHICAGO.—In answer to the emergency situation created by the tremendous strike wave in Chicago, the Committee for Industrial Organization has set-up as an experiment, a regional office in Chicago to handle union organization in fields not already covered by established C. I. O. unions.

Frank Rosenblum, organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and director of the Cleveland West section of the United Textile Workers' organizational drive is the new director of the office. Assistant director is Douglas Anderson, I. L. G. W. U. organizer, recently leader of the Taxicab Drivers' strike, and former State secretary of the Illinois Socialist Party.

C. P. Endorse Anti-Unionists

LOS ANGELES.—John Anson Ford, vicious anti-union politician has been endorsed by the Communist Party for mayor of Los Angeles.

An out and out capitalist candidate, too brazen to don even the protective coloration of a Farmer-Labor party disguise, Ford has received the endorsement of this ex-revolutionary party.

The strike-breaking record of Ford is notorious. His present appeal for working class support has been rejected by every progressive in the Los Angeles labor movement. And the Labor Council which endorsed the district attorney candidacy of Burton Pitts, prosecutor of 347 downers at the Douglas Air Craft plant, has found itself unable to stomach such an arch-reactionary as Ford.

Denouncing all capitalist candidates for office, the Socialist party is the only voice advocating the building of a genuine working class party for immediate struggle against capitalism as well as the ultimate struggle for socialism.

Yipsels Set Goal In League Drive

YPSL activities in San Francisco are centered about the March-May organization drive instigated by the district committee. New members, the fulfillment of quotas for both "Labor Action" and the "Challenge To Youth," national YPSL organ, putting the district office on a stable financial basis, and other measures which will generally improve the League in the state are the goals of the drive. Quotas have already been set by the S. F. circle, and "We're on our way."

Games, hikes, singing, swell food, and plenty of fresh air and sunshine were the inducements which took the "Yips" on their recent outing to La Honda. The group went up Saturday evening, spent the night and all day Sunday at Comrade Joseph Piccarpo's cabin in the midst of "the big trees."

An educational meeting is held by the Karl Liebknecht Circle every Friday, at eight o'clock sharp, 236 Van Ness. Speakers are generally recruited from the ranks of the circle, and discussion and questions, in which all participate, follow the speaker. Friends and party members, especially the younger ones, are cordially invited to attend and participate.

Oregon Wipes CS Statute Off Books

SALEM, Ore.—Oregon's vicious criminal syndicalism law was wiped from the statute books when Governor Charles H. Martin signed a repeal act previously passed by the state Senate and Assembly.

The notorious anti-labor law, similar to the Montana act that served as a model legal cloak for the violent repression of militant trade unionism and working class political parties during the reaction following the World War, was used to sentence Dirk de Jonge to seven years imprisonment for making a political speech two years ago.

The repeal campaign received added impetus when the United States Supreme Court reversed the conviction last January.

Criminal Syndicalism Law Under Attack

Assembly Bill 311, of which 23 assemblymen are co-authors, and which would repeal the 18 year old California Criminal Syndicalism Law, will be presented by Assemblyman Paul Ritchie, before the Crime Problems Committee on Tuesday, April 20, at 7:30 p. m. in Sacramento.

Chances of favorable reception of the bill by the reactionary Crime Problems Committee are meager. If the bill is defeated in committee, however, Ritchie will make a motion in the assembly that the bill be removed from the committee.

Ernest Besig, A. C. L. U. director, advises all those interested in the repeal of the California Criminal Syndicalism Law to appear before the Committee at the time of the hearing.

As a reminder of the far reaching effects of the Law, Caroline Decker, one of eight convicted of Criminal Syndicalism in Sacramento in the fall of 1934 for attempts to organize agricultural workers, is being paroled Friday, April 16.

Why I Quit The Communist Party

By RICHARD LOREE
Educational Director, Los Angeles Branch, Communist Party

Civil war had broken out in Spain. To the rank and file members of the Communist Party, this was naturally greeted with hope that the Spanish Proletariat would be victorious in a workers' government.

So, when we were told by the party that the best that could be hoped for in Spain, was the victory of Democracy, it led to a great deal of misunderstanding and questioning. This confusion was further emphasized by Russia signing the Neutrality Pact and her half-hearted support of the workers who were fighting to overthrow the fascists.

We could not understand any policy which declared for its aim the maintenance of the People's Front Government in Spain. This government had refused to give the workers arms in the first days of the fascist attacks.

DESPAIR IN C. P.

As the days went on, and the fascists gained more and more territory, coming within sight of Madrid, an attitude of pessimism and despair pervaded the party and all of the leaders with whom we came in contact. They were preparing us for the success of fascism in Spain. I, as Educational director, was assigned to deliver an educational at the branch. I read all

Open With Hymns

When the committee of the A. S. U. C. L. met with the U. S. P. C. a Y. C. L.er, Andrew Charles, member of the national executive committee of the A. S. U., spoke for the U. S. P. C. He proposed that the peace meeting be exchanged for the genuine strike against war. He suggested a program as follows: 10 minutes singing of patriotic hymns, America the Beautiful, The Stars Spangled Banner and Our Sturdy Golden Bear led by the cheer leader and the band. A five minute March of Time reviewing the past events of the year, and four five-minute speeches on the following subjects: legislation, such as the California Youth Act and Nye-Kvale bill; fascism and war; neutrality and collective security pacts.

During the forenoon, clowns dressed as soldiers were to parade through the quad.

The YPSL present at this meeting fought against such a program, but the committee of the university student body felt that the meeting proposed by the Y. C. L. would be more amicable to the wishes of the college administration. As a compromise a Y.S.P.L. speaker will talk on the Capitalist Causes of War, but he must turn in an outline of the speech before the meeting.

YPSL Propose Strike

That afternoon, Friday, March 23, the Y. P. S. L. proposed to the Y. C. L. that a strike be called, inviting all groups that would respond. The Y. C. L. refused to enter this united front for a strike for fear of losing their unity with the administration pacifists. They much prefer the censored meeting. In this way the Young Communist League, and its satellites, have worked hand in hand with the administration to prevent the situation from actually going out on strike.

They have bargained away the students' mighty weapon against war in order to keep the college out of the Hearst headlines and to keep them under the ideological control of social-patriotic doctrine—the doctrine that will lead us to war again.

Spanish Victory Will End Fascism States Trotsky

By LEON TROTSKY
(During February, Comrade Trotsky gave the following interview to a representative of the newspaper *El Mundo*, Havana, and made the following statements. This article translated from a Mexican paper, the *IV International*, Translated by C. C.)

Have I given or have I not given instructions to the republican front through volunteers? I have not given instructions to anybody. In general I do not give instructions.

I express my "opinion" in articles. To refuse to support the Spanish republican forces could only be done by cowards and traitors or agents of fascism. The elementary duty of every revolutionary is to struggle against the bands of Franco, of Mussolini and of Hitler.

On the left side of the Spanish governmental coalition, and in the center of the opposition, is the POUM. This party is not "Trotskyist". I have criticized on many occasions its policies in spite of my warm sympathy for the heroism with which the members of this party, above all the youth, are fighting at the front.

The POUM has committed the error of participating in the electoral combination of the Popular Front. In the shelter of this combination, General Franco prepared, with impunity, in the course of many months, the insurrection which at the present time is dyeing Spain with blood.

A revolutionary party must not assume, either directly or indirectly, the responsibilities for a policy of blindness and of criminal tolerance. Its duty is to call upon the masses to be at attention.

Dangers Of Class Collaborationist Policy Pointed Out; Defeat Threatens All Human Culture

Stalin's Policy in Spain is the Policies of Ebert and Kautsky. During the German Revolution of 1918.

The policy of Stalin, who revealed himself as an opportunist dictated by fear of the French Bourgeoisie, and the "two hundred families" whom the French Bourgeoisie some time ago had declared... on paper, Stalin's policy in Spain, repeats, not so much the policy of Kerensky in 1917, as the policies of Ebert-Scheidemann, the German revolution of 1918, the victory has been the element for the policies of Scheidemann.

In Germany the punishment postponed 15 years. In Spain arrive before 15 months.

Would not, however, the social and social victory of the workers and peasants of Spain against European War? Such a prospect dictated by a reactionary policy, are radically false.

If fascism wins in Spain, it would be caught in a pair of scissors from which it could not extricate itself. The dictatorship of the bourgeoisie would signify the inevitable continuation of the European War, menace France with the loss of the last drop of blood, the same token would throw blow at all human culture.

Hitler and Mussolini will be the Spanish Proletariat.

Contrariwise, the victory of workers and peasants of Spain would doubtless shatter the games of Mussolini and Hitler. Thanks to their totalitarian, medically sealed character, fascist regimes produce an impact of unbreakable firmness, stability at the first serious test, victims of internal explosion, determined the regime of Hitler.

The victorious Spanish revolution will undermine the regime of Mussolini and Hitler. The cause of this victory of the workers and the peasants of Spain would reveal itself as a factor for peace.

The tasks of the true revolutionists of Spain are: while fighting and fortifying the political front, to break the political lunge of the Soviet bureaucracy to the masses an advanced program, bringing to the in exhausted and exhausted springs of the enthusiasm of masses, and by these means secure the victory of the revolution and reinforce the cause of Europe.

Chance for British Action: "I wish your country more wholeheartedly on you. You English are kind to me."—General Franco.

International in order to retain the friendship of the French Imperialists with whom they had a war pact, could not come out for proletarian dictatorship in Spain. From this followed their policy of maintenance of the bourgeois state, and from this erroneous policy flowed all the other erroneous and Un-Marxian tactics. It handicapped the revolutionary movement of the world to the Franco-Soviet Pact. I was inclined to regard these statements as attempts to slander the C. I. but they persisted in remaining in my mind because of their strong logic.

At the next meeting of the unit I started discussing the question with some of the comrades, the next thing I knew, I received a summons to appear before the bureau. I was accused of Trotskyism. At first I was too stunned at the charges to reply. We had always been taught that Trotsky was a man who somehow or other came into the Russian Revolution quite by accident, served a very minor role and then turned Counter-revolutionary. So I repeated before the bureau the same questions which I had asked of the comrade who accused me of Trotskyism.

They were unable to answer them and referred me to V. J. Jerome for enlightenment. Conference.

I had difficulty in overcoming my prejudices and listening reasonably to this comrade's analysis of the Spanish situation, which was quite different from that given by the C. P. Following this conversation I attended a series of lectures given by James P. Cannon under the auspices of the Socialist Party. He answered many of the questions which had caused me such confusion.

He explained that in following a reformist policy, the Communist International

to my former comrades in P. who expressed doubts as to policy the C. I. was following whose protests have been smothered by fear of Trotskyism. I the label of Trotskyism, you. "If you are not interested have not been intimidated degree where you are will abandon revolutionary principles call upon you to join the Party of America."

International Capitalism

By CHARLES CURTISS

One billion pesetas, gold, has been given to General Franco by a group of international capitalists. The roster of those who are bolstering up Franco in Spain includes: Sir Aukland Geddes; the House of Rothschild; the Penarroyo interests including the French

W.P.A. STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1)

The Policy Board be set up representation from the unions. The action took most of the workers by surprise, as they had taken a strike vote and had no idea that what action the committee of the W.P.A. was undertaking was to militantly strike with the Workers' Alliance in protest over the high wages in which relief agencies and WPA workers have been paid by the WPA administration.

Workers are laid off work projected and refused relief. Workmen 18 years of age and those who have been denied relief and are on the projects on which they were employed.

The negotiating committee of the W.P.A. is attempting to stop lay-offs of white-collar workers and attempt to secure the 10 per cent wage which the Administration has directed to give. A vote was taken to give to the committee, which was elected by the workers, the right to mean "strike action" and to strike certain projects showing picket lines on projects were almost totally unopposed and which could not be more than a small percentage of the total.

Loyers, prominent member of the strike committee, continued work throughout the entire day, drawing regular pay, while maintaining a "loyal" record with the WPA administration. His status would not be changed. Others of this Stalinist group on the strike committee kept their cards regularly and, at the same time, continued work after the example laid by Loyers. This was termed by Stalinists "clever strategy."

On the picket lines began to take action into their hands. It was at this point, being thoroughly discredited by the actions, that the committee called a joint meeting of the W.P.A. and the AFGE. It was explained that the committee was not "well enough organized" to continue their action.

A problem of organizing the W.P.A. is just as acute as ever. This is the case of the W.P.A. without consulting the rank and file, improperly organized, and mass support, is a terrible future organization of the W.P.A. in the labor area.

And Alfonso XIII, erstwhile King of Spain, is financing Franco also through various individuals such as the Count of Romanos and the Marquis of Villanor.

These financiers, besides, are in virtual control of the chemical products industry of Spain. It is this last mentioned group we have such names as Herteaux, president of the company, Milnebeav, Ledoux and Homercourt, names well known in French finance.

These, as good business men, have no qualms of conscience in conducting their business check by check with Aufsehlager, one of the most important owners of the war industries of Germany, and an important financier of Franco.

Lead, like mercury, besides being a very important industrial metal, is also a basic war metal. And Alfonso XIII, erstwhile King of Spain, is financing Franco also through various individuals such as the Count of Romanos and the Marquis of Villanor.

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electrical plants, railroads and tramways.

This is the group of foreign and native capitalists who are supporting Franco. They desire to abort the social revolution to which the workers and peasants of Spain are giving birth amidst the present travail.

Jewish financiers like Rothschild and Cahl Cohen are united with protestants like Aufsehlager and Weddes, and with Catholics like March and the French—to defend Franco, who proclaims himself a defender of the Holy Roman Catholic faith. But what is at stake is not Catholicism, but the private ownership of the means of production and distribution of the wealth of Spain against the socialistically inspired masses.

The "Nationalist" Franco, feels no embarrassment at mortgaging or selling the wealth of Spain to foreign capitalism.

Nationalism—religion—all these shibboleths are merely bait to catch fish with. To paraphrase Marx, Franco would give up 100 per cent of his religious or national faith rather than give up 1 per cent of his economic holdings.

Common Motives

The motive of Hitler and German capitalism is similar to the motive of democratic France and of England: profit. In return for aid from the Nazis, Franco has promised to cede the Spanish West African colony, Rio de Oro to Germany. Germany is also to get the Canary Islands while Italy will get the Balearic Islands.

The role of the United States in relation to the social revolution and counter-revolution now going on in Spain is very interesting. More than 90 million dollars of U. S. capital are invested in Spain. These investments include telephone, sulphur, oil and other holdings. More than one half of the cars supplied the Spaniards are of American-owned firms.

Knowing what we do of the previous operations of Wall Street we are sure that we can make the charge that numerous American interests are involved in the financing of the preventative counter-revolution of Franco.

In the American Spectator of October, 1936, Gordon Rend ends his article with an analysis of why certain oil companies are aiding the fascists in return for promises of an oil monopoly through a German company controlled by American interests. In this article Rend also points out that the powerful telephone company, American-controlled, is favoring the rebels. The aid of their support is curbed only by caution because of the position of the center of the company in the midst of Madrid.

Eight Over Spains

Although international capitalism is opposed to a workers' Spain, and have united around this issue, serious disagreements take place between the hands at the moment of the division of the spoils. Latest news dispatches at the time of this writing point out that France and Germany are at odds over the right of Germany to take the Spanish West African colonies.

The cardinal point for all workers to remember, however, is that capitalism will put aside its differences when it comes to attacking the workers. Nazi Germany, fascist Italy, democratic France, England and Wall Street's United States have united to strangle the Spanish workers.

Light is thrown, therefore, upon

the statement of "the unofficial spokesman for Britain's Foreign Office," Augur, in the New York Times:

"Frankly speaking the British government... would not object to the insurgents winning with German help." Their objection is to "the prospect of a lasting establishment of Germans on Spanish soil."

"Thus the British seek merely for German guarantees against this possibility, and in turn Britain and her ally France will co-operate wholeheartedly in imposing on Spain a regime committed to capitalism."

Rebirth of Socialism

Left out of the calculations of the international capitalist class are the workers, both of Spain and internationally. The struggles of the Spanish workers have aroused a regrowth of international revolutionary socialism among the workers. Even in the land of concentration camps, the New York Times reports:

"Not have the millions of former 'Left' Socialists and Communists of the older generation quite forgotten. It has been found that the anti-Bolshevik propaganda campaign, with pictures and descriptions of the Spanish struggle, suits both ways. It offers a prolonged glimpse, however distorted, into the doings of working men in an outside country... and it provides material for discussion that had been lacking."

Nor is this process of rebirth limited to the older generation. Even the younger generation is affected. The same article reports the growth of strikes in spite of repression:

"Despite the National Socialist efforts of the Hitler Youth, some of the younger workers are apparently growing up with something like the international socialist ideas of their fathers."

Augur remarks that Germany, France, England, Italy and the Spanish capitalist class are interested in keeping the workers of Spain under capitalism. He leaves out one more important group that is in effect working for exactly the same end, the preservation of capitalism in its democratic guise: we refer to the Communist Party and the old guard Socialists, who see in the struggle in Spain merely a struggle between two forms of capitalist rule: the fascist and the democratic.

The Spanish workers and peasants are the advance guard in this battle. To the degree that they become clear on this question, and reject the false leadership of those who would strangle the struggle in the bounds of capitalism in its "democratic" form, to that degree will they be successful.

Socialism the Issue

When Echegaray, the minister of finance, in 1933 granted English imperialism the right to exploit copper mines and miners of Spain "for perpetuity" he thought the capitalist system of production would be eternal. The working masses of Spain, in blood, cold and hunger are now fighting to put an end to what capitalism thought was everlasting, and to replace it with a new society free of parasites and paupers, of war and crisis, of hunger and oppression—Socialism.

Opposed by the powerful capitalists of the world, the workers in Spain have only their own class to look to for aid. Solidarity with the Spanish workers!

Light is thrown, therefore, upon

Air Craft Union Men Face Trial

Sit-Down Strike Issue Up For Consideration of Court

The trial of the Douglas aeroplane factory "sit-downers" is at present scheduled to begin April 26 in the Superior Court of Los Angeles county. Unless the mass pressure of the labor movement succeeds in securing the dismissal of the charges against the 355 arrested workers, this will be one of the largest mass trials in the history of the labor movement.

It is possible, according to the attorneys for the defense, that a continuance will be granted in order to permit the Supreme Court of California to decide an appeal that is to be taken from the decision of the District Court of Appeals refusing to grant a writ of prohibition that was sought by the defendants.

The defense attorneys, John Packard, James Carter, and Marshall Rosen, are seeking this appeal in order to test the jurisdiction of the Superior Court to try the defendants on the charge of violating section 152 of the penal code, the crime of conspiring to commit a crime, in this case the crime of forcible entry and detainer defined in section 418 of the penal code.

The accused workers contend in this appeal that the misdemeanor of forcible entry and detainer includes within its definition a conspiracy to commit this act and therefore any conspiracy to commit this act can only be a misdemeanor and the defendants cannot be tried under the general conspiracy section, section 152 of the penal code, which is a felony.

If the strikers succeed with this writ, Attorney John Packard declared, this will substantially assist the defense and may result in the discharge of the defendants.

The defense of the Douglas strikers, known as the "Douglas 400," is part of the effort of the Los Angeles Merchant and Manufacturer's Assn. to terrorize the trade unionists and to prevent the militant efforts of the C.I.O. to penetrate into the notorious scab shop area of Los Angeles.

The Douglas plant was the first factory in the United States to be evacuated of sit-down strikers by police measures; this was the first instance of the use of indictments charging sit-down strikers with the commission of felonies.

The conviction of these men will make difficult the use of sit-down strikes. The importance of this trial warrants the complete and persistent support of all labor in the defense of the "Douglas 400."

The C.I.O. organizational committee set up a defense committee guided by Bill Busch and Steve Roberts. It held a highly successful and well attended mass meeting at the Philharmonic auditorium March 26 at which representatives from both C.I.O. and A.F. of L. unions were present, and has publicized the case through the pages of Plane Facts, the official organ of the local A.U.A.W. unions.

Labor and liberal organizations throughout the Los Angeles area have passed resolutions condemning the action of Byron Fitts and the Grand Jury for their actions in this case. The committee is endeavoring to bring Homer Martin, National President of the A.U.A.W. to Los Angeles later in the month to address a mass meeting at which time the eyes of the entire nation will be focused on the trial of the "Douglas 400."

The work of the defense committee has been hampered by the efforts of the local A.F. of L. leadership to prevent the organization of the C.I.O. unions in Southern California, making it difficult to secure complete labor solidarity in this case which affects all labor.

The C.P. has aided to the difficulty by attempting to prevent the C.I.O. organizing committee from carrying out its activity under the cry that this organization was a legal organization to the A.F. of L.

The C.I.O. organizing committee has called a meeting Monday, April 22, at which time it is hoped they can set forth on a new program that will permit the continuance of the excellent initial efforts of the defense committee.

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SPLIT DEEPENS, REACHES RANKS WITHIN A.F. L.

Violence Occurs In Green's Craft Jurisdictional Squabbles

The split in the American trade union movement broadened during the past week, with a barrage of words from the top, and physical violence on jurisdictional picket lines scattered throughout the nation. The restoration of unity on a correct basis was at least temporarily accomplished on other fronts as central bodies defied the splitting commands of William Green.

The Georgia Federation of Labor challenged Green boldly by refusing to carry out his demands that they resign all C. I. O. offices, force the resignation of A. Steve Nance, president of the Georgia Federation, and remove their offices from the proximity of C. I. O. offices.

In Cleveland worker met worker in pitched battle as members of the A. F. of L. attempted to cross C. I. O. picket lines in order to enforce jurisdictional claims of the reactionary craft leaders. Flats were swung and heads were cracked as the struggle between industrial unionism and craft reaction reached down into the rank and file.

Into the oil fields, the steel plants, the shipyards, every place that the C. I. O. organizing drive threatened to give the unorganized workers a position in the trade union movement, Green and his cohorts sent "organizers" to disrupt and sabotage.

The most effective weapon utilized by the American worker in gaining his elementary demands, the sit-down, was assailed by Green as illegal, and to be shunned by "loyal" A. F. of L. members. In that act he directly joined the chorus raised by the most reactionary of the owning class.

Where Green's order to "purge" central labor bodies of unions sympathetic to the C. I. O. has been carried out, the expelled unions have gathered together in some sort of conference or committee. This move, absolutely necessary if the tremendous task of organizing the unorganized is to be pushed rigorously, is now receiving the official sanction of the C. I. O. Certificates of affiliation are being issued to local bodies throughout the nation.

Such bodies, though only formed as an expedient, can very well serve as the basic structure of a national organization, should the craft bureaucrats succeed in expelling the suspended international unions from the A. F. of L. That the groups already formed contain the really progressive and militant elements is apparent by their activities.

Unity was maintained only in those sections of the country where the local membership and leadership were willing to face the threat of suspension and defy the reigning A. F. of L. bureaucracy. In New Jersey the State Federation of Labor and the C. I. O. both issued statements that close co-operation and collaboration would continue in the organizing of the unorganized.

The sentiment against Green, and further, the realization of the necessity of concrete action in defeating his splitting plans is more and more throwing the reactionary character of his line into bold relief. The workers, he they organized in crafts or in the still untouched industries, are choosing to back the kind of unionism that can benefit the workers as a whole.

State Exec. Comm. Convenes At L. A.

Following the plans and resolutions formulated at the National Convention of the Socialist Party, the State Executive Committee is holding a special meeting in Los Angeles on April 17 and 18.

Conferences upon the C.I.O. drive, and the agricultural drive will be held in conjunction with the S.E.C. meeting.

All those members of the Socialist Party who are interested may attend.

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The Action Army

By FRANK STERN

Once more after a delay of three weeks Labor Action greets you, and again the credit is due to a few comrades who gave or raised all the necessary funds.

Labor Action, if it is to go on, must have more solid support. Labor Action must get the sort of income that comes from day to day work in getting subs, selling bundle orders, and building a sustaining fund.

The board has decided to stabilize Labor Action as a fortnightly. If Labor Action is to appear regularly on that basis every single reader—every sympathizer and party member must knuckle down and do his bit.

With the national convention over—with the face of the party turned definitely to the masses—with our message becoming an increasingly important factor in the organization of the mass industries, Labor Action plays an increasingly important role.

The voice of the party, that is the voice of revolutionary Socialism, must serve more and more as a leader and a clarifier in the day to day struggles of the workers. Every militant trade unionist should be reached by Labor Action regularly.

Build Labor Action by spreading it. Help support it in this critical time. This is no time for retreat or re-

trenchment by the forces of revolutionary Socialism. This is the time for making giant strides forward... even though that entail sacrifice and self-denial.

Our enemies think that we are through. Schneiderman, state organizer of the Communist Party gloated in a recent issue of the Western Worker that Labor Action was through—that the Socialists were too weak to support it. Our enemies do not want us to continue. For them we have one answer. "You lie!" "Labor Action will continue. The forward march of Socialism in the west will go on."

Those who recognize this and have given their answer solidly are the Kerrys of Oakland who raised thirty dollars toward this issue, Comrade Schwind of Oakland, now in Mexico, remembered us and sent another \$25.00; Comrade Brownson of Upland, California, who is recovering from a recent severe illness sent \$25.00. Twelve dollars was raised at a cocktail party, given for Labor Action by Comrades Booth and Wyle of San Francisco.

These are just samples of what comrades who believe in Labor Action will do and what others can do.

The State Committee at its meeting this week will undoubtedly institute a drive to sustain Labor Action. Start that drive now—BUILD LABOR ACTION.

Minneapolis Unionists Whip Anti-Labor Co.

With the signing of a union agreement with the Warehouse and Inside Mens Union, local 20316, one of the last, and most notorious labor hating companies the B. F. Nelson Company, paper product manufacturer has been whipped into line by the organized labor movement of this city. For years this company had been in the forefront of the labor fighting forces here, and thumbed its nose derisively at all previous attempts to unionize its downtrodden and terrorized workers.

But all this was changed with the appearance of the Warehousemen Union on the scene, actively aided by the militant elements of the local movement. As usual, the Drivers Union, local 544, rendered sterling service by refusing to take deliveries to or from the plant during the process of negotiations.

Terms of the agreement include wage increases of 7 1/2 per hour for unskilled labor, with a minimum wage of 55¢ per hour. Wage increases for skilled labor will be negotiated according to classification, after which they will receive the union scale established for that classification. The Warehousemen's Union is the sole bargaining agent for the workers, with seniority established throughout the plant.

Thus the ranks of the labor hater is being depleted almost daily. Today there is scarcely a plant of any significance in Minneapolis that is not organized or in the process of doing so. The labor movement is so well organized that, given a bona fide strike backed by the employees themselves, it is practically impossible to lose a strike. Minneapolis is now, if not a union town, at least a 75 per cent as, which, in all practical purposes (such as winning strikes) is as good as the real thing.

Box Makers

Nearly 1,000 box shock and veneer workers walked out of seven plants about Seattle, demanding a 10-cent hourly increase.

Four Important Books by LEON TROTSKY

The Stalin School of Falsification

In this volume Trotsky establishes the actual relations between himself and Lenin, his real role in the Russian Revolution, the truth about his "underestimation of the peasantry," the two conflicting views about his death at different times by Stalin and his associates, etc., etc.

A number of "sensational" documents are made public for the first time. Among them are the secret minutes of the Bolshevik Central Committee in 1917 which reveals the differences of opinion that actually existed among the Communist leaders on the subject of the October Revolution and shows the complete harmony on the decisive questions between Lenin and Trotsky. Stalin's thoroughly Menshevik views prior to Lenin's arrival in Russia are confirmed by hitherto unpublished minutes of the Bolshevik convention in March 1917.

In a new foreword Trotsky relates the recent trials to the material dealt with in this volume. It provides the reader with an invaluable compendium of answers to the lies and slanders against Trotsky and his views.

The Third International After Lenin

Written in his customary brilliant style, The Third International After Lenin is Trotsky's criticism of the official program of the Communist International, and an analysis of the policies pursued by the Soviet Union and the official Communist parties since Lenin's death. It was around the counter-program put forth in this criticism that the Trotskyist Opposition rallied.

Regular \$3.00 Popular \$2.00

Whither France?

If the reader desires a classic Marxist exposition of the policy of class struggle as contrasted with the prevalent labor policy in France today—the People's Front—he cannot find it more trenchantly presented and illuminated from the historical and present-day standpoint than in the present work.

Lessons of October

The most concise exposition ever written of Lenin's strategy in the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 and the opposition it encountered among the other leaders of the Communist Party. Trotsky relates the analysis of the 1917 victory to the 1925 defeat in Germany and Bulgaria.

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS AND VIEWS

IFTU reports that according to latest data there are 15,924 industrial workers in Japan, of whom only 47,928, i.e. less than one cent, are organized in the 950 Trade Unions of various kinds.

The largest national organization is the Nihon Rodo Kumiai (Soreno) which "follows the policy of IFTU" and which embraces all the workers of all the organizations (1937, 914). It has nine affiliated unions; among them: Japan Seamen's Union, 104 members; Japan Trade Union Federation, 34,236 members; Japan Harbor Workers' Union, 10,000 members; Japanese Maritime Officers' Union, 13,086 members; Japan Iron & Steel Foundry Workers' Union, 32,500 members; Japan Porcelain & Pottery Workers' Federation, 7,500 members.

The last Congress of the Nihon Rodo Kumiai (the social democratic federation) was held in October, 1936, in Yokohama. Its "principles" are as follows: It rejects the idea both of the "People's Front" and of the "Fascist Front." It fights "against capitalism, communism and fascism."

Its "social demands" are: the enactment of a law establishing a national health insurance system; a law providing for seamen's insurance; a law protecting the crews on board of small vessels and a commercial ship law, limiting hours of work (limit unspecified).

establishing weekly rest and providing "other measures" for the protection of employees in commercial undertakings.

In the sphere of economic life, its demands are: the creation of a Ministry of Labor for the "control of industry and labor," with an Advisory Board on which labor "should be represented;" State control of key industries with "the ultimate goal of their nationalization;" State management; State control of smaller industries through manufacturers' guilds; enactment of a trade union law and a collective agreement law to control the labor movement; the extension of the present Labor Dispute Arbitration Act to bring in under compulsory arbitration disputes arising in general industries; creation of industrial labor courts, with juries composed of workers, employers and consumers' representatives; creation of industrial cooperative committees locally and by trade, with equal representation of workers and employers, to be presided over by a local governor or a Government official duly appointed; and finally, the creation of a national center of these committees, with the competent State Minister as its chairman.

The Congress also went on record protesting against "the violation of the freedom of association. It demands of the Government that it take measures to establish this freedom, and, moreover, demands the enactment of a trade union law and collective agreement law."

In addition to the above mentioned main groups, the IFTU also lists a number of "autonomous" dividing organizations of different

tendencies with a total membership of about 50,000. One of these organizations takes the Communist line, and, being illegal, is active underground (for the People's Front).

There is an Anarcho-Syndicalist organization with 2,300 members. Also, there is the "Left" and pro-people's Front (functioning legal) Nihon Rodo Kumiai Zenkoku Hyogikai, with about 15,000 members; three other organizations "more or less neutral;" and a national union of naval dockyard workers of 30,000 members.

The bulk of the organized Japanese workers it will be noted are from among the immediate trades. It does not take much imagination to picture the havoc the latest line of the Stalinists will work with any attempts to really mobilize the backward Japanese masses.

Jugoslavia

Despite the improvement in the economic situation in 1936, the wages have been dropping. According to the official statistics, taking the year 1935 as the basis of comparison the wages dropped in:

1931 5 per cent
1932 15 per cent
1933 16 per cent
1934 18 per cent
1935 22 per cent

At the same time the most important foodstuffs have risen in price. Result? A strike wave throughout the country in 1936. It is still continuing. Between 15 and 16 per cent of the workers in industry are involved in these strikes.

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PHILADELPHIA—After a 37

LABOR ACTION

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Let Them Tremble!

The refusal of the Communist Party to send representatives to cross-examine Leon Trotsky at the preliminary hearing of the commission of inquiry provides one more example of the craven attitude of this organization is compelled to assume before any body that might bare the true facts of the Moscow trials and executions.

In its cringing attitude before this small impartial commission, the Communist Party displays to the world how crushing will be the verdict of history upon the role it has assumed as executioner of the revolutionaries who established the first workers' state.

Trotsky has challenged the Stalinists to extradite him upon whatever charges they may bring against him. The Stalinists have not attempted to extradite him. They have no charges that will bear examination in any light but that lurid glow cast by the witch-burning pyre.

The commission in the full dignity of its task to see that no man shall be condemned without a fair hearing has asked the Stalinists to send representatives to cross-examine Trotsky that their direct accusations might be incorporated in the stenographic report of the hearing. The Stalinists have refused. In place of sending a representative they let loose their entire barrage of invective in the hackneyed garbage can't which distinguishes the style of the Daily Worker.

The Stalinists are too cowardly to stand face to face with their lies before the revolutionary who once headed the red army and fiercely defended the first workers' government against the combined onslaught of the imperialist armies.

When Stalin must present facts instead of machine gun slugs his tongue cleaves to the roof of his mouth.

The Stalinists have murdered fact and crucified reason. Let them tremble for their crimes against the working class.

Claws Only Sheathed

The tributes which certain labor leaders have been paying Myron C. Taylor, chairman of the board of U. S. Steel, whom they met secretly over a period of months prior to the recent recognition of C.I.O. should not be allowed to deceive anyone. A steel baron can afford to be suave and courteous over a morning demi-tasse. He pays out good cash for a professional thug to wear the brass knuckles he smashes upon the jaws of his wage slaves.

This dangerous impression that the tigers who own the steel industry have suddenly lost their stripes and become fairly godmothers to the working class because they agreed to recognize the C.I.O. should be thoroughly dispelled by disclosures of the LaFollette investigating committee.

Recently uncovered are the details of a policy against labor which for sheer ruthlessness cannot be equalled anywhere excepting in those countries where the capitalist system has been forced to openly unveil itself. The guilty companies are the subsidiaries of U. S. Steel which constructed the Pulaski skyway leading into New York City.

An association was formed between these subsidiaries with the sole purpose of maintaining open shop conditions. The first task of this association was the enlistment of the police force as a strike-breaking instrument. This was accomplished through political venality, contributions to police organizations, purchase of beer and soda for the police, and buying of \$1 lunches for the policemen each day.

These bribed police were used to quell labor disturbances with brutal force. Auxiliaries were obtained from the Robert J. Foster Agency to insure violence in case that the police proved "not tough enough" or "hesitated to make arrests." Curtis S. Garner, superintendent of erection for the American Bridge Company, admitted that

contributions to the police department were made regularly "just like you tip a Pullman porter."

The baleful awareness of these tigers to class forces was shown by their paying a notorious strike-breaking guard \$50 a week and a total of \$5,600 during his trial for shooting a worker in the back and disabling him for life. During this same period the American Bridge Company spent \$289,452 for "labor trouble," yet payment of the union scale would have cost only \$51,849.

The history of the steel industry's dealings with workers, outlines in blood the ruthless nature of capitalist anarchy.

That the tiger, grown sleek and fat, has sheathed his claws does not mean that he has been chained and put on display behind iron bars.

The boss is always the enemy of the worker, even when he seems most friendly.

Strip Disrupters

The split in the American Federation of Labor created by Wm. Green and his coterie of disrupters has now been driven into the ranks of the unions and is finding its expression in clashes on jurisdictional picket lines.

That Green was "madman or fool" enough to think that he could prevent unionization of the basic industries was evident from the moment he initiated his splitting action in the Federation. The thunderous reply of the hundreds of thousands in these industries has brought this dream castle crashing upon Green's head.

The organization of the rubber industry, of the steel industry, of the automobile industry, and the looming of larger successes in the future has cracked the fossilized clay of the A. F. of L. bureaucracy from top to bottom. Green's attempt to counteract the blows upon his prestige by hurling worker against worker must be answered by energetic action from the millions now crowding for the first time into the trade unions.

Every agent of Wm. Green, including those who masquerade in the clothing of "unity"—unity on Green's terms—must be exposed relentlessly. Wherever they crop up they must be stripped and shown in all their hideousness.

Wherever a petty faker takes up the cause of the mercenary bureaucrats of the A. F. of L. to instigate a raid upon another union for jurisdictional reasons, no matter if he is tattooed from head to foot with liberal phrases, he must be brought as sharply to account as if he were paid directly by the bosses.

On every militant trade unionist rests the responsibility of taking the initiative in organizing those millions whom Green would suffer to rot in the slavery of the open shop. On Green rests full responsibility for whatever may happen as a result of his disruptive policy.

Those who attempt to block the movement for industrial unionism deserve no more than the crushing blow which upsurging Labor will deal them.

Waterfront Graft

While grand juries are investigating and the capitalist newspapers are screaming about the graft rampant in uptown San Francisco, they might well turn their attention to the graft which has made of San Francisco's waterfront a racketeer's paradise. This is the organized system of cashing brass through convenient saloons at a ten per cent discount.

Ostensibly the system is a convenience to the waterfront worker. He gives his union book number and the amount due him from the company for which he has been working. The saloon cashier enters this information in his books, takes the brass identification check, and pays the worker ninety per cent of the wages which the worker otherwise could not collect until perhaps a week later when the company makes up its pay roll. The saloon then cashes the brass with the company for its full amount.

Aside from the ten per cent reduction in the worker's pay check, he faces grave danger of losing his entire wage. Strong arm men, dice experts, all the harpies who infest the waterfront drop upon him. Only too frequently wives of waterfront workers report that the family has been robbed in such a manner of its meager livelihood.

This vicious system has been wiped out of most of the ports upon the coast, but in San Francisco it is assuming proportions which make the uptown rackets look like peanut wagon enterprises.

In Seattle, Portland, and San Pedro the unions themselves took action against this system. Why have they failed to act in San Francisco?

Could it be that the great tin god with the militant halo has a personal interest in maintaining the system?

The Spoils of Victory - - - By Carlo



Carlo

Col. Sanborn,
-- Red Baiter,
Becomes Shy

"Decent" American Fails To
Show Up Despite
Subpoena

By VAUGHAN O'BRIEN
SALINAS.—Six months after a reign of terror against lettuce strikers that rocked the nation, the National Labor Relations Board brought the instigators of vigilantism up on charges of violating the Wagner act.

The hearing opened last Monday, with the respondents protesting the constitutionality of being required to stand investigation for the pitched battles provoked by the growers and packers last fall. They protested, even though on the same day the U. S. Supreme Court declared the Wagner act constitutional.

The first witness subpoenaed by the Government was the self-styled leader of "law and order" during the strike and notorious publisher of "The American Citizen," a rag that seeks to speak for fascism in America. Colonel Sanborn failed to answer the call, and deputies could not find him. The retired army officer, who delights in explaining to gasping society ladies and paunchy business men how the "communists" incite decent American workers into striking against all that is sacred, as yet does not choose to avail himself of the forum furnished by the Government.

Presiding was Trial Examiner Charles N. Feldelson of Atlanta, Ga. Attorneys Bertram Edises and A. N. Somers conducted the case for

Savage Fury
Of Farmers

HERSHEY, Pa.—Several thousand angry farmers, uniting with scabs and thugs, drove 1,000 sit-down strikers from the "model" factory of the Hershey Chocolate Corporation in a pitched battle that sent 25 victims to the hospital.

The unionists had called a sit-down strike to protest the intolerable conditions of the vicious Hershey Corporation.

The farmers finding their daily market for 800,000 pounds of milk suddenly cut off, armed themselves with pitch forks in order to re-open the sale for their product.

Apparently well-planned, the attack caught the sit-downers by surprise and they were thrown into confusion by the savage fury of the farmers who struck indiscriminately at women and children as they fought to overcome the Hershey workers.

The Labor Relations Board, and Richard Gladstein appeared for the unions.

The growers and shippers, charged with a long list of violations, hid behind a battery of legal talent, being represented by George M. Naus, Leo T. McMahon, Harry Noland, Edson Thomas, J. T. Harrington, Sidney L. Church and William Thelle.

Enough evidence is nevertheless expected to be uncovered about the activities of the organized farmers against the agricultural workers to attract some unwanted attention to the methods of "personnel management" in the valleys of California.

Los Angeles
C.P. Refuses
United Front

Reject Discussing Action
With Socialist
Party

The Socialist party of Los Angeles on April 1 sent a request to the Communist Party asking for the appointment of a committee to meet with a committee of the Socialist party to plan a May Day demonstration.

The request for united action sent by the Socialist party ends: "With the upsurge of American unionism, with the victorious drive of the Spanish workers and peasants, with the oncoming imperialist war, a united May Day demonstration would be a substantial step forward in the direction of achieving our goal of world socialism."

The refusal of the Communist Party to form a united front came in a letter dated April 6. In this letter they refuse to so much as meet with the Socialist party unless the

"Committee for negotiating united May Day action shall be comprised of genuine Socialists who repudiate Trotskyites and their disruptive activity. If such a committee of honest, sincere socialists is appointed we will have a committee from our party meet with it to discuss united action for May Day."

In other words if the Socialists will appoint a committee to the liking of the Communist Party they will deign to meet for discussion.

NOTES UPON STRIKES

Truck Drivers

The 24-day strike of truck drivers and helpers, which brought a short general strike in Wilmington, Del., was ended in an agreement for a 15-day truce, during which negotiations for contracts will be conducted.

Sixty-nine companies which operate trucks signed the agreement under which the employers recognize Local 107, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, and Helpers of America as the bargaining agent for the strikers.

Guild Victory

A one-year contract has been signed by the New York World-Telegram and the Newspaper Guild of New York formalizing the 40-hour, five day week which has been in effect on the paper for nearly three years, and setting minimum wages.

The contract covers hours and wages, working conditions, dismissal, indemnity, sick leave, vacations with pay and overtime.

Boy Scouts

More than 150 students of the Greenwood Park school at Westport, Mass., walked out of their classes when Dep. Police Chief William Montgomery, who was also their scout leader, was ousted without charges being preferred.

Asked by the principal to see what he could do, Montgomery entered the yard. "I love you all," he said. "And I appreciate what you are doing for me, but it is not the right thing to do. You must obey the law. I organized your Boy Scout troops for you and I will still

be with you whether I am a policeman or not."

Most of the students followed him back into the school.

Confucius and Sit-downs

Before a national radio audience, Senator Elbert D. Thomas, erstwhile Mormon missionary to Japan, went back to Confucius (600 B.C.) and Lao-tze, founder of the Taoist religion, to find confirmation of the theory that sit-downs are bearers

of a venerable tradition.

The story of the sit-down, Thomas told his audience, is contained in the history of the English kings, Chinese butchers, Homer's Odysseus and Gandhi.

AFL Breaks Picket Line

Craft unions under the jurisdiction of the A. F. of L. smashed through picket lines thrown by the C.I.O. about the Todd Seattle Drydock Company in Seattle.

Two shifts of the A.F.L. craft unionists, numbering approximately 300 members, broke through the lines about the plant.

Eight Killed

Government troops milled into a bloody fight instigated by the C. T. M. (Stalinist controlled trade union federation) against the C.R.O.M. (trade-union federation at San Martin, Toluca, Mexico. Eight were killed and more than 20 injured.

Tunnel Workers

2,400 tunnel workers affiliated with the C.I.O. Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, successfully negotiated an agreement at Los Angeles with the Metropolitan Water District which includes pay increases running from 50 cents to one dollar a day.

Three hundred clerks and engineers were included in the agreement, granting them a raise in pay of \$15 a month.

Grave Diggers

Throwing down their spades, 40 grave diggers at North Arlington, N. J., declared a sympathy strike with ten general laborers seeking a wage increase at Holy Cross Cemetery and held up six burials.

Scab City Bows
To Union Drive

By Staff Correspondent

LOS ANGELES.—Nowhere is the deep-seated desire of workers everywhere for organization more clearly demonstrated than today in Los Angeles County. For years a celebrated scab center, Los Angeles now hums with organization.

New locals are springing up everywhere. The United Auto Workers, starting a few months ago with Local 188, now has established locals in every aircraft and auto plant in the vicinity of Los Angeles. They are well entrenched in several large job shops.

Agreements have been signed with Willys, Northrup, North American, Kelley-Wells and Rocky Mountain. Several other agreements are pending, with the quickening tempo giving every assurance of successful completion.

Ray Hyatt, chairman of the or-

ganizational committee of 188, reports that substantial progress in the drive to organize 12,000 workers in Southern California job shops.

A program of workers' education is being pushed aggressively. Bob Trochet, educational director for the U. A. W. A. on the Coast, through the columns of Plane Facts, the official newspaper. The concrete line of the class struggle are explained—and transmitting.

The shop steward system, a democracy concretely demonstrated—has been established in several plants. A pamphlet line of the purposes and the organization of the shop steward has been mimeographed and distributed by the local.

PROFITS NOT TOUCHED
Strikes Fail To Nick Dividends

NEW YORK.—Strikes and wage increases don't eat up corporation profits in these recovery days. Companies are showing such large earnings that they can withstand 100-day strikes and still pay a pretty penny to stockholders.

Remington-Rand fought a strike of its employees through most of 1936. It spent hundreds of thousands of dollars for Bergeff thugs and spies, for advertisements, false rumor-mongers, fake movie riots and all the other claptrap of strike-breaking. Despite this tremendous expense, despite the starvation and despair the company brought upon its workers, Remington-Rand made a neat little profit for the last nine months of 1936 of \$1,769,932—only \$100,000 less than the profit for the same months of 1935.

The American-Hawaiian Steam-

ship Co. spent \$173,841 to fight 98-day maritime strike and came through with \$321,789 in 1936 against a loss the previous year.

The Toledo Shaker, withstood a 3-month strike, made \$70,000 profit last year, a letter to stockholders, the company's board of directors disavows any responsibility for wage hour conditions. The company strike is termed a "difficulty" organization over which the management had no control.

In depression times workers told: "We're all in the same boat and wages are cut. Today we are told: 'You are hindering recovery by striking.'"

Yet evidence piles up that players can afford higher wages without hurting profits.

MILITARIZE TEXTBOOK
Teach War With Arithmetic

AMSTERDAM.—A new Nazi textbook in mathematics for elementary schools shows how the German child is being militarized. Here are a few examples:

One of our bombing planes flies 280 km. per hour in day time and 240 km. per hour at night. How long would it take to cover the distances between Berlin and Prague? Between Munich and Strasbourg? Between Cologne and Metz?

A squadron of 46 bombing planes is dropping bombs on an enemy city. Each plane carries 500 bombs weighing 1 1/2 kilo. each. What is the total weight of the bombs? How

many fires will be set if every bomb is a hit?

In the World War the Germanies did each ten soldier German and her allies face a front?

The World War lasted 1914-1918. How many German soldiers lost their lives for the Fatherland each day? Every hour? every minute? France with a population of 40,000,000 spent 10,500,000,000 francs for armed preparedness in 1914. Germany with a population of 60,000,000 spent 650,000,000 Mark in the same period. How was spent for preparedness person in France? In Germany?

A NOVEL FOR UNIONISTS
Truck Strikes, Core of Book

By ANNE ROSS

AMERICAN CITY

A RANK AND FILE HISTORY

By Charles Rumford Walker

Farrar and Rinehart N. Y. \$2.50 net.

In reviewing Charles Rumford Walker's recent book, "American City—A Rank and File History," a Scripps-Howard writer comments, "This is a book which will please neither conservatives nor radicals."

It is hard to see just where he finds any basis for that opinion. True, it will not please Stalinists and other so-called radicals. Nevertheless, there is nothing in the book that will not please genuine revolutionaries, and there is much that is interesting, educational, and encouraging in this tale of American class struggle under the leadership of left-wing trade unionists.

Mr. Walker has made his book absorbing and accurate account of an unforgettable chapter in labor history.

He selected Minneapolis, he says, not because she is in every way a typical American city, but because he believes that "her history exemplifies more sharply than most the impact of forces that are typical and universal."

The forces of which he speaks are the forces of the class war, and he focuses the major portion of the book on the period of the Minneapolis truck drivers' strikes when the conflict broke through even the indifferent ignorance of the middle class and showed the futility of reformist parties and policies. Taking the two premises that "after all, the whole bundle of individual lives adds up to the life of the city" and that "frequently more can be learned of the character of an individual, a class, or a community in a few hours of crises than in a lifetime of routine living," the author devotes himself to brief but comprehensive reviews of the economic part of the city, the factors which led up to this labor conflict, and the personal lives of certain key persons engaged in it. Then he moves the picture into a larger scale that the reader may plainly see the events, emotions, significances, and finally the results of the truck strikes in the summer of 1934.

Most important of the lessons to be taken from this account are the importance of a genuine rank and

file union structure and strike organization and the true role of political parties active in the struggle. It was the first tactic that enabled the second truck strike to carry on victoriously despite the rest of its leaders and the action of strike headquarters in Farmer Labor national guard.

The second lesson—how to expect in the way of help from reformist party in a crisis of class war—was adequately illustrated the vacillation and political maneuvering of the Farmer-Labor politicians. A Farmer-Labor can do no more than raise the political consciousness of the mass and this was never shown clearly than when it was starkly veiled by the flashes of police under the orders of the Mayor.

The role of the official Communist party, none of whose members or leaders were active in the strike or on the strike committee, is taking a passive role, the representatives did all in their power to help break the strike by attacking the union leadership by conducting a general campaign of disparagement of union action and tactics.

Mr. Walker has gone to pains to learn and present views of the other side, the employers, the Citizens Alliance, Floyd Olson, the Farmer-Labor error. Although he does not work with them he has done an excellent job of discovering and presenting their motives and actions. He most leans over backward to the governor his due.

The story of an "American" is a lesson and warning. It is a lesson, a genuinely revolutionary trade union, opposed by the reaction, beat the employers, their knees and wrists to the concessions they would not without battle. In this struggle and crucial test, the support the Union Local 574 from the Rand and File of Farmer Labor party was the by the political opportunism of Farmer-Labor leaders.

This book is an important document, a conclusion as well as a conclusion and a fascinating and collective in addition.

PEARLS FROM THE PRESS

Cracow, Poland, news item: "The Soviet government has sent 6,000 human skeletons to the United States during the past year, receiving from \$100 to \$140 each." "It should be interesting to see what kind of frames the Old Bolsheviks had."

Lille, France, news item: "Jean Destour, who was honored last year as 'the best workman in France' in the yearly competition, lost his job this week when the metal shop in

which he was employed closed." "That shows where ability can get a worker—under capitalism. And incidentally the way the French spend capitalism is P-o-p-u-l-a-r-F-r-o-n-t."

Major P. W. Yeats-Brown reports an interview with General Franco: "I would have liked to ask the Generalissimo about the battle of Madrid, reports of which were coming through when I saw him last Tuesday night, but he led me away from

the maps and talked of the film of 'Bengal Lancer.' To have questioned him about operations which are still in progress would have been inopportune."—Highly . . .

Berlin news item: "A Nazi scientist has figured that if dish water were retrieved and refined, the total saving in soap would be quite incalculable."—Not to speak of the increased supply of soap. . . all of which indicates at least one clean victory for Hitler.