ISSUED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY (Majority Group)

COUNTRIES

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WORKERS OF ALL

UNITE

VOL. II, No. 9.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1931.

### JOBLESS WORKERS RAID FOOD STORE

Oklahoma City Jobless Take Food After Aid Is Denied by City

OKLAHOMA CITY-A crowd of five hundred men and women, jobless and starving raided a grocery store near the city hall here on January 20. These workers, organized in the Oklahoma City Unemployed Council, had sent a delegation to City Manager E. M. Pry requesting that the authorities furnish immediate When this was refused the unemployed went on to the grocery store and took what they needed to appease their bitter hunger.

The police hastily assembled emergency squads and dispersed the unemployed with tear gas. Twenty-six workers were

Both Negro and white workers were in the crowd of unemployed.

### S A WORKERS CALL FOR UNITED FRONT

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Jan. 25.

A call for a united front conference to all labor progressive and revoluto all labor progressive and revolu-tionary organizations of San Antonio to meet on Sunday, February 15, 1931, 3 P. M., at Christopher Colum-bus, 201 Morales Street, has been is-sued by the United Front Conference Committee of the Workers League (Liga Obrera), A Merino, secretary.

The conference is called for the following purposes: the struggle against unemployment, the defence of the foreign-born, the defence of the labor press against government persecu-tion, the defence of class war prison-ers, the preparation of a joint May 1 celebration, the struggle for the reeognition of the USSR, etc. The following organizations have been invited to attend this united front conference: the Communist Party (S. A. unit) the Communist Party (Majoranist) ity Group), S. A. unit, the Trade Union Unity League, the International Labor Defence, the Anarchist group Claridad, the Marxist Socialist group, Workmen's Circle branches 521 and 372, the Liga Obrera, the Friends of the Soviet Union, the International Workers Order and the Unemployment Council.

# We Must Save the AGE!

The Age Is In Danger! What Will YOU Do For It?

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS

MORE and more the workers improve and strengthen at least one are answering the call to maintain and build the REVOLUTION-ARY AGE, From the hard coal fields in the East, Arkansas in the Southwest, from Los Angeles, on the Pacific Coast, from San Antonio and from New York contributions are coming in.

U. S. Circuit Court to bar the Rev. and shopmates and rush the funds to

effective Communist organ in the United States.

Is your name on this honor list? Is your name on this revolutionary, this working class service list? It

of breadlines and joblessness, still

ing in the field a fighting revolutoinary paper, a genuine Communist voice in defiance of capitalist reaction. And the workers like our paper more and more with every is- help. It is very urgent. sue—judging by the way out subscriptions are coming in and by the increasing sales at workers' meet-

But we are still too close to the danger line. In fact WE ARE TO-DAY ON THE DANGER LINE. The following workers whose names

herewith publish have already answered our call for help and have done their bit to keep going and to

olutionary Age from the mail. This us. You need the help of the REVis the best way to insure our keep- OLUTIONARY AGE badly—today more than ever, The REVOLU-TIONARY AGE needs your help badly, today and right now.

J. Shaffer Badly Hurt In Railway Accident

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.-J. Shaffer, active Communist and one of the eaders of the San Antonio Communst Party (Majority Group) met with a scribus railway accident and for a seven miners joined the time was at the point of death. Now Party (Majority Group). SENATE AND HOOVER PLAY POLITICS time was at the point of death. Now however, there is greater hope for his recovery if no complications set in and if no internal int recovery if no complications set in hospital attendants are mystified at

ered which have not yet come to light, loved by the Mexicans.

"Naval Truce" Scrapped; Unlimited Competition Rushing Ahead

PARIS-The "naval truce" between Italy and France came to an end and now both countries are plunging into un restricted warship building on a big scale The "naval truce" had served rather to direct the lines of naval construction than Broke as you may be in the days of breadlines and joblessness, still it was understood, France was ready to This is the way every worker should answer the decision of the possibly can gather from your friends in the possibly can gather from your friends in the possibly can gather from your friends in the projected German fleet." and another 100,000 to keep and shopmates and rush the funds to

> It is semi-officially announced in Rome that Italy is going to build gun for gun with France in naval construction this year-quite apart from Italy's normal

The ending of the "naval truce" is a definite sign of the straining of relations between Italy and France in the struggle for hegemony in the Mediterranean.

LUZERNE, Pa., Jan. 25.—The Communist Party of the United States (Majority Group) held a Len-in Memorial meeting which was the higgest Communist meeting held in the anthracite territory in many months. Nincty-seven workers of all nationalities listened attentively to Comrade Lovestone who was the main Comrade Frank Vrataric

Comrade Lovestone spoke of the lessons Lenin taught the workers and showed how the Communist Party of the United States (Majority Group) proposed to apply these concretely to the conditions in the country. He exposed and atacked the ruinous sectarian line of the official Party. Many questions were asked. Discus-

sion followed. The official party Lenin memorial meeting attracted only 80 workers of whom quite a number were members of the Communist Party of the United States (Majority Group).

After the meeting six workers sub-scribed to the Revolutionary Age and seven miners joined the Communist

# BIG NAVAL RACE ROUND Table Plan Aims To Choke Indian Struggle

Scheme Proposes Federal Government Under British-Appointed Governor-General With Full Powers; Suffrage Narrowly Limited;; Native States to Remain Under Despotic Rule; British Imperialists Hail Plan

#### INDIAN MASSES ROUSED IN PROTEST; WILL FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

LONDON .- The round table Indian, conference ended its nine weeks of deliberations here on January 19 with the drafting of a new "constitution" for In-dia and a speech by Prime Minister Mac-Donald explaining the principles of this constitution. The decisions of the conference were unanimous. The recom- of home-rule within the Empire in the

THE EVOLUTION OF A "PEACE CONFERENCE"

The scheme worked out by the round table conference promises the realization

mendations will now come before the remote future, and, for the immediate British Parliament for action. present, provides for a governmental structure in which the interests of British imperialism will be well safeguarded and The New "Constitution" the strivings of the Indian masses completely disregarded.

The scheme proposes a federal government for India as a whole. The legislature of this federal government is to consist of two houses: an "upper house" of about 150 to which members are to be selected by the various provinces of British India and by the various native states—by the provincial legislatures of the former and by the maharajaha (native princes) and their councils in the latter, and a "lower house" of about 250 elected by a very limited suffrage in the British provinces and appointed by the maharajahs in the native states. The executive of the federal government is to consist of a cabinet responsible to the legislature headed by a governor-general appointed by the British imperalists in London.

The powers of the governor general, the direct agent of the British, are very extensive. He is to have full powers of defense (i.e., control over the armed forces), of external affairs, of financial affairs (so that the "financial obligations" of British imperialism will be met), and, in case of emergency, "to maintain the tranquillity of the country" (i.e., to exercise dictatorial powers). During the "transition period" to the initiation of the new plan, the governor general is to have even greater powers.

The same kind of "home rule" is to

be extended to the provinces. In British India there are to be "responsible" provincial legislatures elected by the votes of the smallest fraction of the population. In the native states the autocracy of the maharajahs is to he maitnained.

General governmental powers are to reside in the provincial governments; the federal government will have only powers that are specially given to it.

(India is made up of the provinces of British India and the "protected" native states. The area of British India is 1,094,300 square miles; its population is (1921) 246,946,793. The area of the native states is 711,032 square miles; its population (1921) is 71,939,187.)

### Various Opinions

The draft "constitution" of the round able conference has been greeted with unanimous applause on the part of the capitalist press in England. Of course the Lahor Party endorses it heartily; so does the liberal press. And altho the die hard Tory press is sceptical, Earl Peel conservative spokesman, declared heartily in favor of the plan.
In India, the Times of India, official

British imperialist organ, hails the plan. as a "great constitutional victory." Prom-(Continued on page 2)

### WITH MISERY OF MASSES Sacred by Revolt of Drought-Stricken Farmers Senate

Makes Relief Gesture; Hoover Declares Government Relief "Unscientific" and "Un-American"

WASHINGTON.- By a vote of 56 to 27, the Senate readopted, on Jan-uary 19, the Robinson amendment to Vandenburg, Mich.) which twentythe Interior Department bill appropriating \$25,000,000 for "relief of drought sufferers and the unemployed". This vote was a direct slap in the face to President Hoover and the Administration which had let it he ment with twenty received. Administration which had let it be known in no uncertain terms that it in opposition. was against any such appropriations.

passed by the Senate on January 17 but because the Administration fortaken by surprise a reconsideration two days later was decided.

The vote followed the defeat of a "compromise proposal" made by Senator Reed of Pennsylvania that the money should become available to the Red Cross in case the Red Cross drive proved a failure. The Reed amendment was defeated by a vote of 53 to 30.

To All Members of the CP MAJORITY GROUP In New York City:

### A Membership Meeting

Will be held on Friday Evening, January 30, 1931

63 Madison Avenue

SUBJECT: The Conference of the International Communist

Opposition. REPORTER: Jay Lovestone. Admission by Card Onlyl National Council

Communist Party—Majority

Group

Only two Republicans upheld the President's position (Reed, Pa.; and

The Administration's opposition to The Robinson amendment had been | the measure was based on the contention that granting government relief to starving farmers was "un-Ameri-can", since all such emergencies should be taken care of by "voluntary charity"!!

The Robinson amendment now goes to the House of Representatives where the Administration forces are much stronger. It is very probable that the Robinson amendment will be defeated in the House.

"Playing politics with human misery"—describes exactly what is hap-pening in Washington today. Here is the richest country in the world, the richest country in human history with more millionaires than the rest of the world put together-in this country millions of workers and farmers are starving as a result of the crisis, unemployment and drought And what does the government do It returns tens of millions of dollars to big trusts and corporations in tax refunds. It appropriates some sums for seeds and cattle relief. But when it comes to relieving starving workers and famine-stricken farmers—then government relief is "unscientific"—reliance must be placed on

"voluntary charity." The Democrats and anti-Administration Republicans picked on the misery of millions as a good opportunity to play their partisan politics. After serious food riots have spread thruout the drought-stricken area, a gesture is made for the appropria-tion of a mere \$25,000,000 to be given

We are counting on your instant

# IN SAN ANTONIO

and if no internal injuries are discovible sight of a dewish worker so he-

The Mexican workers of this city, among whom Comrade Shaffer has been very active express the deepest regret that their comrade has been injured. Over 200 Mexican workers went to the hospital to visit him. The



Zweite Woche

Das Ende -From the ULK, Berlin illustrated paper.

### Europe 1931

# HUNGER AND WAR

by Jay Lovestone

From the very moment your boat docks you are impressed with the tragedy of capitalist Europe: Hunger

It's been years since things have been so bad. The plight of the masses defies description. The capitalist economic machine is out of gear at least as seriously as at any time within the last ten years.

Every capitalist democracy, every Faccist dictatorship, is in the clutches of the armed forces of the employing classes. Fear of their proletariat, fear of . their competitors-often but yesterday allies in wargrips the ruling class and drives the exploiters to feverish war preparations. In France and Italy especially sabre-rattling fills the air. The capitalists are not sure of the present. They are even less sure of the future. In fact, in all Europe, the great mass of the people are living in the expectation that something unexpected is going to happen. Very soon too! About this "unexpected" everybody talks. Everyhody dreads it. It's war. The deepgoing economic crisis and the white-hot preparations for giant military conflicts have wrapped Europe in an apprehensive and defensive mood-in the most gripping anxiety within eight years.

On the multiplying signs of workingclass resistance, only the red rays from the land of Socialist construc-tion, the Soviet Union, pierce the dense poisonous fog enveloping Europe and show the light and the way out of this misery and degradation.

### HUNGER STALKS A CONTINENT

The present economic crisis can be best understood if measured with the yardstick of decades. What has bappened in the last ten years? The year 1921 saw a collapse of the post-war artificialities, of the first re-construction and "normalcy" booms. Soon, with the defeat of the workers' hammer blows at the gates of Warsaw, in the cities of Germany, in the metal factories of Italy, in the poverty-stricken Balkans, the capitalists began to put their house in order on a more

"stable" basis. So they thought because so they wished. The edifices which their economic architects have been putting up are now coming down, collapsing. Yester-day's dreams of capitalist stabilization are today's nightmares of the exploiters. The year 1931 marks the colapse of some of the rosiest hopes of capitalist stability and efficiency-of "rationalized" capitalism.

Of the more than twenty millions jobless in the world today, Europe has at least twelve millions. But even this is not the worst. A miserable end is bad enough. But misery without an end is much worse. There seems to be no let-up in the deluge of joblessness which is bringing untold suffering in its train. Within two weeks of my stay in Germany—in the Christmas-New Year's holiday season—unemployment increased at the rate of at least 200,000 a week. In 1930 the army of jobless almost doubled in Germanyfrom about 2,326,000 at the end of 1929 to ever 4,500,000 on New Year's Eve 1931. For England the situation is no better. Under the Labor government of MacDonald the army of no occupation has doubled in the British Isles. In Italy unemployment has been mounting in recent weeks at the rate of about 100,-

No capitalist country is immune from this paralyzing germ. From the smallest to the biggest, from the richest to the poorest. Esthonia, Denmark, Switzerland—all have the plague. Even France, which last year was not yet sucked into the economic maelstrom, is now getting into the crisis and its slough of joblessness head over heels. Official statistics already indicate scores of thousands unemployed or only partly employed. Comrade Naile of the city administration of Red Clichy, a great industrial center of the Paris region, told me that there are already at least 250,000 fully and partly unemployed workers in France—and that things are going rapidly on the downgrade. More and more one hears in France this most embarrassing question: "What will happen tomorrow when things

(Continued on page 4)

### LABOR BILLS LOST IN COMMONS

But Government Refuses to Resign; New Crisis Facing Laborites

FIGHT ON UNION BILL

LONDON-By a vote of 282 to 249 the Labor government was defeated on anuary 21 on an amendment to the edu-

ation bill but it decided not to resign. Twenty six Laborites furned against the Labor government on the amendment on the ground that it failed to provide public moneys for the Roman Catholic schools. The entire Conservative strength and eight Liberals swelled the opposition. After the defeat MacDonald announced

that the matter was of "minor consequence" and could not be considered a question of confidence.

The defeat of the government on the ducation bill also killed the prospects of putting thru the lengthening of the school term proposition, whereby 500,000 chil-dren would stay in school until they are 15 instead of 14, as it is today.

A far more serious issue facing the Labor government is the new Trades Disputes bill introduced by the government. After the general strike in 1926 he Conservative government put thru Trades Disputes hill which outlawed all general and sympathetic strikes and seriously hampered the trade unions. Now, after many months of existence, the Labor government is introducing a bill the recent International Conference to repeal the existing law. The Labor party bill, drafted by Attorney General Sir William Jowitt, is far from being a port. For readers who could not be present at the recent at th measure to free the trade unions from present at the meeting, we may point government restrictions. It also outlaws out that the substance of Comrade "political or revolutionary strikes" and Lovestone's report, with much more even puts restrictions on ordinary economic strikes. It permits the trade unions the series of six articles beginning in even puts restrictions on ordinary econ-(Continued on page 2)

### LOVESTONE MEET BIG SUCCESS

500 Attend Lecture On "Europe and Comintern"

NEW YORK .- About 500 workers the largest general meeting yet called by the Communist Party (Majority Group) in this city, heard Jay Love-stone speak on The Crisis in Europs and the Communist International, on Saturday evening, January 24, 1931, at the Grand Opera House. The hall was jammed and scores of workers had to stand thruout the entire meeting to be able to listen to Comrade

Lovestone. Comrade Lovestone, who has just returned from a trip thru Europe, described the situation there in illuminating words. Europe, he said, is living under the shadow of Hunger and War. He called attention to the growth of Fascism, to the gathering offensive against the Soviet Union, and to the great opportunities for effective Communist work. He then analyzed the present policy of the Communist International and showed how utterly incapable such a policy is of taking advantage of the situation in Europe in the interests of the working class. He outlined the policy of the International Communist Opposition as it was worked out at

this issue of Revolutionary Age.

Gitlow Speaks to 2,500 Workers About Line of Our Group

### DISCUSS UNION TASKS

NEW YORK. - Over 2,500 members attended the meeting of all New York City branches of the Amalgamated Food Workers here on January 18 at Irving Plaza Hall. A number of important problems were discussed and decisions made.

Brother Milleger took over the chair because the secretary-treasurer of the union, A Burkhardt, was unable to be present thru illness. The chairman read an extensive report which analyzed the situation and made proposals for further activity.

A long and lively discussion took place on the basis of the report. Ben Gitlow, secretary of the Communist Party (Majority Group) spoke to the thousands of assembled workers on the policies and tactics of

the Communist Opposition in this country. His remarks were greeted with great applause. Ludwig Lore, editor of the Volkszeitung also addressed the meeting. In the discussion Brothers Gitz, Bour-

get, Gundt, Handschuh, Slocker and

### LONDON PLAN AGAINST INDIA

(Continued from page 1) inent members of the Bombay Merchants Chamber characterized MacDonald's speech at the closing of the round table conference as "refreshing," The National Congress has officially not yet taken a stand on the proposed Constitutional Scheme. The Bombay Chronicle, representation of the proposed constitutional section. sentative of the Gandhi wing of the na-tionalist movement, speaks of the "wilderness of glib phrases which intend to impose on this country a system of camoullaged swaraj (self-government) in which the sale-guards for Britain are the principal things and the bestowing of re-sponsibility upon the Indian people a minor item." As far as the millions of nationalist masses are concerned, they never expected anything to come from the round table conference which they recognized as an agency of British imperialism and now they find their belief

#### Two Roads for India India is now at the cross roads as fat

justified by the facts.

as the future is concerned. In spite of all the efforts of British imperialism to cripple and to hamper the normal economic development of India, capitalism has in the last decades made tremendous strides in this country. A native industry has grown up, class relations have changed, new classes have arisen and others passed to the background. These tre-mendous economic changes demand corresponding political changes. India can no longer remain in the status of pure crown colony as up to now. But there are two roads along which the change from this status may take. One road. lies along the way of compromise of the Indian princes and landowners and big native bourgeoisie with British imper ialism for some modified form of "home rule" and economic concessions. Along this way lies the suppression of the labor movement and the revolutionary petty bourgeoisie and the failure to solve the essential problems of the bourgeois revo-lution in India: the liberation of the peasantry from the yoke of the landlords and the government and the national liberation of India from British imperialism. The second road lies along the way of revolutionary overthrow of the yoke of the British and the establishment of a revolutionary government (in Lenin's phrase, a revolutionary-democratic dicta torship of the proletariat and peasantry). Suck a revolutionary overthrow would have to be the work of the proletariat, peasantry, and city poor (all under the leadership of the proletariat) against the British, against the native princes and landowners and against the vacillation and political uncertainty, and even betrayal, of the native big bourgeoisie. Such a way would lead to the solution of the agrarian question (the land to the peas-ante) and of the national question (Indian independence), and would help the working class gain considerable fruits of the revolution (8-hour day, social legislation, trade union organization, political rights, etc.). It would also make easier the preparation of the conditions in which a transition to a Socialist trans-

formation would be possible.

The primary objective of the plan worked out by the round table conference (indeed the whole purpose of the conference) was to elaborate a method thru which Indian development could take the first course-the course of compromise and counter-revolution. This is the significance of the round table con-

But this attempt will almost certainly fail-for two reasons. In the first place, the hard pressed international position of British imperialism makes it very diffirilt for it to grant economic concessions upon which alone political compromises can be based. Secondly, the rapid upsurge of the national-revolutionary movement and the growing strength of the labor movement, which the worst brutalities of the British have not succceded in suppressing, will disperse all the "clever" schemes of the compromisers and will drive Indian development along the second road, to revolution

NEW DELHI, India.-Jan. 25.-Mahatma Gandhi and all other imprisoned members of the All-India Congress Committee (Jawarhalal Nehru, Sen Gupta, V. Patel, Mrs. Naidu, etc) have been ordered releas"EACH HIS OWN BURDEN!"



### The Youth Movement

### GERMAN FORCED LABOR PLAN FAILS

ever, such training reaches only a limit-ed number of workers. The militatists want the whole German youth disciplined made more obedient, and less clamorous for living wages, and better conditions.

About 450,000 boys in Germany reach the age of twenty each year. This would make a good-sized army to start with even the they could only use shovels. It is estimated that such an army would require 200,000 "officers" and officials. These officers would, of course, be recruited from the old military caste.

To meet this situation the various bourgeois and junker (landowner) parties have been proposing a "Forced Labor Plan" for the youth, a sort of con-script "industrial army" which, it was claimed, would do away with the neces sity for unemployment relief and would 'discipline" the German youth as well. Considerable agitation has gone on for this plan. A bill to that effect was introduced into the Reichstag and for a time it looked as if it would pass. But failed, because of a split between the bourgeois and junker forces.

The Forced Labor Plan has been abandoned for the time, not because the present government is opposed to it, but because it is too costly. The German militarists and junkers were eager to put the plan into effect at any cost. But the ruling capitalists realized that such a plan could not be realized at the press; ent time, for it would cost \$325,000,

## DEBATE \*

What is the Solution of the Negro Question? GARVEYISM

M. G. MUDGAL Editor-Negro, World . COMMUNISM

EDWARD WELSH Revolutionary Age

SUN, FEB. 15 - 4 P.M.

at Howland Studio 1660 FULTON ST. - BROOKLYN Prof. Chas. C. Seifert, Chairman

Auspices Frederick Douglass Interracial Forum Admission-25¢

gress, which was declared unlawful some months ago, was also raised. This sudden move of the British imperialists is a phase of the whole manouver of which the Round Table Conference Plan is a part. It is intended to create the possibility for the vacillating and compromising native bourgeoisie (represented by Gandhi) to break away from the nationalist revolutionary movement and to pass over to the side of British imperialism on the basis of the Round Table workers held a memorial meeting in Conference Plan in some form or memory of Aaron Gross, militant needle other. Already Gandhi has expressed himself as "overwhelmed with the generous gesture on the part of the British." In issuing his order for reeasier" for Gandhi to accept the Majority Group.
Round Table Plan. What the native A resolution in honor of Comrade Round Table Plan. What the native bourgeoisie will do in this crisis is not yet clear. What is clear is that the workers, the peasants and the revo-

geoisie as well, if need be. Meanwhile nothing is said of the 60,000 political prisoners languishing in Indian jails. It is recalled that ed unconditionally from jail. At the Gandhi once swore that he would not same time the illegality of the Work leave jail as long as these martyrs ing Committee of the National Condid not leave with him. . . .

lutionary petty bourgeoiste will con-

tinue the struggle against British im

perialism and against the native bour

Ever since the Versailles treaty, the German bourgeoisie has longed for the return of some form of conscription and military training. In fact, many bourgeois youth organizations in Germany bourgasing as sport and cultural clubs, are in reality military training centers. However, such training reaches and a spour sould cost about \$2.40 per head nor consent. The Labor and Conservative parties, which are not at all strong in the trade unions, naturally object to the use of trade union money for 'political purposes.'

The Liberal party, the mainstay of the Labor government, decided at a caucus by a vote of 33 to 10 to abstain from would cost about \$2.40 per head nor voting on the Trades Disputes Lill. The

The reactionaries have not given up their fight for forced labor. One of the variations of the Forced Labor Plan provides three years of training:-the first at 6, the second at 14, the third at 20, young workers for military and strike-breaking service among the most inpressionable years.

Of all the working class youth organizations in Germany, the Communist Youth Opposition alone offered a program of struggle against the Forced Labor Plan. They have issued a 16-page pamphlet, "Arbeitsdienstflicht," exposing when it came up for a vote recently it tute for universal compulsory military training; 2). A new form of militarism; 3). A preparation for war--especially against the Soviet Union; 4). A means of wage reductions; 5). The creation of a strikebreaking army and the destruction of the trade unions.

The German Communist Youth Opposition calls for a solid united front of the millions of workers, old and young, organized and unorganized, Communist Social-democratic, to combat the Forced Labor Plan. It appeals for the formation of the proletarian youth unit-The bourgeoisic had sought a way of ed fronts (cartels). In Breslau, Stutgart, Berlin, Konigsberg, Gera, these cartels are already in existence.

# **COURT MARTIAL**

The first of thirty "mutinous" seamen on the submarine Lucia to feel the heavy the Jews Live in Soviet Russia." hand of military "justice" was Able Scaman T. Grattan. He was sentenced to three months in prison with hard labor and dismissal from the service for being involved in the "mutiny" two weeks ago The military prosecutors claimed that thirty able seamen remained below and fastened the latch leading to their mess deck after they had been ordered to clean the ship's side on a Sunday. Sabbath for the officers but not for the men.

The fourth and last court-martial that arose out of the breach of discipline on the submarine Lucia was held on January 22 at Devonport. Three men have already been sentenced. The twenty-six others will be dealt with summarily by their commanding officers.

### **GROSS MEETING** IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11-In spite of a spitefully arranged counter-meeting arranged by the local Communist Party leaders, the Los Angeles revolutionary trades leader and Communist who died here recently. The chairman of the meeting was Comrade Borenstein; Ravitch spoke for Branch 86 of the Independent Workmen's Circle; Strayer for Branch 83. lease, the Viceroy made it clear that Workmen's Circle; Strayer for Branch 83, his move was intended to "make it IWC; Schaap and Marshall for the CP.

Gross was adopted.

CORRECT CLOTHES Clothing Company, Inc.

SOCOLOFF & FLAMM

For Men and Young Men 101-103 Stanton St., cor. Ludlow St. New York City.

### JAP OUTRAGES IN FORMOSA BARED

Forced Labor and Despotism Stirred Unrest

TOKYO, Jan. 20.—The officials of one of the labor parties of Japan who visited Pormosa to investigate the recent native rebellion have returned with the sharpest criticism of the Japanese imperialist administration.

The factors that made for the revolt, the delegation pointed out, were primarily the system of forced labor and the reduction of daily wages from 25¢ to 20¢. Political oppression has also helped to intensify the unrest and discontent of the Formosans. It is declared that the report of the labor delegation will come up for discussion in the Diet. The former governor of Formosa and the entire civil administration have already

### LABOR BILLS LOST IN COMMONS

to use part of each member's dues for the Labor party political fund unless that member specifically stipulates that this may not be done. The present Conservative law provides that money may not be contributed to the Labor party fund unless the member specifically gives him property would offer the Soviet Government a problem to solve—but what is one more problem in the life of a country which has experienced more problems in its brief history, and solved them more successfully than any other known country. (Continued from page 1) unless the member specifically gives his consent. The Labor and Conservative

voting on the Trades Disputes bill. The Conservatives are solid against it. This makes the position of the Labor government extremely precarious.

In spite of the fact that a defeat on the Trades Disputes bill would mean the res-At six the children would receive a year of junker education; at 14 they would be given a year of "sport"; and at 20 would come a year of forced labor. Thus, would come a year of forced labor. Thus, and capitalists hope to train the Commons. The Liberals want no general commons. The Liberals want no general commons. The Liberals want no general commons. elections until the passage of the "elec-toral reform" bills upon which they have reached an agreement with the Labor government and which would increase their strength considerably.

### **BORO PARK YOUTH** IN GROSS MEET

NEW YORK .- A memorial meeting for Comrade Aaron Gross, who died on Jan. 3 in Los Angeles, was 150 workers were present to hear about Comrade Gross's life and strug-

gle in the left wing and Communist movement. The hall was packed.

The speakers included Comrades
Paul Broder, I. Shapiro, Zirlin and Yablon. The last named comrade was the one who accompanied Gross's jody to New York. Lester Diamond

organizer of the club, was chairman. The general activities of the club are proceeding well in spite of the constant attack of the "loyalite" club and the Communist Party press. The club now has a well functioning soc-cer team, debating team, and a class in the A B C of Communism every

Thursday, On Friday, February 6, Rubin Brainin, well known writer, who re-cently returned from Soviet Russia will speak at Crystal Palace on "How

### **MEETING AGAINST** LYNCHING IN N. Y.

racial Forum In New York

BROOKLYN, N. Y. - Under the auspiess of the Frederick Douglass tries, whose workers have gone through Inter-racial Forum a lively meeting the fires of rationalization, whose workthe Howland Studio, to protest the brutal burning of Raymond Gunn, a Negro, by a mob at Maryville. The speakers were: C. DeLeon, member of the Brooklyn Forum; Ben Gitlow, sec-retary of the Communist Party-(Majority Group); and Rothschild Francis, secretary of the Forum. They were unanimous in their conclusions as to the real cause of lynch-

Ben Gitlew gave an account of the conflict being waged between the bosses and the workers and of the attempts to divide the workers (Negroand white) and discussed ways and failingly to the millions of workers who means of bringing about unity in the are the Soviet Government, and all it ranks of the entire working class.

increase as the economic crisis sharp ens. Servile appeals to the boss political parties and the fanatical worship of laws inimical to the workers and to the Negro masses were vehemently denounced. It was affirmed that the permanent cure for lynching lies in the abolition of the capitalist system. However, an immediate step in the right direction would be the organization of the white workers and the Negro masses on a national scale to combat lynching. In the discussion from the floor that followed a blind Negro worker took the floor and said that this was the first time he had heard a white worker championing the cause of the Negroes.

### Under the Red Flag

About the Life of the Toilers in the Soviet Union

### THE "CONVICT LABOR" MYTH

Yet whether the United States Congress its difficulties. Is this, one must ask, will take a step that will undoubtedly characteristic of convict labor? Can one aggravate the serious crisis already on its force such action from enchained toilers? hands is debatable. After all, 150 millions worth of business in a year—and growing with each season—is no trifling item having failed with their "dumping" cry are concocting the new fable of "enhands is debatable. After all, 150 millions The answer is obvious enough. ing the books of a nation whose ware houses are bursting with superfluous and unsaleable products.

The fact is, workers in U.S.S.R. have the inalienable right to quit unsaleable products.

Nor can the Soviet Government neg-lect the significance of such a blow. That it would rebound unfavorably on Soviet conditions is also understandable, but it would be absurd to imagine that the campaign of industrialization now in swing would be deterred or even postponed be-cause of it. One cannot deny that the prospect would offer the Soviet Govern-

#### "Freedom of Labor" Under Capitalism

However, even if the movement for such a law should achieve its aim, the interpretation of the law in relation to the Soviet Government would appear to be a matter of verbal quibbling. "Con-vict or enforced labor" implies necessarily work performed by people whose freedom of movement and work is restricted by an outer force. It may take the form of prison work, or of mass servitude as in French and English colonies. In any ignation of the Labor government, the case it means that the workers are de prived of liberty, and are virtually impotent to alter or modify the conditions under which they labor.

The situation of workers in foreign countries needs no amplification here One questions the freedom enjoyed by textile workers in America, or steel-mill hands in England. One may quibble about the phrase, but one need scarcely longer hint that most workers are forced to work under any conditions they can get to avoid starvation.

#### The Workers in the USSR

In no other country have the workers so much control over their destiny as in the Soviet Union. Where else can one find a Labor Code that assures all the workers the eight-hour day which is now becoming seven hours? A complete system of social insurance, paid vacations, sanitariums, etc., are rights enjoyed by held last Friday evening, January 16, the Soviet worker which are unknown to workers by the Boro Park Workers Youth workers in all other countries. Nowhere dees the worker feel himself so free on the job as in the Soviet Union. the job as in the Soviet Union.

Anyone familiar with the workers' management of their "own" factories, who cies, observes their enthusiasm expressed, cies observes their enthusiasm expressed, in the endeavois to increase production knows better than to think of Soviet workers as slaves. Spontaneous efforts illegation of any person that such vast display of power can conceivably emanate from an oppressed class of workers who require military supervision and are painfully conscious of their limitation of movement. Enthusiasm was never born of slavery; if Soviet Russia depended on enslaved or forced labor to put across its plan, it would disintegrate tomorrowand descrivedly so.

It has been suggested that Soviet work ers are not free to move from job to job that their migrations are being hindered That the unlimited movement of work ers from industry to industry is being discouraged by Soviet public opinion is of course true; contracts are being signed Gitlow Speaks At Inter- by workers who pledge themselves to remain at their present Jobs until the Five-Year Plan is completed. Limiting unemployment benefits has further discouraged this tendency of an undisciplined rural folk, unfamiliar with industry to wander aimlessly from job to job. Counwas held on Sunday, January 18, at ers have absorbed the iron of hard industrial discipline, no longer face this prob-

Meanwhile the task of industrialization must go forward. Its completion is the main task of the Soviet Government. Its situation is not comparable to a "normal" situation of any country which has long since gone through this hectic period; it s a time of recurrent emergencies, crises, xigencies. Ringed by encinies, sapped by saboteurs, confronted by tremendous and unprecedented problems, it must mobilize every ounce of available energy for the tasks ahead.

In doing these things, it appeals unstands for without whom nothing could It was pointed out that lynchings possibly be accomplished. How can the

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This movement (to bar products of "convict" labor from the U. S. A.) is aimed primarily at injuring the Soviet Union by straining its commercial relations with the United States as it is alleged that the conditions of labor in the U.S.R. are such as to make a qualification of them as "convict labor" possible. Yet whether the United States Congress

they work-and they do.

In short, the falsity of the "convict labor" accusation is too plain to call for rejoinder. On the other hand, it has

#### RUSSIANS LIVING LONGER

According to statistics compiled under the direction of Professors Payevsky and Novosselsky of Leningrad the life of the average male Russian has been lengthened ten and a half years since 1897, while the last few weeks.

The twelve comp years. The annual mortality rate has fall operate seventeen mines and employ betten from 30.9 per thousand to 22.5. The tween 2,500 and 3,000 men. Reductions average "working life" of the masses has in most of the mines, he said, were about risen from eighteen to twenty-five years. 10 per cent.

HELP TO JOBLESS TENANTS BANNED

Judge Cotillo Declares Delay in Evictions "Unjustified"

NEW YORK .- Any delay in or refusal to serve eviction warrants on tenants unable to pay their rents because of unemployment was declared "unjustified" by Supreme Court Justice Salvatore Cotillo, in a decision made public a few days ago. In com-menting upon this decision Mayor Walker declared: .

"Judge Cotillo's decision is good law. After all, we cannot expect a landlord to pay taxes on property if we tie his hands in the matter of renting apartments . . . Land-lords themselves have cooperated splendidly in the situation!

At the same time the Mayor's Committee on Unemployment Relief anwork if they are dissatisfied—and they do; they have the right to complain about conditions, and they do; they have the merely tries to "exercise its influence work if they are dissatisfied—and they nounced that it "does not actually pay rent" for the unemployed . . . it merely tries to "exercise its influence right to decide the conditions under which upon the landlords to procure len-

The landlord is "entitled" to his rent-or else the unemployed worker deeper than the legalistic froth moving on the surface of the anti-Soviet wave.

The workers will get walk to the worker and to what is the worker entitled under capitalism? Nothing! and his family is thrown out on the ....From the Moscow Review they fight for it. No evictions of unemployed tenants!

> CHARLESTOWN, W. Va.-D. C. Kennedy, secretary of the Kanawha Coal Operators' Association, said today that twelve coal companies in the Kanawha district had ordered wage reductions in

The twelve companies, Kennedy said,

### RUHR MINERS STRIKE DEFEATED; MEN RETURN TO WORK WITH 6% CUT

Government Breaks Miners Strike Thru Dictatorial Measures; Official Communist Party Policy Adds To Weakness and Disunity

BERLIN, Jan. 16.—The Ruhr miners longer exist"—and "must be destroyed strike is already over. Thousands of workers have been discharged and a 6% ers to enter the struggle not thru their wage cut has been forced upon the miners unions but directly under the leadership by a government emergency decree signed of the RGO, which thereby was transby President Hindenburg.

Towards the end of last year the coal barons of the Ruhr announced a lay-off of the workers, with the promise of reemployment later on at much reduced wages. A tremendous protest movement began to develop among the 300,000 miners in the Ruhr region and the sentiment for strike action rose higher and higher. The Rohr miners are only partly organized and the organized miners themselves are divided into a number of trade unions, chief among which are the "free" miners union, led by the Social democrats, and the Catholic miners union, under the influence of the Center party. The reac up! The move was a tragic farce, serving tionary officials of these unions showed to complete the isolation of the Commuwhich astonish not only the outside world, but compel Soviet planning de against the bosses' offensive; on the conformists to sell out the workers. against the bosses' offensive; on the conworld, but compet soviet planting as against the bosses oftensive; on the contract with theoretical expectations, but to move abreast with energetic workers who are actually exceeding the plan in their output, compell one to question the thought of the German TUUL-Editor) to announced, under power of Article 48, was presented to the German TUUL-Editor) to announced, under power of Article 48, was presented to the substitute of the mine owners. Finally the government announced, under power of Article 48, was great the substitute of the substitute mobilize the workers to defeat the subor an emergency decree for a 6% wage-cut. tage of the union burocrats, to get the The reformst leaders immediately capitur unions to fight, to unite the forces of the lated and since no other leadership for workers agains the bosses. But the RGO, basing itself on the directives of the Red were segregated in their own little Labor Union International, followed a "union"), the strike died down and the different course. It refused to take the workers were forced back to work under lead of the workers in the union against the burocrats; it refused to fight for unity. It declared that the mass unions,

# The key to the present wave of

with scores of thousands of members, "no

revolutions in the lands of our nearest neighbors and closest allies in the struggle against American capitalism

### BERT WOLFE Former Member Exec. Comm.

Mexican Communist Party author of "Revolution in Latin America" THIS SUNDAY NIGHT

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Questions, Discussion -

formed from an organization of the left wing into another miners union. This appeal was a flat failure. But the pressure of the miners in the reformist and Catholic unions forced the union leaders to call strikes and a great struggle began -with the Communist isolated from the masses in this struggle.

Then the RGO took the next "logical" step—the organization of a "new, revolu-tionary miners union"—thus carrying to the extreme its policy of sectarianism and working class disunity. The foundation conference of the "Red Miners Union" took place in Duisburg on January 13. At this conference 150 people showed

much worse conditions.

Through the entire struggle the German Communist Opposition held aloft he banner of working class unity and militant struggle. It called for the unity of all trade union strike committees and for the conduct of a united strike struggle. It exposed the capitulation schemes of the reformist leaders. It called the workers to resistance against the strikebreaking emergency decree of the government. And, altho the strength of the Communist Opposition was not enough to save the miners strike, it did succeed in spreading its influence among large sec-tions of the Ruhr miners and in salvaging the prestige of Communism among the miners, which the official Communist Party leaders had done so much to un-

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# SomeBasic Questions Answered

by Ben' Gitlow

cracy, which terms itself "Marxist", in the resolution of the "Militants' discussion involving an estimation of historical events, and a consideration of fundamental problems be
right-wing resolution of the limitants of the organization. History will discussion involving an estimation of historical events, and a consideration of fundamental problems be
right-wing resolution is distintely an "Militants" must do is to carry on a ation of fundamental problems before the labor movement. The "Mili- anti-Soviet Union resolution: It main- fight for principle. The logic of such tant" group represents the growing leftward trend within the ranks of the Socialist Party. In spite of its indecisiveness, confusion, lack of clarity and uncertainty as to its future the appearance of this group is a welcome sign. It is a sign of the beginnings of a leftward stirring in the ranks of the working class. Communists cannot ignore this development in the ranks of the S. P. It is too important a manifestation. At bottom it is a result of the effects of the pres ent economic and political situation upon the working class. economic crisis plays an important role in the controversy is recognized by Stanley, speaking for the "Mili-tants" and by Oneal for his selfstyled "Marxists". Stanley, in the New Leader of January 17, 1931,

"It is not an accident that their (Militants') existence coincides with the depression of 1929-1930. The economic crisis exposed the weakness of the Party in handling such fundamental problems like unemployment. The Militants simply expressed the dissatisfaction of comrades with the drift in in the Party's activities and poli

Oneal, in the New Leader of Jan. 24, puts it this way:

"The prostration of capitalism has brought a wide sense of economic grievance to the workingclass and it has been interesting and encouraging to observe comrades turning to working class issues."

It is clear from the above two quo tations, coming as they do from opposite poles in the Socialist Party, that the economic crisis is seriously affecting the membership of the Socialist Party, as it is indeed affecting the membership of the trade unions and the working class as a whole,

As Communists we must reject th estimation of the Daily Worker, that the leftward movement in the Socialist Party is a conspiracy to fool the workers. Such brave, bold words analyze nothing, explain nothing and convince no one. Such nonsensical verbiage has no place in Marxian

The proletarian revolution in Russia, the post-war revolutionary situation in Europe and the trencherous role of Social-democracy gave rise to the Left Wing in the Socialist Party in 1918-1919. That Left Wing became the conscious bearer in the U.S. of he banner of Communism and of the Communist Party. The development then was of profound and far reaching significance to the labor move-

Today, the effects of the economic the discrediting of the Mac-Donald Labor government as a Social ist force, the rise of fascism in Gerbuilding up of Socialism in the Soviet Union are responsible for a leftward movement in the ranks of the S.P., which is bound to have important significance to the trade union, Socialist and Communist movements.

Therefore the questions raised in the two letters sent to the Revolutionary Age by two "Militants" (These two letters are printed on this page.-Editor.) deserve a serious answer. I will answer these questions in a slightly different order than in which they are asked.

#### Perspectives of the Leftward Movement

Question No. 3: "Why do you say that there are two ways open before the Militants, either to break with the Socialist Party or to give in to Hillquit and the others. Isn't there a third way. Isn't it possible to capture the Socialist Party for the Militant position? Don't you think we have a better chance of getting our views recognized in the Socialist Party than you have of getting your view recognized in the Communist Party, considering how strong we are

in organization.

It is clear from this question that the "Militants" in the S. P. have given very little thought to S. P. history and have failed to thoroly analyze the real character of the S. P. But before we answer the first part of the question let us dispose of the last part first. There are no fundamental principle differences between the \$15 in the weekly pay envelope. Communist Party, U. S. A. (Majority) Group) and the official Communist for proletarian revolution, for Soviet Power, for the dictatorship of the 1000. proletariat, for the building up of Socialism we have no differences. We of the support and defense of the Soviet Union. Our attitude to capitalist democracy and to the capitalist state in the industry the discontent of the are the same. We are not faced with the problem of fighting out dif-ferences in principle. Our differentions of how best to meet the present day problems in the building up of

"Militants" and the Oneals, Hillquits, Lees and Thomases are differences of rinciple of such a character that

the Communist movement.

The developing rift in the Socialist realms of one party. This fact is properly between the Stanley or "Miliphrought out best by the resolutions that the "decks be cleared." The Left tant" group and the right wing bure- on Russia. There is no common basis Wing was expelled. The old guard tains the position that Socialism is a fight is to bring them further and possible only after a high develop- further to the left. If they fail to ment of capitalism with centralization continue an uncompromising princi-of basic industries, as well as the ple fight they will sink into the camp raining of the workers in political democracy ( they mean capitalist democracy) and an organized educated working class representative of a mapproletarian revolutionary stand will jority of the population have been mean their eventual expulsion from reached. This means that the Socialist Party leadership holds that the material basis for a proletarian revdution does not exist in Russia. It holds that the the development of capitalism and the establishment of capitalist democracy is the present revolutionary movement, necessity for Russia. Couple this theoretical position of the right-wing with their sharp condemnation of the Soviet state and you have the ideal Menshevist counter-revolutionary po-sition as the official position of the

The "Militants" can not reconcile the position of their resolution on Russia with that of the right-wing. The "Militants" position is: (1) Sov iet Russia is making a fundamental contribution to the realization of So cialism; (2) It is a Workers Govern ment: (3) It stands for elimination of capitalist production and distribution; (4) Its economic system is founded on planned production; (5) The S. P. must favor Soviet Russia and utilize the features of the Soviet system for furthering the spread of Socialism in America; (6) The suc ess of the Soviet Union gives impo tus to acceptance of Socialism by the workers; (7) The S. P. must look forward to complete realization of Socialism in the Soviet Union; (8) It must recognize that what is taking place in Russia is consistent with Socialist philosophy, with Marxism.

A close examination of the trade union resolutions would also bring out, side by side with tactical differ-ences, sharp principle differences that can not be compromised without abandoning principles. The position of the "Militants' 'is violently in emposition to the cherished views of the S. P. officialdom on this question. Nor must the "Militants" forget that the So-cialist Party of America is part of the Socialist International (the II International).

When one realizes this, it does not appear so easy to capture the S. P. The "Militants" are not so strong as were the left wingers of 1918-1919. The Left Wing then had a mighty rganization, a powerful press, a mass following and controlled some of the largest districts of the party. It carried the referendum for the Third International by 60,000 votes. It elected a majority to the NEC. It elected he International delegate and defeated Hillquit for that position. It had an overwhelming majority of the

Hillquit-Berger-Forward Right-wing ready given the warning. What the "Militants" must do is to carry on a of the right-wing. They should continue to fight, line up their forces keen in mind that an uncompromising the S. P. and their approach to the Communist movement. The more principled the fight they make in the S. P. the greater will be their service to the working class and the more positive will be the gains for the

#### The India Question

Question No. 1: Why do you say is the article that the India resolution was the lowest point? It was not our India resolution. We are going to have a strong resolution altogether different.

The India Resolution exposes the egeneration of the S. P. This resoution is an apology for the MacDonald government policy on behalf of British imperialism in India. It approves the Round Table Conference alled together by the British for the sole purpose of arranging for the betrayal of the Indian Revolution and declares for the rights of all nations to self-determination in true general Wilsonian style. It fails to recognize the fundamental basis of the Indian revolution as a revolution of the oppressed and exploited masses against British imperialism. It fails to soliitself with the revolution against British imperialism and its forces of the workers and poor peasand the working clas to rally to the a blind alley? support of the Indian revolution and to condemn the bloody role of the MacDonald government. It fails to link up its support for the Indian revolution against British imperialism Dear Comrade: with the struggle against imperialism generally and American imperialism in particular. Even liberals could tion of the "militant "movement in draw up a bolder and sharper reso- the S. P. but I desire to make a couple offer to the workers on how to fight

It is very fortunate indeed for the Militant" movement that the resolution on India introduced at the City Convention was not the "Militant" It is also welcome new resolution. that the "Militans" are "going to ofstrong substitute from the How "strong" the substitute will be, we will see.

(Concluded in the next issue)

## THE TEXTILE WORKERS NEED UNITY

by Barney Herman

rom crisis in the industry for many years, of the textile workers. It was born in th with its attendant unemployment, speed struggles of the Passaic and New Bedford ip and wage-cuts. The present world workers, and its glorious traditions it con vide crisis has multiplied these to a point tinued in the organization and leadership where the conditions of the workers are of the Gastonia strike. intolerable, and the necessity for organization and struggle becomes clearer and ization and struggle becomes clearer and of the Communist Party, the ultra-lef more orgent than ever to the masses of line was forced upon the NTWU, and exploited textile workers.

or a full week. But there are no full of the union.

only a fraction of their former forces, On the question of the need as the Botany mill, which formerly paying members to less than 200. Today had 5000 workers, now employs about

have no difference on the question Danville, Easton, Allentown-everywhere we see the same worsening of the conditions of the textile workers. Everywhere workers grows from day to day. Yet in spite of these conditions, in spite of the great opportunities for organization and ening struggle against the textile barons, the wrote: ces are differences on policies involvers are organizations of the textile workers are more divided, and weaker than ever be-

#### But the differences between the The Situation in the National Textile Workers Union

The National Textile Workers Union they cannot be reconciled within the in the past, with its former leadership

The textile workers have been suffering [ and line, was the leader of every struggle

With the change in line and leadershi the entire leadership that founded and built the union, was expelled not only Conditions of the Textile Workers from the Party but from the union itself Membership in the union was synonym In New Bedford, weavers who formerly ous with the supporting of a faction of operated 15 looms are now running 45 the Communist Party along with its ruin coms. Wages are almost exactly inverse our methods and policies in the Union by proportional to the increase in the out. The chief task of the NTW locals be put, that is, weavers who, formerly re-ceived \$42 for a full week, now get \$15 moralization set in rapidly in the ranks The phrase-mongering weeks. The worker is fortunate to get leadership has not led a single struggle 2 or 3 days work. Those companies of the textile workers. The very convolking on tire fabrics have been doing vention of the Union that excluded Dawdays work ever since the crisis started. son, Weisbord, Buch, Pires, etc. called In Paterson the conditions of the silk with four phrases for a general silk strike workers are the worst in many years. In Paterson one year ago. The Paterson Plants formerly working 8 hours a day local endorsed the calling of the strike now operate at 10 and 11. At the same Then at the last moment, the leadership time, the wages of the weavers have been beat a hasty retreat, and no Paterson silk reduced to a starvation level. Weavers strike resulted. The leadership, while so who only a year ago received 9c a yard unsuccessful in organizing the textile on Rayon material now get as low as 3c. workers, has been remarkably successful Workers who received in the past \$50 to in destroying the Union in a year's time \$90 a week are now faced with \$10 to After the expulsion of Keller and Pires the membership of the New Bedford Lo In Passaic the mills are operating with cal, which was the basis of the NTW, dropped in a few months from 3000 dues there exist only two locals of the NTW 1000.

We can go to other sections of the country. The Union has approximately 200 members, a large proto, a left wing ferment is beginning to develop.

Danville, Easton Allentons Allentons and the south, portion being Communist Party members.

It was a year ago that the Textile Unity Committe, consisting of the leader-ship expelled from the NTWU issued a warning that the union was faced "with destruction," "that the NTWU was in a life-and-death crisis—in a state of threat-Comrades like A. Weisbord "In Paterson, in and around Gastonia, in New Bedford, and elsewhere

### Two Letters

We publish below two letters sen to Revolutionary Age by adherents of the "Militant" group in the So-cialist Party. The questions raised in these letters are answered in the article by Comrade Gillow on this

We welcome these letters as showan earnest desire to discuss the fundamental problems facing the working class and its organizations in the present situation. Our columns are always open to letters from workers and members of working class organizations who want to raise and discuss questions of importance to labor. Such letters we publish aboslutely uncensored in any way. Whatever disgreements we may have with the point of view expressed in such let-ters, we will indicate in articles or in editorial notes.

-Emtor

Jan. 16, 1931. Dear Comrade: 🗕

I am a Socialist party member living in the Bronx. I read your articles about our City convention in the Revolutionary Age of Jan. 10 and Jan. 17. I can tell you that the Militants are much interested in your articles, but want to ask you some questions.

1. Why do you say in the article that "the India Resolution was the lowest point"? It was not our India resolution. We are going to have a strong India resolution altogether dif-

2. Why do you say Norman Thomas is "extreme hight wing"? Just because he is a "bourgeois". He is a bourgeois but so was Marx and

3. Why do you say that there are two ways open before the Militants, either to break with the Socialist party or to give in to Hillquit and the others? Isn't there a third way? Isn't it possible to capture the Socialist party for the Militant position? Don't you think we have a better chance of getting our view recognized in the Socialist Party, considering how strong we are in organization?

4. You say that the "logical" road for us is to go to Communism. But how can you expect us to go in that way if the Daily Worker calls us fakagents, the MacDonald Labor govern-ment. It fails to recognize the class ticles by H. Ganes) and if we go to the Communist party won't we be ants let loose by the revolution. It thrown out again the next day befails to unify itself with the revolu- cause we don't agree with Stalin tionary proletariat and peasantry. It about something or other. Don't you fails to call upon the Socialist Party think that this "road" is something of

Yours for socialism, -A Militant in the Bronx.

Jan. 15, 1931,

I don't intend entering into a dis cussion with you as to your evalua-tion of the "militant "movement in of corrections to some of your statements.

You say the lowest point reached by the left wing was on the India resolution. For your information the India Resolution is that of Hilquit, Oneal, and Lee, while the "militants" are offering a strong substitute from the

Your statement about Stanley getting up and opposing the Lee resolution S. P. Campaign policy is all wet, the food workers locals of the A. F. Flirting with N. Thomas was furof L.—the workers chose what they thest from his mind. What we wantconsidered to be the "lesser evil."

F. of L. unions, you cannot win conin the other mass organizations as part trol of A. F. of L. organizations, you of its every day work. thest from his mind. What we want- considered to be the "lesser evil." ed to noint out was, that he submitte the resolution but it was weakened by the committee and that was what Stanley objected to, not the resolu tion, but the insertion of the amend

ent. Yours for Socialism, "Militant"

#### The Situation in UTW and the Associated

It is typical of the present situation that nowhere has the NTWU leadership led a single strike in the past year, wit its "left" leadership, while every struggle recently has been under the leadership of the United Textile Workers-the Dan ville strike, the Philadelphia and Reading hosiery strikes, etc. This is an entirely different picture from the preceding years with the Passaic, New Bedford, Gastonia struggles. This change coincides with the change in line and leadership of the Communist Party and the National Textile Workers Union. The failures of the NTWU are due not merely to the lack of competence of its leadership, as some maintain, but primarily to its sectarian line. Certainly, the UTW did not suddealy get a "competent" leadership. The struggles led by the conservative UTW indicate the growing discontent and mood for struggle of the masses of textile work ers, who are repelled by the sectarian line of the NTWU. The repeated betrayals of the UTW reactionary officialdon lays the basis for movement of revolt against the burocracy, and the beginning of such a left wing movement can already be seen. The UTW is still by far the largest union in the industry with some 30,000 to 40,000 members, out of over a million textile workers in the U. The next strongest union in the field is the Associated Silk Workers, with sev-

The Need for Unity

With the worsening of the conditions of the textile workers, and the growing opportunities for struggle, it becomes absolutely essential for the success of such struggle against the textile barons to unite all forces of the textile workers to organize the unorganized, to strike against the militant spirit of the workers now wage cuts, against the stretch-out, against finds no leadership in the NTWU." In the intolerable conditions in the industry, a year's time the NTWU has gone far. To fear such a united front because it is on the road that we warned against, and only the privilege of the "Communists that we called upon the textile workers and members of the NTWU to struggle against.

on the road that we warned against, and the privilege of the unorganized? means to the to organize the unorganized? means to the danging of the wrong policies and regainst. is sectarianism---opportunism covered with sends thruout the industry the call for a veneer of left phrases-because it gives trade union unity, and militant struggle,

Problems of Our Group

# Reorganization and Mass Work

by Herbert Zam

Party (Majority Group) has been participating to a greater degree in mass work. In the needle trades, in the shoe industry, in the food industry, our comrades are taking the initiative in beginning work for the crystalization of the existing left wing and progressive senti-ment in order to re-establish a powerful left wing movement capable of challenging the hold of the burecrats on the workers. In the Workmen's Circle, after the disastrous split policy of the present Party leadership had resulted in the destruction and demoralization of the once powerful left wing, there are again welcome signs of reawakening of the workers and the beginnings of a struggle against the Forward burocracy controlling the organization. Here again the members the Communist Party (Majority Group) are playing an important role.

On all sides we can see signs of the ftward movement. Of particular signific cance is the beginning of the birth of a new left wing in the American labor movement, in the trade unions. In estimating this development, the last plenum the National Council of our group, decided that the central task of our group in the coming period is to stimulate the development for a left wing, and to lead trate and coordinate the activities of the

hotel, restaurant, cafeteria, packing

and confectionery industries are very

successfully trying to make the workers pay for the crisis, trying to shift the burdens of the crisis on to the

Wage-cuts, unemployment, length-ening of working hours, the abolition of the weekly day off, unbearable

working conditions in general are be-

coming more and more the lot of the

workers in all branches of the food

What's What In the A. F. of L.

Locals?

In the A. F. of L. locals unemployment has now reached the high-

est point in recent history. Discon-

tent and unrest among the rank and

officials of Bakers Local No. 500 and

file members are growing but the

for better conditions. In the elec-

tions that recently took place in

Waiters Local No. 1, the membership

in their desperation, threw out the Lehman clique but only succeeded in

putting in its place another reac-

tionary clique, the Rifkin bunch

which had once been caught grafting

and removed from office. As there is no organized left wing in the lo

cal-nor for that matter in any of

The Amalgamated Food Workers

In the Amalgamated Food Workers

zation. Various bakers locals of the ganizations.

A. F. W. have instituted the 4-day. The organ

also unemployment is one of the

week in order to give the unemployed

A general membership meeting of

the Amalgamated Food Workers in

New York took place a few days ago

in Irving Plaza where about 2,500

members discussed the unemployment

question and the means to be taken

o counteract the offensive of the osses. Many decisions were made

it that meeting which, if carried out,

wil certainly improve the conditions

of the food workers to a consider-

The Food Workers Industrial Union

The conditions in the "Food Work-

ers Industrial Union" the TUUL pet

nembers are left and the treasury is

as empty as a drum. If you will take into account the "200 shops" which

Veisman reported at the fifth RILU

ongress that he organized in Brigh-

them at low tide!) you will get an

dea of the situation of the new "spick

and span revolutionary union" that

Such is the situation in the food

industry today. Powerful, gigantic corporations of the bosses waging a

and weak labor unions, divided

among themselves and fighting each

other, with the official Communist Party taking the lead in dividing the

Organize the Unorganized!

over the masses in the textile unions to

the tender mercies of the burocrats without a struggle. The Textile Unity Com-

mittee calls for a united front of all tex-

tile workers and textile workers' organ-

bosses. It fights for the building of a left

wing to win the masses from the reac-

izations against the united front of

In the past for many years we did

food workers.

frontal attack upon the workers-

the TUUL set up by splitting the A.

a chance to work.

able extent.

greatest problems facing the organi-

shoulders of the food workers.

industry.

PROBLEMS OF THE FOOD WORKERS

by Basil Kalfides

The present economic crisis has hit not have a clear-cut policy on the orthe food industry very severely. The ganization of the organized in the harons in the baking industry, in the food industry. But after the sixth

New Tasks and New Organizational Forms

In this situation our group found it necessary to analyze fundamentally its organizational structure. It was found that the structure which we had brought over from the first days of our organization in the Party was absolutely unsuited our group and the Party membership. to the new tasks facing us. Our form of organization was not the best means for promoting the mass activity of the inist line for the Party. All our work group as a whole and of the individual and activities are of course subordinated comrades. It was therefore decided by to that aim. But it was clearly pointed the last plenum to reorganize on the basis of mass organizations (especially be won over to our line by simply arguinade unions) and trades. Thus, in New ing with them or with the Party leaders. York City, there are as basic units, a group made up of needle trades workers, a group of shoe and leather workers, etc. Those comrades who cannot be placed in these trade groups, remain members of residential units. The trade groups are not merely trade fractions, but political units, taking up all the political and practical work of the group, the routine activities, as well as the problems of the industry and the mass organizations. In this way, it becomes possible to concen-

Party convention it was agreed upon

that the Amalgamated Food Workers could best be the base for the or-

started the big cafeteria strike which

added a fine page to the history of labor struggle in New York. We suc-

ceeded in organizing 2,000 cafeteria

workers and we were preparing to

take further steps in advance-when

the trade union line of the Commun

ist Party was changed and the new

course struck our union. What did

the new thade union course mean as

far as the organization of the unor-

ganized was concerned?'
(1) That the unorganized are more

radical than the organized workers.

A proposal was made by Gertrude

Welsh not to take the unorganized

unorganized-and therefore as more

(2) That only Communists can be

No one else can fight the bosses

"Out with the 'Lovestone-

incompetent these Communists may

except the Communists-and only the

Communists of the dominant faction.

Those who are not "lovalite" Commu-

nists are social-fascists. Hence the

therefore you cannot work within A.

of L. unions. Therefore; Smash the

A. F. of L. unions, the A. F. W., and

The organization of the

Workers Industrial Union" (that is,

the attempted split of the A. F. W.)

was a direct consequence of this gen

eral policy. It was a crime against the food workers. Today its existence

is an obstacle and a hindrance in the

direction of organizing the unorgan-

ized and in unifying the forces of the

One Union in the Industry!

of the bosses against the food work-

ers is to unite all the food workers

organizations into one powerful in-

dustrial union and to organize the

unorganized. Of course this idea of

trade union unity will be fought, and

What do we mean by combining all

food workers organizatoins into one?

Is this unity to come as the result of

a written resolution signed by all

union officials? Not in the least! The

need for such unity when they are in general motion against the bosses. To

attain the much sought-for unity

among the food workers we must start

a big campaign for the organization

of the unorganized by the A. F W.,

thus strengthening that organization.

At the same time we must take up

seriously the task of building up a

powerful left wing in the A. F. of

The only way to meet the attack

working class.

organization, are appalling. Out of he 2,000 members and \$23,000 that he "Lovestoneites" handed over to burocrats of the A. F. of L. unions.

the Weisman "left" leadership near- But we must wage a bitter fight

on Beach (he must have organized workers will come to appreciate the

L. locals,

ly two years ago, today a handful of against both tendencies.

ganization of the unorganized.

In the last few months the Communist the workers further on the road to Com- comtades so as to secure the greatest possible results. This general form of organization is to be applied in all cities where our groups exist.

#### Reorganization and Mass Work The new form of organization will be

great help, in stimulating our work for winning the Party to the correct line and When our group was organized we set as our goal the reestablishment of a Lenout that the Party membership could not ing with them or with the Party leaders. This can be done only thru applying the correct line and demonstrating to the Party members that the application of this line wins workers for Communism and strengthens the Communist movement. Thus, we can carry on endless debates with the Browders and Stachels about the necessity of work in the trade unions with little effect on the \*Party membership. But as soon as we begin independent work in the trade unions, as soon as we take steps to organize a left wing, as soon as we establish a united front with the progressives against the burograts, then we demonstrate to the Party membership and to the workers that work in the trade unions can be done and can bring results for Communism. This is the best possible argument against the sectarianism of the Party leaders. The concentration of our work in the mass organizations and the organizarion of our independent activity along the lines of our trade union program will lead to winning many new forces in the Party to our group. It will enable us to organize our contact with the Party members in the mass organizations and make it possible to win them first for our line in these organizations and finally for our

#### Reorganization and Recruiting

The new form of organization will also imulate the recruiting of new members for our group from among the revolu-tionary non-Party workers. It is clear that it is much more difficult to recruit for a group of the Party which is expelled from the Party than for the Party generally. To recruit a worker to the Communist Party, it is necessary to win him for the fundamentals of Communism, But to win a worker for our group, we must not only win him to the fundamentals of Communism, but in addition, to the parinto the union because they should be represented in the union council as ticular line which we advocate as a section of the Communist movement. It is quite clear that this can be done only thru the concrete application of our line the leaders of strikes-no matter how in particular instances. A revolutionary worker can see the difference between our line and that of the Party in the needle trades, for instance, or in the Workmen's Circle. To him, this is the expression of the difference between our line and the Party's. That worker, recruited into our group, will not be shoved ites' from the labor organizations!"

(3) That the A. F. of L. is part of the American government and never even mentioned, but into the group which takes up the work in the union or

The reorganization of our group, which is an essential part of our turn to mass all unions not under TUUL control. work will be a big step forward on the There must be organized "revolutionary industrial unions" as dual or bist influence among the masses and of a correct Leninist line in the Party.

### NOW IT CAN BE TOLD!

In the Daily Worker of January 17, 1931 Max Bedacht, in his article, A Year of Bolshevization, declares: "In spite of a comparatively success-

ful recruiting campaign at the beginning of the year, the membership of the Party actually remains unchanged. This means: the Party has lost at least as many members as it has gained, not in the ordinary course of events, but thru

special membership drive! In the Revolutionary Age of May 21, 1931, there was an article of Jay Lovestone entitled, Stop That Game of Bluff. In this article, Comrade Lovestone showed on the basis of facts and figures that the "official reports" of the Organization Department of the CC on the once-famous 'membership drive" were just misleading bunk. He showed that the "gains" of the drive, exaggerated beyond recognition, were used to cover up the tremendous losses in membership that the new line brought for the Party.

At that time the article was attacked as "lying," "slanderous," "traitorous," and what not. Now Max Bedacht openly admits that the Party lost hundreds, if membership drive could do was to make up for the loss of old members! Why were these comrades, old members and active fighters, driven out of the Party? A Year of Bolshevization!

### From Beyond the Tomb

At a time when big business is boss n government and the power of the presdent is constantly growing at the expense of every other department, John Spargo, ex-socialist leader, writes to the Times from Bennington, Vt., protesting that the Senate is "invading the rights of the Executive," "constantly making attacks on industry." Such are the latter day activities of John "Jesus" Spargo, the Norman Thomas of an earlier period, who sought in his biography to make a saintly pacifist school-marm of Karl Marx and later led the fight to make the Socialist Party pro-war. How the mighty have

Forty-four books and thirteen newspapers have so far been banned by the censorship of the Irish Free State. That's why they call it "free."

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January 31, 1931

#### THE POPE SETS THE CLOCK BACK

From his "holiness" the Pope we are accustomed to receive statements of unholy reaction. Last summer it was the summons to war on the Soviet Union. His Christmas message contained thinly veiled suggestions in the same direction. Now he has tackled the problems of marriage and divorce and the position of woman in modern society. His proposals are to rest the twentieth century family on the principles governing life in the tenth century. His encyclical is a mixture of superstition, obscurantism and blackest social reaction.

God, Pope Pius explains, invented marriage for man because he wishes many men to be born "that they be worshippers of God." He decided that marriage must be for life and that there should be no divorce. Yet "the very natural process of generating life has become the way of death, by which original sin is passed on to posterity." To Abraham and the patriarchs He permitted many wives and to Moses, divorces. But "Christ, by virtue of His supreme legislative power recalled this concession of greater liberty and restored the primeval law . . . . " Such is the scaffolding of theological superstition on which he builds his stronghold | of social reaction.

Towards woman and her position, the Pope's attitude is one of the most brutal cruelty and medieval subjection. The use of contraceptives or abortion under any circumstances-even to save the mother's life-is forbidden. To practice birth control in any form and for any reason is to "sin against nature." (It is a wonder that the Pope does not forbid shaving or cleaning the teeth or disinfecting of surgical instruments, since man is not to interfere with the blind working of nature.) Woman is an instrument of breeding, to beget children one a year (or in pairs or triplets) till exhaustion or physical breakdown or natural sterility, supervenes. For poverty he enjoins charity and pious wishes.

Social, economic or political rights for women are a crime against God. "Physiological emancipation (he means the right of women over their own bodies) is not an emancipation but a crime". The order of St. Augustine requires "ready subjection of the wife". "Let women be subject to their husbands as to the Lord, because the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the Church". He thunders against "false liberty and unnatural equality with the husband . . . for if woman descends from her truly regal throne" (of uncontrolled child bearing and economic and physical subjection to her husband) then Pius warns that her apparent emancipation is an enslavement.

From the State he demands enforcement of the Church's prohibitions against divorce, against birth control enlightenment, etc.—the power of the State to enforce the reactionary demands of the Church against adherents and non-believers alike.

Thus the magnificent, international propaganda apparatus of the Church is set to work to turn the clock of history backward, to bulwark the blackest reaction in family life as it seeks to further it in social life. But there is one positive virtue in the Pope's message, its uncompromising frankness. Countless faithful adherents of the Catholic Church will have their eyes opened to the true role of the Church and of religion in general,

The Wickersham Report is an example of the miserable cowardice of capitalist politicians and the vast uselessness of Hoover commissions. Eleven wise men set out to see if it was wet out and couldn't tell whether it would be raining or sunny in 1932. Prohibition "enforcement" is so obviously non-existent that the Commission was almost unanimous for revision—that is, most of its eleven members were—but added all together they make a commission and a commission must not commit itself-so they signed a repor collectively to which none of them agreed individually and attached their own refutations of the report as supplementary material. Now the mere reading of the report makes you dizzier than a quart of white mule.

The report is a fitting symbol of the sham and corruption in which the whole question of alcoholism is drowned. Prohibition was introduced in the interests of the manufacturers as part of the speed-up drive in industry. It was an attempt to regulate the "leisure" hours of the working man. But alcohol is itself a huge vested interest and fought against the amendment.

The "enforcement" of the Volstead Act created a huge government machine of prosecutors, spies, stool pigeons and police agents. The profits in bootlegging created a vast new industry of gangsters, gunmen and racketeers, involving hundreds of millions of dollars, with judges, congressmen and "enforcement" officers on its payroll. Thus corruption, crime and hypocrisy have reached unheard-of heights. The 18th amendment and its "enforcement" are a fitting symbol of a rotting, dying social order.

The 18th amendment should be repealed. The big "enforcement" apparatus should be broken up. But alcoholism will not be affected materially by the repeal any more than it was the "enforcement". Alcoholism is one of the by arranging two rival affairs for the diseases inherent in capitalism itself. Insecurity of life, the monotony of standardized factory work, the strain of the belt line and speed up, the low cultural level of the masses under capitalism, desperate poverty and body and soul-breaking toil-these are the roots of this terrible social disease. Only a Communist society can cure alcoholism by raising the cultural level of the masses, by diversifying labor, by eradicating poverty, by putting an end to the insecurity of life. The struggle against the curse of alcoholism is a part of the general struggle against capitalism and for a decent hu-

### LIBERAL EDUCATION

No better commentary on the state of "education" in this "most enlightened country in the world" is possible than the following letter recently printed in the New York Times:

To the Editor of The New York Times:

I am here reminded of an incident that occurred in a suburban school near Knoxville, Tenn. The young teacher was explaining the rotundity of the earth. The next day little Creasy came to school and said: "May maw says fur me tuh git my books and come on home."

"Why is that?" asked the teacher. No answer. After a little coaxing the child blurted out:

"My maw says you ain't fitten to be no teacher. You tells us the world's round and my maw says hit's flat, fur the Good Book says an angel stood at each corner, and how kin they stand thur ef hit's round?"

The child left with her books, and the teacher, nonplused, sought the advice of the principal. She waited in his office while he lifted his feet from the desk, and, after stating her predicament, asked: "What shall I do?"

He replied: "Teach it round to them who wants it round and flat to them who wants it flat."

Europe 1931

## HUNGER AND WAR

by Jay Lovestone

(Continued from page 1) get worse and we will have to send out of the country, back to Poland, Hungary, and Italy, the hundreds of thousands of workers whom we only yesterday called in for work?" No French bourgeois economist, journalist, or stateman dares answer this question.

Of course, in Europe the workers have forced, to a limited, insufficient degree, the ruling class to grant some social insurance. But this "relief" doesn't be-gin to help. It's anything but a solution. And because f the generally lower standard of living, because of the worse poverty of the masses, unemployment means for our European brothers an even more dreadful plight than it, at the outset, means to us. I can never forget the rows and rows of beggars and their dogs, in the busy shopping centres of Berlin, on Christmas Evc. It is impossible to lose the very painful impression of lines of beggars in the railroad yards and wharves of "prosperous", "cultured" victorious France, as you say goodbye to Europe. Men, women, children—all in the army of jobless, hungry and miserable!

#### ALL FOR WAR-WAR FOR ALL

The intolerable stress of the economic crisis is a terrific force driving ruling class after ruling class into ruthless attacks on the workers, into economic policies of fierce discrimination against competitors, into the most enervating war fever. Tho war is not yet on, one already feels much of the atmosphere of the barracks. Everything is being bent toward war-a war which will draw in everybody, a war without neutrals and without limit to its hellish destruction.

The continent is strewn with the rotten-ripe fruits of the Versailles Treaty, the whole infamous Versailles system, with its Treaties of St. Germain, Sevres,

Mamma! It Doesn't Hurt To Die a Hero's Death, Does It?



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The Economic Week

week. The fall of commodity prices

remains unbroken. The week end

saw another drop in all grain

the season's lowest point. Cotton

are of small proportions and show

no rapid upward movement or even

a slow one for any extended period

of time. Bank clearings of the week compared with a year ago

Reconstruction

1.—Towards Communist

World Crisis

Feb. 8-Europe in 1931

Roads

with its Young Plan, and with its Peace of Riga. Capitalism with its ever-sharpening inherent contradictions and antagonisms, makes impossible any real security, from war or hunger for the great masses of the people. Indeed, the first principle of every capitalist statesman is: Peace conferences and peace treatics

without sword are useless! There may be some military logic to some of the new frontiers, with which their complicated and burdensome tariff regulation only serve to deepen the economic conflicts. Created to "solve" some of the pre-war contradictions of capitalist Europe, they are not only no solution, but are indeed fertile soil for an-

PASSAIC HOLDS

Over 125 Workers At

Passaic Lenin Meeting

PASSAIC, N. J .-- The only meeting

held in Passaic this year in memory of

(Majority Group) at Maciag Hall, 40

Third Street, on Sunday night January

18. The official party organization con-tented itself with honoring the memory

of Lenin's labor for working class unitly

same night, a forum and a theater party.

Hall including several who had come all

the way from Patterson to attend the

meeting. The speakers were Jack Ruben-stein, Chester Bixby and Bert Wolfe.

Eli Keller was chairman of the meeting.

The keynote of the meeting was the de-

fense of the Soviet Union against attack

and the pledge to follow Lenin's teach-

ing of turning the coming imperialist

war into a civil war for a warless work-

Fascism Ain't So Bad

Now that we know that Mussolini likes Emerson and William James

Desperate efforts are being made

by the biggest bankers to develop

a "sunshine" movement, to spread

the psychology that "the corner

has been turned", that the worst

of the crisis is over. Owen D. Young, Geo. F. Baker, Farrel, and

Warburg are leading this chorus. But there are no fundamental facts to prove this. Quite the con-

trary. The slight seasonal advance in steel production is below

The slight seasonal ad-

normal, Freight carloadings also week compared with a year ago show a sub-normal increase for the continue to drop seriously—over

we can be easy again.

ers' world.

About 125 workers came to Maciag

Lenin was held by the Communist Party

LENIN MEET

of capitalist Europe looks as if it had been made by a fly walking out of inkpot filled with dirty ink.

In Italy Mussolini bellows war from the house-

tops. Mass murder is the language of Fascism everywhere. German imperialism is not yelling for disarmament but for equality in armaments with France, with England, with all of the other first class imperialist powers. This means only more armaments. France building a chain of impregnable fortresses on the Italian frontier, rushing a huge armada in the Mediterannean, constructing the mightiest forts in the world in Alsace-Lorraine, and frantically arming her satellites, Polish, Czech, and Jugo-Slavian militarism. England boasts that it will "arrive at the next war ahead of all other nations, both as regards the quality of armored fighting vehicles and as to the ideas underlying their use". Nor do the British imperialists mince words about the London Conference. They openly say the United States has wrecked this conference "as an instrument of pacification" and that its only practical result has been to give England an inferior navy and "to stimulate naval rivalry on the continent,"

But thru all these war preparations there runs a sort of steel rod, the core, a lever pointing to the main target towards which the heavy artillery, machine guns, poison gas and battleships and airplanes are turned. The most serious source of the imperialist war danger is against the Union of Socialist Soviet Re-The world-famous French armament corporation of Schneider-Creuzot has just made an official open loan of a million francs to the Polish government. Poland and Roumania have just concluded an agreement for pooling their armed forces and military resources under a unified French command. The Kreuger Match Trust is financing heavily all Polish imperialist military ventures. An army of 100,000 White, monarchist Russians is being harbored and trained in "democratic" France. Truly, the recent trial of counter-revolutionists in Moscow has unfolded only a very small part of the world-wide imperialist conspiracy against the Soviet Union.

#### AT THE TURNING OF THE ROAD

The political skies of Europe are today black with the heavy clouds of Fascism and War. The economic order of capitalism is in its period of decay and decline. The breakdown may not come at the same time and in the same fashion in every country but the collapse is on. No wonder then that the British Fortnightly Re-

"Out of this clash of opposing forces and interests on the continent may very well come that later and bigger struggle between Fascist Nationalism on the one hand and International Bolshevism on the other . . . . Per-haps M. Briand saw furthest in his plans for a United States of Europe.'

It is a European crisis. Hence, it's a world crisis involving every capitalist country. Capitalism can't feed the country dwellers. It is starving the city workers. The capitalists may be planning war as a solution; they may be driven to war as a final solution. But empty stomachs don't always make soldiers. Under certain conditions empty stomachs make good revolutionary fighters.

The imperialists have made their war adjustments. This economic crisis is hastening new attempts to adjust these readjustments thru the highest and most intense expression of capitalist competition-War. But the revolutionary proletarian forces will also have quite something to say about a real adjustment, a funamental overhauling of the whole desperate situation.

What is the concrete situation in the main countries of capitalist Europe? What are the ruling classes doing to maintain the present tottering order? What of Fascism? What-of the workers? What of the Communist movement? Who will come out on top? These questions and others later.

The next article in the series by Comrade Lovestone will be FASCISM ON THE RAMPAGE. It will be followed by: COMMUNISM IN ALSACE, AN EMPLOYED THE OFFICE AND ALSACE AN PIRE IN ITS DEATH THROES, EUROPE AND THE SOVIET UNION, and THE INTERNATIONAL other and more devastating war. The economic map OPPOSITION CONFERENCE.

Socialist Station Refused License; Civil Liberties Takes Up Case

NEW YORK .- The Federal Radio January 16.

The Civil Liberties Union has taken up the case and a national committee to fight the ban on Station it of the futility of forced labor." WEVD has been formed, including Heywood Broun, Amos Pinchot, Su-san Brandeis, Harry Elmer Barnes, Roger N. Baldwin, etc. with Forrest Bailey as secretary.

The attempt to suppress Station to destroy all organs of labor ex-

20% for the country. Failures

for the week total 712-a large

number-compared with 644 in the

In the meanwhile the mass suffer-

as well as among the city workers.

In the drought stricken area, for

instance, the average sufferer is

lucky to get from the Red Cross a

maximum of ten cents a day to

prices. Corn prices dropped to corresponding week of last year.

took another bad drop. The pro- ing is continually getting worse

duction gains in the auto industry among the poor country dwellers

### RADIO BOARD BANS STATION WEVD

Commission has refused to re-license the radio station, WEVD, the Socialist station erected in 1927 in memory of Eugene Victor Debs. The decision of the Federal Radio Commission suppressing this station was made on

WEVD is very obviously part of the government drive now well on its way pression--press, meetings, radio, etc. Five Communist papers have already been denied mailing privileges. One of the Fish committee recommenda-tions is to outlaw all labor papers.

### THE RURAL NEGRO, by Carter Godwin Woodson. The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Washington, 1930. The rural Negro in the South consti-tues a majority of the total Negro popu-

**ZNOOE** 

lation of the U. S. A.; he will prove a potentially powerful political factor in the unfolding class struggle. An under-standing of the conditions and life of the rural Negro is therefore very important or the revolutionist. In spite of its shortcomings, this book is an important contribution in this direction. It gives a vivid picture of a people, doubly op-pressed, both as a peasant class and as

The author's work is the product of ainstaking research and investigation. He describes in detail the life of the rural Negro, his poverty, his habits and surroundings, his ignorance and superstition, his religion, his ideals and strivings. Thru it all, like a red thread, runs the economic exploitation and racial oppression to which he is subject. He is terrorized and segregated. His kind have died before the oors of hospitals recreed for whites. How can be develop culturally when his hours of labor are as great or greater than under chattel slavery? The picture

Most important are the chapters on the Negro farmers are tenants, mostly troppers—the lowest form of share-tenincy, wherein the Negro is almost totally lependent upon the landowners. He is tept in continuous debt by the vilest nethods and thus forced to remain in a most brutal form of exploitation. As the author puts it: "Tenancy is another form of slavery, supplanting nominal slavery.

Peonage is a product of the tenancy ystem. The plantation owners, themselves under continuous debt pressure of the Southern financial oligarchy, get their labor, permanent and cheap, by hook or Towards this end the notorious vagrancy laws of the South are designed. The Negro is accessed and fined upon the slightest pretext. The landowner is johnny-on-the-spot; he pays the fine, immediately putting the victim in his debt. which the latter must work off! The Negro is forced to sign a contract giving his boss practically life and death powers over him. The chain gang is even worse than peonage. One of the unctions of the Southern rural court is to supply the plantation owners with cheap labor which can be regulated at will. Peonage is the lot not only of the Negroes in the South but in some cases also of poor whites, especially foreign born immigrants,

Mr. Woodson provides some telling examples of the life of the Negro under peonage. One we cannot pass up in-volves the Red Cross. During the Misissippi floods the Negroes were the greatst sufferers. By the thousands they came rom the plantations to the Red Cross camps for relief and safety. In agree-ment with the landowners the Red Cross admitted them with the understanding hat they would be returned to their plantations. No Negro could leave with-out a pass. The camps were guarded by the militia and if any one tried to escape ie would be shot at!

The author handles the Negro question is an isolated problem and not as an integral part of the general capitalist system. Yet here and there he is forced to come out with significant facts and tonclusions. For example, he shows that about 40% of the Southern white farm ers are tenants, in number one-and-a-half times as great as Negro tenant farmers. A goodly portion of them are also subject to peonage.

The author is also forced to note the utilization of the Negro church as an instrument in the hands of the ruling class. He tells us that the landowner are glad to support the Negro church "The Negro preacher is seldom disturbed if he sticks to the Bible. He is regarded as a factor in making the church a moral police force to compel obedience to what is known as moral obligations. He is also an asset in that he keeps Negroes thinking about the glorious times which they will have beyond this troublesome sphere, and that enables them to forget their oppression here."

Mr. Woodson's petty bourgeois outlook impells him to look for and to "find" some "bright spots" on the horizon. He details the philanthropic of forts in Negro education, especially those of Julius Rosenwald. He notes "that the main instrument depended upon to effect desired reform has been education, an effort to teach lumanity and to convince the author seems unable to convince himself. His last chapter is headed: The Discouraging Aspects of Things.

R. MACKLIN.

THE STRATEGY OF THE WORLD REVOLUTION, by Leon Trotsky. Communist League of America.

The Strategy of the World Revolu tion gives great promise but little fulfillment. In form it is a critique of the section of strategy in the Draft Program of the Comintern; in essence, it is really a polemic against the whole strategical course of the CI since 1924. Unfortunately, however, the polemic is almost totally negative and therefore quite inadequate. There is no doubt in my mind that Trotsky's critique of the strategical section of the Draft Program uncovers some very serious shortcomings of this chapter. But Trotsky offers very little concrete positive material to replace these deficiencies and in so far as anything positive is offered it is uniformly in the wrong direction (i.e., in the direction of a more consistent sectarianism). Yet the And hit them on the head. pamphlet deserves serious study in connection with an objective examination of the Program of the Com-



Knighthood At So Much Per Knight

The Apostolic See is the best revenue collector in the world. Its wholesale worldwide sale of indulgences, blessings, pardons, vacations from purgatory; its holy weeks and years, its eucharistic congresses, its dispensations, etc. etc. cause a constant flow of funds from the faithful to the Church. America, as the richest country in the world, today, is recognized by awarding a Eucharistic congress to America, by creating more American cardinals, and now by founding a branch of the Council of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre (a medieval order of knighthood founded during the Crusader) in America. Martin Conboy, James A. Foley, Edward J. Kenny, Joseph T. Ry-an, Victor J. Dowling and others—13 wealthy and faithful laymen and various fleries have been dubbed knights at so much per dub. Our, prediction is that the next money raiser of the Catholic Church in America will be a visit from the Pope himself. Then watch the whirlwind collection of Peter's Peace.

#### The \$ign of the Cross

The United Lutheran, Church has enancy and peonage. Three-quarters of created an investment trust to handle its 5-million-dollar-a-year 'fivestments, Modera big-business America requires a bigbusiness Christianity. It's not for nothing that the pious American Dollar bears the legend: "In God we trust" and the church in turn adopts the motto: "In Hoc Signo Vinces".

#### Under the Big Tent

"The Bolsheviks-men with long whiskers and wild ideas,"-Senator Con

"The President is full of human sympathy."-Senator Gillett.

"Congressman Fish should make an pology to this Congress and to the people of Arkansas whom he slandered in a cowardly manner by saying Communists led their hunger riots."—Senator Rob-

"The people of Arkansas, in the drought-stricken regions are just as good people as any man who sits in the Senate of the United States."—Senator Caraway (of Arkansas).

After thus delying the President, detining Bolshevism and defending the fair name of the starving farmers of Arkan-sas, the Senate cut off the \$15,000,000 relief appropriation that they had passed the previous week,

#### He Should Be President

Mr. Glad gave away on Times Square last week 1,200 pairs of gloves, 2,000 nickels, and 3,200 slips of paper bear ng the following message:
"The 13 jinx has gone. There was a

panie in 1903-13, and 1912-13, and 1921-13, and 1930-13. By this system of reckoning (adding the digits), there won't be another until 2029-13 and that is ninety-nine years away. Good luck to you in 1931 (which adds up to

The only difference between him and the President is that Mr. Glad gave away a nickel with his statistics.

Everytime we reach the bottom of the depression, employment drops another

### Losing His Eyesight

"Before prohibition all sorts of drunks could be seen on the streets, on the street cars and even on trains. Now I seldom see a drunk."—Andrew J. Volstead.

### Diogenes Couldn't Do It

The Napoleon of Cangsterdom, Prince of Wise crackers, and Mayor of Graftville on the Hudson, has delivered himself to the following words of wisdom:
"The meanest kind of human being is

not always the man who frames innocent women, but the man who frames innocent, honest public servants". It is our opinion that a man who can

find an innocent, honest public servant in the City of New York to frame deserves a medal for patient remerch.

#### Help For Hoover The Senate first confirmed known

Power Trust agents as members of the Federal Power Commission, and then objected to the indecent haste with which But they acted before they were even in of-him fice. The sham light between the Senate and Hoover is worth a cool million in Powr Trust contributions to his 1932 campaign fund.

Hoover is reported "deaf to compromise on the relief issue", and we might add "and also dumb".

### The Jury Is Ready

While American foreign trade dropped by \$2,500,000,000 Soviet foreign trade jumped up 20% in the past year. While unemployment sky rocketed in the capitalist world, it disappeared in the Soviet Union. While production declined thruout the capitalist countries, it took unprecedented leaps forward in Soviet Russia. Ham Fish says: "Capi-talism is on trial." He's right. And the verdiet is: "Guilty!"

#### COMMUNIST MOTHER GOOSE No. 2.

(To Fred Biedenkapp) There was an old woman Who lived in a shoe. Had so many members She didn't know what to do. She spanked them, expelled them And when she got back The poor union was dead!

Elizabeth, N. J., Jan. 1, 1981.

X. Y. Z.