The DAILY WORKER Raises the Standard for a Workers' and Farmers' Government

THE DAILY WORKER

This Issue Consists of Two Sections.

SECTION ONE.

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GAS BLAST KILLS 44 MINERS

Current Events

By THOMAS J. O'FLAHERTY

THAT some people are evil minded enough to brand the use of poison gas in war as inhuman was revealed during a discussion at the Institute of Politics, Williamstown, Mass. James F. Norris, president of the American Chemical Society and professor of organized chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, came to the defense of chemical war, declaring that it was a most effective way of saving life and was only deadly when the enemy took too much of it. In fact a person can take too much of anything, even of sour milk!

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SINCE war is inevitable under the present social structure, said the professor, the use of poison gas is also inevitable. All the peace conferences and pious wishes in the world will not prevent its use. If it is thrown on the discard before the next war, such action will not be due to any international agreement, but to its inefficiency as a weapon. The professor must be given credit for talking cold turkey.

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SOME kings never know when they are well off. Take former King George of Greece, for instance. He is living in the style of a Chicago bootlegger in London and treated like a real king. And yet he admits his willingness to sit on his former throne, where he will undoubtedly find a three-foot task awaiting him. George said: "I have no personal desire for the throne of Greece, but if it is for the good of my country, then I am willing to return at any time." Our advice, George, is to stay where you are until you see the British workers giving the gate to J. H. Thomas, Ramsay MacDonald and Philip Snowden. Then you might be justified in taking on a job as papal ambassador in Mexico.

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WHO killed McSwiggin? Whoever did it, the chance of his swinging is slim. A special grand jury was called to probe that and other minor offenses, but the sum total of their accomplishment is the indictment of a few thirty-five dollar a week clerks and a few big gin and alcohol boys who were served up to appease the public hunger for grand jury results. Since this grand jury began to sit gunmen have amused themselves shooting each other all over the city, usually barking the vest buttons of some convenient assistant state's attorney. The special grand jury has risen. Even a special prosecutor cannot hold the front page forever.

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RAPE news must be good hot weather copy in capitalist editorial rooms. Undoubtedly such incidents occur occasionally, but there is a strong suspicion that imaginative reporters are responsible for more rape stories than the alleged morons who are blamed. That some females are willing to risk even such a priceless possession as their modesty for the sake of publicity was demontrated by the girls who fainted at Valentino's bier, but revived immediately when reporters asked for their names and photographers got ready to "shoot" them. Some girls carried sliced onions to induce tears. The proposal made by well-meaning Chicago sob sisters that curfew should ring for little girls after 11 p. m. looks rather unnecessary, in view of so much evidence of juvenile precocity. Methinks the old girls have a lot to learn from their younger sisters.

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THAT an old fool can give cards and spades to a young fool is again demonstrated by Annie Besant, inter-

(Continued on page 2)

Next Saturday

September 4th

Special Labor Day Issue

With unusual features on the American labor movement.

ARTICLES by outstanding figures of American labor.

ART WORK by the leading artists.

SPECIAL FEATURES no member in or out of the organized labor movement can afford to miss.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR TAKES CONTROL AT PASSAIC; TO PLAN NATIONAL STRIKE SUPPORT

PASSAIC, N. J., Aug. 27. — The United Textile Workers' Union of the American Federation of Labor will take charge of the Passaic strike situation on Monday. A great parade and demonstration is being arranged to take place on Sept. 4, under the auspices of the United Textile Workers.

Force National Action.

The strike has become more than ever a national issue by the events of the week. The bold-front statements of the mill owners that they will deal only with company unions of their employes is being met with plans for the formation of a national committee to raise funds and hold mass protest meetings thruout the country in support of the Passaic workers' seven months strike for a union. At least 10,000 workers are expected to join the United Textile Workers from Passaic.

Recognition Vital.

"The new union will not compromise on the fundamental question of recognition," declares the negotiating committee chosen by the strikers: W. Jett Lauck, Henry T. Hunt, Helen Todd, Frank P. Walsh. The Lauck committee conferred with Thomas F. McMahon, president, and Sara Conboy, secretary-treasurer, United Textile Workers, to arrange further details of the affiliation of the strikers to the A. F. of L. Union.

Celebrate Unionization.

Meanwhile Passaic organizations, including the Associated Parishes, are planning a gala parade and mass meeting to celebrate the formal inauguration of the strikers into the U. T. W. President McMahon will preside at the meeting and American Federation of Labor President William Green will be invited to speak.

Picketing to Continue.

Attempts to picket all gates of Botany Mills are to continue despite the brutal beatings which broke up the test line on Monday. Mrs. Sam Latchuk is still in the hospital, paralyzed in the legs and others from New York as well as strikers show immense black and blue bruises.

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Woll Slaps at Borah.

MONTREAL, Aug. 27.— Matthew Woll, vice-president and member of the executive council of the A. F. of L., now here for the council meeting, has attacked the motives of Senator Borah in sponsoring the settlement of the Passaic strike by organizing the strikers into the American Federation of Labor.

"Senator Borah's interest in labor seems peculiar," Mr. Woll said. "Labor has no reason to look upon the activity of Senator Borah as having been friendly to the workers. To the contrary, his constant efforts to have the the United States recognize Soviet Russia against the constant protests of American labor clearly indicate that labor and Senator Borah are not in accord, either in matters political, economic, domestic or internationally.

"Labor has reason to believe that his apparent interest in the Passaic strike is intended to develop a congressional procedure having for its ultimate purpose the compulsory investigation and arbitration of all industrial disputes and to believe that his present political maneuvering may later be turned against the best interests of labor."

A. F. of L. Still Runs Scab Ad.

The "American Federationist," the official organ of the A. F. of L. executive council, is still running advertisements of the Botany Mills, the most bitterly open shop textile corporation of Passaic.

MEXICO LABOR OPENS WAR ON PAPAL BOYCOTT

Split Develops in the Episcopal Ranks

(Special to The Daily Worker)

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 27.—A counter-offensive, effective immediately, against the Catholic boycott against stores and theaters as a protest to the enforcement of the government's religious regulations, was announced today by the federation of syndicates.

Groups of workers belonging to the federation now are patrolling the streets, keeping a close watch for persons distributing handbills advocating continuance of the economic boycott.

To Keep a Little List.

The federation is now engaged in preparing lists of persons known or suspected to be giving support to the boycott. Such persons will in future find themselves exposed to such other reprisals as the labor elements can devise.

Alfredo Perez Medina, the general secretary of the federation, in the announcement of the counter-offensive, explained that the tardiness of the application was due to the hopes entertained by the government that the Catholic episcopate would swing into line with the government's regulations. These hopes, however, were entirely dissipated by the new defi issued by the clergy.

Clerical Ranks Divided.

That a split is developing in the ranks of the clergy was indicated when a delegation headed by the archbishop of Jalisco introduced a resolution at the meeting of the episcopate urging an appeal to congress for a modification of the religious laws.

As such a move would be a recognition of the Mexican government in the spiritual realm, another section of the clergy under the leadership of archbishop Diaz, are determined to carry on war against the government in every way possible.

Warned Pope Keep Out.

The Mexican consul in Rome in a public statement warned the Vatican to keep its fingers out of the Mexican pie. The consul intimated that a large body of Mexican clergy were willing to recognize the government laws and decrees and thereby establish their right to function legally.

Pope is Mistaken.

The pope replied that a schismatic church would not live in Mexico as history showed that such developments have never been successful in the past. A government official laughed at the papal bluff and remarked that Martin Luther succeeded in chopping off quite a chunk from the Catholic church and that the spiritual estate of the pope is rapidly depreciating in value.

A. F. OF L. HEADS DEBATE PROBLEM OF JURISDICTION

Travel to Montreal in Government Cars

MONTREAL, Aug. 27.—The executive council of the American Federation of Labor is in session at the Mount Royal Hotel here, with two special subjects getting chief consideration. These are the jurisdictional dispute between the Electrical Workers and Signalmen, and the council's report to the 46th annual convention of the federation whic hopens in Detroit, October 4.

Jurisdiction Problem Serious.

The question of jurisdiction arises over claims by both the Electrical Workers and Signalmen for complete jurisdiction over the railway signalmen. The latter union claims that the work is signalling, hence naturally subject to that craft union, but the Electrical Workers' union points out that the work is clearly electrical in

(Continued on page 2.)

Dems Promise to Plug Bunghole Left Open by "Cal"; Charge Waste

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—The Coolidge administration is spending almost twice what the Wilson administration spent for peacetime government, the democratic national committee asserted in a statement ridiculing the republican claims of "Coolidge economy."

CHINESE PRINTERS PUT OWNERS OUT OF PLANTS

SHANGHAI, Aug. 27.—The printers on strike here have occupied the plants and thrown out the owners. All printing shops are closed down except those printing government organs. The strikers demand more pay and the right to refuse to set up any articles attacking the Chinese. The strike started during July

BALTIC PEACE PACT VICTORY FOR U. S. S. R.

Poland Prepares War on Lithuania

(Special to The Daily Worker)

MOSCOW, Aug. 27. — Soviet Russia won a big diplomatic success today.

Latvia and Esthonia notified the Soviet that they are willing to negotiate separate mutual neutrality treaties with the Soviet.

Heretofore these Baltic nations have insisted that they could negotiate such pacts with Russia only in conjunction with Poland.

Russia regards the new move as an indication that the Baltic states are freeing themselves from Polish influence.

Fears that Poland would attempt to create a Baltic bloc and make war on Russia were lessened by today's developments.

Soviet Russia anticipates a war in the autumn.

Poland Wars on Lithuania.

"Poland is preparing to war on Lithuania," declared a high official of the government today in an interview, in which he spoke with the greatest sincerity. "She will probably wait until September when the crops are in. When she has conquered Lithuania, with the help of England, she plans to turn on us. The next few weeks will be of critical importance for eastern Europe."

Despite denials from Warsaw, which have been made repeatedly, Soviet Russia still anticipates war and the newspapers comment openly on the prospects of such a contingency.

Russo-Polish Break.

Negotiations between Poland and Soviet Russia for a mutual security pact have broken down and it is officially announced that there is "no immediate prospect of their being resumed."

The Poles are obdurate and refuse to conclude anything but an agreement between themselves and all the Baltic states on the one hand and Soviet Russia on the other. The Russians claim that this discloses Poland's desire to form a Baltic bloc.

Red Army Ready.

"If Poland forms such a bloc it means that she contemplates war," said the Soviet official. "If she does not form a bloc, she intends war any way. We are prepared to defend ourselves. The red army is incapable of a war of aggression, but for defense it is invincible."

With such fears prevailing, Russia has rejected proposals by the Baltic states, namely Esthonia, Latvia and Finland, to create a commission for the joint negotiation between those three states, together with Poland of a non-aggression pact.

FURRIERS' BOOKS TURNED OVER TO HOSTILE PROBERS

Green Insists on Star Chamber Proceeding

NEW YORK, Aug. 27. — (FP) — Books of the New York joint board Furriers' Union have been turned over to the committee appointed by William Green, president American Federation of Labor, to investigate the 17 weeks successful strike of the board and internal affairs of the International Fur Workers.

The correspondence between Green and Ben Gold, joint board chairman and strike leader, is made public by the New York board. Green states that he understood the joint board and international officers acquiesced in the investigation idea at a certain April conference with A. F. of L. officials. Gold denies that he or joint board representatives agreed to such an investigation.

Extraordinary "Ethics."

After Green first notified the joint board of the investigation he was asked what charges were being made. His answer that "it is common knowledge that there exists within the Intl. Fur Workers' Union a condition that does not conform to trade union ethics and trade union policies" is called "much too vague" by Gold.

Green says that the extraordinary action of the American Federation of Labor in instituting the investigation

(Continued on page 2.)

Mines Conference Breaks Down

BULLETIN.

LONDON, Aug. 27.—After an hour and a half conference with the Baldwin cabinet this afternoon, the miners' representatives left Downing street without making any statement.

Meanwhile the action of the government in sending in special police to the coal fields to provoke the strike pickets and intimidate them, resulted in a clash at Ashton Green, near St. Helen's, where the brutalities of the police were resented by strikers, who retaliated the police attack with volleys of stones.

KLAN AND MINE OPERATORS USE FASCIST PLANS

Threaten Violence to Drive Miners Back

McALESTER, Okla., Aug. 27.—Thousands of posters have been tacked up in the McAlester district threatening the 13,000 striking coal miners with castor oil and other punishments unless they resumed work. The posters are generally believed to be the work of the chamber of commerce.

They are 9x12, printed in big type in red and black ink, and read:

WARNING

All you Russian-Reds, Trouble-Making Reprobates, Would-Be Americans, Hunk Lawyers, Bastards and Saddle-Colored Coons, Are Hereby Solemnly, Firmly and Unequivocally Warned that you MUST STOP INSTANTER ANY Agitation that Would Prevent Immediate Resumption of the Mines or Suffer the Consequences.

We are Fed Up Good and Plenty on Your Stripe—Our Ultimatum to You Is—Go to Work or Move—Or Your Bowels Will.

100 PER CENT AMERICANS.

The reference to "hunk lawyers" is to the attorneys for District 21 of the United Mine Workers, one of whom is a German and the other an Italian. The reference to "coons" is to the Negroes in the miners' union, a trampling of the color bar that infuriates the klan and is exploited by the business men.

100 Per Cent Capitalist.

The kinship of the klan and Italian fascism is seen in the castor oil threat in the last line before the signature. The poster is anonymous except for the clue provided by "100 Per Cent Americans," which in the McAlester region means the mine operators, the bankers and their gangs.

Wilkinson Returning to British Congress

NEW YORK, Aug. 27.—Ellen Wilkinson, British labor M. P., who came to the United States to solicit funds for the striking miners' wives and children, is returning third class on the Aquitania. Wilkinson has been called back by important labor conferences preliminary to the British Trades Union Congress which opens Sept. 6.

Ben Tillett, secretary British Dockers' Union, is on his way to Pittsburgh and Cleveland to visit rail unions for funds for the striking British miners.

STRIKERS SEND DELEGATION TO SOVIET UNION

To Intensify Campaign For Strike Relief

(Special to The Daily Worker)

LONDON, Aug. 27.—A delegation of the striking British miners, composed of ten men and six women, headed by Mrs. A. J. Cook, is leaving for the Soviet Union to conduct a campaign there for funds to add to the strike relief.

The trade unions of the Soviet Union have already contributed some $2,700,000, and with the aid of the delegation the continuous campaign carried on by the Russian unions will be intensified.

Following the refusal of the government to listen to the miners' proposals for settlement, the Miners' Federation has decided to call a meeting of the full membership of its executive committee to consult with the labor party's parliamentary group to determine a course of future action.

The best way—subscribe today.

Mexican Rebel, Rangel, Pardoned in Texas After Serving 13 Years of Term

General Jose Manuel Rangel is here shown with his daughter and grand children after his release from prison by Governor Ferguson of Texas. Rangel had been framed up with Chas. Cline, an American and a member of the I. W. W., and four other Mexican revolutionists in 1912 when they attempted to cross the Mexican border to assist the Madero revolution against the reactionary Diaz. They were charged with the killing of a deputy who had attempted to stop them from crossing the border. In spite of the fact the prosecution had no definite evidence on the defendants, reactionary propaganda had so prejudiced opinion against them that it was possible to impose life sentences. For years the labor movements of both countries have appealed for their release. The six prisoners were freed last week.

FAMILIES FLOCK TO MINE ENTRY IN VAIN SEARCH

41 Bodies Recovered; Three Still Trapped

(Special to The Daily Worker)

CLYMER, Pa., Aug. 27. — Rescue workers have placed the death toll of yesterday's mine explosion at New York Central R. R. Co. Sample Run Mine No. 1 here at forty-four. Forty-one bodies have been recovered and leaders of the rescue crews believe three more bodies are pinioned under fallen rock and timber in the region most seriously affected by the blast. They hope to reach these bodies before night.

An improvised morgue was set up in a machine shop a mile from the scene of the blast and frantic wives and children of miners fought for a chance to identify their lost ones. The morgue was kept closed today and no positive identifications were made. Families will be admitted tomorrow.

Ten Escape.

Ten miners escaped with their lives and four more are in the Dixonville hospital mangled from the explosion and in a very critical condition.

Mine union officials state that no less than 150 children have been made fatherless by the explosion. It is the second time within the last three years that this has happened, fifty-six miners losing their lives in an explosion in the Starford mine at Shankton.

Brophy's District.

The mine is in District 2 of the United Mine Workers' Union, of which John Brophy is president, with headquarters at Clearfield, Pa. The union has so far issued no statement concerning the disaster tho [illegible] is expected at any moment.

The cause of the explosion has not yet been determined. There are both federal and state investigating committees prepared to enter the mine as soon as it is cleared of gases. All that is known now is that there was a series of terrific explosions that followed each other in rapid succession and killed every living thing in the mine save those fortunate enough to be working near the mouth of the mine.

The mine is owned by the Clearfield Coal Co. a subsidiary of the New York Central Railroad. The blast occurred at 1:30 p. m. Thursday afternoon and a total of 53 miners were trapped in the shaft.

AGENDA FOR BIG CONFERENCE OF I. L. D. ISSUED

Second Annual Gathering Here Sept. 5-6

The agenda for the second annual conference of International Labor Defense which is to take place here on September 5 and 6 at Ashland Auditorium has just been issued by the national office of I. L. D.

The delegates to the conference will hear reports on the work of the organization since its inception on June 28, 1925. A review of the situation with regards to class war prisoners today in America, of cases that are pending, of political persecutions in Europe and other capitalist nations, the work of I. L. D. in providing prison relief and in publishing propaganda for labor defense will sum up the first day of the conference. The manifesto of the conference to all workers in America will also be taken up on that day.

Organization Reports.

The second day of the conference will be occupied with the reports and discussions on the more organization problems of I. L. D. in the coming period. The agenda in full is as follows:

AGENDA

Second Annual Conference of International Labor Defense, Ashland Auditorium, September 5 and 6, 1926.

GENERAL CONFERENCE—First Day

1. Report of national executive committee on past work and future aims.
2. Report on pending cases of class persecution.
3. International Situation — White terror in other capitalist countries.
4. The organization of systematic relief for prisoners and dependents.
5. Publicity and propaganda.

(Continued on page 2.)

RAIL UNIONS TRAPPED INTO ARBITRATION

Demands Sidetracked by Mediation Board

NEW YORK, Aug. 27.—The federal mediation board, created by the Watson-Parker rail labor law and appointed by Coolidge, has announced thru Colonel Samuel E. Winslow, that an agreement to arbitrate their wage demands has been signed by the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors with the representatives of fifty eastern railway companies.

According to Winslow, the arbitration agreement leaves the mediation board out of the case, except for aiding in the arbitration board being established.

D. L. Cease of Cleveland, editor of the Trainmen's Journal, and E. F. Curtis of Cedar Rapids, general secretary of the Conductors, will represent the two unions on the board of arbitration. The railway companies will soon name two representatives and the four will name a fifth member of the arbitration board. If they cannot agree on the fifth member, the federal mediation board will name him.

The arbitration agreement was signed by W. G. Lee, president of the B. of R. T., L. E. Sheppard, president of the O. of R. C., and John G. Walber, vice-president of the New York Central and chairman of the conference board of eastern railroads.

"All parties interested," says Winslow, "willingly agreed at the request of the board of mediation, to arbitration proceedings as provided by law. Arbitration proceedings will be in New York at a time and place to be hereafter determined."

U. S. Planes to Circle South America In Preparation for Future War Flights

The chief purpose of the expedition of the United States army planes to South Amreica is to chart air-ways for future guidance of ships of the air. In view of the large holdings and interests of United States capitalists in Latin America this does not seem strange at all. The map shows the probable route. Inset is of Major General Mason Patrick, chief of the U. S. army air service. It is also interesting to note in this connection that E. Trubee Davison, the War Department assistant in charge of air service, is a well-known member of the House of Morgan.

FURRIERS' BOOKS TURNED OVER TO HOSTILE PROBERS

(Continued from page 1)

was taken because the situation within the union is extraordinary. Gold asks in what respect is it so extraordinary that the A. F. of L. departs from its traditional policy of international union autonomy when the union constitution provides necessary machinery for consideration of any internal union situation.

Proud of Strike Victory.

"We are proud of our achievements" in the strike "that won material gains for the workers, strengthened the control of the union over the industry and established the 40-hour week," Gold tells Green. "The victory was won at a time when wage cutting, speeding up, the institution of company unionism, etc., were the order of the day as far as the open-shoppers were concerned. We have nothing to be ashamed of as far as our record is concerned. We desire to record for the benefit of the entire labor movement the strategy employed and the methods used that brought us such a notable victory."

Hostile Investigators.

Green says that the investigating committee cannot be enlarged, as the present one has already been proceeding with the work. The committee is: Matthew Woll, A. F. of L. vice-president, chairman; Hugh Frayne, A. F. of L. general organizer; Edward F. McGrady, A. F. of L. organizer and legislative agent; John Sullivan, president New York State Federation of Labor, and Joseph Ryan, president New York City central labor body.

Woll is a member of the National Civic Federation headed by the red-baiting Ralph Easley. Woll himself has led attacks upon left wing and progressive delegates and measures at A. F. of L. conventions. Other committee members are known conservatives. Frayne is particularly objectionable to the joint board because he tried to have the strikers accept the "eight points" compromise agreement which gave the workers less than their final settlement. Gold mentions Frayne's activities to Green and insists that the committee cannot be impartial with him included.

Aimed at Progressive Leaders.

"After the most careful and deliberate consideration of all the issues involved in the investigation, we have come to the conclusion that the investigation is directed against the militant and progressive leadership which conducted a splendid strike," Gold tells Green. "It would be an outrageous proceeding, a procedure to be condemned by the entire organized labor movement, if this investigation is prompted by a desire to punish and discredit this militant leadership on account of their success in this respect."

Will Appeal Star Chamber Action.

Appeal will be taken by the joint board to the A. F. of L. convention, Gold states. The full correspondence between Green and Gold is being circulated among unions thruout the country and sent to the labor press. The joint board asked Green to make the committee's investigation public instead of "star chamber." The letter of New York fur shop chairmen to Green is included in the correspondence. The shop chairmen's letter tells briefly of old and new conditions in the union and approve the joint board action. The resolution passed by a mass meeting of fur workers endorsing their joint board is appended.

Communism in America, After Seven Years Is More Defiant Than Ever

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 1, Communists in the United States, cheered by the comradely greetings of Communists the world over, will celebrate the Seventh Anniversary of the unfolding of the Communist International's standards in this country. It was on Sept. 1, 1919, with the breaking away of the left wing from the socialist party, that the American section of the world Communist movement planted the banner of Leninism at Chicago, in the center of Wall Street's empire, and called on all labor to rally for the revolutionary struggle that will usher in workers' rule to supplant the social order of the Morgans and Rockefellers, the Mellons and the Fords.

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THE pseudo-Marxists of the socialist party claimed there was no room for a Communist Party in the United States.

"Ship or shoot!" the Communists, was the slogan of the master class spokesmen, who sensed that Communism could get a foothold even on American soil. Therefore, they must find some effective way for its elimination. So they recommended the weapons of deportation or the firing squad.

"Drive them out of the unions!" was the edict of the officialdom of the American Federation of Labor, that was adopted later by the anarcho-syndicalist officialdom of the Industrial Workers of the World.

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The enemies of Communism in America go into eclipse but the Communist movement grows ever stronger. Ever since the day that the Communist elements left the socialist party, that organization of Berger-Hillquit social-democrats has continued to fade and gradually disappear. J. Mitchell Palmer, the attorney general in Wilson's cabinet, who launched the "red raids" against the Communists in January, 1920, is heard of no more, along with Chicago's former state's attorney, Maclay Hoyne, whom the exploiters paid $60,000 to drive the Communists out of the nation's second largest city. Harry M. Daugherty, the attorney general who followed Palmer in the republican regime of Warren G. Harding, has disappeared engulfed in disgrace. Even his capitalist masters had no more use for him, following exposures of wholesale graft and corruption in his department of the government. With him went the star sleuth of the Daugherty red-baiting crew, William J. Burns, himself, best known in his stellar role of frame-up artist and successor of the Pinkertons in the employers' war upon America's workers. By way of epilogue, one might just barely mention Jacob Spolansky, ally of Burns in the raids upon the Communist Party convention at Bridgeman, Mich., in the summer of 1922, but who now seeks to hide his insignificant identity as a stoolpigeon of the struck textile mill owners of Passaic, New Jersey. Sam Gompers, who during the closing years of his life sought to extend his attack on the Communists in the American Federation of Labor to the Mexican and the Pan-American Federations of Labor, is gone. William H. Johnston, who used his position as president of the International Association of Machinists in an attempt to drive the Communists out of the union, has himself surrendered his position, following Benjamin Schlesinger, once president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union into a similar and much deserved retirement.

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It was nearly two years after the November, 1917, Bolshevik revolution in Russia that the party of Communism sprang into life in the United States. The Communist International had already come into existence at its first congress held in March, 1919, in Moscow. The socialists in the United States, as in other lands, still held desperately to the hope that Soviet rule would somehow crumble and the Communist parties in the various lands with the Communist International would wither away. Thus Abraham Cahan, editor of the Jewish socialist daily, The Forward, returned in those days from one of his numerous trips to Europe and predicted especially the collapse of the German Communist Party. Since all their predictions and prophecies came to naught, the socialists grew frantic in their desperation and turned their attack against every agency that sought to aid the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union in their work of reconstruction. Thus The Forward with its ally, The New York Call, later the New Leader, directed repeated and malicious onslaughts against the Friends of Soviet Russia during the famine period 1921-22 in the hope of discrediting the Communists and Communism in this country. Later they developed their campaign into vicious expulsion policies in those unions where they were in power.

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Similarly the government seized upon the occasion of the shopmen's strike on the railroads in August, 1922, —to launch its raid against the Communist Party convention at Bridgeman, Mich., arresting many and returning indictments against scores of the party's representative spokesmen. The government officials heralded this raid as the final official act in stamping out Communism in America.

The Communist Party, however, wrecked the self-complacency of the government by courageously ending its own illegal existence, that dated from the Palmer raids of January, two years before, and establishing the open Workers Party as the organized expression of Communism in the United States.

The party showed its virility by raising sufficient funds, in addition to all the other heavy demands placed upon it, to start the first English language Communist daily, The DAILY WORKER, that came into being January 13, 1923, less than half a year after the Bridgeman raid, and that is now rapidly approaching its fourth anniversary.

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The party has been intensely active in the parliamentary campaigns. Practically alone it has waged the struggle for independent political action, carrying the burden when the socialists and so-called farmer-laborites deserted practically en masse to the LaFollette bourgeois third party campaign in 1924. It was in 1924 that the American Communist movement for the first time had national candidates, for president and vice-president in the field, just as this year it strives to enter the congressional elections on as large a scale as possible with an election program stating the Communist attitude on all the vital problems of the day.

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The Communists not only retain their foothold in the unions, but their numbers and their influence is rapidly growing in the ranks of organized labor. The socialists raised the issue of Communism in the recent successful strike of the Furriers in New York City. The attack on the Communists has been repeated in the present struggle of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in New York City. The socialists joined the mill owners, the government and the reactionary officials of the American Federation of Labor, in raising the Communist issue in the strike of the Passaic textile workers. This is only a reflection of the growing admission that Communists are gaining influence over larger masses of the American working class, not only over those organized in the trade unions, but over the unorganized as well, an increasing threat to the rule of reaction.

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Thus Communism develops in the rich soil of the world's greatest imperialist power. Its organized expression, the Workers (Communist) Party, develops in the common struggle with the Communist Parties leading the workers in other countries for the overthrow of capitalism. It grows as it fights for imperialism's subject and semi-subject colonial peoples. It becomes the mass party of American labor as it wins the broadest influence over labor engaged in the bitter class struggle in the home country, right here in the United States.

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Seven glorious chapters, recording great sacrifice and brilliant progress for American Communism, have been written in this country during the seven years' existence of the American Communist movement. Another glorious chapter will be written during the coming year with the American party emerging successfully from its reorganization on the street and shop nucleus basis which will gradually develop closer contacts for it among wider masses of workers accepting its leadership and direction in their struggle for emancipation.

CURRENT EVENTS

By T. J. O'Flaherty.

(Continued from page 1)

nationally known theosophist, who has arrived in this country with a handsome young sheik who may take Valentino's place in the affections of the love-lorn if he has the will and a good manager. Annie is his press agent, and she is a whopper. What made Krishnamurti famous was the theory expounded by Mrs. Besant that his body was about to be occupied by christ, who is somewhat disappointed over the results of his former tenancy of the body of Jesus.

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MRS. BESANT does not claim that christ has already entered her young Hindoo's body. But she claims that he is liable to take the jump any moment. The tenement is now ready for occupancy. When christ enters Krishnamurti will take a walk for himself or, in other words, will disappear. What will strut around looking for all the world like Krish will be christ. Mrs. Besant holds that Jesus was not born of a virgin thru the instrumentality of christ disguised as a dove, but that christ entered him when he was thirty years old, having a clean, pure body, something as rare then as now.

• • •

THIS theory beats christian science to the ropes. Christian scientists tell you quite coolly that there is no such thing as life or death, time or sickness. Matter has no existence for them. Yet they consume their share of whatever food is produced and do not spurn such material things as clothes. I was present at a trial in Massachusetts some years ago where two groups of "scientists" battled for possession of valuable christian science property. Mrs. Mary (Mother) Eddy, had the attention of a good physician during her last illness, and she lived very well materially during her life at the expense of the more sapheaded "scientists."

• • •

PASSENGERS on board the Majestic which took Krishnamurti to this country say that the incipient christ displayed as many characteristics of normal humanity as less toted young gods and goddesses aboard. Under the romantic influence of a summer moonlight the handsome Hindoo acted more like the god of love than a new edition of the frigid Nazarene. But perhaps we have been mistaken about Jesus. According to Bruce Barton, he was as jolly as a rotarian at an Elk stagg party.

I. L. D. Issues Agenda for Anuual Defense Conference on September 15

(Continued from page 1)

6. Manifesto of conference.
7. Elections.

Organization Conference—Second Day

1. Organization problems and future tasks.
   a. Significance and role of permanent organization for Labor Defense
   b. Organization of branches.
   c. Affiliation of sympathetic organizations.
   d. Membership campaign.
   e. Conducting united front activities.
   f. Organization of campaigns.
   g. Initiation fees and dues.
   h. New literature.
2. Local organization problems:
   a. Activities and functions of local secretaries and executive committees.
   b. Activities of branches.
   c. Affiliation of sympathetic organizations.
   d. Raising funds.
   e. Defense of local cases.
   f. Building up local lists.
   g. Charters for branches.
   h. Organizing and advertising meetings.
   i. Literature agents— Circulation of the Labor Defender.
   j. Local reports and picturs for Labor Defender.
3. The language problem and forms and methods of organization.
4. Financial accounting and control.
5. Organization bulletin.
6. Constitution.

Harry M. Daugherty Faces Trial Again For Teapot Dome

HARRY M. DAUGHERTY.

The former leader of the "Ohio Gang" and attorney general in the Harding cabinet is slated to stand trial on Sept. 7 on charges of "defrauding the government of its rights and functions." The "Tea Pot Dome Scandal" was soon hushed up by very powerful forces who are interested, perhaps for the same reason, in seeing to it that Harry doesn't suffer enough to do too much talking.

BROOKLYN WORKERS CELEBRATE SEVENTH YEAR OF PARTY LIFE

Brooklyn section (No. 6) of the Workers (Communist) Party will celebrate the seventh anniversary of our party at a mass meting which will take place on Friday, Sept. 3, 8 p. m., at Royal Palace Hall, 16 Manhattan Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Comrade Ben Gitlow will deliver a lecture on the role of the Communist Party in the class struggle.

There also will be a musical program: Mandolin orchestra, violinist and a famous singer.

Workers of Brooklyn are invited to attend this mass meeting and join hands in the celebration of the seventh anniversary of the revolutionary party of the proletariat.

Remember September 3!

EVERYBODY
TO THE GARDEN CITY GROVE
on
Sunday, August 29
at the
LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS'
PICNIC
Baseball Game and Charleston Contest
and other Amusements that you like.
Music by the Melody Syncopators
Admission—In Advance 35c At the Gate 50c
Auspices, Chicago Joint Board of the I. L. G. W. U.

Youth Dance to Aid British Coal Miners

A dance to raise funds for the British striking miners arranged by the youth committee for British Miners' Relief will be held on Saturday, Aug. the 28th, 8 p. m. at the Douglas Park Refectory.

The next meeting of this committee will be held on Monday, August the 30th at 8 p. m. at 3322 Douglas Blvd. 8 p. m. All youth organizations are invited to send delegates.

SECRETARIES, ATTENTION!

When making returns to the National Office for the special assessment stamps—particularly the secretaries from District 2—will you give number of invoice or give name and address of the comrade who received and was personally charged for the stamps in May? Unless you do so we cannot give proper credit on our books. District organizers, please comply. To give unit identification is not enough.

Accounts and Supplies Dept.

A. F. of L. Heads Debate Jurisdiction Problems

(Continued from page 1)

character, so it comes under their jurisdiction.

Federation spokesmen admit that this single case is only a symptom of a pressing problem of great importance, brought on by the revolutionary changes in industry in the last 20 years, and the council fears to bring in hasty decisions in view of the increasing jurisdictional conflicts flowing from changes in the labor structure of industry, in which the present craft demarcation of the federation structure cannot fit without serious conflict.

Travel in Army Cars.

The council finally said farewell to its hosts of the United States Army. Colonel C. B. Ross, Coast Artillery Corps, brought President William Green and his associates from Plattsburg, N. Y., in government cars to Montreal. They were escorted by State Troopers Vaine and Moller of the Troy (N. Y.) troop, who were specially assigned by Governor Smith and have accompanied the labor leaders ever since their arrival in New York state to accept the invitation of Secretary of War Davis to inspect the Citizens' Military Training Camp.

Two Killed in Wall Collapse.

Two workers were killed and a third probably fatally injured when a wall of the Union Cold Storage Company building here collapsed as wreckers were at work on the building.

Electrocute a Miner But Claim Death Due to Collapse of Heart

(Special to The Daily Worker)

AVELLA, Pa., Aug. 27. — One Costanzi, owner of a mine near Wheelington, W. Va., deliberately concealed the fact that one of his workers, Giovanno Perricci, was killed by electric power thru the fault of the mine management on August 18, and did not merely die of heart disease, as was officially stated, say the investigating committee, composed of the dead man's cousin, Angelo Anguillo, and two non-relatives, Geiouechino Lombardi of Wheeling and Santy Galiano of Avella, Pa.

Perrici was buried August 21 and Galiano had charge of the funeral. He was suspicious of the method of death and the investigation in which he took part discovered that Perrici did not die outside the mine of heart failure, as the company announced, but was seen by workers going along the gallery to leave the mine at the end of the shift. When he was about 150 feet from the entrance a motor passed him with a string of empty cars, and the mine is so narrow here that he had to stand against the wall, and there brushed the electric wire.

The motorman saw him fall, stopped the train, put him on it and carried him outside.

Perrici had been working for the company for two years and the employer had no complaints to make. He did not, however, on that account allow any of the men to take a day off and attend the funeral.

The mine owner refuses to pay any compensation.

WRITE AS YOU FIGHT!

INTERESTING LECTURES BY PITTSBURGH NUCLEUS

Pittsburgh, Pa., Street Nucleus No. 2 is arranging to hold several educational meetings with the following schedule:

August 31, A. Jakira will speak on "The Religious War in Mexico."

Sept. 11, D. E. Early on "The Lessons of the British General Strike."

Sept. 21, J. Mankin on "One Hundred and Fifty Years of American Inpendence."

Oct. 5, S. Gusakoff on "Obstacles to the World Revolution."

Admission is free to all of these lectures, and the public is invited. They will be held at the Labor Lyceum, 35 Miller street.

T. U. E. L.
SIXTH ANNUAL
LABOR DAY
PICNIC
TO BE HELD
SUNDAY, SEPT. 5th
At
Stickney Park Grove
Sports – Refreshments – Games
Good Music
Dancing from 2:30 to 8:30 P. M.
Speaker: REBECCA GRECHT
Organizer for Passaic Strikers' Relief.
Rain or shine a good time. Plenty of tables.
A large shady grove—an ideal place
for a family picnic.
Tickets 50c Children Free
HOW TO GET THERE—Take 22nd Street car to end of line, then take Lyons-Berwyn car to Ogden and Harlem Avenues. Walk five blocks south.

Organized Labor—Trade Union Activities

News and Comment
Labor Education
Labor and Government
Trade Union Politics

WITH THE LABOR PRESS

(More than 500 trade union papers—official organs of national and international unions, state federations of labor, district councils, central labor bodies and local unions—advocate correct, partially correct, or incorrect policies, voice poorly or well, represent or misrepresent, the opinions of the rank and file of the trade union movement. This is the field in which our party must conduct most of its work and it is a field of activity about which we must of necessity have the most detailed and accurate information.

The publication in this department of editorial comment from the trade union press does not mean necessarily that we are in agreement with it. We publish this material to inform our readers of the trend of thought expressed in the labor press and when necessary such editorial expressions will be accompanied by our own comment.—Editor's Note.)

SCABS IN PLUS FOURS.

"Monocled men and fashionably dressed women who were endeavoring to make themselves useful, apparently for the first time in their lives"—that is how President Dobbie of the British railwaymen's union described the strikebreakers who made a comic opera of Britain's public services during the recent general strike.

We have nothing but contempt for the rich youths, who enjoying all the good things of life themselves, sink to the loathsome level of scabbing on workers, whose fight is for a bare living standard, but at the same time it is comforting to think that the British employers could get a few members of their own class to do their dirty work for them.

In America the union-fighting employers can still organize workers to scab upon workers, and Dobbie's description of the British scab sounds queer to us. But may we not also look forward to the day, with the spread of union organization, when scabs in overalls will be a thing of the past, and the scab in plus fours will himself have to rush to the rescue of his own profits?

—The Illinois Miner.

NO PROGRESS SHOWN BY N. Y. STATE LABOR

Convention Lacks Real Policy of Struggle

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Aug. 27.—Yesterday's session of the convention of the New York State Federation of Labor adjourned after adopting without a word of discussion the legislative program submitted by the machine-picked committee.

A Legislative Program.

This report, which ends with thanks being given by the convention to Governor Al Smith, declares of "reasonable" legislation to restrain courts from issuing injunctions in labor disputes, provides for certain changes in the compensation law and state development of water power, also endorses the action of the executive in supporting such legislation as an amendment increasing the salary of the governor.

Earlier, the convention—also without discussion—raised the salaries of the federation president and secretary to $7,000, a raise of $1,000.

Oppose Communists.

Only a slight discussion took place on a resolution supporting the Brookwood college. A. J. Muste of Brookwood spoke, and was supported by a delegate who stated that "Communists are educating the workers and we must, too, if we are successfully to oppose them."

Events earlier in the day developed the charge that the associated industry, or open shop, is behind the creation of a special committee to revive the labor laws.

No Program Against Company Unions

Company unions have been mentioned by nearly all speakers, but nothing has so far been done to develop a program against this menace to organized labor. The convention will meet today in executive session to nominate officers for the coming year and is expected to adjourn at an early hour.

Workers Can't Picket But Bosses May Incite

WINNIPEG—(FP)—While peaceful picketing is illegal for the working class of Canada it appears to be permissible for members of the employing class to publicly advocate the lynching of labor agitators. At a booster's meeting a while ago in Winnipeg Mayor Webb, as a means of putting down wages and bringing prosperity, loudly asserted:

"We ought to take these agitators and throw them in the Red river."

When complaint was made to the courts against this public incitement to violence, judge MacDonald, son of a former premier of Canada, held Webb should not be punished. His view was that when a public official is speaking more or less politically of internal infection, of which the public should be warned, and to an audience of the distinguished and responsible character the mayor addressed, his words cannot be treated as the words of an agitator inciting an irresponsible and excited mob to violent extremes.

Mayor Webb has found himself famous somewhat like the now forgotten Ole Hanson, and has been visiting other cities, speaking like a little Mussolini.

"We have got to fight for the things we fought for in the great war," he cries. "Not that I am against labor. I'm for labor, honest-to-god labor. But we've got to get rid of the agitators who stir up discontent if we are going to have prosperity."

Unemployment in Australia.

SYDNEY—(FP)—Unemployment is on the increase throughout Australia. Many relief works have been opened by the government to absorb the jobless and efforts are being made to keep them out of the cities. There is little industrial trouble, disputes in existence being of a sectional nature and not involving many men.

WCFL Radio Program

Chicago Federation of Labor radio broadcasting station WCFL is on the air with regular programs. It is broadcasting on a 491.5 wave length from the Municipal Pier.

TONIGHT.

6:00 to 7:00—Chicago Federation of Labor talks and bulletins; instrumental solos.

7:00 to 7:30—The Florentine String Trio, dinner music.

7:30 to 8:30—Johnson Sisters, harmony songs; Hickey & Johnson, Hawaiians; WCFL Ensemble.

8:30 to 10:00—Marian & Jim Jordan; A. Altman, Clinton Keithly, Walter Hirsch, songs of today.

10:00 to 11:00—Dance music from the Municipal Pier auditorium, Chas. Cook's Orchestra.

SUNDAY, AUG. 29.

3:00 to 5:00 p. m.—Band Concert from the Municipal Pier Auditorium, Goldsmith's Orchestra.

RAILROAD UNIONS TAKE FIRST STEPS TO REGAIN MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH OF WORLD WAR TIMES

A general, tho as yet rather moderate, stiffening of resistance to low wages of railway workers and losses of membership from their unions is making itself apparent. The railway department of the American Federation of Labor at its recent meeting was presented with a left wing proposal for amalgamation, a fight for a wage increase, and a joint campaign of all unions for increase in membership.

This motion did not pass as originally drafted, but most of the essential ideas were later covered by other legislation and nine railway unions with the assurance of common action on the part of some others are making the first steps toward reorganization.

$2,000 for Drive.

Chief among them are perhaps the machinists. The machinists' union has not only appropriated $25,000 for a campaign to increase membership in the railroad shops, but has assigned some organizers to the task. The machinists were hard hit by the failure of the shop crafts strike in 1922 and have had their activity hindered since by the problem of fines levied against members of the organization who went back to work when the strike collapsed but before it was officially called off. While not in any way approving of this action, progressive members of the union point out that the numbers who returned to the job are so large that to continue to bar them from union activity by prohibitive fines means virtually condemning so many followers of the trade to nonmembership that the union itself is weakened. The question is still much under discussion, but the executive council at its May session has remitted the fines, and it is very probable that the majority in the union is with them. If their action is well sustained the union will begin to more rapidly recover numerical strength.

Many to Win Back.

The convention of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, held last September, is on record in a mild resolution to rebuild. The fact that they have not regained more of the 150,000 members they lost during 1922 is more due to lack of energetic organization than to any other cause, altho there are circumstances that hinder.

The Switchmen's Union of North America is in the midst of a really vigorous organization campaign, and is having success. The firemen and oilers are engaged in a national campaign that is very active and successful in some places.

The newly-elected international president of the blacksmiths, Wm. Kramer, was prominent in a recent organization conference and can be relied upon to do his best to start something in the way of a bigger union.

The newly-born Pullman Porters' Union has been making excellent progress during its short life. About 12,000 porters and maids work for the Pullman Co., and other thousands for railroads that do not take Pullman service. The union now has about 70 per cent of the Pullman porters in its ranks, and there they stick, in spite of all manner of dirty tactics on the part of the employers, which include the spreading of wild untrue rumors about the collapse of the movement or about dissension in the ranks and in spite of personal attacks on the character of the officials.

Porters Get Results.

The Pullman Porters' Union has raised wages already from $67.50 per month to $72.50. The scale it will fight to have adopted is $100 per month.

The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, which has had violent fluctuations in membership during recent years, leaping from about 5,000 members to about 150,000 during the U. S. railway administration period, and then falling to considerably less than 100,000 since then, is one of the unions that has just been given slight increases in wages. In the case of the clerks it is a very slight one, running from 1 cent per hour to three cents per hour.

Employers Expect Demand.

Many railroads, for example, the Northwestern, included in their 1926 budgets increases in railroad labor wages of a few cents per hour. These increases have not actually been granted to the workers, but the companies are making enormous profits, and the unions are demanding the increase. In the opinion of representative railroad unionists the occasion of the increase will be the first session of the new mediation board. Such an act, they say, would seem to the board good strategy, inclined to make railroad labor friendly to it, and would not hurt the bosses much. Later the raise might be taken away again if the companies strike a hard season.

It is evident to all progressives in the railroad industry that now is the time to struggle, and every effort to increase membership and raise wages will be popular with the membership of the unions and reasonably certain of success. The company union so loudly hailed as marking the end of real organized labor is about to meet its sharpest attack.

Policies and Programs
The Trade Union Press
Strikes—Injunctions
Labor and Imperialism

LOAD 15 TONS OF COAL A DAY AND BE AN 'ARTIST'

But Artists Get Only $30 a Week in Pa.

KITANNING, Pa. — (FP) — "The miner who loads 15 tons a day is an artisan and an artist," says the Allegheny River Mining Co. News, cheering the men to harder exertions in the nonunion pits of the company in Jefferson and Clearfield counties.

Prize Scissorbills

The paper publishes an Honor Tonnage Roll to encourage the fast shovel men. Clark Booher, Fred Berkhouse and James Dondry won fame the first half of July with 125 tons each.

But there were 263 men who loaded less than 50 tons each and the company reminds them that the light tonnage men are taking up room that better men ought to have.

Highest Speeders $30 a Week.

The company pays 52c a ton, with an allowance of 4c more for car pushing, compared with the 77c and extras of the union scale. At 52c plus 4c, or 56c. a ton, the 50-ton men get $28 for the first half of July, or $14 a week, less the sums checked off for powder and other expenses. The 3 honor tonnage men made a bi-weekly pay of $69 or $34.50 a week, less powder costs and other charges.

Same Wage, More Work.

The Allegheny River Mining Co. News is a give-away paper of four tiny pages that the company distributes every pay day to further the philosophy of the open shop, hard work and loading-clean-coal. It quotes with approval the recent assertion of Elbert Gary that employers are fair and labor is contented. The company is controlled by the Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad.

That worker next door to you may not have anything to do tonight. Hand him this copy of the DAILY WORKER.

CLEVELAND CARPENTERS GIVE AGAIN TO PASSAIC

(Special to The Daily Worker)

CLEVELAND, Aug. 27.—Carpenters' Local No. 1750, which some time ago made a donation to the Passaic strikers, took up a new collection which netted $100. This local has shown great solidarity with the Passaic strikers, and will continue to help them, especially now that they are joining the American Federation of Labor.

OTHER UNIONS MUST AID COAL MINERS AS OHIO MINE BARONS CHANGE TO OPEN SHOP BASIS

How far will other labor unions ally themselves with the hard-pressed coal miners of the United States in their hour of peril? With this question W. P. Helm winds up a series in the Chicago Journal of Commerce on the approaching crisis in the soft coal industry. Helm predicts the end of the central competitive field as the basis of union agreements, nonunion operation in Ohio as a possibility of the next few weeks, and a fight by the union for its very existence.

The crisis becomes imminent with the rejection by Pres. Lee Hall of the Ohio mine workers of the operator request for a joint meeting to discuss revision of the wage agreement. The situation has developed rapidly since July 14, when the Ohio Coal Operators Assn. was formed. This gives the Ohio operators an all-inclusive organization for the first time.

It Starts With Cut.

This was interpreted to Helm by an Ohio operator to mean a wage cut with or without union consent. This operator said:

"Under developments of the last 2 or 3 years of our dealings with the United Mine Workers of America it has become practically impossible to deal with that organization as now constituted and I feel that there will have to be a housecleaning all along the line in that organization and a different policy adopted.

"As to the 4-state so-called competitive district, the old central competitive field," the operator continues, "it seems to me that negotiations by that crowd are a thing of the past. The Pittsburgh district of western Pennsylvania seems to have definitely withdrawn and gone to a nonunion basis. Illinois has also organized a state association and the impression that I get is that they contemplate going their own way. Indiana has always been more or less on the fence, stepping off to whichever side seemed best for their interests. In Ohio the coal miners are in a desperate condition and I believe within the next 30 days there will be substantial progress made in nonunion operation."

Open Shop Propaganda.

This means that the union faces the culmination of the openshop drive begun right after the end of the 1922 strike when the big openshop manufacturer associations swung into line against union coal. With Ohio's 40,000,000 to 60,000,000 tons swinging toward the nonunion column, Helm points out, the U. M. W. A. could no longer pull an effective strike, for nonunion mines could provide for all the nation's requirements.

Helm feels that this is likely to be followed by a veritable spree of wage cutting, nonunion mines again cutting below union mines. He believes that the union fight for Ohio as the key state will eclipse all previous fights in bitterness and ferocity.

Jury Sits on Picket.

SAN FRANCISCO—(FP) — Following the first conviction of a striking union carpenter on charges of picketing, it is becoming difficult to secure juries. That the juries are picked for their anti-union proclivities is shown by the acceptance of Mrs. Bertha Rehani, who admitted that her husband was author of a book against the labor movement.

Alfred J. Galloway, business agent carpenters union, claims that recent "strike riots" have been framed by the employers.

Raincoat Workers' Organize.

BOSTON—(FP)—Instead of striking the 1,000 unionized men and women raincoat workers of Boston are waiting for the Intl. Ladies' Garment Workers conference with the newly formed employers association. The raincoat workers ask a 42-hour, 5-day week, minimum scale of $44 for men operators, $35 for women, $44 for cutters, pressers and tailors, $46 for cementers, $25 for finishers.

Get a copy of the American Worker Correspondent. It's only 5 cents.

THOMPSON FINDS MINDANAO SOLID FOR LIBERATION

Agent of Wood Hunts for Opposition

By HARRY GANNES,
(A. A. A. I. L. Press Service.)

In the very heart of the Mindanao territory, which it is intended by the Bacon bill plans to segregate under United States domination is where Col. Carmi A. Thompson meets with the most fervid demands for independence.

While interviewing various people from every strata of the population in Cagayan, in the Moro country, Thompson was presented with the emphatic protests against the Bacon bill from such leading cities in Mindanao as Butuan, Cabadbaran and Cagayan.

These protests declared that if the Bacon bill were passed it would destroy the economic future of the Philippines.

Mindanao For Independence.

To the chagrin and surprise of the Thompson mission in Mindanao, Cebu, Bohol and adjacent territory where he least expected independence demands to disturb his vacation, he met an organized movement insistent on its demand for immediate complete, and absolute independence from the United States.

In Cebu and Dumaguete he was overwhelmed by the mass character of the independence movement. Not only did he meet with expression for freedom on behalf of the politicians but the workers and peasants everywhere pushed the slogan.

Want It Right Away.

"The longing for independence is the most distinct impression received by Col. Thompson and his party," said Parke Brown in a cable to the Tribune Press Service from Dumaguete, within the very territory so carefully outlined by Bacon for permanent retention by the American rubber trusts.

No matter where the Thompson mission went it was greeted with the cry of "Immediate Independence!"

Youth Against Imperialism.

Especially in evidence in Cebu and Bohol were the Filipino Independence Youth groups which are among the most active propagandists and supporters of the break from United States imperialism. Everywhere Thompson found the Filipino youth fired with a desire to break from the oppressive U. S. rule typified by Governor General Wood.

Referring to the youth independence movement one capitalist correspondent said: "This change (the demand of Filipinos in Moroland for independence) may be due to the rapid development of the independence movement among the youth. It is taught in the schools and so reaches all the girls and boys. A majority of the school teachers are believed to be anti-American (the correspondent really means anti-imperialist). A recent feature is the establishment of clubs in the schools for independence work."

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Wood's Agent Hunts Trouble.

MANILA, P. I., Aug. 27.—As Col. George Langhorne of Governor General Wood's staff accompanies Col. Carmi Thompson, emissary of Coolidge on his "investigation tour" of the Philippine Islands, Langhorne searches everywhere to rake up something to show that the Filipinos are "not prepared" for independence.

In the province of Agusan in northern Mindanao, where for centuries the more civilized Visayans have been absorbing and mixing with the primitive tribe of Manobos, the provincial laws of 1919 provided for dealing with remnants of the Manobo tribe who are alleged to roam about living by petty thievery.

What About U. S. Vagrants?

When Col. Thompson's party arrived at the city of Butuan, General Wood's agent, Col. Langhorne, hunted up something to show why the Filipinos should not rule themselves. He found several Manobo tribesmen in jail for vagrancy. Why this should have been a mark of a backward people is hard to understand, since every city in the United States never lacks a jail full of "vagrants." But to Col. Langhorne it was a symbol of "repression of the Manobos by the Visayan Filipinos."

Assuming an air of righteous wrath, Langhorne wired to General Wood for pardons to be granted to the oppressed Manobos.

Strike in Rochester.

ROCHESTER, N. H.—(FP)—When the 12 workers of the carding department at Wyandotte Worsted Co. struck for $3 more pay per week, the mill shut down, throwing 100 workers out of jobs. Carders get up to $19 a week.

A NEW NOVEL OIL By Upton Sinclair

(Copyright, 1926, by Upton Sinclair)

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE.

When "Bunny" Ross, son of J. Arnold Ross, California oil operator, is thirteen years old, he goes with Dad to Beach City to sign an oil lease. There he meets Paul Watkins, near his own age who had run away from his father's poor ranch in the San Elido Valley because the family were "holy rollers." His brother Eli is a cripple who has fits and "heals" people. From time to time Bunny hears from Paul and sends money to his family. In the meantime Bunny is learning the oil business with his Dad who, along with other oil operators is profiting by the war that had broken out in Europe. Bunny persuades his Dad to go for a quail hunting trip to San Elido Valley. There they meet the Watkins family and Bunny becomes acquainted with Paul's sister, Ruth, whom he likes. While hunting, they locate oil on the ranch and Dad wheedles it out of old Watkins and also buys adjacent property secretly. In the meantime Bunny starts to high school at Beach City and falls in love with a fellow student, Rose Taintor. When they are ready to drill Bunny and Dad go back to the ranch to direct the work. They persuade Paul to come to live with them and work as a carpenter. Paul had been living with a lawyer who took an interest in him and left him a legacy of books when died. Paul and Ruth live in a shack near the well sight. Eventually the well is begun and Eli, now turned prophet and the pet of wealthy adherents to the faith, makes a blessing as the drilling begins. Bunny goes back to school and finds himself tiring of Rose Taintor. But soon the glad news comes that Bunny's well in the San Elido Valley has struck oil lands. A new field is started. As Bunny and Dad watch the drilling the oil suddenly pours out in a great jet—and it catches fire. Everyone runs for their lives. Dad drives in great haste to town—for dynamite. He returns and the blast is quickly gotten ready. When the charge is set off, the blaze is snuffed out and the well saved. Bunny is a millionaire ten times over. The boy is now eighteen years old and begins to worry about the administration of his field, now grown to 14 derricks. He begins also to wonder about the relations between capital and labor and asks his Dad some embarrassing questions concerning his relationship to his workers. In the meantime war with Germany looms and at the the same time the men in the oil field under the inspiration of an organizer for the Oil Workers' Union, named Tom Axton, prepare to strike for an eight-hour day and a raise in wages. Dad attends a meeting of the federation and realizes he has no chance to buck up against the huge combine he faces there in attempting to advance the interests of the men. The strike is called and Dad, along with the rest of the operators, takes the thugs and guards supplied by the association to "protect property."

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Bunny drove to town and wandered about to see he sights, but none of them brought happiness to him. He could not see Paul, for Paul was hard at work in the strike headquarters, and Bunny could not go there, because it would not look right, somebody might think he was spying. No longer was Bunny the young oil prince, flattered and admired by all; he was an enemy, and read hostility in men's glances, even where there might be none. He was in the position of a soldier in an army, who feels that his cause is unjust, and has no stomach for the fight—yet it is hard to wish one's self defeat!

On Sunday morning the sun was shining, and never had Bunny seen such crowds in Paradise. Eli was holding a service in the grove alongside his new "tabernacle," and was telling the strikers that if only they would have faith in the Holy Spirit, they need not worry about their wages, there was the miracle of the loves and fishes, and was not their Heavenly Father able to feed them if they would trust him? Some believed this, and shouted "Amen"; others jeered, and went off to the playground at the school-house, where the union was holding a meeting for those who believed that wages were necessary. Bunny went there, and heard Paul make his first speech. It was a great sensation to Bunny, and in fact, to the whole town; a picturesque situation, you must admit—the two Watkins boys, the rival prodigies of the neighborhood, making speeches at the same time, and preaching diametrically opposite doctrines.

It must be said on behalf of Eli that he did not deliberately oppose the strike, and probably never clearly understood how his doctrine was likely to aid the Employers' Federation. His sisters were baking bread for the strikers, working hard with their physical hands kneading physical dough—and all the while Eli was proclaiming that he could make magical miraculous bread, whole baskets of it, by the agency of prayer. Why didn't he do it, jeered the skeptics; and Eli answered that it was because of their lack of faith. But they said it was up to him to begin; and the production of one single loaf of bread by the Bible method would multiply faith a million-fold, and bring the whole organzed labor movement into the Church of the Third Revelation!

Paul had a deep, mature voice, and a slow, impressive way of speaking. He was a good orator, for the very reason that he knew none of the tricks, but was entirely wrapped up in what he had to say. There was a struggle impending over the issue of the re-opening of the wells, and Paul had been consulting lawyers, and told the strikers exactly what they had a right to do, and what they must refrain from doing. They would maintain their legal rights, but not weaken their case by committing the least breach of the law, and giving their enemies a chance to put them in the wrong. The whole future was at stake, and the future of their wives and children; if they could win the three-shift day, they would have leisure to study and think, and raise their own status, and keep their children longer in school. That was the real issue in this strike, and if democracy did not mean that, it had no meaning, and talk about patriotism was buncombe. The vast throng cheered Paul, and Bunny could hardly keep from cheering also, and went away feeling cheap, and utterly out of harmony with life. He had time to think it over on the long drive back to Beach City by himself; he did not get in until midnight, and all the way he heard Paul's voice above the hum of the engine, challenging everything that Bunny thought he believed!

(To be continued)

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Russian News in the Chicago Tribune

Our notorious contemporary, the *Chicago Tribune*, waxes editorially virtuous over its decision not to maintain any correspondents in the Soviet Union "as long as the Soviet continues its censorship and its bureaus of false information." The result of this "defying of a whole government," as the *Tribune* modestly puts it, is that the "truth" about Russia is regularly given in its columns.

The occasion for the editorial is a supposed saving of millions of dollars to American and Canadian wheat growers by the *Tribune* which had some time ago said that the reports that Russia would export six hundred million bushels of wheat were untrue. The inference is that this report enamated from Russia and that the *Tribune*, with its superior knowledge of the situation, gleaned from careful observance of conditions from afar, had ridiculed the report from its inception.

The truth of the matter is this:

The original report emanated neither from Moscow nor Leningrad but from RIGA. The report was ridiculous on the face of it, especially in view of the fact that Soviet official estimates, cabled to various papers thruout the world, were for an entire Russian crop of some 660,000,000 bushels. The sweet sanctimoniousness of the Tribune is especially funny in this case when it is known that its chief source of cabled news about conditions and events in the Soviet Union comes regularly out of Riga, where it maintains a correspondent who upholds the tradition of the Tribune, one Donald Day, who is, by and large, the most unreliable tippler in newspaperdom.

Another contemporary, the *Chicago Daily News*, takes occasion to remark judiciously: *"Misinformation about Russia originates outside of Russia—in Berlin, Bucharest, Warsaw, the northern border towns, particlularly Riga, a veritable mendacity mill so far as the Soviet republic is concerned."* It is not without significance that the news one reads in the *Tribune* about Russia almost always comes from one of the cities mentioned by the *News*.

The *Tribune's* claim to truth is taken seriously nowhere except in the environs of Chicago's Gold Coast. It was only a couple of weeks ago that the columns of this rag were blazing away with reports about the "situation in Russia." With the aid of Donald Day, its Riga reporter, it had Stalin shooting Trotsky with one hand and imprisoning Zinoviev with the other. It led armies, directed by Kamenev and its Bucharest correspondent, to victory on the first page, only to have them overwhelmed by defeat on page seven with the aid of a cabled "special story" from Helsingfors. It calmly strangled Stalin with a wireless message from its Lisbon correspondent and put him at the head of an insurrectionary army bombarding the Kremlin with the obliging help of a Warsaw scribe. Only after two weeks of hectic tales about revolution, rapine and repression in Russia, did it print, obscurely, a story from a *Moscow* correspondent of the Associated Press which expressed surprise at the stories about trouble in Russia and declared that the country was as peaceful as Oscaloosa, Louisiana, on a Sunday morning.

The virtue of veracity that the *Tribune* parades is astonishingly reminding of the old poet who piped: "Methinks the lady doth protest too much."

Woll Gives More Aid to the Passaic Mill Owners

Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, from his Montreal hotel, denounces Senator Borah for his efforts in behalf of the Passaic strikers, *but has not one word to say about the mill owners who, after having refused to deal with the A. F. of L. union which the strikers have formed, are trying to organize a company union* and have appointed as their mediation committee two priests, the president of the Passaic Bar Association and a former district judge.

Woll says that the investigation into the profits of the textile barons and their connection with the high tariff on fabrics is looked upon by the A. F. of L. executive council as an entering wedge for government intervention in labor disputes. But the hypocritical character of this statement is apparent when it is remembered that Woll recently wrote an article in which he called upon Secretary of Commerce Hoover to head a conference for "saving waste in industry." It is obvious that Woll's principal objection to Borah's intervention in the Passaic strike is that it so far has tended to help the strikers and weaken the position of the mill barons.

When the *American Federationist* cancels the advertisement it is carrying for the unfair Botany Mills, when the executive council calls upon labor to render the maximum support to the strikers and ceases its open sabotage of the strike while textile workers, men, women and children, are being clubbed down in the streets by the mill owners' police, honest workers may begin to pay a little attention to the warnings of Woll.

At present they are nothing more or less than aid and comfort to the owners of the worst slave-driving institutions in the United States—the textile mills of Passaic.

If Woll is trying to prove to American workers that nothing short of the complete surrender of the Passaic strikers will please the executive council he is succeeding admirably.

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"Education" in the Training Camps

"Citizenship Course" Is a Soldier Course—The Red Peril—Plain Talk About Imperialist War—The "Liberty and Democracy" Gag—"We Are Always Unprepared"—Law and Order.

By THURBER LEWIS

In this fifth of a series of articles on military training in this country with especial regard for the summer training camps and training in schools and colleges the writer examines just what is meant by the "citizenship courses" advertised by the War Department to accompany the training given. The investigation is based upon a persual of the courses prepared under the supervision of the War Department for use in the camps. They reveal that the main object, even of the course in so-called citizenship is to manufacture soldier minds and not citizen minds. The War Department is interested in troops not voters.

WHILE most of the time of "citizen soldiers" at Citizens' Military Training Camps is taken up with strictly military routine such as drill, inspection, fatigue etc., there is a limited period devoted each of the thirty days of the term to sports and "citizenship training." We have already had occasion to show that these non-military occupations come to take up less time as the student advances in his course of training from the first to the fourth year when he becomes eligable for the reserves. We are interested now in showing in what consists these citizenship courses and what object the war department has in introducing them into the training.

The Main Object.

ONE would be naive indeed to believe the publicity of the war department that says the C. M. T. C.'s are operated for the primary object of making strong men and good citizens out of the recruits that agree to go to camp for thirty days. Most assuredly the war department is the last to believe this. If the camps had any other end in view but the making of soldiers you can depend upon it that they would long since have passed into the jurisdiction of some other branch of the government.

So that one approaches the "course in citizenship" with a suspicion that citizenship is not its primary object.

Mimeographed Courses.

I HAVE before me two mimeographed courses in citizenship for the use of officers in instructing classes at the camps. One is of 38 pages the other of 50. One is a special outline for courses to be given to the C. M. T. C. unit at Camp Custer, Mich., and is unsigned except by the Camp Commander, a brigadier general of no very great note who need not be suspected of having written it. In all likelihood it was prepared in Washington. The other, the 50 page course, is by Maj. Chas. A. Stokes of the 17th U. S. Infantry and appears to be written for use thruout the nine army corps areas by the company commanders of C. M. T. C. units as a sort of mine for suggestion and guide in giving "citizenship instruction."

Before we begin to examine these two very interesting documents it is amusing to note that much of the material in them has nothing whatever to do with citizenship or civics. A good part of the two outlines deals with what seems a very much padded attempt to impart a "general education" to the lads. Fancy, education in the army when one of the chief qualifications of a good soldier is his ability to do a minimum of thinking.

The Red Peril.

IT is not very difficult to discover what portions of the outlines are intended to be stressed by the teachers, all of whom are regular army officers—usually the company commander. A soldier need not be expected to put near as much fervor or time in the teaching of a topic like "fire prevention" as one much nearer his heart such as "Preparedness and National Defense." And when you let a hard-boiled army lieutenant loose with an outline under the title "The Red Peril" you can expect him to wax very eloquent in his vulgar, military way and to find the inspiration for much original comment of his own.

"Preparedness."

WE turn to page 11 of the Camp Custer outline. The chapter is called "Conference on Preparedness and National Defense." A note says, "To be used in company conferences by company commanders." The whole question of future war is put on the basis of "national defense." There is no mention of the fact that in the last war the troops that fought did not shed a drop of blood on American soil. The foremost question is made "preparedness."

We read, "If you were told today that a year from now you would have to enter the ring with the champion boxer your weight—what would you do?" Right after which a parenthetical note instructs the officer—(ask one or two men what they would do). And the lads of course answer, "I would go into training, I would prepare," just as it is desired they answer. Then the instructor proceeds to put the question on an international plane and the text continues for the use of the instructor:

Some Plain Talk.

"WHAT brings about war? War between nations results from a conflict of national aspirations. National aspirations conflict as the result of racial, political, economic and commercial rivalries. These are questions of nation policy. The national policy of a government dictates the character of the military policy." We must pause here to observe that this is a bit of plain speaking. But it must not be forgotten that these outlines are for the use of officers. It is not likely that the instructor would speak so plainly to the boys. But it is significant that, at least among officers, there is no concealment of the real purposes of war. It is simple. National aspirations are economic rivalries. These are questions of national policy which determines military policy. It is the theory of capitalist imperialism summed up.

For the benefit of the student, however, the instructor is given to understand that one point shall be driven home—that national policy—and therefore military policy—is determined by "the people." How? Because the people elect congress and congress alone can declare war. It's the old school-history "liberty and democracy" gag worked out scientifically for use on prospective soldiers.

Always Unprepared.

ANOTHER trick of the propagandist is to insist that we were not only unprepared in the last war but that if the British had moved on Washington while he was in Valley Forge he would have been wiped out and that Washington was sacked by the British in 1812 because "we were unprepared." Also, Bryan said: "We don't need an army; in twenty-four hours we could put an army of a million men in the field! Gentlemen! (This is what the company commander must say—evidently with drama) forty-four thousand men enlisted in our last war, the balance we drafted."

Every boy that goes to the military training camp is sent out a potential propagandist to bring more boys to the camp next year and also to plug for support from other sources as witness: "Carry away from this conference the will to support, defend and promote, in your community, a true spirit of Americanism. See to it that insofar as possible, the men who represent you in government support this movement both morally and financially (this plainly means—insist that your congressman vote for bigger military appropriations). This work of preparedness, such as that in which you are now engaged must have more than a passive support from every loyal American who is not fanatically inclined."

The "Red" Movement.

BUT what do you suppose is the biggest part of the course? Take the chapter lengths. "What the Army Does Besides Fight" is given three pages, "Preparedness," three pages, "Fire Prevention," two, "Sanitation," three—but the chapter entitled: "Facts About the 'Red' Movement and What It Means to America" occupies EIGHT pages. Which would seem to indicate that this were the burden of the song contained in this so-called course in "Citizenship."

I am not going into the details. They are far too hackneyed.

It is the same old tune. Breaking up the home, nationalizing women and children, abolition of religion, abolition of private property. There are eight pages of this, mind you. These eight pages are for the use of the officer. He is expected to enlarge upon the theme. You can imagine what it must be like when it reaches the ears of the "citizen soldiers."

They Mean Strikes.

THE dire warnings contained in this chapter are summed up: "It would be well-nigh impossible under the constitution at present for any group or organization to impose their will upon the country, so long as the individual citizen faithfully performs the duties of citizenship." You can depend upon it that when this sentence leaves the mouth of the officers, "group" becomes "class" and duties of citizenship means military training for defense of the country, which in case of strike means private property owned by the bosses. This is the implication of the whole course and it certainly is the implication of the sentence above.

"Law and Order."

FOR example in the next chapter, "Law and Order," which gets less than three pages: "What co-operation should exist between the police and army, navy and state militia when called out in times of public danger, riots and disasters." Is any worker reading this unfamiliar enough with the history old and recent of his class in this and other countries not to know that strikes are included as "public danger?

Such is the type of "citizenship training" that young men between 17 and 24 years of age get at Citizens' Military Training Camps. It is training planned and devised for the purpose of moulding the minds of the students not into "citizens" but into soldiers. The war department is interested in making troops not voters. The courses are scientifically planned to do just this, to give the kind of intolerant, jingoistic training that make obedient infantrymen.

These Men Are Made the "Hero" Types For the Lads in Military Training Camps

General John J. Pershing.

Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt.

General Chas. Gates Dawes.

The foremost militarists and jingoes in the country are held up to the lads in the training camps as the models of "American Citizens."

Ernest Haeckel on "Last Words on Evolution"

CHAPTER II.

THE STRUGGLE OVER OUR GENEALOGICAL TREE.

Our Ape-Relatives and the Vertebrate-Stem.

(Continued from previous issue.)

His life at Wurtzburg was the most brilliant period of Virchow's indefatigable scientific labors. A change took place when he removed to Berlin in 1856. He then occupied himself chiefly with political and social and civic interests. In the last respect he has done so much for Berlin and the welfare of the German people that I need not enlarge on it. Nor will I go into his self-sacrificing and often thankless political work as leader of the progressive party; there are differences of opinion as to its value. But we must carefully examine his peculiar attitude towards evolution, and especially its chief application, the ape-theory. He was at first favorable to it, then sceptical, and finally decidedly hostile.

When the Lamarckian theory was brought to light again by Darwin in 1859, many thought that it was Virchow's vocation to take the lead in defending it. He had made a thorough study of the problem of heredity; he had realized the power of adaptation thru his study of pathological changes; and he had been directed to the great question of the origin of man by his anthropological studies. He was at that time regarded as a determined opponent of all dogmas; he combated transcendentalism either in the form of ecclesiastical creeds or anthropomorphism. After 1862 he declared that "the possibility of a transition from species to species was a necessity of science." When I opened the first public discussion of Darwinism at the Stettin scientific congress in 1863, Virchow and Alexander Braun were among the few scientists who would admit the subject to be important and deserving of the most careful study. When I sent to him in 1865 two lectures that I had delivered at Jena on the origin and genealogical tree of the human race, he willingly received them amongst his **Collection of Popular Scientific Lectures.** In the course of many long conversations I had with him on the matter, he agreed with me in the main, tho with the prudent reserve and cool skenticism that characterized him. He adopts the same moderate attitude in the lecture that he delivered to the Artisan's Union at Berlin in 1869 on "Human and Ape Skulls."

His position definitely changed in regard to Darwinism from 1877 onward. At the Scientific Congress that was then held at Munich I had, at the pressing request of my Munich friends, undertaken the first address (on 18th September) on "Modern Evolution in Relation to the whole of Science." In this address I had substantially advanced the same general views that I afterwards enlarged in my **Monism Riddle of the Universe, and Wonders of Life.** In the ultramontane capital of Bavaria, in sight of a great university which emphatically describes itself as Catholic, it was somewhat bold to make such a confession of faith. The deep impression that it had made was indicated by the lively manifestations of assent on the one hand, and displeasure on the other, that were at once made in the Congress itself and in the Press. On the following day I departed for Italy (according to an arrangement made long before). Virchow did not come to Munich until two days afterwards, when he delivered (on 22nd September, in response to entreaties from people of position and influence) his famous antagonistic speech on "The Freedom of Science in the Modern State." The gist of the speech was that this freedom ought to be restricted; that evolution is an unproved hypothesis, and ought not to be taught in the school because it is dangerous to the State: "We must not teach," he said, "that man descends from the ape or any other animal." In 1849, the young Monist, Virchow, had emphatically declared this conviction, "that he would never be induced to deny the thesis of the unity of human nature and its consequences;" now, twenty-eight years afterwards, the prudent Dualistic politician entirely denied it. He had formerly taught that all the bodily and mental processes in the human organism depend on the mechanism of the cell-life; now he declared the soul to be a special immaterial entity. But the crowning feature of this reactionary speech was his compromise with the Church, which he had fought so vigorously twenty years before.

(To be continued.)

Tax Cutting Halt.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27. — The treasury department has turned a deaf ear on pleas from republican leaders for another federal tax reduction in 1926.

Speaking in the absence of Secretary Mellon, Acting Secretary Winstotn said the treasuy would not consider further tax reduction until after the public debt has been materially reduced.

JOHN PEPPER'S PAMPHLET ON THE BRITISH GENERAL STRIKE

The General Strike and the General Betrayal, by John Pepper, published by The DAILY WORKER Publishing Company, 1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago. Price 25c.

* * *

JOHN PEPPER has written a splendid story of the British General Strike. I write "story" advisedly because the presentation is in a dramatic form which grips one at the beginning, holds one's interest thruout the pamphlet until the end is reached.

The story is told so effectively that one feels as if he were seeing a moving picture presentation of the strike. The situation is developed skillfully at the opening. The actors in the story (in this case social classes struggling for power), appear upon the screen, the economic conditions which caused the strike are shown, the development of the fighting spirit and mobilization of the workers, the mobilization of the bosses and government against them, the strike itself, down to the final great betrayal.

This is the easiest book to read on economics and politics which has come to my hands, because of the absorbing interest which the skillful manner of presentation creates. The reader must not get the impression, however, that the pamphlet is merely a story of the strike and neglects the fundamental economic and social questions. Quite the contrary. The chapters devoted to the economic situation of the British Empire and of the coal industry are the most illuminating presentation of basic facts which could be made. Many workers who have read in the literature of the Communist movement about "the contradictions of capitalism" have wondered what the "contradictions" were and how they affected the capitalist system will find in Pepper's pamphlet a concrete example of the inner contradictions of capitalist economy which create such a crisis as that thru which Great Britain has just gone because they generate mass struggles of the workers against the capitalist class such as appeared in the General Strike.

The presentation of these economic facts in regard to the situation of the British Empire is as simple and direct and as easily understandable as the rest of the pamphlet.

The economic basis of social movements comes our clearly thru the facts and figures about British industry which are presented in the opening chapters. One can see a proletarian revolution developing in these economic facts as presented by Pepper.

From this basis the pamphlet takes one thru the preparations for the strike by the workers, by the capitalists and their government, thru the approximately ten days when the army of the workers and the capitalists were facing each other on the battlefield, showing the weaknesses of the workers and their strength, and the methods of the capitalist government in fighting them.

No workers who want to understand what really happened and is happening in Great Britain can miss this pamphlet by Comrade Pepper. It is a model of simple, concise, absorbingly interesting writing which will carry the reader thru the pamphlet once he begins, and which is certain to give him a clear understanding of the British General Strike and the British proletarian revolution of which the general strike represented an opening battle.—C. E. Ruthenburg.

BRITISH FLEET PAYS GREEK PORTS VISIT AFTER 'REVOLUTION'

(Special to The Daily Worker)

LONDON, Aug. 27.—According to the London Press, the British fleet has visited the Greek ports Volo, Saloniki, Kavalla, Spetsae and Sklathos. The fleet did not go to Piraeus (Port of Athens). The British Admiralty issued a statement denying that the visit of the fleet had anything to do with the recent revolution, and saying that the visit was decided upon long ago.

Picnic in Milwaukee for Passaic Relief

The Milwaukee relief committee for the Passaic textile strikers are holding a picnic on Sunday, August 29, 1926, at Blatz Park.

This picnic is being arranged as part of the committee's plan to raise funds for the Passaic textile strikers, who have been struggling for better wages and conditions and the right to organize for the past seven months.

Blatz Park is located on the upper Milwaukee river near what is known as Pleasant Valley Swimming School. The entrance to the park is on Humbold avenue. Take Holton street car to Auer avenue and walk east to Humbold, or take Center street car to Locust street and Humbold avenue and walk north. Admission is 25 cents.

Waukegan Y. W. L. School Ends with Affair

WAUKEGAN, Ill. — The Young Workers League School here is holding its commencement affair on Saturday, Nite, Aug. 28th at the Workers' Hall, 517 Helmholz St. The twenty seven students of the school are preparing an elaborate program for this affair consisting of songs, poems, the Y. W. L. band and the presentation of a playlet by Michael Gold. Minnie Lurye and A. Minervich will speak in behalf of the students and John Williamson will speak in behalf of the instructors. All friends and sympathizers are urged to attend.

A LETTER FROM FRANCE - By Louis De Filippis

Poincare, the vanquished of May 11, the "abominable man," is again in power. The victorious Cartel of the lefts, the so-called bloc of democratic safety, has gone to pieces. Its leaders have concluded a bloc with their former electoral opponents. This political soup has been baptized the "Ministry of National Union."

The event has been acclaimed with frantic joy by the reactionary press, which earnestly announces the opening of a sweet era of financial and, consequently, political and economical equilibrium. In fact, the pound and the dollar dropped considerably since the formation of the Poincare cabinet. The public cannot see for dust . . . thrown into their eyes by this happening.

But the cost of living is rising higher and higher, even with greater speed than before.

But why did the bloc of the lefts fail? According to the reactionary press, it has fallen because it was a secret ally of revolutionary internationalism. The French nation is exclusively national and conservative. Its attitude, which has caused the downfall of the bloc of the lefts, is the condemnation of its policy, etc., etc. But the truth is the following: The bloc of the lefts has fallen because its ministries were unable to function regularly. They could not function regularly because the financial kings impeded them. They impeded them because, tho they stooped to their will, they did so with hesitation and fear. Their fear was of the growing class consciousness of the working population. They were too weak to take a stand, as dictated by their masters, against labor.. They did all they could in the way of repression and reaction. It was far too little for the reactionary bourgeoisie. They were too vile to take a firm stand against those who were undermining their political, ideological and electoral reputation. A firm attitude against the great capitalists would have brought them the confidence and support of the working masses and the lower classes. They refused to take it for fear of being pushed too far and preferred a shameful political defeat.

If the franc fell as precipitously and so surely it was because the financiers willed it so. They willed it so for two purposes; namely, for discrediting the bloc of the lefts by causing a hostile public opinion against it, to cause its downfall, to facilitate a return to power of the reactionary bloc, which would in its turn facilitate the advent of fascism—and to profit by financial and general confusion by ruining the lower classes and diminishing the purchasing value of the workingmen's salaries. This explains the fact why in a country like France, at the brink of financial catastrophe the industrial wheels turn at a swing unknown in its history.

Reactionary capital has succeeded in both of these diabolical plans. In fact their men are ruling again. In fact they have accumulated great masses of wealth during the processes of the application of their fraudulent designs. In fact a great mass of elements composing the lower classes are proletarianized. For instance, a great number of small traders and shop keepers have been able to continue, the rest, having to make fresh supplies with the continuous rise of the price of commodities, could not compete with the former who can and purposely do sell things cheaper.

And finally those among the lower classes and workingmen who have saved a few francs by privations and sacrifice, now hold in their trembling hands a depreciated bundle of paper.

The political purposes of this machination is also social. The direct aim is the implanting of fascism in France. The reactionary press continuously beats the drum in favor of a strong government and points to Italy as sample and example.

Even capitalist democracy is becoming a hateful thing to the big bourgeoisie. It is an obstacle to its further development.

Labor unions, co-operatives, political, educational, sporting and other working class organizations have become a serious menace to the system, for they impede directly or indirectly their successful competition with other countries in the foreign markets.

Democracy and universal suffrage of which it is mother, tolerates more or less the existence of these organizations. It is necessary, nay, indispensable to destroy them for the safety of capitalism. Democracy, even the most reactionary, to remain such, must bear them, and to a greater or lesser extent it does.

For this reason it must disappear and be replaced by a fascist terrorist dictatorship.

The proletariat on its part is convincing itself that there is only one solution to the problem of the existence of the working class—The overthrow of capitalism. They are also aware that democracy is no weapon upon which they can rely. They also begin to see danger of fascism and foresee the terrible consequences. They also know that democrats, socialpacifists and liberals, etc., are but instruments of the ruling class and that they are making way to fascism with whom they will finally march when compelled to make a choice between fascism and bolshevism. The Frenchent battle which will perhaps become proletariat is awakening in this pres- decisive.

WEEKLY PICTURE SUMMARY

"MOANA"—They showed it in France and our daily there, "L'Humanite," agrees with The DAILY WORKER—a splendid picture!

"LA BOHEME"—A. S. says it's as good in its way as "The Big Parade." That's high praise.

"THE SON OF THE SHEIK"—Rudolph does his stuff.

"MANTRAP"—G. W. claims Ernest Torrence is one of the good features of this picture of a Sinclair Lewis story.

"THE ROAD TO MANDALAY"—No, no, don't go!

"VARIETY"—"Different, good, see Emil Jannings in this excellent German picture," advises "Smaxico."

"PADLOCKED"—G. W. wasn't enthusiastic about this one with Lois Moran.

"BATTLING BUTLER"—G. W. also gave this one the "once over." She said yes, and no.

"THE BAT"—Mystery, detectives, burglars. Depends how you feel about those things. Try it.

A WEEK IN CARTOONS By M. P. Bales

The New Magazine

Supplement of THE DAILY WORKER

ALEX. BITTELMAN, Editor.

Second Section: This Magazine Section Appears Every Saturday in The DAILY WORKER.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1926

Towards a Militant Labor Movement in the United States

Machinists' Hall, 115 S. Ashland Boulevard.

THE formal beginning of a Communist movement in the United States will be dated September 1, 1919. On that day there were formed two Communist organizations: Both were born in Chicago, at national conventions of the two Communist groups, one held in Smolny Institute, the other in Ashland Auditorium. And by the actions of the two conventions a process has been started which has led to the creation of a revolutionary political party of of the American working class.

It is thus seven years since the beginning was made to crystallize a political leadership for the workers and poor farmers of America, which shall know how to lead their struggles from day to day at the same time organizing them for the final struggle against the rule of capitalism.

Like on many occasions, the ruling class of the United States was very quick to detect the importance of the events that transpired in Chicago in the opening of September, 1919. The capitalists, their press and their government have sensed immediately the danger of the present capitalist order of society. And they did not waste must time in starting out to destroy it. Three months after the formation of the Communist organizations the democracy-loving Wilson administration carried thru the infamous Palmer raids. Thousands of workers were seized and thrown into jail, beaten, tortured and deported. A veritable reign of terror was instituted thruout the country. The capitalists and their servants had whipped themselves into a regular frenzy.

The COMMUNIST
"All Power to the Workers!"
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF AMERICA
HAIL TO THE SOVIETS!
May Day Proclamation by the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of America.

The Communist movement of America was driven underground but it was far from having been destroyed. Pressed by capitalist persecution, matured by practical experiences and clarified by intense ideological struggles, the revolutionary workers of the two separate Communist parties eventually came together into one organization. And in the beginning of 1921 the movement was again strong enough and already sufficiently unified internally to begin an open existence in the organization of the Workers Party of America.

What is inevitable will happen. The Communist movement in the United States became inevitable, and therefore possible despite all persecutions, because of the basic changes in the economic and political life of America following the world war. The emergence of American capitalism as the foremost imperialist exploiter of the world. The tremendous centralization of the federal government and its frankly brutal ways of suppressing the workers and supporting the employers. The great conflicts between capital and labor during 1919-1920 and the experiences derived from these struggles by the workers leading their more advanced sections to a revolutionary outlook upon the class struggle in the United States. The betrayal and bankruptcy of reformist socialism and of the Second International. The revolutionary situation in Europe. The successful proletarian revolution in Russia. The organization of the Communist International. All these events have combined together to bring about a sharpening of the class struggle in the United States, intense struggles in the labor movement between working class revolutionists and reformist petty bourgeois, an eventual split in the Socialist Party of America and the organization—on September 1, 1919, of an independent Communist movement in the United States.

The COMMUNIST
No. 10 All Power to the Workers! FIVE CENTS
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED COMMUNIST PARTY OF AMERICA
SECTION OF THE THIRD (COMMUNIST) INTERNATIONAL

The World Congress of the Communist International

By JOHN REED

Seven years have passed since that memorable date. The Communist movement of the United States, now represented by the Workers (Communist) Party of America, has come to be an organic part of the American labor movement. It is at present the only factor in the American class struggle that is truly progressive, forward-going and inspiring to the various movements of the workers and farmers.

The banner of militant class struggle, of the proletarian revolution and of a Workers' and Farmers' government in the United States which was raised by the American Communists seven years ago is gathering around itself ever larger numbers of workers. Communist policies and Communist slogans are already exercising great influence in the everyday struggles of the masses. The time is approaching when the American working class, led by the Workers (Communist) Party, will discard completely the shackles of reformism and class-collaboration entering upon a determined struggle against the rule of capitalism and for a workers' and farmers' government.

Alex Bittelman.

"Smolny," 1221 Blue Island Ave.

COMMUNIST LABOR
Official Organ of the
COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF AMERICA
WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS. YOU HAVE A WORLD TO GAIN

Down Tools May First, 1920

Pueblo Prints

By LA VERDAD.

THE Guitarist is a blind man. He never learnt how to read notes nor the value of notes, yet he knows how to keep time and play anything he hears. It feels so different to come to a "baile" (dance) where the gathering is dressed up to the minute, with few exceptions, and find the band of small town Mexican musicians in blue working shirts, khaki or denim pants, rarely in full dress suit of cloth. They are poor and what they earn goes for food. Most of these musicians play "lyrico" (by ear). When their instruments are in tune they play in a manner that is touching. There is a sweet dreaminess, a sadness expressive of romance and tragedy with all its delights and sorrows, weariness of body and soul, a brooding over much that makes or breaks their lives. The soft plaintiveness of their playing is an interpretation of their own human emotions. While they play the liveliest of dance music—say jazz—one is conscious of their manner of playing it. The delightful tum tum of the Guitarist and his sightlessness gets into one's bones.

* * * * * * *

Tall, thin Pablo gained the admiration of many and scorn of a few. During the flu epidemic years ago he bathed twice daily in the river, building a fire on the banks to keep warm. Every one in the village predicted his death, but he kept on bathing and living; others did not bathe, the flu got them and most of them died. "God's will," they all said, "God's will that tall Pablo should bathe and live to do it again." Pablo does not know the value of money. He was never paid with money for any work he did. He does not know what it means to buy or to sell. When hungry, he goes into a house, asks for food and works for it. Whatever he eats, he pays with his labor. He never begs. At times he obtains food from people who have no use for his labor. No one has checked him up to know if he paid in labor what he owed for food he took that way. One day he called at the small town store and said: "Oyez, quiero fosforos" ("I want matches"). The Mexican clerk didn't sell the matches to tall Pablo. He just gave them to him. Who expects pay from Pablo? You see, he didn't beg. He demanded. Demanding is not begging. At another time he was rendered considerably happy by the considerate storekeeper who presented tall Pablo with a new woolen shirt. Some time after that he came around wearing his old torn shirt, shivering with cold, for it does get chilly in northern Mexico when the wind blows from the north.

"Pablo, why aren't you wearing the new woolen shirt?" In an humble tone he answered: "I gave it to someone who needed it more than I do." Hearing this, the same considerate storekeeper offered him a pair of corduroy pants. "Patron," said the Mexican clerk, "don't give him the pants, put them on him, or he will give it to someone who needs it more than he does." They took him to the back of the store, dressed him up to be sure he wouldn't give the pants to somebody who needs them more than he does. He stuck to the trousers.

Juan, nicknamed "the mule," is the all-around flunky in the oldest hotel in the village. This swarthy bachelor is not an old man, nor will he ever be young again, even if he does not look a day older than he looked ten years ago. It was sad to see his bent figure, and withal that, comical. Juan had a way of walking with his head and chest so far ahead of his legs that it seemed he would fall forward on his face any minute. One actually waited to see it happen, and much relieved to see it didn't. One day this Don-less-Juan was approached by the "American" and, knowing him to be somewhat deaf, she cried at the top of her voice: "Juan (without the don), if you know of a good girl who wants work, send her to me." Smilingly (these wretched souls always wear the shine of a smile) he took the senora over and in his kind, quiet, nasal drawl he answered good naturedly: "Todas son buenas" (all the girls are good). What a worthy rebuke! Who would have thought or suspected Juan without the Don, nicknamed "the mule," to be so fine a cavalier?

* * * * * * *

To say anything unkind about anyone at all is a most distasteful thing to do. Things not kind are very often true, and the truth always gives a pain. It is painful to write about Che, the mute poet. His ever smiling face has eyes that aren't both alike, his hands and feet are not altogether straight, and he walks in a shuffling, hoppy shimmy way that is rather laugh-provoking. But there is the other Che, not seen at first sight nor at any other time if looked at superficially—Che of the heart. He, too, is a menial at the hotel, and he, too, has a nickname—"the burro." If he takes a notion to quit his job he will search for odd jobs. When he helped at the flour mill and was paid with flour he accepted most graciously, but the following day when he was again offered flour or money, he refused in his mute, eloquent manner, which meant something to this effect: "I am back on the hotel job and helped in this mill because I wanted to help. I had a meal at the hotel." The simple hearted "burro" smiled all the while he was making this clear. There are youngsters who glory in the art of provoking an unfortunate, and they indulged in it at the expense of Che's feelings. They would turn off the water supply when he wanted it to irrigate the trees in front of the hotel, or turn it on when he was thru and wanted it off. Their cruel teasing robbed him of his perpetual smile. After a trial of this sort he was seen to mount to the flat roof of the hotel, where he stood outlined against the sunset sky. He was watching the sunset. He watched that opaline sunset bathing the valley nestled at the feet of the Cordillera. So he stood there, a silent figure, alone with the beauty of a sunset and its twilight, a dim figure, with hat in hand, and may we imagine that he was thinking: "There is this beautiful thing in life that I may look upon and enjoy without it taunting me, ridiculing me, without humiliating Che, nicknamed "burro."

A PEEK EACH WEEK AT MOTION PICTURES

"UP IN MABEL'S ROOM."

THERE'S a lot of good fun: "Up in Mabel's Room." Marie Provost, one time bathing beauty for Mack Sennett, has lost none of her shapeliness and has become a comedienne of high order since she "walked the beach." She does the honors in this picture and does them well, and parades her form to the delight of the observant sex and the envy of the hopeful one.

The picture is a bedroom farce-comedy done over from the stage success. The story concerns itself with the adventures of three couples and three others at a week-end party that becomes hectic in the pursuit of an ex-husband by his former wife and the possession of a chemise—a gift to his former wife in the days of early infatuation.

The absurd plot is laugh-provoking. The sub-titles are snappy. Marie Prevost has freshness and charm and is excellent both in negligee and with clothes on. Phyllis Haver, another one-time bathing beauty and one of those that "gentlemen prefer," does well, together with Harrison Ford, who plays the pursued hubby. The supporting cast is good enough to complete an hour's uproarous fun over what happens "Up in Mabel's Room."

Take heed: This is not an "important" picture. Take heed some more: It's worth seeing Mabel!

"SENOR DAREDEVIL."

A NEW star has risen in the world of movie "westerns." But the gods that guide the fates of a movie star have played a dirty trick on this one. Unless the First National Pictures will fire the bird that wrote the scenario of "Senor Daredevil" for Ken Maynard, this particular star is not going to glimmer for long.

Never—well, hardly ever—has so poor a scenario been given to any actor. The story is improbable, impossible, unreal, uninteresting, unbearable and—well, in short, it's "one helluva story." A rugged westerner who fails in supplying a mining camp with grub thru the evil machinations of a dirty, dirty, gawd how dirty villain, prays for a son. Presto, changeo—he gets one. All ready made. It seems that in his early youth he loved a lady, but he didn't know he was the father of a son. Men, it seems, were like that in the old days. And so on and so on until the final climax, when his son, "Senor Daredevil," "brings home the bacon" to proud papa, saves his gold, saves the mining camp and marries the girl—tho you wonder why he does it. Dorothy Devore plays the girl—badly.

The new star, Ken Maynard, has appeared in pictures before only as a "stunt man." He rides daringly and his horse, "Tarzan," is a beauty, who goes thru many tricks that prove a circus training but are not essential to a good picture. Ken Maynard has looks; he has physique; he's no great actor, but he may learn to "get by." If his press agent can be believed, he is a Texas collegian who learned horseback riding better than civil engineering and spent some time doing "stunts" for leading circuses, finally graduating into the movies. He played Paul Revere and did his famous "ride" in "Janice Meredith."

"Senor Daredevil" is the first picture for Ken Maynard and his horse. If they don't give him something better to act in and a better leading lady Barnum & Bailey's circus is going to get back one of their old performers and a very fine horse.

W. C.

Ken Maynard

Rudolph Valentino

"THE world's greatest lover" is dead. The volume of the event stopped even the skeptic and scoffer for a minute, for the loss of "The Sheik" proved of such tremendous moment. The press, the movie world and the world at large were so moved that the impress of Rudolph Valentino was unmistakable. "Romance" was dead! The romance that for the moment was carried along in the person of this young Italian and one that spelled escape from economic physical, and all ailment; from the long and arduous day in the factory and the hum-drum of the kitchen—yes, and even from the continuous round of meetings and thousand and one tasks of the active worker in the trade union and revolutionary movements. Rudolph was romance and rest and peace and escape—joyous escape into an unreal world perhaps but escape nevertheless, from this one, if only for a moment. For the cinema, as in this respect, Trotsky points out, is replacing both liquor and the church.

This is true of course of all motion pictures. But Rudolph Valentino brot personality and fire and that indefinable "certain something" that caught the imagination and carried it along for ever so many of all ages and both sexes. His rise as a star was spectacular. "The Four Horsemen" in 1919 started him on the road to movie fame and "The Sheik" in 1921 definitely established it. "Moran of the Lady Letty," "Monsieur Beaucaire" "The Eagle" and his last picture "The Son of the Sheik" (reviewed in this column a few weeks ago) are some of his other pictures. The titles of the "great lover" and "The Sheik" perhaps did not do justice to him as an actor tho they helped his popularity. No great actor, he was nevertheless above the average and his difficulties with the producers are said to have been due to his bitter complaint against the commercialism of the movies which sacrificed all art to the greater glory of profit.

The spectacular fame of "The Sheik" won't last—would probably have dimmed soon had he lived. Unless the artist is essentially great and his medium is a bit of pictured life that rings clear and touches deeply, one soon forgets. Fancy and imagination are so shifting, they don't stay where they are not permanently touched. Rudolph Valentino was a point for romance to focus on for the moment only.

Now he is dead. But the movies will continue. And the masses of the world will continue to go to them for education, entertainment—and escape—day in and day out and by the millions to be carried along by perhaps another "great lover" in a world of "sticky" and "over-slopped" romance. Until some day labor will make over this world of illusion into a more healthy one.

On the Seventh Anniversary of Our Party

Seven Years of the Communist Party.

THE Communist Party came into existence in the United States in response to knowledge of how a proletarian revolution achieves victory gained from the great achievement of the Russian workers and peasants in November, 1917.

The workers of this country who were pledged to the class struggle against capitalism had before them the history of the actual struggle of the workers for power in Russia. They had in addition the lessons of the short-lived victory of the workers of Hungary, of Muenich and the struggles of the German workers generally.

These experiences proved the futility of reformist socialism. They showed that capitalism can be overthrown only if the workers seize the state power and establish their proletarian dictatorship. They showed that in the struggle for state power the form of the workers' government arises naturally upon the basis of the workers' organizations and the Soviets—workers' councils become the basis of the proletarian state power. They formed a party which accepted as its fundamental principles the lesson of these experiences—the Communist Party.

During the seven years that have passed since September 1, 1919 the Communist Party has remained true to these principles.

It has remained true to those principles in spite of the most bitter persecution. It remained true to them when four thousand of its members were in prison, threatened with deportation and long prison sentences. Ie became an underground organization in order that it might uphold these principles.

It fought its way out of the underground existence into the open, but without sacrificing its principles.

In the seven years of experience in the class struggle the party has learned how to carry on its work in a country in which the great mass of the workers are as yet still not class conscious. It has learned how to gather up the threads of discontent and opposition to a movement against capitalism of which it is the leader. It has learned not only the principles which must guide the proletarian struggle for power but it has learned—is learning, how to build the movement that will apply these principles on the field of battle against the capitalist class.

C. E. Ruthenberg.

* * *

The Outstanding Champion on Class Struggle.

THE formation of the Workers (Communist) Party was one of the greatest events in the history of the American proletariat. It definitely marked the crystallization of the left wing around the ideology and organization which will lead the workers to the revolution. Today the Workers (Communist) Party stands out clearly as the real vanguard organization of the working class. It not only holds before the masses the stimulating idea of a proletarian society and educates them to organize and fight for this ultimate goal, but it is also unquestionably in the lead in the everyday struggle of the workers. The socialist party is corrupt, paralyzed, and disintegrated. The Workers (Communist) Party is the outstanding champion of the organization of the unorganized, the formation of a Labor Party, the amalgamation of the trade unions, and of every other practicable measure for building the labor movement, politically and economically, into a real fighting organization.

W. Z. Foster.

* * *

A Mass Party It Must and Will Become.

THE seventh anniversary of our movement of America at the time of its birth and now. Seven years ago the the glorious example of the Russian revolution was giving new hope and courage to a war-sick, starved working class. The trade union movement had reached its hightest point.

The steel strike had mobilized 350,000 workers against the most powerful group of capitalists in the United States. The coal miners had shut down the industry. Wesley Everest and his fellow I. W. W.'s had made their heroic resistance to the American legion thugs of the lumber trust. A farmer-labor party had been organized. The Seattle general strike had shown the ability of the workers of various crafts to unite and fight.

It was with the concrete proof of the will to struggle of the American workingclass apparent on every side that our party was organized.

It was born in struggle and for struggle. That the seven years which have elapsed have not brought the fulfillment of the revolutionary promise many comrades saw in the year 1919 is no reflection either on them or on our party as a whole.

It means simply that American capitalism has learned many lessons from the experiences of European capitalism and that its favorable position after the world war has enabled it to avoid disaster. It has discovered new methods of fooling and bribing certain sections of the workingclass, it has brought to its aid the official leadership of the American labor movement.

But our party and the most advanced section of the workingclass also is learning and applying new methods of struggle. The same forces that bring decay to other capitalisms are at work in America and with the aid of the Communist International, the leader of the world revolution, our party is building, slowly, but surely and effectively, a movement which challenges American capitalism in every phase of its activity.

The revolutionary wave has subsided and the American workingclass is not now clamoring before the fortress of capitalism. But this is a temporary halt in the forced march of the class struggle as all Communists know.

Far from being a period of pessimism and apthy, it is a period for new and increased activity, for building and strengthening our party, for finding new roads to the masses.

Strong and resolute, built on the solid foundation of Marxist-Leninism, confident in the leadership of the Comintern, our party enters its seventh year fully conscious of both its strength and weakness—its strength as the only revolutionary political party of the American workingclass, its weakness in that it has not as yet become a mass party.

But a mass party it must and will become because our party alone can organize, lead and inspire the American masses for the struggle for a workers' and farmers' government in America.

William F. Dunne.

* * *

Most Conscious Force for Labor's Progress.

SEVEN years of the Communist Party in the United States! This is a very short time in the history of social movements. In the history of society, the history of class struggles, even decades are not a long time.

Yet, in less than a decade, and facing the most cunning and best organized capitalist class in the world, the Communists have been able to inspire and stimulate the workingclass forward movements in many ways.

The Workers (Communist) Party has a long road to travel before it becomes the real leader of the American proletariat. But on this day of the Seventh Anniversary of our party we can certainly look with confidence towards the future when we examine the contributions we have made in developing workingclass political consciousness—the labor party movement—arousing the proletariat to its needs for organizing the unorganized, helping the movement for strengthening the trade unions and intusing the working and farming masses with a spirit of resistance to the encroachments of the exploiting class on the basic needs and working conditions of the American proletariat.

Today with the trade union bureaucracy part and parcel of the whole machinery of capitalist oppression and reaction, the Communists are the most conscious and energetic force for progress in the labor movement. No one can now point to a single constructive movement in the ranks of the workers in which the Communists are not an integral active force.

Every American worker should join our ranks and with us drive forward with redoubled energy and determination towards our goal—the victory of the workingclass and the establishment in the United States of a government of, by, and for the working class—an American Soviet Republic.

Jay Lovestone.

* * *

A Real Enemy of Capitalism Had Arisen.

THE birth of our Communist Party in August-September 1919 marked the most decisive turning point in the development of the revolutionary movement of the United States. The movement thus left behind it the period of merely debating and philosophizing about the class struggle and entered the period of fighting and directing it. A real enemy of capitalism had arisen. And two bulwarks of capitalism stood menacingly at the cradle of our party—arm in arm—attesting to their loyalty to capitalism: The socialist party and the Chicago police. But neither can the revolutionary spirit of our party be broken by the police, nor will the American workers be deceived forever by their misleaders. Our party will fulfil its mission in spite of all that and all that.

Max Bedacht.

* * *

Daily Worker—Greatest Party Achievement.

ONE thought only I would like to leave with my Communist Comrades and the growing hosts of our Communist sympathizers in the United States on this seventh anniversary of the American Communist Party. It is that one of the greatest achievements of our party, during the short period of its existence, was the establishment of our Communist Daily, The DAILY WORKER, that has now been maintained successfully, by exceedingly great efforts, for nearly four years. One of the major ambitions of every comrade and sympathizer during this coming eighth year of the party should be to strengthen and build this effective spokesman of our movement. FORWARD TO THE MASS COMMUNIST PARTY! FORWARD TO THE MASS COMMUNIST DAILY! FORWARD TO COMMUNISM!

—J. Louis Engdahl.

* * *

Strengthen the Party Organization.

THE effects of the Communist Party upon the American labor movement has been that of a life giving instrument, a clarifier of proletarian revolutionary ideology, a welder of the chaotic and latent left wing forces of labor and leader in the struggle against the forces of capitalism and the treachery of the labor bureaucracy.

Born seven years ago, in the fight within the socialist party, for revolutionary struggle, as against counter-revolutionary compromise and betrayal, under the inspiration of the Russian proletarian revolution, the growth of the party as the spokesman of the advanced and discontented section of the working class has been a continuous one.

Our resolve on this seventh anniversary must be to intensify our activities. To crystallize our activities organizationally by bringing in new members. To pay special attention to the forming of nuclei in the heavy industries. To help organize a Young Workers (Communist) League nucleus wherever there is a party nucleus. To insure the continuance of The DAILY WORKER by an energetic campaign to increase its circulation. To push into actual life the slogan of "Organize the Unorganized," to help build a powerful left wing movement in the trade unions.

If every party member will put this resolve into action, the building of our party into a mass Communist Party will have begun in earnest.

J. W. Johnstone.

* * *

The Vanguard of the American Workers.

FROM a rebellious left wing of the socialist party to a revolutionary political party of the American workingclass—this was the road travelled by the organized Communists of the United States since the summer of 1919.

Seven years ago we raised the banner of the social revolution and of the Communist International; and for this we were persecuted, hounded and driven underground. We proceeded ahead nevertheless and have established a Communist party in the United States.

Seven years ago we were a group of enthusiasts ready to storm heaven and hell for the liberation of the working class but without sufficient experience and organic contact with the struggling masses. Today we are just as enthusiastic and ready to fight but incomparably richer in political experience and an organic, inseparable part of the labor movement.

Thru sharp ideological struggles inside our movement; in the process of merciless struggle with the reformists and agents of capital in the labor movement; thru our energetic fights for the protection of the immediate interests of the masses, for the development of a left wing in the trade unions, for a labor party and for militant struggles against capitalism generally, we are establishing our party as the vanguard of the workers of the United States.

—Alex Bittelman.

Young Communists Greet Party Anniversary

THE organized revolutionary youth is proud of its leader, the Workers (Communist) Party. Of all the political organizations claiming composition of workers in this country the Communists alone, have been sufficiently interested in the struggle of the young workers to pay special attention to their organization and interests.

When during the world war the Social patriots of Europe and America who had won the leadership of the workers turned their backs on the anti-war agitation among the masses, the young workers of five countries—even before the adult workers—convened in Berne, Switzerland, and began an organized struggle against capitalism. The Russian revolution and war support brought the split within the American Socialist Party and separated the left wing elements from those who were following the supporters of the war, Hillquit, Berger, and company. At that time the American youth by an overwhelming majority were not found wanting in revolutionary spirit.

Today we are working hard; working hard to win the working youth to Communism. In the light of your leadership we will succeed.

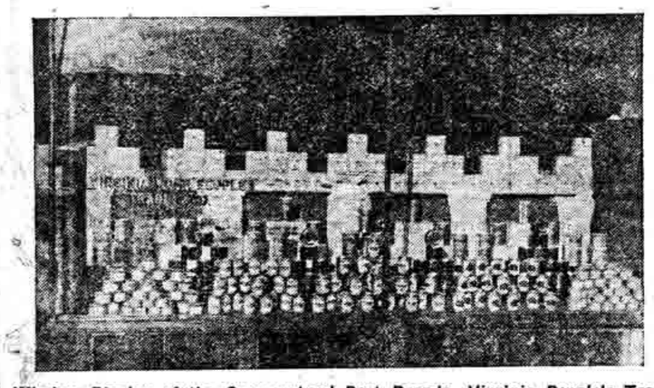
Greetings to you on your Seventh Anniversary! Long may you live!

SAM DARCY,
Sec'y. Young Workers (Communist) League of America.

Decoration by Jerger

A Chain of Successful Cooperatives

By GEORGE NALONEN.



Window Display of the Co-operators' Best Brands—Virginia People's Trading Co., Virginia, Minn.

IN the Northwest we find a successful consumers' co-operative movement. Over a hundred co-operative stores, altho independent and locally controlled, are federated thru their own co-operative wholesale, the Co-Operative Central Exchange, for commercial and educational purposes.

Many a story could be told, how isolated, purely local co-operative stores were helped out of chaos and bankruptcy thru the efforts of the wholesale. And now the situation is such that all the stores which are in direct contact with the Co-operative Central Exchange are standing on their own feet and are continually reaping benefits from the experiences gained in common.

Sales and Other Figures.

At the present complete data have been compiled from about 40 co-operative stores affiliated with the Co-operative Central Exchange. The figures are for the year 1925. Net sales were $2,856,284.11; gross profit, $444,923.38; total expenses, $347,336.63; total net gain, $119,121.24.

Resources and Liabilities.

These same co-operative stores showed the following resources:

Cash on hand and in bank, $76,223.72; accounts and notes receivable, $288,758.97; merchandise inventory, $425,625; real estate, $428,754.78; fixtures and equipment, $134,938.37; other resources, $51,481.36; total resources, $1,405,682.11.

Liabilities: Borrowed capital, $374,771.38; accounts payable, $185,661.85; other liabilities, $56,411.35; share capital (paid in), $412,504.72; reserve funds, $281,905.22; undivided profits, $94,426.59; total liabilities and net worth, $1,405,682.11.

Expenses as Compared with Private Stores.

For the first time in the history of the American co-operative movement, we have available comparative statistics as to the expenses of co-operative stores. The data on the cost of private grocers are compiled by the bureau of research of Harvard University and comprises the average of 545 retail grocers in 1924. The statistical department of the Co-operative Central Exchange compiled data on cost of 42 co-operative stores affiliated with the C. C. E.

The total of various expense items is: Private grocers, 18 per cent, and co-operative stores, 12.16 per cent. The corresponding gross margins were 19.8 per cent and 15.58 per cent.

These figures prove that co-operative stores can be successful and of benefit to the consumers, even in America.

Co-operative centralization tells the same story. Last year the gross profit of the Co-operative Central Exchange was 7.31 per cent and the expenses were 6.26 per cent. The corresponding figures of privately owned wholesales of the same size were 11.5 per cent and 11 per cent.

Educational Activities.

These co-operative stores do not limit their activities to commercial matters. This summer the stores have shown great activities on the educational field. Every Sunday there has been some kind of co-operative picnic or mass meeting. The masses have shown lively interest. One of these picnics, held at Chisholm, Minn., was attended by a crowd of about 3,000 people.

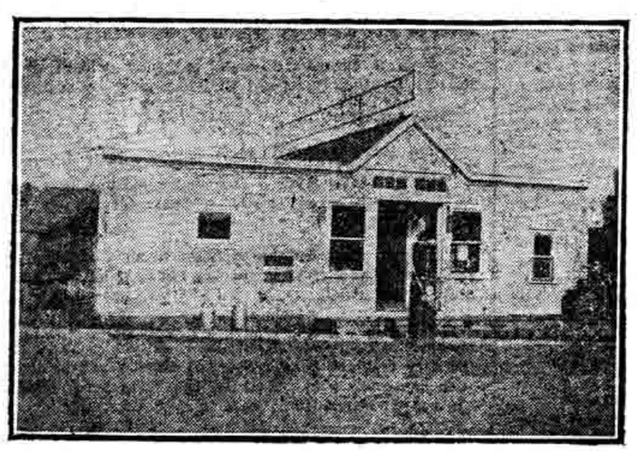
The program at these picnics, as well as at the indoor entertainments, was comprised of speeches, music, etc.

In addition the Co-operative Central Exchange helps the local stores in their educational activities by furnishing leaflets, a monthly magazine, the Co-operative Pyramid Builder, and advices on various subjects. During last year the exchange issued 76,000 leaflets on seven different subjects. About 8,000 circulars, dealing with educational questions, were mailed to the educational committees, employes and boards of directors of the societies.

The main task in the educational work has been to connect the isolated co-operatives with each other for common purposes, and to get the masses to understand that the co-operative movement is a working-class movement and thereby a part of the general labor movement.

A United Front.

Altho small in comparison to this big country, this movement in the Northwest has proved that the co-operative movement in America has possibilities. The co-operative stores, rightly handled, can be commercially successful when they are rooted in the every day struggle of the workers and farmers. These hundred co-operatives referred to have been able to unite workers and farmers of different political and religious opinions. A formidable united front is the result and the common activity is teaching valuable lessons why and how the workers should fight their common enemy—the profit system.



A Typical Farmers' Co-operative Store—Brule, Wis.

STREET CLEANER

By Herschell Bek.

Whisper it into the ear of God,
He know how you fel about,
O cleaner of streets!
O handler of broom and shovel!
going up and down the streets,
sweeping up the dust
And the dirt and the dung,
day after day after day,
And nobody giving you a tumble,
And nobody giving a damn,—

Whisper it into the ear of God,
He knows how you feel about it,
trying to keep the streets clean
of the dirt and the dust,
and, always, the dirt and the dust
coming back again,—
Hasn't He held down your job
For a time too long to remember?

TO THE PASSAIC STRIKERS.

Hail to you, Passaic strikers,
Hail to you, you iron band,
Know that your courage shall live forever,
In the minds of workers all through the land.

Poverty, hunger, starvation, your lot,
And yet you did not bend
Under the strain of tired body and mind,
Your fight has won many a friend.

Strikers heated to rebellion,
Women and children helping, too,
They have come for a mass demonstration,
Ah! There we see some coats of blue.

Blows are raining on the strikers,
Men are beaten, women fall,
And now the screams of terrified children
Can be heard over all.

You've done your work well, you damned sluggers,
You've beaten and bruised our women and men,
But the Day of Freedom's before us,
And we'll be the masters then.

By Rose Cohen.

THE TINY WORKER

A Weekly — Edited by Mathew Sprajcar, Verona, Pa. — Johnny Red, Assistant.

Vol. 1. — Saturday, August 28, 1926 — No. 14

A LONESOME LITTLE CAPITALIST

By D. Shvelenko
Chicago, Ill.

A lonesome little capitalist
Sitting on the moon.
He said the world revolution
Came too soon.
2.
Oh, how he hates thase Communists
They are his lifelong foe
And all the world is full of them
Where else is he to go?
3.
So there he is, sitting on a chilly moon
Praying for the Communists' ruin.

REAL HISTORY

A relative of George Washington, says George "swore and drank like a gentleman."

Sure he did. And he stole land like a gentleman, too!

Do any of our little Reds know more real history. Come on—send it in!

NEWS

The A. F. of L. membership is nearly three and a half million. If their reactionary leaders wouldn't stick around so much with the bosses the membership would be a lot bigger.

The Chinese Nationalists are making Chop-Suey out of the reactionaries. Good boys—make some more!

JOHNNY RED—THE WISE OWL

By Rose Horowitz,
Rochester, N. Y.

Johnny Red was a little wise old owl. He knew he could learn a lot by listening to others. So he let Rosie Red, his sister, tell him this story:

"Oh, I just dread those ugly caterpillars," said the daughter of a wealthy banker one day, and saying so, she stepped on every one that she saw. By the time she was ready to step on the last, she was all tired out so she sat down and soon found it crawling on her dress again so she threw it off and went into the house.

About a week later when Corrinne came out of the house again and saw a beautiful yellow butterfly, she tried to catch it but the butterfly proudly dodged her and said. "Now that I am pretty you love me, but before I spun my cocoon, you called me an ugly creature and despised me. You would have killed me but you were too tired after killing the rest of my comrades." . . .

"Ghee, Rosie," Johnny Red said, "that's just the same with workers. When they have money—they are loved, but when they are poor they are hated and despised.

Now, wasn't Johnny a wise little owl for listening?

MATTY IS EDITOR

Mathew Sprajcar, aged 13, of Verona, Pa., is editor of this issue. He sent us this nice little story we're sure you will like.

THE CAPITALIST DREAM

One day a Capitalist was very tired so he told his servants that he was going to take a nap and that nobody was to bother him. Presently he fell asleep and was dreaming.

He dreamed that a worker walked toward him with a quarter which was burnt red-hot and looked like a gold piece of money. The worker told him he was too poor to keep lots of money and that the Capitalist could have it.

The Capitalist made a grab for it and instantly felt a burning pain in the palm of his hand. He yelled to the worker that he would have him hanged for giving him that red-hot quarter.

The next moment he woke up and found out that he forgot to throw away his lighted cigar and the cigar had burnt his hand.

GOOD NEWS!

We got some of the nicest little things from our little writers and poets of the Tiny Worker. Some of them will be in next Saturday's issue. Be sure to get it!

Decorative head drawn by Fred Ellis.

By V. F. CALVERTON.

TO quiet, agrarian souls the railroad came like an invader in the night. It was a spectre that threatened to overspread the land with disaster and destruction. A demon of smoke and steel, it screamed its way across continent, stopped only by ocean and sea. Its whistle foretold the fall of rustic civilization.

The locomotive, in brief, was viewed as a leviathan, an octopus.

This was a social mood, not an individual caprice or poetic protest. In "The Octopus" Frank Norris gives it vigorous and vivid expression. Presley, in the early pages of the novel, epitomizes the attitude in a paragraph:

"Then, faint and prolonged, across the levels of the ranch, he heard the engine whistling for Bonneville. Again and again, at rapid intervals in its flying course, it whistled for road crossings, for sharp curves, for trestles; ominous notes, hoarse, bellowing, ringing with the accents of menace and defiance; and abruptly Presley saw again, in his imagination, the galloping monster, the terror of steel and steam, with its single eye, cyclopean, red, shooting from horizon to horizon; but saw it now as the symbol of a vast power, huge, terrible, flinging the echo of its thunder over all the reaches of the valley, leaving blood and destruction in its path; the leviathan, with tentacles of steel clutching into the soil, the soulless Force, the iron-hearted Power, the monster, the Colossus, the Octopus."

The locomotive effected a revolution in the western world. It revolutionized production by accelerating transportation, and revolutionized ideas by increasing contacts and multiplying communications, and changing leisurely hamlets into bustling towns and cities. It announced the beginning of a new age.

Frank Norris' novel, "The Octopus," is devoted to the theme of the locomotive and the epic of the wheat. Norris was one of the first American novelists to conceive of life in terms of forces instead of individuals. There was something sentimental in Norris' attitude, it is true, but there was at the same time something very powerful and something very accurate in his exaltation of forces over individuals. In an intuitive way, perhaps, he understood that it was man's destiny to control these forces for his own salvation, but into his novels this intuition seldom crept. It was always the force of the locomotive, the power of the wheat that prevailed. Life for Norris was a sweeping epic in which man was but an inconspicuous, microscopical puppet. Yet there was about Norris' work a proletarian sympathy and protest which, though not scientific or socialistic, invariably endowed his better work with a flash of beauty that was lacking in the prudish pastels of Howells. The conversation between two of the characters, Presley and Vanamee, about the former's poem, called "The Toilers," is illustrative of an attitude that was not characteristic of the bourgeois literature of the nineteenth century. Presley, whom we mentioned before, was a poetic type, hugging the soil as his inspiration; Vanamee, a mystic, in love with the magic of the wheat, is like an irridescent apparition of the endless plains.

"The moment seemed propitious. The stillness of the vast, bare hills was profound. The sun was setting in a cloudless brazier of red light; a golden dust pervaded all the landscape. Presley read his poem aloud. When he had finished his friend looked at him.

"'What have you been doing lately?' he demanded. Presley, wondering, told of his various comings and goings.

"'I don't mean that,' returned the other. 'Something has happened to you, something has aroused you. I am right, am I not? Yes, I thought so. In this poem of yours you have not been trying to make a sounding piece of literature. You wrote it under tremendous stress. Its very imperfections show that. It is better than a mere Rhyme. It is an Utterance—a Message. It is Truth. You have come back to the primal heart of things, and you have seen clearly. Yes, it is a great poem.'

"'Thank you,' explaimed Presley fervidly. 'I had begun to mistrust myself.'

"'Now, observed Vanamee, 'I presume you will rush it into print. To have formulated a great thought, simply to have accomplished, is not enough.'

"'I think I am sincere,' objected Presley. 'If it is good, it will do good to others. You said yourself it was a Message. If it has any value, I do not think it would be right to keep it back from even a very small and most indifferent public.'

"'Don't publish it in the magazines at all events,' Vanamee answered. 'Your inspiration has come from the People. Then let it go to the People—not the literary readers of the monthly periodicals, the rich, who would only be indirectly interested. If you must publish it, let it be in the daily press. Dont interrupt. I know what you will say. It will be that the daily press is common, is vulgar, is undignified; and I will tell you that such a poem as this of yours, called as it is The Toilers, must be read by the Toilers. It must be common; it must be vulgarized. You must not stand upon your dignity with the People, if you are to reach them.'

"'That is true, I suppose,' Presley admitted, 'but I can't get rid of the idea that it would be throwing my poem away. The great magazine gives me such—a—background; gives me such weight.

"'Gives you such weight, gives you such background. Is it yourself you think of? You helper of the helpless. Is that your sincerity? You must sink yourself; must forget yourself and your own desires of fame, of admitted success. It is your poem, your message, that must prevail—not you, who wrote it. You preach a doctrine of abnegation, of self-obliteration, and you sign your name to your words as high on the tablets as you can reach, so that all the world may see, not the poem, but the poet. Presley, there are many like you. The social reformer writes a book on the iniquity of the possession of land, and out of the proceeds buys a corner lot. The economist who laments the hardships of the poor allows himself to grow rich upon the sale of his book.'

"But Presley would hear no further.

"'No,' he cried, 'I know I am sincere, and to prove it to you, I will publish my poem, as you say, in the daily press and I will accept no money for it.'"

It is the vision of the wheat, too, that fascinates and inspires Norris. Wheat is no common thing for him. It is no common growth that is whipped into food for humans. It is a conception. It is a sweeping reality. It is the sustenance of a nation, of a world. It is a poem and a passion, a reality that is irresistible and overwhelming.

"There it was, the Wheat, the Wheat! The little seed long planted, germinating in the deep, dark furrows of the soil, straining, swelling, suddenly in one night had burst upward to the light. The wheat had come up. It was there before him, around him, everywhere, illimitable, immeasurable. The winter brownness of the ground was overlaid with a little shimmer of green. The promise of the sowing was being fulfilled. The earth, the loyal mother, who never failed, who never disappointed, was keeping her faith again. Once more the strength of the nations was renewed. Once more the Titan, benignant, calm, stirred and woke, and the morning abruptly blazed into glory upon the spectacle of a man whose heart leaped exuberant with the love of a woman, and an exulting earth gleaming transcendent with the radiant magnificence of an inviolable pledge."

It is these two themes that course through the novel, the locomotive, and the wheat. The immensity of the wheat, after all, becomes a world-immensity only through the locomotive which can transport it from town to city and from city to nation. While "men perished, were shot down in the very noon of life, hearts were broken . . . and misery, death and anguish spun like a wheel of fire," the wheat remained, and its rushing roar down chute and channel continued "persistent, steady, inevitable." The struggle with the railroad was similar. Man succumbed to it. The peasant-farmer was exploited and extinguished. The old virtues were converted into the new vices. The men of the Ranch had surrendered to the men of the Railroad, yet Norris never forgets to stress the fact that it had been "forces rather than men (who) had locked horns in the struggle."

"Into the prosperous valley, into the quiet community of farmers, that galloping monster, that terror of steel and steam had burst, shooting athwart the horizons, flinging the echo of its thunder over all the ranches of the valley, leaving blood and destruction in its path . . . The ranches had been seized in the tentacles of the octopus; the iniquitous burden of extortionate freight rates had been imposed like a yoke of iron."

Like the novels of the christian socialist school in England, led by Kingsley and Mrs. Gaskell, Norris' novels, as we said in an earlier paragraph, evidence a certain sympathy with the proletariat. They are certainly not part of a proletarian art, which is an art created by the proletariat for the proletariat, or for all society. But they evidence a change from the literature of the bourgeoisie which had captured the literary citadel during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Before the eighteenth century, literature had been the child of the aristocracy, and, as in the works of Shakespeare, had expressed the ethics and esthetics of the feudal nobility. Norris' work marks the definite beginning of an anti-bourgeois trend in our literature.

Norris' work with its spirit of revolt grew out of the vast expansion of capitalism over the great western sections of the United States. The railroads had started as private companies, in bitter competition with each other, but in the struggle with the western ranchers and farmers, consolidation soon became expedient. The famous circular of January 2, 1889, issued by the three banking houses of Drexel, Morgan and Co., Brown Brothers and Company, and Kidder, Peabody and Company, and the notorious gathering at Morgans home, were the beginning of the "iron-clad combination" of railroad magnates that was to conclude the competition between the private companies. In the struggle for lands, congress invariably yielded to the railroad capitalists. The workmen were exploited, the farmers were tricked, the public, as the petty-bourgeoisie christens itself, was swindled. It was a time when millionaires were made in the mad gamble of a night, when cunning became a virtue and deceit a crown. While this insane scramble for wealth went on, and workers were bent, broken and crucified in the process, William Dean Howells, the leading American novelist of the bourgeoisie, wrote quiet, sweet stories of the parlor antics of the newly rich, and, in his own words, averted ugliness by turning his glance to "the more smiling aspects of life (which) are more American.' Frank Norris, on the other hand, detested this unreal sweetness and serenity, that prided itself upon the ostrich gesture. It was the smell of earth that haunted him. In him was a desire to tell fact and not fiction. He hated the bourgeoisie, who desired relief in art and escape in fiction. He did not wish to write boudoir literature for decadents or saccharine tales for sentimental virgins. He did not wish to devote his talent to the art of the precious few. "No art that is not in the end understood by the people," he wrote, "can live or ever did live a single generation." Altho Frank Norris' novels may lack finish and want form, though they may suffer from crudity and melodrama and oftimes fail of that beauty which great art attains, there is in them the spirit of candor and that flare of revolt that are always moving and dynamic. And it is in the light of this that one can understand the sincerity of his cry:

"I never truckled; I never took off my hat to Fashion and held it out for pennies. By God, I told them the truth. They liked it or they didn't like it. What had that to do with me? I told them the truth."

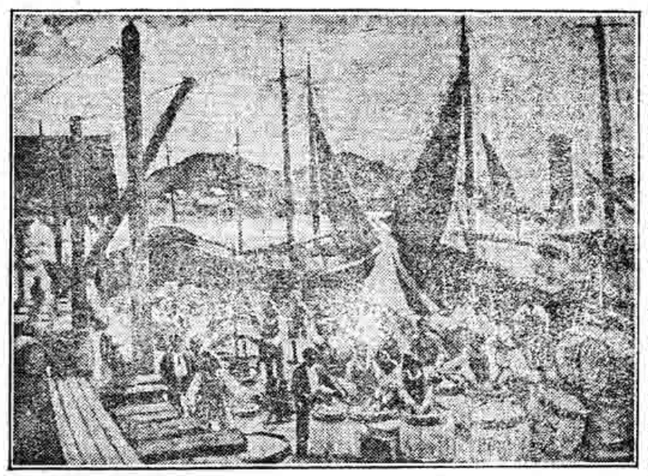
RUSSIA IN 1926 - - - By Jessica Smith

I HAVE been out of Russia for sixteen months after a continuous stay here of almost three years. During that first stay I saw the miraculous achievement of the first months after the famine when Moscow and in varying degrees the rest of Russia shook off its garment of misery and emerged over night with ruins repaired, buildings painted, new street car lines running, shops and restaurants in operation. I saw the less spectacular but equally thrilling progress of the months that followed when a whole people set to work with incredible energy to rebuild a country that had suffered a series of disasters that would have left a less resilient nation listless and stunned. I saw the wheels of industry gain momentum from month to month, the railroads whipped into shape, one stupendous problem after another tackled and solved. Not without mistakes here and there, terrific mistakes—not without crises that all but shook the whole structure to the ground again. But every mistake and crisis was made a lesson and so meant that the path ahead was that more secure. And the course was steadily upward.

During the past year in America a constant stream of returning bankers, business men, preachers and politicians have brought reports of still further economic progress, of increased production in industry, of more efficient service on the railroads, of a comparative abundance of goods and food on the market, and most significant of all, of a happier expression on the faces of the people. So I was prepared when I arrived in Moscow a month ago to find that the two bus-lines that were operating when I left had increased to ten, that new buildings were going up everywhere, that the little last minute purchases I had forgotten to make in New York could all be made on the Petrovka, and that everyone was better fed and better clothed.

Now I have been here a month. I have left the snow bound north and came a thousand miles south to the village of Maslov Kut in the low lands of the North Caucasus region where the tiny green flames of the winter wheat are licking up higher and higher every day as the tides of winter ebb northward. I have talked to some of the peasants, attended a meeting or two, and during long days when the misty spring rains have turned the roads to deep sticky mud, I have read all the Russian papers I could lay my hands on. And I find that the change that has taken place in the last sixteen months is a far more fundamental one than the mere raising of the general economic level and consequently the material standard of the population.

Building a Socialist Economy.



The Port of Murmansk—A Painting by K. H. Korigin.

Russia has definitely entered upon a new period during this past year. So far her progress has been within the technical framework of the old Russia. In order to build a new economic structure it was necessary first to get back to the point where they were before the revolution. There was not time to begin at the bottom and introduce a new technique all along the line. The change of ownership and organization could not wait for a change in the old methods to give them a more solid basis. First it was necessary to make the old system work, to fill the gap of the transition period, and then, when the elemental needs of food and clothing and shelter were satisfied, begin to build the new. The process of building the new has now begun in earnest. True, in absolute figures neither industry or agriculture or trade have attained quite their pre-war proportions. But they have come very near it—so near that nothing can stop their attaining them in the course of the next year or so. But the old technique and the old machinery have reached their limit. The progress that will take place from now on will break the bonds of the old technical structure, and is dependent on the introduction of new methods and new machinery.

I do not, however, want to give the impression that all is smooth sailing ahead. At the early spring there was a tense situation as regards foreign trade, the internal market, currency, fuel and transport, and the economic difficulties are not in the least minimized by the Soviet officials. The press was full of the frankest discussion of the mistakes that have been made within the last few months. But there is an important difference between the type of crises that Russia has gone thru in the past, and the present situation. This difference is implicit in the very terminology used in the discussions. Formerly every thing was a "crisis." Now there are "economic difficulties." The cause of these crises was destitution in one field or another—and they had to be solved by bending every available resource and effort toward the solution of that particular problem, even at the expense of some other vital element in the national structure, so that each crisis was usually followed by another crisis, for everything was at such a low ebb that the withdrawing of funds and attention from any part of the economic organism meant stagnation in that particular branch. But the economic level has gradually risen to the point where funds and attention can be more equally distributed, and the difficulties of the present are rather due to a more rapid growth in one line than another, and to an increase in the material demands of the population outstripping the capacity of industry to supply them.

THE commodity hunger rises from complex causes. In the face of an absolute increase in industrial production the growth has been far greater during the last year in heavy industry than in light. The city population with its increased buying power gobbles up much of the goods before it ever gets to the villages. What does reach the villages disappears from the shelves of the co-operatives like dew before the sun. Prices are still abnormally high, but there is no cry of overproduction now. No matter how high the prices the amount of good has still not caught up with the paying demand. No wonder the peasant will not part with his grain too rapidly. His belly is full at last. He is tired of his pre-war rags. He wants new agricultural machinery, but he also wants new clothes and shoes and whatever the factories can offer to make life a little more gracious after these years of struggle. He doesn't care so much what he is paid for his grain as long as there is something for him to buy in exchange.

Nothing could be franker than the admission of all these mistakes on the part of the government officials, nothing could be clearer and more searching than their analysis of the situation and its causes, nothing more realistic than their method of handling it. The export program for the current year has been cut down from 1,105,151,000 gold roubles to 720,000. Consequently the import program has to be cut from 1,009,678,000 to 685,000,000. For the gold reserve had to be drawn on again to meet obligations incurred when the larger figure was contemplated and they are insisting rigidly on the prompt meeting of all foreign obligations. Furthermore, they cannot run the risk of inflation by issuing more paper money. Some of the tractors will therefore have no plows to pull, some of the reapers and binders will stand useless without binder twine—but that is a temporary situation and the effect will be less serious than that of a falling rouble. Strictest economy is being observed all along the line. Credits for industry have been cut to the limit, the greatest care is being observed in the issuance of new currency, and from month to month the volume of goods on the market is being increased. Even while the discussion still rages, these things are going into effect, and from day to day improvement in the situation are manifest.

I read about this situation in Rykov's speech in the Moscow papers a few days ago. I heard it again in the speech of a representative of the party "control commission" who visited Maslov Kut a week or so ago to find out from the local population at a public meeting what their complaints were and whether the local Communists were carrying out the government policy in the real interests of the population. The commission checked up carefully on every complaint. One of two members were ousted from the party. Similar commissions are visiting the factories and finding out what is the trouble there. Thus the Sovietgovernment keeps a double check on itself. On the one hand they keep a close check themselves on the Communist Party members to make sure they are carrying out the policy correctly. On the other, by their constant public addmissions of fault and definitely to the remedy that the whole country will insist on its enforcement. They have provided for this by loosening Communist control in the villages, and insisting that the peasants express themselves freely. There is no pressure applied in the elections. The peasants elect whom they will to the village Soviet, and Communist who stay in office do so not by pressure from above but because they can prove in actual practice that they are working in the interests of the peasants.

The solving of the present difficulties will find Russia again far outstripping the progress of other years. More precautions than ever are being taken to avoid the mistakes of the past, and through the government planning commission plans are being worked out which will assure the equilibrium of the economic structure. The good harvest expected this year will find the government far better prepared to handle it than last. The progress that takes place from now on involves the application of new methods and machinery in both industry and agriculture which will create the new technique which, strictly controlled by the workers' government, will be a solid foundation for the socialist state of the future.

SOME OF THE FEATURES IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The Story of Labor Day, by Thurber Lewis. Decorative drawing by O'Zim.

In the Hell of Europe, by A. Landy. An introductory article to a series of articles by Henri Barbusse on the white terror in the Balkan States which will begin publication in a forthcoming issue of this magazine. Illustrative drawings by German artists.

The Control of Wages, the next serial article for the section of "What and How to Read," by Arthur W. Calhoun.

MARCHING SONG

The lightning strikes the single oak,
The hurricane hurls it over,
But the forest laughs at the feeble stroke
That levels the lonely rover.

Chorus.

So gather, together,
Divided we crack
At the first attack,
United we stand forever.

A single string snaps at the strain
Of a kite that a child can measure,
But the braided strands such strength attain
As to tow the stars at pleasure.

Chorus.

A heel can keep from struggling free
The waters in isolation,
But the woven river bends no knee
To the traffic of a nation.

Chorus.

Our masters note our compact strength,
The unbroken ranks behind us
And know that their doom has dawned at length,
With the end of the chains that bind us.

Chorus.

—J. S. Wallace.

Christ on the Corner - By T. J. O'Flaherty

REVEREND EPHRAIM BROWN, chief soap-boxer in the Church of the Living God, was pinch-hitting for Jesus on the Madison Street slave market. In adition to a bible, his equipment consisted of a banjo, one small drum, one large drum, a tambourine and two women, one very black, the other not so black. The Reverend Ephraim Brown was as black as the very black woman.

On the big drum was written: "This is the property of the Church of the Living God. Rev. Ephraim Brown." Besides making loud noises it also served the rather ungodly purpose of a collection box.

Madison Street, between Racine and Canal, holds the flop-house championship of the world. Unskilled labor is recruited here for the lumber camps, construction camps and the harvest fields in season.

Workers, shipping out after leaving their money to the bootleggers, the bawdy houses and some of the sky-pilots who offer the lonely the consolation of a thought from a mythical god at so much per brain wave.

Workers returning from a job, out for excitement. They get it too. When they are broke employment office sharks ship them off for another roll.

Salvation Army lassies, Volunteers of America, individual preachers—all take a turn at saving the exploited workers. Rather their souls! Reverend Ephraim Brown was no organization man. He was working on his own.

A little wiry man was Brown, dressed neatly in a black suit topped by a skull cap somewhat larger than the headgear affected by the famous Bryan brothers at the last democratic national convention. A pair of glasses and a crucifix completed the Reverend Brown's sartorial equipment, at least the part exposed to the naked eye.

The blacker of the two women thumped the little drum, whenever a sinner showed sings of repentance and explored his pockets for metallic proof of a change of heart. Only dues paying penitents were recognized by the Church of the Living God. The sound made by the drum induced abandon and recklessness. Without a drum what could a street corner preacher do? This woman tickled the banjo when the preacher lapsed into verse. She was also banker for the firm.

The other lady on the Rev. Brown's staff was seated on a collapsible chair. Her job was to read the bible while the preacher explained it in a sing-song voice. A rather attractive mulatto.

Self-confidence oozed from the Reverend Brown. He defied his audience to prove that he was not giving the correct interpretation of the "word of god." It was not sufficient to read the good book, he said. It must be understood. He was offering genuine salvation. His customers would not be disappointed.

With so many different religions angling for souls how could a poor fellow avoid getting stung? Well, the Reverend Ephraim Brown could not be everywhere, and woe unto the sinner who did not run across him.

"Yo pore sinners can no more pick out a religion what is good for you," he said, "than a person with a sluggish liver could go into a drug store and pick out the right medicine without knowing what medicine was."

This sounded plausible.

Weary men sat on the curb. Some were weary and old. Tattered, hungry-looking wreck of humanity. Faces covered with scars and showing the ravages of disease. Others looked healthy enough. The atmosphere was charged with alcohol fumes. To light a match was risky.

The Reverend Brown was in the middle of a harangue against the demon rum when a voice from the crowd asked: "Isn't it a fact that Jesus made wine and drank it?"

The preacher turned quickly to the quarter where the question came from.

"It's a lie," he shouted. "I will not let anyone get away with an attack on Jesus."

"Aw, how the hell do you know what Jesus drank? It's a long time ago, ain't it?" This from a curbstone listener.

A tall husky Swede in overalls who had just dropped a dime on the big drum and felt that he had an equity in the Church of the Living God, offered to knock the inquisitive one into the middle of the street but the preacher held up his hand. A little excitement was the life of his trade. The Swede growled.

"He's full of moonshine," he snarled. By this time the skeptical one managed to get on his feet and after two attempts succeeded in mounting the curb. Using the shoulders of bystanders to steady him, he got to the Swede and acted as if about to commence hostilities. Contrary to expectations the Swede was not yet ready for war. Suddenly both extended their hands and shook. The preacher smiled and asked the girl with the bible to open to page so and so and quote Timothy or somebody who said something that apparently had nothing whatever to do with the aversion of a threatened quarrel. But the Reverend Brown smiled confidently and by the time he got thru explaining, the two near-belligerents were the happiest persons in the audience.

"A man who would drink moonshine is not fit for the kingdom of heaven," shouted the preacher who was growing madder and madder over the thought of anybody thinking Jesus took a nip.

"Jesus did not turn water into wine," he hollered, "but he put one over on the drunken bum of a governor at the feast. Why, Jesus was too smart for them. Those fellows were drinking all day and when they ran short, Jesus brought them water and they were so drunk they thought it was wine."

"You kept the best wine until last," said the governor, and Jesus laughed at him.

"Jesus laughed at him," crooned the very dusky lady. The mulatto picked her teeth and waited for the Reverend Brown's spasm to pass. It did in due time with the preacher looking none the worse for the excitement.

"Now I will answer questions," announced the Reverend Brown, "but first I want to tell you folks that I get nothing from god directly and very little the other way. Whatever I get is because god puts kind thoughts in your heart and you give because you know I cannot live on hot air, or do god's work on an empty stomach. I don't want much. Out of the little I get folks, I give away to god's poor. I gave about one thousand dollars away last year. I can prove it to you. Now I want three dollars, that isn't much folks. Now who is going to start?"

Horny hands began to fish into cavernous pockets. A dime, two dimes, four quarters, then several nickels hopped on to the drum. The preacher signalled to the lady with the banjo to strike up a tune. The three began to sing; the Reverend Brown always keeping his eye on the drum.

The shower of silver stopped. The trio stopped singing. The mulatto eyed the husky Swede who had already contributed three dimes to the drum. She smiled at him. The preacher counted: "Four quarters, one dollar. Eight dimes and four nickels, makes two dollars, six nickels, thirty cents. Folk, you gave me two dollars and thirty cents. I need seventy cents to make what I want. Are you going to give it to me?"

"Give the man what he wants," came a voice from the crowd. The preacher turned quickly.

"Yes, do as the good man said," he encouraged.

The good man lurched out of the crowd and swaggered bravely into Madison Street.

"No, come along with the questions. Ask anything you want?"

"I want to ask a question," said a miserably-dressed person of middle age.

"Ask your question, brother," admonished the preacher.

"Give me a dime to sleep in the Dawes Hotel."

The preacher cocked his ears and pondered. He had to think quickly. The mendicant might be establishing a dangerous precedent.

The Reverend Brown turned to the very dark lady with the banjo and asked her if she had such a thing as a dime on her person. She had. On second thought he advised her to keep the coin.

The audience would pay, perhaps. The Reverend Brown got 15 cents immediately from the crowd. More was coming but the preacher halted the collection. The man was getting more than he asked for—fifty per cent more.

"Now," said Rev. Brown, "before I turn over this money to this man, I want to find out if anybody in this audience knows this man. If not, the man is perfectly alright and he gets the money. But if anybody knows him and knows that he is not saying what is god's truth, then he don't deserve the money and he don't get it. I would not be doing the right thing by god if I gave his children's money to spend to an unworthy person."

Nobody volunteered to spill the beans on the needy person and he went his way joyfully with his fifteen cents tucked away in his pocket.

Some murmured that the Reverend Brown was a good and charitable person. Others growled that what he gave away was not his own.

The preacher was still after the missing seventy cents. However, he knew that the question period would bring aditional attendance and he asked the audience to speak up.

"I was coming down the street," began one, "and I saw a man laid out for dead on the street. The cop told me it was moonshine did it. Now do you think that a law that does a thing like that to a man is a good law? What do you think of prohibition?"

"I think it would be better if that man could go into a place and get a good drink of liquor than drink moonshine. Prohibition has done more harm than good. Did you ever know of a man who drank his own moonshine?"

There was no answer, but the very word made teeth water.

"Any more questions?"

"Are the Jews god's chosen people?"

Before the preacher had time to answer, the tall Swede staggered across the street and threatened to beat the questioner into pulp.

"What hell do he know about bible, anyhow?" he said. "He know more about whore house." This amused the preacher and his women considerably.

"They were," replied the Reverend Brown. "Yes, the Jews were once god's chosen people, but no more. When the Jews dropped circumcision, then they were no longer god's children. Now it's no more than matter of form just like this," rubbing his palms gently and grinning.

The audience got a great kick out this question and three or four dimes hopped on to the drum.

I have a question to ask, bashfully whispered a healthy looking, clean and well kept man by my side.

"What is it?"

"I got stung by a woman."

"This is not a divorce court," replied the preacher to the delight of the crowd. A few more nickels fell on the drum.

The man who got stung confided to me that his wife ran away from him after sharing his bed and board for only fifteen days.

"I don't give a damn," he said philosophically, "it's cheaper without her. I get along alright. I work for the city and get good money. I think she ran away with somebody else. Well, let him have her. What's the use when she don't want to live with me?"

By this time the Reverend Brown has his three dollars and he pulled up his stakes and called it a day—at least as far as that corner was concerned.