

Whatever may be... George he cannot be accus...

Lloyd George stated while he was premier that he would never "shake hands with murder."

Lloyd George is a politician. He is not an amateur like Charles Evans Hughes.

Lloyd George made war on Russia "until it hurt" both Russia and England.

The French Senate refused to constitute itself a court to try Marcel Cachin, the Communist.

It is lucky he was not in France. The French senate declared that Cachin's actions were confined to speeches and writing.

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TRACTION STRIKE VOTE DELAYED

MINERS PROGRESSIVE CONFERENCE VOTE TO MAINTAIN "LEFT BLOC" IN UNITED MINERS OF AMERICA

By J. LOUIS ENGBAHL

PITTSBURG, Pa., Labor Lyceum.—Unanimous and enthusiastic endorsement of the plan to build a permanent "left bloc" within the United Mine Workers of America was voted by the International Progressive Miners' Conference here.

Under this plan not only a national committee, meeting every three months, but district, sub-district and local organizations will be created throughout the whole jurisdiction of the Miners' Union.

The vote was taken following an interesting discussion during which delegate after delegate voiced his conviction that a new day had dawned for the 500,000 members of the rank and file of the United Mine Workers organization, hitherto held in leash by a reactionary officialdom.

Foster Addressed Conference. Before the report of the organization committee recommending the permanency of the temporary conference built by the miners of the Pittsburgh District, the delegates were addressed by William Z. Foster, secretary of the Trade Union Educational League, and Alexander Howat, deposed president of the Kansas miners.

Alex McKay, of the Nova Scotia, Canada, coal miners, was chosen the conference chairman. He declared that the fourteen thousand Nova Scotia coal miners were one hundred per cent for the militant miners' program.

During the report of Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Myerscough, one delegate interrupted to ask whether the conference had been called to build an organization in opposition to the United Mine Workers.

"This is the first meeting of this character" the miners of the United States have ever held," Foster told the delegates. "It marks one of the landmarks in the history of American labor. You are not alone. What is being accomplished here is being done in every great industry in the country. The rank and file everywhere is determined to have something to say about running their labor unions."

Foster urged the delegates to develop their organization and to popularize their program.

He charged that the great masses of the miners' union were in favor of nationalization and the Labor Party, but that their desires were being blocked by a well-organized reactionary officialdom that had hitherto managed to divide and conquer the militant membership.

"Make the United Mine Workers' Union what it ought to be," urged Foster. "The biggest and most powerful labor union in the world."

Howat came out in earnest endorsement of all that Foster had said, declaring that the kept press was fighting Foster because he was on the right track.

"If Foster was misleading you," said Howat, "all of the kept press would be for him, the politicians would be supporting him, the bosses praising him."

"I am glad to be here with the real progressives of the labor movement," continued Howat. "This is an indication that the workers are beginning to wake up."

Howat urged intensive organization work in anticipation of the next miners' international convention, when, in his own words, "We must tear down the Lewis machine."

In picturing the official tyranny over the rank and file, Howat charged that the time would come when the Lewis officialdom, if continued in power, would be jelling the miners where to eat and sleep, what movies to attend, what churches to go to.

"I am sure that there isn't a single man here," he concluded, who would stand for a dual organization. Stay on the inside and fight it out here."

Whole-hearted support was given resolutions denouncing all forms of dual unions and supporting the demand for a Labor Party.

Delegate Louis McDonald, Alberta, Western Canada, told of the disaster that had followed the adherence given the so-called "One Big Union" in Canada.

As a result of passage of Labor Party resolution all delegate will go back to their unions and work for sending of delegate to the Labor Party Conference, in Chicago, July 3rd.

Ruthenberg Sentence Suspended Pending Ruling of High Court

By JOE CARROLL

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.—In the Circuit Court here Judge Chas. E. White suspended sentence in the case of C. E. Ruthenberg, National Executive Secretary for Workers' Party of America, convicted on May 2nd under the Michigan Criminal Syndicalism Law.

Asst. Atty Gen. O. E. Smith, who led the State's forces in these two prosecutions, has tendered his resignation, effective on July 5, and will have nothing more to do with the cases which may follow.

IGNORANT KU KLUXERS TRY TO SCARE WAR VETERANS

Enraged at the progress made by the World War Veterans of West Virginia in organizing the lumber workers and coal miners in that region the bosses issued orders to their tools, the Ku Klux Klan to get after the Vets. and frighten them into inactivity.

The Klan, where it is not in the hands of a few grafters is controlled by the employers who use it to break strikes and establish the Open Shop. This outfit in Richwood responded to the call of the masters and sent an illiterate epistle to Lawson McMillion, President of the World War Veterans of the State of West Virginia.

Mr. Lawson McMillion, Richwood, W. Va.

Dear Sir:-

Are you sure actions and conduct add anything to this community????????????????

Do you think you carrying on a commendable or worthy cause????????????????

If not is it not about time you make arrangements to vacate????????????????

Is it necessary for any suggestions be made to you???

BEWARE! All ye people of the Earth There is but one and only Ku Klux Klan; therefore SHUN!

K. K. K. (Image of a Klansman)

THE LAST REVOLUTION

Beginning in this issue "The Last Revolution" will run serially in the Voice of Labor. No doubt our readers will find keen delight in reading this mental picture of the fate of our plutocrats in the last days of capitalism.

If you are at all keen, you will recognize various celebrities under assumed names in this very comic operetta. For instance our old friend Lemuel Crimpers is no other than—, but this would spoil the thrill. See for yourself.

We would suggest right now that you save a copy of every issue of the Voice of Labor in which this story appears and whenever you need a good laugh the mirth provoker will be at your elbow.

Now, SUBSCRIBE to the Voice of Labor if you are only a casual reader. You cannot afford to miss the Last Revolution. Send in your "sub" right away. Those who are subscribers should order extra copies and distribute them among their fellow workers. Branches should get busy. The opinion is practically unanimous that the Voice of Labor is everything that a labor paper should be, except that it has not enough readers. We depend on those who are now on our mailing list to boost our circulation.

Take a lesson from the World War Veterans of West Virginia. They order special bundles, send us the news of their activities in that section of the country and we help them to organize and fight the bosses. That is the way to work. Less theorizing and more action. Less blueprints and more contact with the masses.

Send in your bundle order and subscriptions to the Business Manager Voice of Labor, 2517 Fullerton Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Rank and File Furious Over Action of Officials in Railroadings Through Temporizing Resolution. Fakers Fear They Cannot Hold Men in Control

The employees of the surface lines of Chicago will not come to grips with the traction bosses if the leaders of the union can help it. This was plainly demonstrated at a stormy meeting of the union members on Monday, June 4, in Carmens' Hall, Ashland Ave. and Van Buren St., when William Quinlan, president of the union, declared a resolution of confidence in Mayor Dever, carried, but a tremendous chorus of "noes" instead of the usual "ayes."

The men were furious and shook fists at the fat and nervous leaders who tried to calm the angry members who are still smarting from the sores of a former betrayal when their leaders, led by Mahon, induced them to accept a cut in wages at a moment when victory was assured.

Again this apostle of compromise and surrender came into town, and after conferring with Mayor Dever, the tool of the Traction Trust, and published a letter giving "advice" to the men, left for Detroit, afraid to face the wrath of the members of the union.

The men feel they have the power to force the greedy traction barons to grant their small increase and they know that not capitalist mayors but the power of organized labor compels the bosses to grant demands.

If all the employees of the surface and elevated lines stuck together, trackmen and electricians as well as motormen and conductors, the bosses would quickly surrender. But the misleaders will fight united action. It is up to the men to bring about solidarity against the brazen attempts of the officials to betray them as they did about a year ago.

Before the meeting in Carmens' Hall, the corridors and stairways of the great building were crowded with men who talked nothing but strike. But they reckoned without William Quinlan, head of the Surface Lines Union. His sweet resolution, prepared by Mahon, was put through, not by the members, but by a blow of the gavel. Here it is:

"WHEREAS, in view of the fact that Mayor Dever is working earnestly and sincerely to bring about a peaceful and satisfactory settlement of our contract controversy with the Chicago Surface Lines, and that the mayor has made a request of our membership, through our officers, to refrain from any action at this meeting that may intensify the situation, until he can get an opportunity to make further effort as mediator to effect a satisfactory understanding; and

"WHEREAS, International President Mahon, who spent two days in Chicago on the situation conferring with Mayor Dever and our officers, has ap-

THE CHICAGO TRACTION MONOPOLY

By J. RAMIREZ

(This is the second of a series of articles to appear in the Voice of Labor on the principal industries in Chicago.—Ed.)

A book could be written about Chicago's traction system—and a long book at that. How many bitter facts

Motormen and Conductors

The following news may interest you: Edward J. Blair has been appointed captain of the Oak Park branch of the Minute Men of the Constitution, the strike breaking organization founded by Gen. Dawes. Who is Edward J. Blair? He is assistant to Britton I. Budd, president of the Chicago elevated roads. We notice that a man by the name of Henry A. Blair is head of the surface lines. Are they related? Looks suspicious, does it not? You have read in the papers that scabs came into town in order to break the expected strike. And perhaps the Minute Man, Edward J. Blair will lead them. That is his job as a Minute Man. The Minute Men intend to assist the bosses in breaking the unions and they would just as soon start on yours as any other. Look out!

The Fine Art of Juggling. Getting a decent wage has always been a difficult and wearisome business for the street railway employes. The company opposes every effort of the men with all the power at its command; any means are considered

Parley Christensen Will Attend July F.L.P. Convention

By J. G. BROWN
(National Secretary, Farmer-Labor Party.)

Parley Barker Christensen, Farmer-Labor Party candidate for president in the 1920 campaign, has just returned to the United States after a tour lasting nearly two years and embracing nearly all the modern nations of the world. He has made an intensive study of industrial and political conditions with especial reference to the possibilities offered through the co-operative movement. He wires from New York that he will be at the national office of the party in a few days and that he is full of fight. His forceful personality, as well as the great fund of information he will have will greatly add to the success of the July national convention.

A promise has finally been secured from Mother Jones to attend and address the July Convention. She has been very enthusiastic about the possibilities of the gathering, but owing to the condition of her health she was adverse to definitely promising to attend, but now she has sufficiently recovered her strength to be able to allow the sending out of the news that she will be present. "The workers," says Mother Jones, "must get together with the farmers on the political field if they are to retain any of their liberties. The July convention represents an honest effort to bring all the groups together on the political field, and I want to do all I can to see that it gets a good start. Count on me July 3rd."

The story of the Farmer-Labor Party in Minnesota has practically been duplicated in Idaho by the Progressive Party of that state. In that party are two outstanding figures that are known at the national office who are among the delegates to the national convention. One is H. F. Seguel, who has attended several conferences in the east where he has won all hearts by his blunt and rugged defense of fundamental rights; and the other is Ray McKaig, who was long the head of the Nonpartisan League in Idaho, out of which has grown the Progressive Party. In a recent letter he says among other things: "Now, I want to be of some help in putting this thing (convention) across. If I have no crawl on my knees, I am going to be at the convention. Give me some part in helping. Our Party (Progressive) at this time in Idaho is declared a winner by most of the wise ones. The old crowd is in bad. But a state victory does not suit me. I want to see some action nationally. This thing party movement can succeed over the nation if we get together. I want to help you do it."

Sentiments similar to the above are reaching the national office by every mail and credentials are coming faster and faster. Its success so far as attendance is concerned is assured. Now if a program can be agreed upon, a new note in American politics will have been struck.

Our readers want to know what the workers in your district are doing. Send the news to the Voice of Labor. We will gladly publish it.

America's White Terror

Is vividly depicted by Don Brown and H.M. Wicks in the June LIBERATOR. Both write from first hand experiences had in Pittsburg and Ohio.

BOWAT THE COALDIGGER, and his growing strength in the United Mine Workers Union is told of by J. Louis Engdahl.

THE LAP OF LUXURY gets a keen analysis from the pen of Scott Nearing.

BON VOYAGE, HILLQUIT, is the title of an analytical article by comrade John Pepper on the marriage of the Second and Second-and-a-half Internationals at Hamburg.

RUTHENBERG CONVICTED, is the title of Jay Lovestone's story of the trial of C. E. Ruthenberg at St. Joseph, Mich.

Frank Waits draws the cover. Don Brown, the frontispiece while Bob Minor gives a splendid double page cartoon on the exodus of the Negro from the South. There are also timely editorials, reviews, poetry and other drawings.

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THE LIBERATOR
799 Broadway New York City

Big Business Rallies to Action

By JAY LOVESTONE

In the mother-tongue of American Big Business there are no such words as "watchful waiting" and delay. Our capitalists are pursuing a strategy which is based on the principle that the best defense is a smashing offensive.

This is the outstanding impression I received as an observer of our captains of finance and industry at work in their national conventions.

The Capitalist Solos Gather

From May 8th to the 17th close to 7000 representatives of every phase of finance, industry and commerce gathered in the spacious Hippodrome and the gorgeous Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. They assembled at the Convention of the United States Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers.

The delegates to these conventions the United States Chamber of Commerce represented 1480 trade and local commercial organizations; 14,500 persons, firms, and corporations holding individual membership and a general membership of 750,000.

In the Manufacturers' Convention there were represented 312 of the most powerful manufacturer's associations in the country.

The delegates to these conventions did not gather to talk. They were the elite of our capitalist class and they attended to their business in excellent fashion. Their business was to devise ways and means of increasing profits, intensifying the exploitation of the workers and crushing Labor beyond any recovery. The speakers hit straight from the shoulder. The speeches were free from latitude and platitude and dealt with the living, practical problems of the country.

In both Conventions the spokesmen of the employing class consciously and otherwise behaved as if their organizations were the liaison between the general mass of people and the regularly constituted Governmental authorities. The atmosphere in both gatherings was "charged" with a spirit of insatiable hatred of and arrogant hostility to Labor.

Blessing the Apostles of Exploitation

Lewis E. Pierson, patron saint of the home town business men and President of the Merchant's Association of New York made the address of welcome to the National Chamber Delegates. He bemoaned the fact that "the nation as a whole is divided into groups and classes each seeking to perpetuate its own prosperity."

It was left to President Julius H. Barnes who has just returned from the In. national Chamber Convention

at Rome and had been sprinkled with the holy water of Fascism by Mussolini, to strike the keynote of the proceedings. Barnes extolled the "enterprising spirit" of American individualism. He attributed to this spirit the development of America's giant industries. A vicious attack on Soviet Russia took a good deal of time from Barnes.

Herbert Hoover, the Secretary of Commerce, followed Barnes. Hoover waxed even more eloquent over American individualism and the menace of Government ownership. For a while it appeared as if our friend Herbert could not run out of adjectives, but a good old Father Time came to the rescue of many a yawning delegate.

One of the most militant speeches of the convention was the opening address of J. E. Edgerton, President of the National Association of Manufacturers. "Edgerton is a sworn enemy of the workers and an indefatigable Open Shopper. He called the labor leaders a "ravenous band of premeditated thieves." He thundered against the employers who frequent the golf links too often and thus permit the development of dangerous discontent amongst their workers. Edgerton denounced the idea of giving the slightest consideration to the needs of the workers in fixing wages as "sophistical and wholly un-American." In attacking the advocates of a bonus for ex-soldiers Edgerton was especially bitter. He lumped the American soldiers whom he once called the saviors of civilization with the barbarian Boches. He told his ear-pricked listeners not to forget that "the ultimate goal of the German soldiery itself was the Treasury at Washington" which was "the rendezvous of the Kaiser's fondest thought". Edgerton went on to belittle: "When the enemy was fighting to reach it, our soldiers said: They shall not pass. And they didn't. Now let them exercise the same restraint upon themselves."

The manufacturers also received, by cable, the benediction of President Poincare, lickspittle of the French imperialists. Warren Gamaliel, the Guardian-Angel of our own exploiters telegraphed regrets over his inability to drink in the holy atmosphere and characterized the profiteers as "deserving of most emphatic and unqualified recognition."

The delegates were dividend-hungry. Their attitude and approach towards the problems confronting them in their exploitation of the workers (Cont. on page 3.)



THE POOR FISH SAYS:

New York is threatening to declare war on the United States for the right to drink booze unhindered demonstrates that all Americans have not forgotten the inalienable right to the pursuit of happiness. Of course we would not stand for armed insurrection against the open shop. That's Bolshevism. We must have law and order.

Gary, Religious

By WALT CARMON

Elbert H. Gary, fresh from a Mediterranean cruise, which took him among other places, to the shrines of the Holy Land, religiously pleaded "for a greater turning toward the world's ills" in his address at the annual meeting of the American Iron and Steel Institute.

Something tells us his religious zeal has been somewhat increased since his trip.

Has the temper of the European worker, no longer servile, given Elbert cause to worry?

What glorious advice to hand to the men in the steel industry, working 12 hours daily, seven days a week?

Turn to religion! The dividends—perhaps—but not the wages are reason for "a greater turning towards the Christian religion."

His anxiety that the worker acquire a still heavier coat of religion leads one to suspect a greater anxiety on his part. Why this turning towards heaven for a cure for the world's ills?

And he visited the shrines of the Holy Land. Since oil has been discovered in the vicinity, religious zeal seems to have prompted many capitalists to visit this doubly sacred soil.

This new prophet of religion, on his trip also dined with Mussolini who, judging from latest dispatches, will soon turn towards heaven for help, having found castor oil a very poor political lubricant.

Oil, the Chester concession, railroad building, steel—and the chairman of the United States Steel Corporation becomes so religiously inclined he visits the shrines of the Holy Land. Truly a great place to worship at present.

Open Shop and the Label

By T. J. O'FLAHERTY.

That the Employers' Association under various names are leaving no stone unturned to destroy the labor unions is generally admitted. That they are out to smash all combinations of labor, radical as well as conservative is equally unrefutable. That they employ all available methods to accomplish their ends is known to every worker who takes even a passing interest in the struggle between capital and labor.

A circular letter issued by the Tri-City Employers' Association (Troy, Albany and Cohoes, New York) reached our office and we quote part of it for the information of our readers. The circular was reprinted by the Chicago Trades Union Label League with comment. This is part of the employers' creed.

"While we may not all have open shops, yet we are all firm believers in them. In order to aid the movement for the Open Shop in the United States let us all do a little missionary work that will not cost us any money."

"The next time you buy any Clothing, Furniture, or anything at all, ask if it was made in an Open Shop. If not, then insist on getting Open Shop products, ask your intimate friends to do the same thing."

"Think over the above statement and begin at once to boost the open shop."

The Secretary of the Chicago Trade Union Label League in commenting on this written evidence of Open Shop determination, makes the statement that "there is only one sure way to check this general onslaught of the profiteering clique to destroy all labor unions and that is to apply the same methods in favor of friendly employers. (Emphasis ours.)"

This is poor advice. The only effective method to combat the organization of the bosses is the counter organization of labor—Industrial unions against Employers Associations. While the demand for union made goods is a good way of advertising one's sympathies a better way is to organize the workers so that they can sell their labor power to the employers—friendly and unfriendly—at the highest possible price. Employers are employers. "Friendly" employers who succeed in getting rich without exploiting the

workers who toil for them are as scarce as hen's teeth or white elephants. They don't exist. The only reason an employer hires a worker is to make a profit out of his labor. The only reason he concedes the Union Shop is because he is compelled to do so by the organized power of the workers and not through the agency of the one individual in a thousand who will go around to stores asking for the Union Label.

This is a good conductor to direct the organizing enthusiasm of the workers into the ground. Instead of bringing their mass power to bear on the bosses and compel them to recognize the unions we have the spectacle of business agents and delegates walking around town buying pairs of suspenders and neck ties and looking for the union label. What about taking a walk around to where the makers of neckties and suspenders are working and organizing them? That sounds too much like work and perhaps the boss would not be "friendly" after such a visit!

Will Judge Gary put the Union Label on his steel products when the "consumers" begin to look under the rust for it? Or will he recognize the Union only when his slaves are organized by some leader who has brains as well as courage?

By all means the workers should ask for union made goods when making a purchase. The writer bought a pair of shoes recently and compelled the shoe dealer after considerable pressure to produce a shoe with the Union Label, but if you asked any trade unionist in the City of Lynn, Mass., about it he would call it a scab shoe. It had the label of the Boot and Shoe Workers Union stamped on it. This label is sold to the manufacturers at so much per hundred. The cash flows into the coffers of the Union and the slaves who make the shoes can save for any old price the boss can force on them for all the label peddler's care. A union label but non-union wages.

When will trade unionists realize that the only way to insure that the public will purchase unionmade goods is to organize the workers into unions. This cannot be done by healthy union officials visiting the bargain counters in the Department Stores.

United Front in Germany on Labor's International Holiday

(By the Federated Press.)

BERLIN, Germany.—German labor presented an almost united front on May day. Excepting only the relatively unimportant Christian trade unions, all German workers marched together to the great demonstrations that took place in every city, town and village. For once the hatchet was buried between communists and socialists, and the labor parades were participated in jointly by both groups. Red flags were in evidence everywhere. No German police would dare interfere with a group carrying the banner of internationalism. Red flags are as common in German labor demonstrations as the green flag with the harp used to be in America on St. Patrick's day.

Even in the occupied area the day was celebrated as though there were no military there. In large cities like Essen the French soldiers and officers were called off the streets while the working people were marching, so as to avoid somebody's "starting something."

For a while it looked as though Munich, the seat of the reactionaries, would be the scene of Fascist terrorism. Some 2,000 self-styled "national socialists" appeared near one military barrack with steel helmets and some guns, with the evident intention of provoking a rumpus, but when they found that 50,000 workers were determined to hold festivities despite the threats issued, they preferred to remain at a safe distance, where they were held in check by the police.

A Fish Story in Verse

The big fish eats the little fish
And own the whole big river.
The little fish can only get
What the big fish wants to give her;
So the little fish eats the shrimps
And nips them in the bud,
But the poor little shrimps
Must also live,
So they just eat the mud.
—Barney.

WORKERS PARTY OF YORKVILLE, OHIO, HOLD SUCCESSFUL PICNIC

By H. E. KEAS

YORKVILLE, O.—Yorkville Roumanian branch, Workers' Party of America, with the assistance of the comrades from the other two Yorkville branches of the party held a picnic in Dieth Run, about a mile and a half from Yorkville, which was not only very well attended but resulted in a collection for the defense of Comrade John Buksa, recently convicted in a Wheeling, W. Va. court of "distributing seditious literature," which totaled \$82.63.

The speakers of the day were Comrade G. Barbat, from the Roumanian branch of Canton, O. and District Organizer H. E. Keas, from Cleveland. Comrade Barbat touched upon the necessity of international solidarity of the workers in order to successfully oppose the capitalist class in their assaults against the workers, while comrade Keas spoke of the lies spread by the capitalist class and their labor faker spokesmen, Gompers and Company, when they attempt to misinform the workers regarding the significance to the American workers of May Day and the meaning of the red flag, as so recently done by Gompers in his interview to the "brass check" press a few days before the First of May.

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NON-PRODUCTIVE PURITY

By W. F. DUNNE

Only at rare intervals do we comment upon the vagaries of working-class organizations other than the trade union movement, but certain statements contained in the reply of the Socialist Labor Party to the Farmer-Labor Party, declining its invitation to a united front conference, afford us an opportunity so tempting that we can not overlook it.

In its lengthy letter setting forth the reason why it will not be represented at the Chicago conference on July 3, the Socialist Labor Party says:

"We place ourselves on the ground of high principle, serene in our conviction that somehow, somewhere, and soon, something will break, which will cause the workingclass to perceive in the Socialist Labor Party, the only true (because scientific) party of labor in the country."

It is too bad that Marx is not living today to characterize in his inimitable style this little band of miracle-seekers, who differing in noise from a dozen religious sects, patiently await a sign from heaven designating the Socialist Labor Party as the organization of Messiahs holding the key to salvation.

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Marx, like Lenin, stressed the importance of mass organizations of workers and their primary part in the class-struggle. They are won to the social revolution not by waiting but by work—work among them.

It must be indeed a fragile and tender thing—this revolutionary ark of the covenant—that the Socialist Labor Party possesses if it cannot stand contact with the masses who alone make revolutions.

Like the holy maidens who fear life's beautiful mysteries and who die chaste but childless, we have a feeling that the Socialist Labor Party will preserve its purity by giving birth to no offspring. If, as it claims it is the lineal descendant of the family of Marxians, capitalism has nothing to fear for the species will be extinct with the death of the last member of the S.L.P., which, with a celibacy that would be a credit to many monastic orders, has steadfastly refused to be seduced into intercourse with the lower order of unenlightened wage-earners.

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ELEVEN PERCENT INCREASE TO GARY SLAVES IS MYTH

WASHINGTON.—On the heels of E. H. Gary's touching plea for more Christianity in the world and his announcement that the steel trust can't substitute an eight-hour day for the 12-hour shift in the steel mills as it would take all the fun out of the workers' lives since they find it much easier to work 12 hours than eight. A. F. of L. organizer, Duffy, spoils all the publicity the trust has been getting from its noble deed of increasing wages 11 per cent.

That 11 per cent increase, Duffy reports from Pittsburg, where he has been investigating, is chiefly bunk. "Around the steel mills in Braddock, I found that Gary's advertised increase is not general, as many of the steel workers got nothing," he writes to A. F. of L. secretary, Frank L. Morrison.

"Others got 2 per cent and others got as low as 1 1/4 per cent increase. There is general disappointment among the men in not getting the full increase, as advertised, and some are leaving to take other jobs."

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TRACTORS mean modern farming, big harvest, new life, peace and reconstruction.

Help us send tractors! Leading Candidates:
Help us send a living message with them. I. Greenberg, furworker, Chi- cago, Ill.
Enter the contest or help the candidate of your city. Lena Chernoko, clerk, New York City
Celia Samarodin, operator, New York City
A. Cohen, clerk, Baltimore.
John T. Taylor, Detroit Federation of Labor

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Shall we enter you in the contest and send you collection blanks?.....
NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
CITY..... Trade or Profession.....
(Contest ends June 30th time will be extended if necessary.) V. of L., 9-6-23

Friends of Soviet Russia

Sacco and Vanzetti Must Be Set Free!

WM. Z. POSTER

"I put my faith in the workers! If they fail me all will be lost. I have no confidence in capitalist justice. I have had my experience with that." Thus spoke Vanzetti to me when I visited him in Charlestown State Prison, Boston. This typical rebel message which might have been said by Tom Mooney, Jacob Dolla or any other of the militant class war prisoners was rendered all the more forceful by the quiet, unassuming soft voiced prisoner—Bartolomeo Vanzetti.

Despite the fact that he has been three years in prison, serving an unwarranted sentence, he met us with a smile and repeated assurances of his loyalty to the cause of labor. He is one of those characters that are an inspiration in the bitter struggle upward and onward of the working class.

Vanzetti is a victim of a double frame-up. Besides being adjudged guilty of murder in the first degree along with Nicola Sacco for the crime in South Braintree, which neither had a thing to do with, he is serving an atrocious sentence of from twelve to fifteen years for another crime of which he is equally guiltless. In the clutches of his class enemies he is so deeply enmeshed in the net of persecution that it might well break the heart of a less sturdy character.

From the first I have been satisfied of the innocence of these two men. Today I had an opportunity of examining the newly discovered evidence in this now famous case. I was very much impressed. In addition to the affidavits of Lola R. Andrews and Louis Felser that the Commonwealth had intimidated and coerced into giving evidence the record is now burdened with four contradictory stories made by them. Carlos E. Goodridge, another identification witness for the Commonwealth is now admittedly not Carlos E. Goodridge but Erastus C. Whitney, a twice convicted felon from the State of New York and at the time he went on the stand was a fugitive from justice.

But even more convincing than the above paragraph was the micrometer measurements and photographs recently made of the mortal bullet and Sacco's gun. These measurements were made and photographs taken by Albert H. Hamilton, one of the best known experts on criminal work in the United States. After examining these at great length and studying the record in the Defense office my conclusion is that aside from any oral testimony that might have been introduced in this case this stands out alone as positive proof of their innocence and completely vindicates them of any connection with this crime. It shows conclusively that the moral bullet did not pass through the gun claimed by the prosecution to have been owned by Sacco.

In order that this new and vital evidence may be fully developed and a new trial secured for Sacco and Vanzetti a renewed effort will be required on the part of all interested in this famous case. Money is most urgently needed. If the workers at large display the merest fraction of the interest in the Sacco-Vanzetti case that the latter show in the struggle of the workers, money will come pouring in. This great case must be dealt! If it is, a heavy blow will be dealt to the "frame-up" system in America. Sacco and Vanzetti must be freed! They will be, if Labor is true to them.

On a bed of bristling armaments, in the murky air of race hatred and commercial rivalries, sick Humanity turns her attention to the "inner self."



On a bed of bristling armaments, in the murky air of race hatred and commercial rivalries, sick Humanity turns her attention to the "inner self."

hot potato once and thus lost the game. Yes, add the star to the umpire and the sum total will be the reason why the T. U. E. L. beat the Yowls.

Considerable havoc was played with the foodstuffs, the beverage bearing the closest resemblance to the amber fluid coming in for rough usage. All in all we should guess that the National Treasury of the T. U. E. L. is nearer that \$10,000 goal than it was on May 29.

Nobody thinks of getting serious at a picnic, unless they have to. William Z. Foster, however, in the course of a speech, or properly speaking a lecture secured the undivided attention of a large audience while he briefly related the history of the six wars in which this country has engaged since the revolutionary war, which resulted in the growing American capitalists cutting the leading strings with the "Mother Country" up, until the late attempt to make the world safe for capitalism.

His story of the poisoned-beef-Spanish-American war was listened to with attention by at least one veteran of that struggle who knew from experience the truth of the indictment Foster drew against the patriots who stayed at home and helped to make "unknown soldiers" of those who went to the front.

Foster said that out of the thousands of speeches made on Decoration Day in honor of the dead soldiers not a word would be said of those who stayed at home and made profit on their suffering or actually helped to put them under six feet of clay.

The success of the picnic is ample testimony to the popularity of the Trade Union Educational League. The comrades who had charge of the affair deserve credit for the efficiency with which every detail of the arrangements was taken care of and the major portion of the credit is due to those who worked hard during the day to separate the merry-makers from every movable piece of currency. If the T. U. E. L. militants can organize their work in the Trade Union movement—and we believe they can—as well as they can organize picnics, Sam Gompers might as well apply right away for a job on the Supreme Court and a Carnegie pension.

Who is a Liberal Now?

By JAY LOVESTONE

A time there was when the phrase "Who's loony now?" was on the tip of every American's tongue. Sassy street urgers and reverend grandfathers, lightened baseball fan and sweating stock-broker—all used to rise and set with "Who's loony now?" on their lips.

But "Who's loony now?" is dead—dead even beyond the grasp of most memories. A new stock-phrase will soon be popular on the Main Street Exchange. I'll bet good, 100% White, patriotic, reactionary American dollars against brand new pink German Socialist Marks that the new phrase, or craze, will be "Who's a liberal now?"

The Liberal League. The other day there was organized "The Liberal League of America." This League is to serve as the haven and House of Refuge for all genuine American liberals. But pray, my dear Reader, don't choke with laughter! Nor should you sneer at me when you are given further information about this bulwark against reaction now come to save the workers!

This Liberal League will strive to create and concentrate a public opinion against all descriptions of radicalism. The League invites unto its membership "all who wish our American Democracy to remain true to its high calling as the bulwark of free institutions and the guardian of personal liberty."

We wonder how many workers who form the mass of enslaved humanity an which there has been reared that marvelous structure of steel and profits will be invited to membership in the League in order to preserve their "personal liberty"? We wonder how many of the hounded, evicted striking railway shopmen who were tenting in Utah in the bitter cold of winter will be allowed to join this League in order to have "American democracy remain true to its high calling as the bulwark of free institutions"? We wonder how many bituminous miners, who in the midst of a terrific prosperity and a shortage of labor are given the chance to work a maximum of two days a week, will be permitted to enter this new Klan of pure American Democracy.

The Liberal Leaders of the Liberal League. The reader should stop wondering. He should rather hold his breath. Here are a few of the new galaxy of American liberals. Here are a few of the national leaders of this Liberal League. L. F. Loree of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Co., one of the leaders, is a sworn enemy of the workers. He was one of the leaders

in the smashing offensive against the striking shopmen.

Then comes Bishop Manning—Patron Saint of this new Liberal Church—educated as a minister of God and serving as a mental, sycophantic messenger of Mammon, Bishop Manning hasn't the guts of a crushed mosquito and is one of the most indefatigably brazen apologists for and defenders of the most heinous crimes of the exploiting class.

The noted "progressive" Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University and errand boy plenipotentiary for J. P. Morgan is another one of the leaders of the Liberal League.

One abreast behind these humankind follow such poor men and servants of humanity as "Silk Stockings" Ogden L. Mills, Walter E. Mahard, R. Fulton Cutting, and John G. Milburn.

Finally, a royal send-off and holy benediction were given to this Liberal League by that well-known journal of genuine American liberalism—the Financial and Commercial Chronicle published by Dana and Co. in the heart of the sacred environs of Wall Street, the stable of America's Golden calf.

Apparently the world is moving forward despite the fact that Warren Gamaliel is having an awful time of it in selling us Harding's Permanent Court of International Justice. "Nicky" Butler, Bishop Manning, and L. F. Loree have been announced liberals by the Heavenly Fathers of Lower New York.

Who's liberal now? Why, let's all be liberal now. Let's have a sense of humor. Let's call this new venture merely a case of monumental gall. But let us not stop here. Let's wake up and tell these guys in the only language they understand that no amount of war paint can hide their poisoned arrows and tomahawks against the workers.

Let's tell them we are on to their game. We are no longer hobbled and hogtied. We are ready for the fray—and ready to take them on, all comers, all weights.

Augusta, Georgia Central Body Endorses Labor Party

AUGUSTA, Ga.—Voicing its approval in response to a communication from the Farmer-Labor Party inviting attendance to its national convention to be held in Chicago on July 3, Augusta's Central Labor Union has heartily endorsed the objects of the proposed convention and while not to be actively represented at this gathering is in complete accord with the avowed objects of the proposed national conference.

The manufacturers crowned their efforts with an adopting of a United Front Program against the workers. This program, dealing with law and order in industry, taxation, immigration, Foreign trade, the Bonus and so forth, will be presented to the coming Convention of the Republican and Democratic Parties. Its final form will be left to the National Committee consisting of three members from each of the fifteen industrial States.

Unity of the Stock Exchange With the Government.—Gompers Praised. These conventions brought out the Unity of the Stock Exchange with the Government in all its naked ugliness.

High Government officials and representatives of the army and navy were the chief figures in these convales of the most powerful financiers and industrialists. Secretary of Commerce Hoover pledged the support of the Government to the perpetuation of the private ownership of the means of production and exchange. Strikebreaker Ben Hooper, Chairman of the Railway Labor, denounced Socialism and praised Gompers to the Manufacturers.

Finally, the Manufacturers adjourned with an entertainment and luncheon tendered them by Vice-Admiral J. B. McDowell aboard the Battleship Wyoming. The National Chamber adjourned "with a daylight sail to the Military Academy at West Point."

The Workers Must Act at Once. The workers must take a leaf out of the book of their bosses. The workers must prepare to meet this new drive prepared against them at these Conventions. A campaign of intensive working class organization must be launched. No time must be lost in these preparations.

In the class war, as in all other wars, the defensive strategy is the mighty offensive. The workers must organize to take the offensive in their own self-defense.

Empty Threats

By KARL RADEK

When the English Parliament began to play a conservative comedy in place of the liberal, Mr. Ronald McNeil became specialist for foreign politics. He began to brandish a paper shere cut out of the leading articles of the arch-reactionary Morning Post, and to proclaim in terrifying bass voice the firmness of English foreign politics as pursued by the conservative cabinet. Mr. McNeil is undersecretary of state for foreign affairs, and speaks for his department in the House of Commons; for his chief, Lord Curzon, adorns with his worthy person the Upper House, that honorable assembly of speculators, who contribute money for the election campaigns of the governing party.

Never Heard of Him. We were much ashamed of our ignorance when we first came across the name of this new shining light of the English Parliament and of English diplomacy in the newspapers. We had no idea who he was, and were obliged to look up reference books to obtain information concerning this gentleman who has so suddenly emerged from obscurity. But alas! The reference books gave us nothing to go by, for all we could learn about this ill-disposed individual, who cherishes such unfriendly feelings toward Soviet Russia, is that he is 63 years of age, that he has been assistant to an editor issuing the 11th edition of the British Encyclopedia, and that he has written a work on the harmfulness of socialism and the utility of the exploitation of Ireland. But how this young man with the tremendous past has become the bard of English imperialism, was a mystery to us until a few days ago, when we read the solution in the Fabian organ, The New Statesman. Mr. McNeil belongs to the most stupid-headed wing of the English conservatives, and has blazoned his name eternally in the book of history by a heroic deed. During the struggle carried on between the conservatives and liberals over the Irish question, he threw a book at Winston Churchill's head. For this he has now been rewarded by the position of under-secretary of state in the foreign office, and the reader is thus obliged to study his biography.

The Want Their Factories. This gentleman declared only a few days ago in Parliament, that there could be no thought of recognizing Soviet Russia until it acknowledged the debts and gives the English capitalists their factories back again. But even should Soviet Russia do all this, the severe Mr. McNeil is only going to "see". Mr. McNeil is making a mistake. He will not get the chance of "seeing". For Byron's words, when he spoke of the heroes who come and go every month, and have incense burnt before them in succession by the newspapers, apply still more to the England of today than to the England of a century ago.

Lord Balfour and Lloyd George. The honorable Lord Balfour, in 1918, threatened the Soviet government that he would make it personally responsible for the crime of the Red Terror. His lordship is now engaged in curing his piles and reading medieval mystics because he has plenty of time for such things, being no longer in the government. And then the prime minister himself, Ulysses Lloyd George the versatile, took an oath that he would never sit at the same table with the Moscow robbers. But still he did so, and even made himself very agreeable. Although we are convinced that the haughty English government will find itself obliged, sooner or later, to enter into negotiations with regard

to the recognition of Soviet Russia, still there is little likelihood of having anything to do with Mr. McNeil for Mrs. Britannia has been very fickle in her old age, and she heroes of her heart with a fishing rapidity.

Sending Threats. The hero of a month, Mr. McNeil has been endeavoring to frighten He has sent us a semi-official letter per radio, relating to the execution of that spy in Catholic cowl, the prelate Butkevitch and inform us that the English government is about to examine into the advisability of withdrawing the English representative in Moscow, Mr. Hodgson, since the Soviet government does not grant immunity to Entente spies. This intimation can do no more than call forth a smile at the clumsy aggressive methods of the personified incapability at present representing the English government. It goes without saying that the Soviet government has been guilty of unheard of inhumanity in having spies shot. But that the English government will break with us on account of a Polish spy is something which nobody is likely to believe; for that we have too much respect for the understanding of the English government, however low its level may be at present.

Trade is Valuable. The Bolsheviks are very bad people. But still they are good enough to trade with, and at present time this trade is likely to be considerably increased, now that the fresh crops will permit the export of grain. But even were we to preserve silence on these material motives, none but a blockhead would think for a moment that the English government in its present international situation can risk destroying the weak beginnings of relations with Russia, represented by the commercial treaty of 1921.

It is of course ridiculous to suppose that the latest phase of Russo-English relations is the result of the appearance on the scene of such a high principled philanthropist as Mr. McNeil. He, of course, does not count one iota. This policy is not even determined by Lord Curzon's historical enmity for Soviet Russia. It is the result of the blind alley which English politics ran into at Genoa and the Hague.

After the Entente had become convinced that it had not the power to subdue us by force of arms, English Imperialism relied upon a change of policy on the part of the Soviet government. It was thought that the Soviet government would enslave the Russian people for the purpose of maintaining its own power, that it would fleece the peasantry in order to pay the loans of the Tsarist government, that it would not only restore to the English capitalists all the factories, but would in addition, hand over half Russia to them in the form of concessions. In Genoa and at the Hague, we explained clearly to the allies that the Soviet government has no intention whatever of renouncing its existence as such in order to maintain its power, but that it is prepared to make contracts, and to grant economic advantages in return for others. The English capitalists could not make up their minds to go in for such a policy, and the new English government is waiting for good weather.

Let it wait. But why smash the furniture! One year will succeed another; Russia will begin to heal her own wounds, and the English capitalists will see, in the course of time, that if they want to do business, they must do it in a businesslike manner, that is, they must pursue a real policy based on mutual advantage. But pending the moment when the English cabinet scrapes up sufficient common sense to come to fresh decisions, we advise that at least no paper be broken, and that the clowns disporting themselves in the English parliamentary circus, and flourishing their paper swords be put on the chain at present.

English policy has obliged its enemies to respect its earnestness. If the English government is desirous of cutting a comic figure with its ridiculous threats, we cannot forbid it, but it will scarcely be of any use in Russia and the Near East. The peoples of the despised Orient have a keener sense of humor, but the popularity is gained by appealing to this sense of humor is of no great use for bettering the relations between two countries.

CHICAGO READERS HELP! The L. D. C. needs your service. Chicago Office of Labor Defense Council needs you to help mail out 30 or 40,000 circulars within the next ten days or two weeks. Phy State 5959 as to what evening you will come. Labor Defense Council Room 307, 166 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

THOUSANDS ATTEND TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE PICNIC HELD IN CHICAGO

By A LITTLE RED YOWL

Over two thousand members of the organized labor movement in Chicago attended the first annual picnic of the local branch of the Trade Union Educational League held in Chernauskas Grove on Sunday, May 30. It was a happy gathering, the weather being ideal and the arrangements for a pleasant day being well taken care of.

The principal sporting events were the baseball and soccer games and the foot race, in which all girls under eighty took part. The Young Workers' League had an unbroken record for the day. When the shades of evening fell on the green banks of Desplaines River and the musical voices of the Freiheit Singing Society gave way to the harsh croak of the bull frogs and the chirping of the grasshoppers, no banner of victory was carried at the head of the vanquished Yowl columns, which marched home defeated but undismayed.

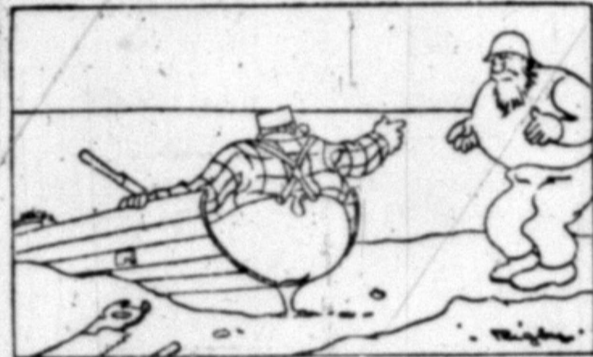
The Yowls have an alibi. He was the umpire, Charlie Krumbin. When I saw him after the game, he looked like the unknown soldier except that there was not a ton of granits over his chest. He bore unmistakable evidence of unpopularity, however, in the form of a sleeveless shirt and battered countenance.

In the game between the T. U. E. L. group and the Yowls so notorious was his show of partiality to the former that even William Z. Foster howled for his head. Another square peg in a round hole was Earl Browder, associate editor of the Labor Herald. He may see straight politically, but as the catcher he has not the vision of a dead bug. How did his team win? Ask the umpire. He knows. Even at that the Yowl team only lost 10 to 9.

Something should be said about Morris Goldstein, the star outfielder of the Yowl team. He certainly is a star. He mistook the ball for a



Boat Builder: "She ain't quite finished. Er—I haven't put her stern in yet."



Mr. Brown: "Put her off, Captain, the stern's all right!"

Big Business Rallies to Action

(Continued from page 2.)

showed this very clearly. Addressing the Manufacturers, Acheson Smith, Vice-Pres. of the Acheson Graphite Co., told them that they were entirely dependent upon alien labor to do most of the "real work" and that because of the present immigration conditions they are "facing one of the most serious problems." In order to afford the employers a superabundance of cheap labor-power, John C. Haswell, Chairman of the Immigration Committee of the Manufacturers, proposed "that a thoughtful modification of the contract labor law would be in the public interest."

Both conventions declared themselves unequivocally for the complete repeal of the excess profits tax, the surtax and all such other "nuisance taxes." The idea of a sales tax which hit even the poorest workers and farmers was particularly popular among the delegates.

Special attention was given to the transportation problem. The Manu-

facturers minced no words. They came out four-square for robbing the railway workers of the right to strike. The National Chamber brought to light part of its "careful study" of the railway problem in the Astor Gallery when the delegates were introduced to W. N. Doak, Pres. of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. Doak mouthed the very sentiments expressed by his predecessor W. G. Lee at the Western Railway Club last February. Sitting and speaking alongside of W. W. Head, Vice-Pres. of the American Bankers' Association, Doak could never be mistaken for a labor-leader. He surely did look like a well-fed, smug, complacent banker. Doak whined: "Our railroads and their employees in my opinion are being mistreated in the manner of public muddling which certainly should cease." He went on to shed tears over the awkward position in which "his" workers were placed and spoke of the vital interest of the workers in

the railway corporations making plenty of profits.

"That's a real friend of labor," said a delegate to the writer. Another delegate characterized Doak to me as "a good fellow who could teach the flannel-mouthed agitators a whole lot." Doak's address greatly pleased the delegates. It was the consensus of opinion that the bankers could count on Doak and his ilk to solve the vexing railway dividend and railway-labor problems.

Speak to Divide Working Masses. The capitalist experts also considered ways and means of dividing the workers. Speaking before the Manufacturers, Prof. David Friday, Pres. of the Michigan Agricultural College, delivered the typical employing class propaganda aiming at dividing the city from the rural working masses. He said that the real grievance of the farmer was that the railroad worker the public utility workers and other workers were getting a better opportunity for leisure and were improving their standards of living while the farmers could not do this.

General Frank T. Hines of the Veterans' Bureau told the Chamber to give preference to ex-soldiers in em-

ployment because they will thus "not only be rendering a patriotic service, but they will find it to be financially profitable."

Planning Another Open Shop Drive. Anticipating this "readjustment" period during which wages would be readjusted downwards, the Manufacturers proceeded to a vigorous discussion of a new Open Shop onslaught on the workers.

Mr. S. W. Utley, Pres. of the Employers' Association of Detroit, presided at this debate. Edgerton swore that he would rather see his factory go up in smoke than sacrifice the Open Shop principle. The automobile manufacturer, Mr. Leland, also dedicated himself to the new crusade against Labor. Then spoke old Robert Dollar, notorious union-smasher from San Francisco. He gave a picturesque description of how he broke the strike of the marine engineers affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and how he has established peace with these engineers thru a system of monthly luncheons with the shipping owners.

Next followed Captain William Porter White of the Lowell Paper Tube Corporation who threw the gauntlet

The Party Caucus



Edward H. Gray, chairman of the United States Steel Corporation, says: "Gentlemen, it PAYS a nation or an individual to follow a Christian course."

That bird simply can't keep his mind off dividends.

The "Proletarian" in a recent issue boasts: "The communists of America are in the Proletarian Party."

Dr. W. Lorenz, director of the Wisconsin Psychiatric Institute reveals there are 29,000 ex-soldiers in prison. The government certainly kept its promise of taking care of the boys when the war ended.

The little Red Yowl says: "Our party press should be more careful in spelling. If the 'Workar' in its last issue meant Mussolini, why does it say: 'The Italian lire keeps falling in value'?"

To the request that he endorse amnesty for political prisoners, Gov. Hyde of Missouri replied: "It is not my funeral, and I will have absolutely nothing to do with it."

Missouri has not changed since our school days. We learned then it was famous for its males and jackasses.

Send in your contributions—help the Party Caucus meet weekly.

The ghost of Ibsen says: "The people who call themselves the 'Pillars of Society' are often merely the caterpillars of society who do not spin the silk they wear.—A. Tiala.

A man in St. Mary's, Ohio, 60 years on one job, takes his first vacation. The moral is that sooner or later your boss will appreciate your efforts.

That man worked for 60 years, but we understand that both weeks of his vacation will be with full pay.

A good way to make the Party Caucus better—contribute!

The Revelation is Saved. Let the oppressed slaves of America lift their voices in the chanting of lusty housemaids: Their salvation is assured and at hand. At the last avocation of that dull "industrial" vendage of the S. L. P. the Work-International Industrial Union it regretfully but firmly decides that they could not go out of existence at the request of their parent organization. The S. L. P. had appealed by the W. I. I. U. to dissolve because they had bravely faced the reality of the situation in this country and decided that they could not expend enough energy to support two bodies. (Who said two could live as cheaply as one?) But the W. I. I. U., with tears in the eyes of all the assembled delegates (yes, all three of them), rejected the insidious proposals of the tempter and resolved that both organizations were absolutely essential if the workers of America were to be saved.

On your knees, slaves! Sing a requiem for Daniel DeLeon! And don't forget to purchase a bust.

Dr. Hugh McGovern, the Hebrew Bookish priest has just returned to Jerusalem after being arrested by the British authorities for having violated the sacred territory of Tibet. In order to avoid detection the priest painted his body to look like a native but he forgot to keep his mouth shut.—T. O. F.

Sir Arthur Keith, British scientist, back from studying gorillas and gibbons in Africa, says the "brains of human beings are used only to one-half capacity."

You can't call this bird a liar until you see it.

The Last Revolution

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

Time: The year 19... Place: The Morganville Capitalist Colony, last capitalist outpost in the Soviet Republic of the World.

CAST OF CHARACTERS JOHN PIERPONT Last of the capitalists; partner of the monopoly corporations that control everything in Morganville. FELIX DOOLITTLE Wife of John Pierpont. GEORGE SMITH Their daughter. HENRY CABOT VAN DAM Wife of Henry Cabot Van Dam. JULIUS GUGGENWALD; MRS. HAWKINS-PIERPONT; ERNESTINE PIERPONT; MRS. VAN DAM; JUDGE BUNK; SENATOR BUNK; BISHOP BUNK; GENERAL BUNK; ROSE COHEN; TOM PETERS; FRANK MILLS; OLAF NANSEN; MIKE MURPHY; LEMUEL CRIMPERS; MRS. CRIMPERS; GIUSEPPE TRENTINI.

ACT I. A large room that is somewhat like a meeting hall; at the right is a sort of platform, with a Bible on the stand; rows of folded campchairs are stacked in one corner. On the walls are pictures of Billy Sunday in one of his characteristic spasms of godliness, of fat Chief-Justice Taft, of the Kaiser in full regalia, and large twin chromas of John D. Rockefeller and J. P. Morgan. Before each of these latter, tall candles are burning. There are also boldly printed motto-cards, reading variously: "In God We Trust"; "Safety First"; "Time is Money"; "Work Like Helen B. Happy"; "Don't Knock, Boost"; "Jesus Loves You, and Jesus Saves—Why Not You?" A large streamer stretched across the back wall directly over the hall entrance reads: "Morganville Capitalist Colony". Directly over the platform hangs the flag of the Colony, a huge white dollar-sign on a black ground. In addition to the hall entrance, which is at the center of the back wall, there are doors at the right and left. A long iron chain hangs at the right of the hall entrance, and slightly to the left is a small serving table. Toward the left center are four well-upholstered chairs.

At a round table, right front, five elderly fat men, in frock coats, high silk hats and noticeable white spots, are solemnly playing cards. John Pierpont, the largest and fattest of them, a man with a cruel face and heavy bushy mustache, is facing the audience and is seen to have nearly all the chips. The others are much less impressive looking, in fact seem like any other mediocre old fat men, chastened a little by the fact of their fast-dwindling piles. They are Henry Cabot Van Dam, Felix Doolittle, George Smith and Julius Guggenwald.

The opening chorus is sung by Rose and the other housemaids, who are at work in the room—dusting furniture, straightening pictures, sweeping the floor, etc., as they sing. Throughout the entire singing the capitalists continue solemnly at their card game, turning toward the audience only once or twice to join in the refrain.

OPENING CHORUS. ROSE AND HOUSEMAIDS: O, we're the maids, The maids that clean the pots and pans; We dust off shades, And peel potatoes, open cans, Make master's bed, soothe madam's dress, And tidy up the Nation's mess.

Then shout a hip, hip for us, The merry housemaids' chorus! Don't be surprised to be advised That we are strongly organized. ROSE (sola): It was many years ago When we came to Morganville, And the world has gone "Red," as you know— But we have our bosses still. (Pointing to the capitalists.) And the secret of their power, just between ourselves and me, Is a simple set of batteries of suspended energy.

CAPITALISTS: And the outside world would smash our dream of private property If it were not for those batteries of suspended energy. ROSE: They would multiply the speed Of the factories, large and small, And the working class would be freed— But that would not do 'at all.

So to keep down the production of this little colony, Our bosses hide those batteries of suspended energy. CAPITALISTS: And the communists don't dare to smash our little colony.

For fear they'll lose those batteries of suspended energy. ROSE AND HOUSEMAIDS: But don't forget We housemaids are not little fools. And we should fret!— We work to stringent union rules. We do not kiss milady's glove; We're free to live and laugh and love.

Then shout a hip, hip for us, The merry housemaids' chorus! Nor be surprised nor scandalized To see the housemaids organized. (Housemaids dance off, capitalists continuing at their card game.) VAN DAM (shaking a pudgy fist in Pierpont's face and talking in an exaggerated Boston accent, made even more than normally ridiculous by a note of whining despair): No, you robber! You always want to quit when you are winning! I raise you and see you with all that I have: five shares of Food Common, two of Clothing Limited and one of Shelter Preferred. There! (Pushes a pile of chips out into the already heaped-up center of the table.) SMITH (putting out chips, in his turn, and looking at Pierpont defiantly): Today you don't get away with it. We are going to play this game out. I'll see you, too.

PIERPONT (with dignity, than before): I shall not answer your insinuations. It is true that I am fortunate enough to win regularly from you, gentlemen—but in this colony we are all working for our living as capitalists have always done. The economic law of Supply and Demand governs this game and... SMITH (interrupting): Yes, yes. We agree on that. But I have a full house here. Are you able to beat that? PIERPONT (with greater dignity than before): Yes, I have a royal flush. (Rakes in winnings.) SMITH (springing up): A royal flush! There's something phoney going on here. GUGGENWALD (sarcastically): I wouldn't have believed it. VAN DAM (with an added pinch of sarcasm): Mr. Pierpont has a royal flush, and that settles the matter of course. The well-known, immemorial, iron law of Supply and Demand... SMITH: But we seem to be doing all the supplying in this game. DOOLITTLE (shocked): Why, Mr. Smith, are you doubting our very institutions? SMITH: No, of course not. But what I say is that if this keeps on, Pierpont will be owning all of the institutions. (Awe-struck.) He may put us all to work yet!

DOOLITTLE: Nonsense. GUGGENWALD: Mishugar! DOOLITTLE: Aren't we all fellow Captains of Industry, fellow Supermen? We didn't establish this Capitalist Colony to work in it. Deal the cards, Mr. Pierpont. PIERPONT (with a suggestion of nervousness): I must have a drink first. Those impudent housemaids get on my nerves. (Taps bell on table; shortly afterwards Rose enters, takes tray from serving table and brings it to the card table, where Pierpont pours out a drink for himself.) Thank God the rest of the workers know their place. SMITH: Van Dam seems to like the housemaids well enough, I've noticed—at least one of them. Eh, Rose? DOOLITTLE: If I had a wife like Van Dam's I'd run around with Rose myself. Honestly, Van Dam, your wife's face almost makes me doubt the Capitalist System.

PIERPONT (as he puts down his glass after drinking): I always was a believer in prohibition. Such a good thing for the poor, you know. Keeps them from beating up their wives. (Continued next week.)

Doings of Charlie and Warren



A Confidential Conversation Between Two Statesmen.

WARREN—Well, Charlie, what do you think of that speech of mine on Memorial Day?

CHARLIE—I did not hear it myself, being busy consulting with John D. Rockefeller over the Chinese situation, but I can tell you right now, that you are going to get hauled over the coals for it.

WARREN (His face suddenly turning pale)—My God what is the matter? Did I demand the release of the political prisoners, recognition of Soviet Russia or the eight hour day? Surely I did not deliver a Communist speech by mistake.

CHARLIE—No, not so bad as that. But you know they are getting quite sensitive in Wall Street these days. Rockefeller and Morgan claim that it is bad policy to talk about "drafting wealth as well as men in the next war." They hint we will have a war before very long and somebody—sure to remember your speech and carry on an agitation for the confiscation of their wealth. It would raise the dickens Gamaliel.

WARREN—But damn it, don't they know we must throw some hokum to the voters in order to win the next election?

CHARLIE—What is the good in winning an election if we lose our country? We are not here for the fun of it, you know.

WARREN—Now Charlie, Daugherty is a pretty good politician and he said it was time we should begin to feed the voters some mush to take the bitter taste off their mouths caused by the sugar scandal and the war graft profiteers.

CHARLIE—That is all right but there is no sense in putting a dagger in the hands of the radicals that may find our vitals in the next war. It was the bunk that Wilson handed out in his "New Freedom" that has caused most of the trouble in Europe since the last one. His fourteen points made more trouble for us than the Kaiser's army. Some people have a habit of remembering these things.

WARREN (With tears in his eyes)—I hope Morgan did not think I meant anything by it—that is anything personal.

CHARLIE—I wish to assure you that he has complete confidence in you, but I was told by one of his messenger boys this morning that he may have the Democratic Party elected next time unless we show evidence of political sagacity during the coming year. As you know it makes no difference to him who gets in except that he wants to keep the boys' satisfied.

WARREN—Do you think the people will ever get wise to us?

CHARLIE—I am not as confident as I used to be. You see, as long as the workers had a Democratic Party and a Republican Party to play with, it was quite easy to kid them along every four years. They have short memories you know. But now that they are talking about a Labor Party for the farmers and the city workers it is getting serious.

WARREN—I thought Gompers and Judge Gary had that all fixed up.

CHARLIE—I tell you, that fellow Gompers is dead from the neck up. He did not have a new idea in twenty years. The people are getting wise to him. I told myself and Gary to get into a real scrap that would look genuine but they are both too old. Nix. They keep on stalling; while the crisis calls for rough and tumble work. Now the workers are finding out that Sam and Elbert belong to the same club and eat at the same banquet.

WARREN—But he has lined up the Socialist party for us!

CHARLIE—Hell, that is dead as the Bonus. Only for Debs they could not get enough people to their meetings to form a quorum. The live wires have joined the Workers' Party. Of course the Socialist Party is useful to us in many ways, but politically it is a joke. We can still use it against Soviet Russia and for the defense of religion.

WARREN—What effect did my statement on Gary's twelve hour day speech have on the public?

CHARLIE—Our papers all say it was fine and they are sorry that Elbert could not see his way clear to shorten the hours as they fear a wave of Bolshevism will be the result. The worker's press in the other hand

Current Events

By D. F. DWYER. "Chinese Bandits fail to liberate captives" says a headline. The Chinese bandits are acting their parts cleverly. It should be time to send an expedition to China to protect OUR interests. It is not surprising that bandits should play into the hands of foreign capitalists. They are first cousins though the latter have the best of the bargain. The bandits risks their lives occasionally for their graft.

We have plenty of cannon fodder here in America. Business possibilities are unlimited in China. Should a couple of so-called missionaries be killed we would work the people to a fever heat and get the "people" howling for invasion. More war contracts, more ships, airplanes, munitions, equipment, clothing, shoes. What a chance for profit! And those who do the fighting will help the vendors of poppies to make a living. Remember the sweet poem "The poppies grow on Flanders field." It is very touching.

We learn that society is alarmed at the number of people who are using narcotics. Profits from this nefarious business are enormous. The making of addicts is a necessary corollary to the making of profits. A market must be found for the product.

All my working friends are talking about taking a summer vacation. Since Gary made his famous Mediterranean cruise they can hardly contain themselves. A few of them confided to me a few evenings ago that they intended to ask the government for the loan of a ship for a trip in the great lakes. My doubts about the realization of these expectations being realized were brushed aside with the confident statement that they were sovereign American citizens and had as much right to get a ship from the government as Pres. Harding.

Many suggestions are made for the lowering of the price of sugar. We have not heard a suggestion from any of our sugar trust busters that it should be produced for use rather than profit.

The Chicago Journal of Commerce is frothing at the mouth over the proposal of Senator La Follette & Co. to value the railroads at what it originally cost to build them. The Interstate Commerce Commission, after making a survey of the roads, set their value at the stiff sum of twenty billion dollars. Those who wish to reduce this figure are called "confiscating advocates." We wonder what would Attorneys Smith and Gore call them if they were produced before the bar of justice in St. Joseph, Mich.? The Journal should have no fear that La Follette & Co. will hurt the railroad magnates any. As a matter of fact these fellows will help the plutocrats to stave off the final reckoning by making rosy promises to the workers, which cannot be fulfilled. Capitalism cannot be reformed. It has served its purpose in the march of progress and has outlived its usefulness. It must now be supplanted by a better system—the communist society.

Very prominent Americans have requested president Harding to release the fifty two wartime prisoners now in jail for opposition to the war. Governors, clergymen and University heads are among them.

say you are full of prunes and don't mean a word of it.

WARREN—There must be a link around here somewhere.

CHARLIE—Of course there is, William J. Burns is here. By the way did you see what the Voice of Labor called him?

WARREN—What?

CHARLIE—"The Great Defective."

WARREN—Ha! Ha! Ha! That is not bad. Bill Flynn will break his sides laughing when he reads it. But who in blazes is giving the dope to the Voice of Labor? There is not a soul around here when we hold our conversations but Lad'ie Boy.

CHARLIE—These damn undergrounders are everywhere.

WARREN—What are we going to get out of China this time? Are the bandits following instructions?

CHARLIE—They are, but England got wise so we must divide the spoils with them. John D. is as sure as a bolt, but he cannot get everything he wants.

WARREN—I am off for the links. Leave orders that I am not to be disturbed unless Morgan or Rockefeller or some other member of the enlarged executive calls me.

CHARLIE—I get you. Take good care of your health Gamaliel. You will soon start on a baby-kissing tour you know.

WARREN (Drawing a heavy sigh)—I wish a remained a country editor.

CHARLIE (Under his breath)—So do I. (Continued next week.)

Our Readers Forum

(The Voice of Labor welcomes contributions from its readers on topics affecting the interests of the workers. Letters should not be longer than three hundred words. Name and address of writer must accompany contribution as a guarantee of good faith, else communication will not be published. The writer may use nom-de-plume. The Voice of Labor is not responsible for views expressed in this column.—Ed.)

Miner Writes About Michigan Trial

Ziegler, Ohio. To the Editor of Voice of Labor:—

After reading the proceedings of the Michigan trial very carefully, wherein W. Z. Foster and many others, what I would term labor leaders, are involved, and also after I weigh up the facilities, that a representative of the common class of humanity has, it leads me to conclude that the greatest difficulty the labor leaders of to-day are confronted with is to how they can promote the cause of the workers without being misconstrued by the Federal authorities, or in other words, the labor employing barons.

It seems to be the characteristic of the upper class to construe everything that is said by labor advocates to be unpatriotic and charged with the spirit of I. W. W.-ism and so forth and so on.

As a rank and filer, and as one who gives all problems pertaining to organized labor and political question a fair consideration, I fail to see where the mandate of the working class of our great country (if such came into effect) would be a detriment to any part of our citizenship.

So, then, let us ask what is the mandate of the working class? First—We claim parliamentary representation on the grounds that we are the producers of all wealth either direct or indirect.

Second—We claim the right to organize both for political and industrial purposes.

Third—We claim the right of free speech and assembly.

Fourth—We claim the right to promote amalgamation and co-operation with all crafts of labor to the end that we may exercise concerted action towards submitting our demands and securing justice.

Fifth—We don't intend to promulgate anything but common sense and reason towards acquiring our justifiable rights from our opponents.

Surely there cannot be anything unconstitutional in demands of this nature. We only ask for reasonable concessions from our masters, and if we have to be deprived of the right of ventilating our sentiments for the purpose of edifying the working people, why should not the upper class be deprived of the right to circulate their propaganda towards keeping the working men and women on the rock bottom, just where they have always been for ages past.

Now, when you take into consideration the standard of intelligence of the working class at the present time in our great country, it would be absolutely unreasonable for any average minded citizen to assume that the hidden motive in the minds of the toilers is to incite illegal activities upon the employers of labor and their political opponents in order that their rights may be taken from them with violence. No, you might expect such a thing from heathens and cannibals, but not from the respectable society that the working class of the United States of America is comprised of to day—in spite of the fact that conditions sometimes are hard to tolerate, and to put every thing in a nut shell, we can not exercise sufficient optimism to believe that the day is coming when we will not need any W. Z. Fosters and Tom Manns, and Earl Browders and others of the same calibre to stand for the just deserts of the workers, as we may get all we want without expending any energy.

No, we will always have to depend upon great and intelligent men and women, rising up from the rank and file, and continually putting as much pressure to bear upon our opponent, as possible in order that common humanity will be able to keep their heads out of the water.

—George Thornton.

Peace Reigns in Washington

Editor Voice of Labor:—

The Washington comrades are beginning to organize a T. U. E. L. group. In this city no smitty exists between radical and progressive groups, thus, ever since the raid here, the English branch of the W. P. has been meeting at S. P. headquarters.

Edward J. Irvine, Sec'y, Washington Branch Labor Defense Council.

What do You Think of This Specimen?

Chicago, Ill. Editor Voice of Labor:—

I picked up a copy of your paper on the newstand and was shocked by the attitude you adopted toward such outstanding and upright citizens as Elbert Gary, William J. Burns, Samuel Gompers and Herbert Hoover. With-out these men, sir, this country would soon be overrun by the purveyors of red teaching and the blighting poison of anarchy. Instead of performing a useful service to society, as the Chicago Tribune is doing, you pour forth the vials of your wrath on those who seek to emphasize the fundamental unity between capital and labor.

If there is any evidence needed, sir, of this unity, may I state that the Almighty God himself through his immortal book, the Bible, which no mortal dare refute, has given ample evidence that we all came from the same stem and are therefore members of the same human family.

Let us have peace. Of course if our country calls for our services we should be prepared at any time. The best way to prepare for peace is to be ready to fight for it. For that reason I believe in a reasonable amount of preparedness and favor a first class army and navy.

I hope you will see your way clear to publish this letter as it may convince many of your readers who are led astray by false teaching.

With Christian greetings, I remain, Respectfully yours, —Stephen Condom Dequatta.

Before and After the War

Muskegon, Mich.

The enclosed clipping was taken from the Muskegon Chronicle of May 28. Please publish it in your paper and suggest that all radical and labor papers copy. While it was necessary to raise money with which to prosecute the war, the plutocrats were willing to put up monuments, but now that there is no further immediate need to feed the vanity of the returned soldiers they let the plaster monuments crumble away.

"York, Pa., May 28.—Former service men early today demolished the statue "Winged Victory," placed in front of the courthouse during the victory loan drive in 1919. The statue, made of plaster, had fallen into a state of disrepair and the county commissioners refused to mend it. War veterans announced several days ago that they would refuse to march past the statue on Memorial day if it was not replaced. No attention apparently was given this threat, and today a group of war veterans, marched to the courthouse. Using ropes and chains they pulled the statue off its base and it broke into pieces."

—William Custer.

A Mail Order Slave Writes of Need for a Union

Chicago, June 1, 1923.

Editor Voice of Labor:—

I have seen an announcement in your paper, that it will contain a series of articles on The Building, Packing, Mail-Order and other industries.

As I am a young worker at Phillipsborns mail-order house at Paulina at Harrison Sts., I am especially interested in the mail-order article.

Workers for mail order houses are paid very poorly. Young men are getting \$16.00 to \$18.00, while married men receive \$20.00 to \$25.00 weekly. However, \$25.00 is paid in rare cases. Young girls and women are paid anywhere from \$10.00 to \$14.00. I have talked with many workers, young and old, and have found them very dissatisfied. Quite a few are class-conscious and many others hope we had some organization.

A friend of mine has truthfully said: "If I had a few millions and was eager to make more quickly, no matter how I made it, I'd have a mail order business. Since all the workers are unorganized, I'd be able to dictate their salaries at my own terms, practically."

Why should this condition prevail? Can't the Young Workers' League or similar class-conscious workers, begin a union for a strong mail-order union?

I fail to see why we should be neglected since it is a well known fact that the great mail-order houses have thousands of employees working for them.

Can't anything be done? Sincerely yours, —A Class-Conscious Youth.

Workers Party Activities

NEWS OF DISTRICT NO. EIGHT

To make a comparison of activities of some of our branches it would be interesting to give a few figures taken from the reports of three Chicago language branches, Hungarian, Lithuanian No. 41, and Scandinavian Karl Marx.

The Hungarian branch has a total of 44 members of whom not less than 12 are more than 3 months in arrears with their dues. 21 of the total membership belong to a union; but of these 21 only 2 are active in the T. U. E. L. This shows either a misunderstanding on the part of the branch or else simply an inexcusable lack of activity. The T. U. E. L. is not a delegated body, but a crystallization of a left wing movement in the unions where all militants should take part. The branch sells literature regularly and secured 14 new subscribers during the first quarter this year. A rather small number but the branch has already promised to improve on these weak spots. It is carrying on quite extensive educational activities.

The Lithuanian branch No. 41 is a rather small branch with a total of 18 members, only 2 in arrears. 6 of these total belong to a union and 2 are active in the T. U. E. L. Of course the branch must take action to remedy this situation. We should have a much larger percentage of union members, and there is no excuse for any of these union members not being active in the T. U. E. L. This branch disposes of regular bundles of the Labor Herald, Voice of Labor and the Lithuanian weekly paper.

Scandinavian Karl Marx shows a good record in some respects. It has a total of 34 members, 9 being in arrears with their dues. 26 members belong to the union, which is a good percentage in view of the fact that some members are housewives. But of course, there is something wrong with a branch when only 8 are active in the T. U. E. L., and this must be remedied. This branch sold a large amount of literature during the first 3 months of the year, from which the records date. It secured 45 subscribers for the Voice of Labor, 10 for the Labor Herald and 3 for the Swedish weekly. It distributed 3,000 W. P. Programs and 1,000 May Day leaflets. 3 propaganda meetings were held with an average attendance of 50 people. On one point this branch shows great weakness, and that is the average attendance at regular business meetings, the result being that only a few members carry on all the active work, when every member should take a hand and increase these activities.

The Chicago City Central is continually getting into better shape and establishing better direct contact with the various branches. The classes for training of branch functionaries of which the first meeting has been held, promises to become a great success. Although some of our branch functionaries think they have known all tricks of the game for years, they nevertheless find that there are many things they have yet to learn and that their growing understanding and capability reflects itself in the better functioning of their branch.

The season for open air meetings has set in and Chicago is already covering this field. To begin with four corners are selected with two speakers Saturday night. The corners are North Ave. and Rockwell, Belmont Ave. and Osgood, Madison and Hoyne and 112th St. and Michigan Ave. The branches in their respective territories furnish literature etc. Pullman Sub C. C. C. is always active. Arrangements are being made for a mass meeting with comrade Browder as speaker.

IN MILWAUKEE.

In Milwaukee the comrades had a hard struggle during the past two months to raise sufficient funds to pay half wages for the organizer, who has now been compelled to leave. Yet they would be glad to continue if an organizer had been available. As it is now, however, it seems as if they will have to go along, at least for some time, relying upon their own strength. The effect of these two months has been to instill a good deal more pep into our units, and the comrades at a general meeting last week, where the D. O. was present, decided to reorganize the C. C. C. upon a better functioning basis and proceed to do the same with the branches. They were determined to continue to build the Party even without an organizer. The need of coordination of activities they are tackling in a practical manner. To begin with it was agreed that several affairs, picnics, etc. arranged by language units should become joint enterprises of all units combined. The plan of reorganization is now being worked out. The last joint picnic held May 27 was a howling success. Many sympathizers were gained, and it helped the units financially.

THE TRI-CITIES.

In the Tri-cities, Moline, Rock Island and Davenport, where our branches have heretofore been vegetating, crippled by the departure of so many militants due to the railroad strike, the result of Comrade Cannon's meeting was a very wholesome one. After the meeting 10 comrades got together with Cannon, discussed the situation with him and decided that they would go to work and reorganize the City Central and henceforth strive to put some life into the units and make the Party grow strong in that territory. In this the District is ready to co-operate to the best of its ability.

CHICAGO NEWS.

The W. P. city committee has instituted meetings of all branch officials in order to take up for discussion and study the administration and functioning of branches. Also there has been established an enlarged city executive committee with representation from every language section of the party in Chicago. This will make for closer co-operation and greater results in our work.

The City Convention on the 16th of June will discuss the relation of Workers' Party to a Labor Party. What a Labor Party would mean to Chicago, the tasks of the July 3rd Convention, etc. The Workers Party of Chicago is pledged to do all in its power in unions and elsewhere to help along this movement for a Labor Party.

COMING EVENTS.

- June 16th, City Convention, W. P. of America, 3:30 at Workers' Lyceum.
- June 17th, Sunday Picnic, Jewish branches and for L. D. C. at Cherranouska Grove.
- June 20th, "Russia Thru the Shadows" by F. S. R.
- June 24th, Sunday, United Workers Sunday Schools Picnic at Bevers Grove.
- July 4th, Second Annual Picnic, Local Chicago, W. P. of A.
- July 21st, Scandinavian Workers Picnic.
- July 29th, Annual Y. W. L. Picnic.
- Aug. 19th, Annual National Defense Picnic.
- Aug. 26th, International Press Picnic, at Riverside Park.

With the Young Workers

By P. G. HERD.

With the gradual influx of new members into the Young Workers' League, it has become necessary to form new branches in this city. Recently a North Side branch was organized at Imperial Hall, Halsted and Fullerton. The latest addition to our number of branches is the Brighton Park, which meets every Friday night at 4138 Archer Ave.

Not by new members alone is the progress of our work to be judged, but also from the steps taken in the not distant past, and continued at this time, to enliven the educational side of our activity so far as members themselves are concerned. Contributing most valuably to this end was the syllabus of lectures which has been only partially completed, to be continued until every branch has been covered, given by Comrade Tiala of the Workers' Party. Comrade Gomez will also visit each branch with his lecture on "American Prosperity and How Long Will It Last?"

So that with these lectures scheduled the educational aspect of the question is taken care of until the first of July.

NEWS OF BRANCHES.

Englewood Branch—Comrade Tiala will speak on "Anarchism" June 16, Wednesday.

Marpleswood Branch—Comrade Tiala has delivered lectures on "Anarchism" and on "Syndicalism" and will complete series on June 7, with "Socialism and Communism."

West Side Branch—Comrade Tiala will speak on "Anarchism" on Friday, June 15. June 8, Friday also, this branch holds its regular business meeting.

Liebknecht Branch—On Monday, June 11, this branch will have an educational meeting, subject of which is not yet known.

Lawndale Branch—Comrade Tiala's lecture on "Syndicalism" will be delivered before the branch at its next educational meeting, Friday, June 16.

North Side and Brighton Park Branches will follow in obtaining these lectures and, meanwhile study classes are being conducted.

The League is conducting, at present a class, the purpose of which is the training of officials for branch and city, as well as national work—in other words a Functionary Class. It is compulsory on the part of League officials to attend these meetings, held Tuesday evenings at 8 p. m., 2548 S. Homan St., Lawndale headquarters. All possible should be present—this class being open to all league members of Chicago.

Sports activities for the summer months are also being taken care of and it may be said that the Danish-American soccer team suffered an overwhelming defeat at the hands of Y. W. L. footballers during the hostilities of our sport program on May 30.

On June 10 the League is arranging a picnic—comrades to meet at end of Milwaukee car line not later than 10 a. m. Also there will be a city picnic on the 29th of July at Cherranouska's Grove, the same site on which we gathered last Wednesday.

The third regular semi-annual convention of the Chicago league will be held on July 1 in the Workers' Lyceum. Appointment of delegates will be announced later. For information write V. Meitz, room 307, 166 W. Washington St.

OF WORKER'S PARTY.

Local Chicago.

North West English—Meets second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 2517 Fullerton Ave. The next meeting will be held in June 12th.

North Side English—Meets on Mondays at 2409 North Halsted St., Imperial Hall. The next meeting will be on June 18th.

Douglas Park English—Meets 2nd and 4th Monday at 3322 Douglas Blvd., National Institute. The next meeting will be June 11th.

South Side English—Meets first and third Thursday of each month at 8201 S. Wabash Ave., Hall 2nd floor. The next meetings will be June 7 and 21.

Mid-City English—Meets every first and third Wednesday of month at Emmet Memorial Hall, Taylor and Ogden. The next meetings will be June 6 and 20.

CHICAGO TRACTION MONOPOLY WORKERS PARTY, DETROIT, ACTIVE; CHALLENGE PROLETARIAN PARTY TO DEBATE

(Cont. from page One.)

fair means in such an emergency—including the juggling of figures on the company's books to prove that the demands of the men cannot possibly be met. About a year ago the question of wages on the car lines was occupying public attention, as it is today. At that time the company tried to force down the wages of its employees to 60 cents an hour, and to do away with the eight-hour working day. In the middle of July, Henry A. Blair, president of the Chicago Surface Lines, offered to "compromise" on 65 cents an hour. Later, he bettered his offer to 68 cents an hour; but he refused to go any higher. It required a joint strike of street railway and elevated employees, involving something like 20,000 men and costing the companies nearly \$1,000,000 for him to change his mind. Under the terms of settlement, the wage-scale was set at 70 cents an hour and the eight-hour day continued in force. The workers would have achieved a much more complete victory had it not been for the treachery of their leaders, notably Quinlan, Taber and Kehoe, of the carmen, who acted at all times under the demoralizing influence of William D. Mahon, international president of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees of America. The union leaders signed the agreement providing for a reduction from 80 to 70 cents an hour precisely at the moment when the bosses were weakening.

Make Over Million Profit.

Up to the last minute, the company officials brazenly maintained that they could not pay more than 68 cents an hour. The chief auditor was summoned with his record sheets and books and these were placed before the negotiators. Going rapidly beyond the figures, Mr. Blair "proved beyond the shadow of a doubt" that if the company yielded to any wage above 68 cents it would face bankruptcy. Nevertheless, the 70-cent scale was agreed to—and the company's income account for the year ending January 31, 1923, shows a clear profit of \$1,362,442. This is exclusive of much larger profits accruing to the bosses in the form of interest on Chicago traction bonds, a goodly proportion of which they themselves hold.

Now there is a new fight to be fought. The cost of living has gone up on the average over 1 per cent a month during the last year; wages in other lines have gone up also, although not in proportion—but Chicago's street railway workers are still held to the wage scale of a year ago. They demand an increase and they are willing to fight for an increase. Again Mr. Blair comes forward with books and record sheets. He says nothing about bankruptcy this time, as there is a limit to what even an experienced corporation accountant can do with figures. He does say that the company cannot pay the 80 cents an hour which the men are demanding—cannot in fact pay one cent more than the present scale. "Now, if we could only charge an eight-cent fare," Mr. Blair intimates, "things might be different... or better yet, a ten cent fare; people are used to paying 10 cents on the 'L' anyway." And why not a fifteen-cent fare? I am sure Mr. Blair and his associates would like that best of all. The gall of a private capitalist who has his claws on an essential public utility may have its limits, but they have not thus far been discovered.

The Bosses Only Fear Power.

Of course Mr. Blair can be made to change his mind again. Power is the only thing that commands the respect of men like Blair and his lord and master, Samuel Insull. Perhaps another strike will make Blair and Insull and their friends realize where the power lies. The organized might of the street railway and "L" employees has stood them in good stead more than once in the past and it can be counted on to bring results in the future. One thing the workers must be careful of. They must watch their own leaders. They must be continually on their guard against any such betrayal as that which took place last year. The reactionary officials of the two unions are far from anxious to see the fight through.

Arrayed on one side are the thousands of workers of the surface car and "L" lines; on the other, a few well-fed plutocrats whose only function in society is to own. The capitalist theory is that this sort of lineup is best. Private property, we are told, makes for private initiative, and private initiative means efficiency and progress.

What a joke that is when we apply it to Chicago's transportation system! Efficiency and progress! The only demonstration of efficiency we have witnessed was the sudden stopping of every wheel when the men went on strike last August. The Chicago Surface Lines advertise "the most rapid street car service in the

world," but does anybody believe it? Not if he has ever waited for a car on Center Street, or been held up because of a break in one of the worn-out overhead cables or got caught in a traffic jam in the Loop. The truth is that Chicago has one of the worst, if not the worst, transportation system in the whole world; and the reason for it is poor management and inferior equipment.

Tried to Sell Junk.

Some time ago the street car lines fixed a price at which they were willing to sell out to the city. In this connection even "Investment News," a financial paper, thoroughly in sympathy with the traction kings, was obliged to admit: "It is quite true that much of the property which the traction companies proposed to sell to the Municipality of Chicago for \$50,000,000 was obsolete, including the worn out cable systems and the cars adopted to service on them. It was very well understood at the time that much, if not all of these properties would have to be replaced by entirely new devices of transportation."

"Investment News" goes on to say that part of the \$50,000,000 should be considered as just compensation for the 99-year franchises held by some of the companies; that is, the private interests were in control of the city streets, whether you and I liked it or not. A working class government would pay small heed to such "rights,"—but Chicago has not had a working class government—yet. According to a city ordinance which has since been passed, the municipality now has the extremely doubtful privilege of buying the traction lines, provided it buys before the summer of 1927, the approximate purchase price being set modestly at \$111,000,000.

Morgan Owns the Car Lines.

The street car plan of Chicago is made up of dozens of independent lines, which finally have become merged, through necessity, into two general systems, the Chicago City Railway Co., operating on the south and southwest sides, and the Chicago Railways Co., operating on the north and west sides. While preserving a separate identity in division of the profits, the two systems are actually operated as one, through the operating company known as the Chicago Surface Lines. The Chicago City Railway Co. is controlled by none other than the omnipresent banking firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., who own 94 per cent of the stock of the collateral trust known as the Chicago City & Connecting Railways. The same people own the Hammond, Whiting & East Chicago Railway, the Calumet & South Chicago Railway, the Chicago & Western Railway, and the Southern Street Railway. Under a special agreement, the Commonwealth Edison Co. supplies electric power to all of these lines.

The Commonwealth Edison Co. is the central factor in Chicago traction affairs. In the first place, it has a minority interest in the Morgan-controlled Chicago City Railway Co. In the second place, it has complete control of the Chicago Railways Co., the larger of the two organizations operated by the Chicago Surface Lines. In the third place, it is represented on the directorate of every important traction company in Chicago, and one of its directors, Henry A. Blair, is president of the Chicago Surface Lines. In the fourth place, it has a \$7,000,000 interest in the Chicago Elevated Railways, Samuel Insull chairman and principal boss of Commonwealth Edison Co., being also chairman of the executive committee of the "L" road. In the fifth place, it has agreements for the exclusive supply of electric power to all the street railway and "L" lines. The aggregate business which could be secured by the Commonwealth Edison Co. from the railways in consequence of this guaranty, under long term contracts, was estimated a short time ago at \$100,000,000.

They Make Profits Anyway.

It is most interesting to note that Insull and his partners of the Commonwealth Edison Co. could operate the Chicago surface and "L" lines at a loss and still make money out of them—because of interest on the traction bonds which they hold and of profits from the great amount of electric power furnished to the lines.

And traction is only a side-line with Samuel Insull. The Insull interests form an inner ring which controls every public utility in Chicago,—and far out of Chicago. The Insull properties cover twelve states and dominate the life of hundreds of American communities. In a future article on public utilities I intend to tell more about them. For the present, I think I have made it clear that an increase of 10 cents an hour in the pay of the street railway and elevated employees will not bankrupt the men behind Chicago's transportation system, no matter what figures Mr. Blair may bring forward to show that it will. The workers have taken the offensive in Chicago's traction game. If they are

The Worker's Party in Detroit has held a number of successful affairs of late. The party participated in full strength in the Foster meeting which was held under the auspices of the Detroit Federation of Labor. The meeting was preceded by a parade in which thousands of Detroit's workers took part. The banners carried indicated that the Michigan Criminal Syndicalist act is in bad repute in the Detroit Federation.

At its last meeting the City Central Committee decided to issue a challenge to the Proletarian Party to debate the question of a Labor Party and certain other points of policy and tactics upon which the two parties differ. This debate, if the challenge is accepted, should prove of more than passing interest and should serve to allay much confusion as to the pressing need of bona fide independent working class political action.

June 2nd, 1923
Local Detroit, Proletarian Party,
140, First St.,
Fraternity Hall,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Comrades:
The question of Communist Unity in the United States based on the joining of the Workers Party and the Proletarian Party into one organization has been the subject of much discussion, verbal and written, in both organizations. However, the question has never been discussed in a manner to bring all the issues which differentiate the two parties into sharp relief.

We are therefore challenging the Proletarian Party to debate the validity of their claim of being a Communist party and to their claim to the support of class conscious workers who accept the leadership of the Communist International.

In the event that this challenge is accepted we propose a joint committee of three from each party to arrange the details of the debate.

It is our considered opinion that the Proletarian Party should be as anxious as the Workers Party to clarify the issues in a debate such as we suggest. Degradation of this challenge must therefore be construed as a refusal of the Proletarian Party to set forth their position to their own membership, to the membership of the Workers' Party and to the workers in general, and at the same time a demonstration of their unwillingness to present and defend their position before speakers of the Workers Party.

Trusting that we may receive a favorable reply at an early date, we are

Fraternally yours,
CITY CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
Local District, W. P.
HAULINA EIGES
Secretary.

City Convention June 17th

The City Central Committee of Local Detroit has issued a call for a city convention on June 17th at which time delegates will be elected for the July 3rd convention called by the Farmer Labor Party. The comrades are enthusiastic about the formation of a Labor Party and the city convention will inspire an interesting discussion.



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Traction Strike Vote Delayed

(Continued from page one.)
"We can't do it," admitted another member of the gang.

The Voice of Labor suggest to the militant rank and file of the surface and elevated employees union that denouncing their leaders will avail them nothing. They must organize to elect men who will properly represent them and not politicians, who are lined up with the grafting Republican and Democratic politicians.

The rank and file are helpless before the machine rule of Quinlan and his gang. They should organize a group within the union as the miners and railwaymen were obliged to do, and they will soon get rid of the fabers, as the Maintenance of Way men got rid of Grable and his gang. In the meantime watch your leaders, preserve your unity and be prepared to fight for your rights.

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Editorial Page of the Voice of Labor



Gary and the Twelve Hour Day

If anybody outside the coterie of labor fakery that bask in the sun of Gompers' favor expected Elbert Gary, chief slave driver of the Steel Trust, to establish the eight hour day in his business, thus eating into his profits, that person must be holding down a berth in a lunatic asylum or else is a candidate for one. The most inexperienced worker in the United States knows if he knows anything that capitalists, except in very rare instances, never agree to any reform that would limit their profits unless they are compelled to by some force other than moral. The Gary excuse is so transparently dishonest that even the capitalist press delicately hints that Mr. Gary may be sowing the seed that will produce a whirlwind. Of course the twelve hour day will continue; those who have money invested in steel will draw their dividends and pray for Gary, and the slaves will toil as before.

Harding is disappointed and Samuel Gompers, friend and associate of Gary, ally of Fink William J. Burns and chief lickspittle to American capitalism adds insult to injury by declaring that the steel trust "sacrifices its employees in the interest of prices and profits without a thought for the souls of men."

The only answer Gompers can make to the insulting ultimatum of Judge Gary is to assume the role of the crow thumping evangelist. Instead of proceeding to organize the approximately half a million employees of the steel trust and force the eight hour day down Gary's neck as a real labor leader would do, the old labor faker opens up a ham and senile argument which nobody takes seriously knowing that Gompers is only one of the many lieutenants that the capitalists of America have at their disposal for fooling the workers.

Had Gompers backed up the effort to organize the steel slaves in 1919 when William Z. Foster, John Fitzpatrick and others succeeded in getting 300,000 of them together there would be no necessity for begging the Steel Trust to relent and reduce the working day in its plants. And now he does not suggest the only solution of the problem, that is organization. He will continue to beat his semi-religious twaddle while Gary rolls up his profits and takes ocean trips around the world.

Is it not about time the labor movement should seriously undertake the task of organizing the steel slaves? Now is the time to do it. Let a strong unionizing campaign be the reply of labor to the insolent Gary report.

The Government--Strike Breaker

Comrade Jay Lovestone has rendered a great service to the American labor movement in producing a book that is a valuable collection of useful information and a propaganda work of the first rank at the same time. In the past, American socialist writers spent most of their time competing with each other in a mad race to win the championship for making Marx unintelligible to the workers. Those conceited playboys were more concerned with proving they had a good memory and plenty of spare time than with putting something in the hands of the progressive American workers that would help them to convince their fellow workers that the American government was a class government run for, by and in the interests of the capitalist class.

This Comradé Lovestone has done. He has presented an array of facts that cannot fail to convince the most skeptical that the puppets down in Washington, who enjoy a four year lease on the White House, are the servants of Wall Street and that if they do not obey their master's voice, they will very soon decorate the political dunghill. The past few years are rich in material to prove this point and Comrade Lovestone has unearthed this material and dressed it up within the covers of a handsomely bound book that is a credit to himself and the Workers' Party, which has published it.

In publishing this book, the Workers' Party has given further evidence that it is an American party and not a foreign plant, condemned to wither and die before it has time to become accustomed to the vagaries of the American climate. We heartily recommend this book to our readers. It should be read by all workers, conservative as well as revolutionary, and is a valuable weapon in the armory of our speakers.

This is not a review; merely a few words to call your attention to it. An advertisement appears on another page.

The S. L. P. Wakes the Dead

The Socialist Labor Party is considerably worried because of the ability of the Communists to get on the front page of the capitalist press. This indecency the S. L. P. would never be guilty of. In spite of the diarrhoea of "Open Letters" which it pours forth on an unoffending world the workers are unaware of its existence. Fearing however that some foolhardy person might step on a rusty nail during the throes of the revolution in America—that is when the revolutionary ballot of the S. L. P. backed up by the revolutionary physical force of the Workers International Industrial Union, the thirteen of them—the ancient and venerable fossil Henry Kuhn was commissioned to rummage through the official archives and exhume something that would put the philosophical kybosh on these durned "physical forcists, veiled dynamiters, etc." Why, dang it, an S. L. P. shop keeper might be mistaken for a communist one of these days and get as far as the police station before the cop discovered his mistake and tendered his apology. The faithful Henry after a six month's search, at last emerged from his burrow and after shaking the dirt off his picturesque whiskers produced a document written by Frederick Engels shortly after the Paris Commune.

This is now published in pamphlet form with the startling title of "The Revolutionary Act" and its object is to prove that the use of force in achieving the revolution is out of date and reactionary. Such a trifle as the Russian Revolution is brushed aside as an irritating exception and the fact that the violence of capitalism in the Ruhr in Germany leaves no alternative to the workers except counter violence is a matter of no consequence. Such things are not included in old Henry's dream of socialism's coming of age so they must be ruthlessly put down as capitalist plots to thwart the S. L. P. in its peaceful "revolutionary" effort to accomplish the overthrow of capitalism without waking the baby.

Engels however, made one mistake—is it not possible he may have missed fire twice?—for which he receives a sharp little slap

on the wrist from the pre-historic S. L. P. historian. He made the mistake of looking on the German Social Democracy of his day as a model Socialist political organization. Even then the S. L. P. could tell him that he was mistaken. It would not say that he was confused or muddle headed but he is told where to get off at, just the same. The S. L. P. is no respecter of persons.

Engels predicted that the German socialists would win over to their side by the end of the nineteenth century "the greater part of the middle social layers, petty bourgeoisie as well as the small peasants" and would become "the decisive power in the land before which all other powers must bow whether they like it or not" which merely proves that Engels like most prophets spoke too soon. Many developments have occurred since then, that would very likely induce Engels to modify his opinions.

Bringing about the revolution by peaceful means is so desirable that nobody but a lunatic would select any other method, if the selection of the method was left to the workingclass. But unfortunately such is not the case. On all sides the capitalist governments violate even their own laws when they see their power jeopardized by the workers through legal action. How often have they thrown ballot boxes into the river, expelled elected socialists and committed other unlawful deeds? Italy is a splendid example of capitalist illegality.

The Communists, in spite of the Socialist Labor Party and the Department of Justice, do not advocate violence or armed insurrection on the part of the workers but they point out the inevitability of violence basing their prediction on the history of social changes in the past. They assert that no ruling class has ever surrendered its power without a resort to force and it is extremely unlikely that a system that can only maintain itself by force will allow itself to be supplanted without using that force to perpetuate itself.

Today in Germany, Engel's native land, German workers are openly drilling and in Saxony the Proletarian Guards exist side by side with the Fascisti or bourgeois armed forces. Where capitalism is on its death bed and chaos exists it is folly to try and convince the workers that they should wait until the capitalists politely invite them to take command. The preservation of civilization in such instances demands that immediate action be taken. And it is only when capitalism in any country is no longer capable of functioning that it is possible to overthrow it.

Inhaling the Poppy

In the American Federationist for May is a cartoon which represents a checkered trousered individual, labeled Big Biz, and a frock coated gentleman, labeled The Court, holding their handkerchiefs to their eyes in a vain effort to conceal their grins, as they gaze on a collection of tombstones, variously inscribed Child Labor Law, Women's Minimum Wage, Right to Picket, etc. The cartoon is headed "These, Our Lamented Dead."

But turn over the page. There Mr. Gompers—his name is not signed to it, but he is credited with its authorship in the index—has written an article in bold-face type, called "Wear the Poppy," in which he says:

"The ideals for which that great war was waged have not faded in the breast of labor. Nor does labor join in the slightest degree with those cynical and misguided mortals who openly or by indirection count the war a loss so far as those ideals are concerned."

Let us recall some of those ideals—a war to end war, to make the world safe for democracy, to overthrow tyranny.

Mr. Gompers has seen all the ideals buried, which are listed on the tombstones in the cartoon. In addition, he has seen an open shop drive started almost before the worker's back had ceased to feel the ringing slap given it cordially when he was told that "labor will win the war." He has seen the most tyrannical injunctions ever issued by the courts of any country, such judicial action as the courts of Germany would not have dared to impose upon the workers of that country in the Kaiser's most "balmy" days. He has seen the profiteers hugging their ill-gotten gains and refusing to be taxed to pay a soldiers' bonus. He has seen the wages of the workers forced down far beyond the slight decrease in cost of living. He has seen the cry for Americanization give way to a clamor to let down the immigration restrictions and admit cheap labor to compete with that which really is Americanized.

He has seen, or could see, if he would but look, dozens of wars waging in Europe, and another big war brewing as the result of a treaty that was anything but the offered ideal of a peace without victory.

Still, Mr. Gompers is sure that labor has lost none of the ideals for which it sped up production, bought Liberty Bonds, licked War Saving Stamps, donated to the Red Cross, and otherwise comported itself in truly bourgeois fashion, under the fear of being called pro-German and exchanging overalls for a coat of tar and feathers if it dared to think for itself.

Mr. Gompers' burst of sentiment seems to indicate that he is not only prepared to wear the poppy but that he has been inhaling it.

Lord Robert Cecil of Great Britain who was here recently on a peace mission or a fake mission is now Lord of the Privy Seal and will have charge of the League of Nations. Some people say that this outfit bears the same relation to the capitalist countries affiliated with it that the Third International does to the Soviet Government.

While the workers are having difficulty in liquidating the points of disagreement that prevent them from putting up a united front we read in the papers that Flo Leeds, the girl that caused the millionaire banker Stillman so much trouble, is liable to enter into an offensive alliance—at least Mr. Stillman may consider it so—with Mrs. Stillman, the specialist in Indian summers and Indian guides. The banker Stillman, it is reported, has severed friendly relations with his former concubine and is now paying attentions—platonic of course, to the relict of a former bosom friend, who also happened to be a banker. Just a duty he owes his dead friend, says Stillman. The papers tell us by way of no harm that the lonely one is vivacious and easy to look at, which should not be held as incriminating evidence against the banker, he not being responsible for the personal pulchritude of his friend's legacy. Thanks, Mr. Stillman. The new papers would certainly make dreary reading but for the gallant attempt of gallant bankers to add a little spice to the news.

The Master's Voice

(Courtesy of Machinists' Journal.)



General Atterbury will admit to anyone that he believes in organization—properly conducted—and that the best one in the world is in operation among the scabs on his lines. It is the kind of an organization that many employers consider ideal, and there seem to be some simple workers who also approve of it, for the Atterbury plan exacts no dues from its members. The company pays hall rents, officers' salaries, including that of General Chairman—the so-called, and much despised Walking Delegate, and the company has such touching solicitude for the union that it helps to run it, thus relieving the members of the arduous duties required of members of less respectable unions.—J. F. Anderson.

KANSAS COAL MINERS LINE UP BEHIND ALEXANDER HOWAT

By CALEB HARRISON.

PITTSBURGH, Kans., May 30.—I came into this city last Thursday to get the miners interested in sending delegates to the coming Labor Party convention. North and east of Pittsburg lay the mining camps that make up the locals of Dist. No. 14 of the United Mine Workers, once headed by the veteran fighters Howat and Dorchy.

I found that the miners were unanimously in favor of the plans for the Labor Party convention, and immediately took a lively interest in the matter in the two locals that I had time to address.

Another thing that I learned was that very few of the miners were acquainted with the plans for the Conference of The Progressive International Committee of the U. M. W. of A., held in Pittsburg, Pa., June 2 and 3. The few miners I first met on Thursday and Friday were very much interested in the program of the Progressive Committee, but could think of no way to have a delegate to represent District 14. As elsewhere, the miners here are working but part time and are hard pressed financially; the local unions are broke, having not yet recovered from the last strike.

Practically all the miners here are Howat men, and any local would willingly, eagerly, elect delegates, could they find some way to pay the expenses for the trip. Time was too short to get sufficient locals together to co-operate in bearing the expenses. I had about given up the idea of getting a delegate, when on Saturday a few miners in Mulberry suggested that I should call a mass meeting in Franklin at which delegates could be elected and a collection taken to bear the expenses. It was Saturday, and one week later the conference would begin, and the delegate must have at least two days' time to get to Pennsylvania. Necessary to get busy, I put an ad in the local Sunday paper, the Pittsburg Sun. I found a union printer who would print some handbills for me on Sunday.

Sunday night I mailed out the handbills to a few of the most distant mine camps, and Monday and Tuesday all day I took them around to the points along the electric car line.

The meeting was called for the Dance Hall, where Howat used to address meetings of 5,000 to 8,000 miners during the days when they were sending the once much lauded Industrial Court Law to its last resting place. On Monday afternoon the Pittsburg Headlight came out with an article on the front page telling us that the District Committee of the U. M. W. had put its ban upon the Franklin meeting of the Progressive Committee of Dist. No. 14 and ended with what purported to be an official statement of the District Committee: "That the District Executive Board go on record as being against the meeting of the Progressive Min-

ers, called for Franklin, Tuesday, May 29, and publish our position in the daily papers, viz. that any member of our organization participating in this meeting will be expelled from the U. M. W. A. according to our law.

"William Borgats, Pres.
"H. W. Burr, Sec'y."

There is one thing only that needs to be said about this Dist. Committee, and that is: it is composed of non-entities. It came into office while Van Bitner was here following his usual occupation of disruption (when that worthy had all the militant miners thrown out or disfranchised). The present committee is neither fish flesh nor fowl. Supposed to be sympathetic to Howat, this bunch never allows its sympathies to be heard, but accepts orders from above and tries to execute them. The old bugaboo of dual unionism was brought forth to be used as a stalking horse to justify the attempt at intimidation in this instance.

The stunt did one thing for the Progressive Committee; it helped to advertise the meeting. The papers on Tuesday came out with additional stuff about the Franklin meeting and contained the added information that it is rumored that state, county and city officials were going to look into the matter and may stop the meeting.

Tuesday morning I saw the agent of the Department of Justice, who holds forth in Kansas City, meandering about the streets of Pittsburg; he is a little weazened, dried up fellow, with a hump on his back like a camel, who could pass for a broken down coal miner if he would put on a jumper.

I knew at once that the talk of official interference was more than rumor, and that someone was trying to have the meeting prevented. There were a few of us who were very much concerned during Tuesday—would the bluff of the District Committee work; if not, would there be official interference. I got to the dance hall just before 6 o'clock, three or four miners were idling across the street, they assured me they would come, in just a little while they will begin to arrive. Presently I saw them coming along the road in machines, lines of machines at short intervals; from the street car station, and from their homes nearby they came afoot until there were 2,000 gathered, when the meeting started.

Lewis Very Unpopular.

Charley Rumetch acted as chairman and introduced the writer, who outlined the purposes of the meeting and the program of the Pittsburg, Pa., conference was gone into in detail. When it was necessary to comment upon the work of John L. Lewis and his satellites of the Van Bitner type; or the disruptive work of their International disorganizers, this body of coal-diggers made it very plain by

their demonstrations where they stood.

Their cheering approval whenever Howat was referred to showed that Howat did some real work in the district during his time. When the question of electing representation to the Progressive conference was proposed, it was carried with a rousing cheer. Had it been possible to acquaint the miners beforehand with what was expected of them they would have each brought more cash along for the expense of the representation and it would have been easily possible to collect enough for two delegates. As it was, \$100.57 was collected.

Dorchy Unanimously Elected.

August Dorchy was unanimously elected delegate to the Miners' Progressive Conference. The announcement was cheered to the echo.

In featuring the meeting the next day the papers tried to inject poison by referring to the One Big Union, insinuating that it is a dual union movement.

In a second article they give the case away about that rumor that the State and County officials were going to act. The district officers got the officials of the Girard local (these fellows were put into office while Van Bitner was here) to send a wire to the Attorney General of Kansas. This is the message:

"Members of our local union and citizens request that you at once use your good office to the end that such meetings cannot be held in Kansas. Evidence that the scheduled meeting is sponsored by the I. W. W. can be found at headquarters of the district miners' union at Pittsburg."

The Attorney General, in a letter to these lame duck union officials complimented them for "their splendid co-operation in reporting such unlawful assemblies." Now the local unions are going to demand the evidence that their district officials claim to have that the I. W. W. sponsored the meeting.

In League With Detectives.

County Attorney Brunett with Attorney General Griffith that would look into the matter and did by ordering the sheriff to "see" the meeting. The sheriff informed them that he was qualified to know if the meeting was unlawful or not; that he would be there to see for himself and that no one could legally interfere with the meeting but the sheriff, and then only if something unlawful was committed. The sheriff was there, and he enjoyed the meeting as much as anyone present. He said that the miners should have taken such action long ago. Sheriff Turkington was elected by the miners' votes, because the miners know him.

This meeting emphasized one thing very strongly: that Alex. Howat and the scores of old miners in Dist. No. 14, who have been officially sandbagged by the John Lewis machine, are not out of the miners' union. With patience and intelligent action the Progressive Miners will have the Lewis' gang out where they belong and the type of leader like Howat will steer the miners' union.