

Workers Age

A PAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS

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FDR DISAVOWS COMMUNISM

Assures Hearst He Maintains Capitalism In Best Possible Way

President Roosevelt took advantage of the New York State Democratic Convention to assure his avowed enemies in the Landon camp that the policies of his administration are distinctly anti-communist. While this may be news to only a few people, the analysis given by the New Dealer of his own role was so accurate as to put the fantastic formulations of the Communist Party to shame.

"There is no difference between the major parties as to what they think about communism," Roosevelt assured Hearst. "There is a very great difference between the two parties as to what they do about communism," he declared.

The Republicans seek to fight communism thru extreme reaction, but the Democrats seek to remove the causes, namely economic discontent. "The true conservative seeks to protect the system of private property and free enterprise by correcting such injustices and inequalities as arise from it. . . Liberalism becomes the protection for the far-sighted conservative." And that of course, has been Roosevelt's role and purpose expressed as neatly as could be desired: to bolster the badly-shaken capitalist system by some measure of reform and social relief. To make sure that everybody understood, F. D. R. closed with: "I am that kind of a conservative because I am that kind of a liberal."

Corey to Teach at New Workers Sch.

When the new term of the New Workers School opens on Oct. 5th, there will be included in its staff one of the outstanding economists of America. Lewis Corey will open his course on "Our American Proletariat" on Friday, Oct. 9th at 7 P.M. His first session will be devoted to an analysis of the early beginnings of the American working class.

This course will prove of especial interest at the present time in the light of the latest developments in the international labor movement. It will combine a theoretical approach to the problem of the nature and role of the working class in capitalist society with an analysis of the historical development of the American working class.

Lewis Corey has done extensive research on the subject bringing to it a profound knowledge of economics and of American history. This study of the most dynamic class in American society to-day is unprecedented in workers' education and should prove of tremendous interest to both advanced and new students of the labor movement.

The series of lectures runs as follows: (1) Preparation: Colonial and Revolutionary Labor (to 1790's). (2) Emergence: Labor, De-

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Counter-Attack Begins To Defend Madrid

Cabellero Gives Vague Promise Of Workers' Rule Sometime In Future. Conscription Will Be Resorted To In Final Defense.

Slight signs of recuperation of loyalist forces, after the terrible blow caused by the fall of Toledo, were seen when the government reported the recapture of Maqueda, near the former city. A counter-offensive is being prepared by the loyalists, but purely on a military basis. While slogans are being shouted all thruout the provinces that: "Peasants, the harvest is our ear line of defense", no effort is being made to rouse the peasantry on a revolutionary basis by making this struggle for the land.

TRUCE IN DOCK LABOR FIGHT

Pressure on the employers from the newly appointed Marine Commission, plus the determined stand of the Pacific Maritime Federation of Unions, forced the shipping bosses of San Francisco to accede to a 15-day truce in the negotiations being carried on for a new agreement. The previous contract had been won by the workers thru the 1934 strike, and expired Sept. 30th of this year. The fifteen days will be used for the new negotiations.

The employers are vicious in their attempts to break down the gains of the 1934 victory, especially the clause giving the unions control of the hiring hall. Before the truce was agreed upon, the employers threatened to hire right on the docks, a move which Harry Bridges, president of the longshoremen, stated would be considered a lock-out.

A strike of the International Longshoremen's Union at Miami was temporarily terminated thru the ministrations of a Federal conciliator. The men went back to work with an understanding that in two weeks a conference to discuss union recognition, wages, etc. would be held to cover all South Atlantic ports.

The struggle between the progressives and the bureaucracy of the unions of the N. Y. waterfront was given a new twist this week when the employers refused to recognize certain newly elected progressive leaders of the Marine Firemen's Union. The International Seaman's Union, to which the latter is affiliated, had refused to recognize the victory of the progressives, and the employers, maintaining the contract was with the International, seized this as a pretext for not recognizing the union at all. Four ships were held up by sit-down strikes, protesting the refusal to recognize the duly elected leadership of the union.

SIX PAGES

On OCTOBER 17th, the next issue, the WORKERS AGE will appear as a SIX-PAGE paper.

This is only partially satisfactory. The drive must take us over the top to an eight page WORKERS AGE.

LONDON WORKERS SMASH MOSLEY

A demonstration planned by the British Union of Fascists thru the proletarian East End of London was broken up by the workers and driven completely out of the region. Five thousand police had been called out by the government of the "mother of democracy" to protect the Fascists in their provocative actions. However, the infuriated workers beat back both the police and the fascists. Mosley will protest to the government that this was a "denial of the right of free speech"!

REPORT STEEL DRIVE GAINS

The Steel Workers Organizing Committee, holding a meeting in Pittsburgh, studied the rising revolts in the company unions of the industry. Phillip Murray declared that they "were cracking up all along the line". Declaring that progress was being made in organizing the steel workers, Murray reported that the SWOC now has 35 sub-regional offices, regional offices in Pittsburgh, Chicago and Birmingham, 158 field directors and organizers, 80 part-time organizers, and 5,000 volunteer organizers.

The Carnegie Steel Corporation has been finding that even company unions are not an impregnable defense against the demands of the steel workers for better working conditions and the right of organization. The split in their company outfit which took place a couple of weeks ago, has now resulted in the insurgent pro-CIO section demanding a referendum. Next day the company issued a long statement in which it refused negotiations on the very frank grounds that increased wages would mean decreased profits!

FRANC DROP AIDS FRENCH BOSSES

Blum Maneuvers for Capitalism With Full Support of CP

A sharp clash between the Communist Party and the followers of De La Rocque was averted in Paris, despite the threats of the leader of the Croix de Feu, now known as the French Social Party. The police and the Mobile Garde blocked the Fascists, and the C.P. proceeded with a meeting in which, the N. Y. Times correspondent states: "Speaker after speaker in rather dull trite phrases spoke far more in support of the government than about communism." The fact that this fascist organization exists and carries on its scurrilous activities seems to worry Blum not a whit—so long as free speech is maintained, even for the fascists.

The Blum government supported by the Communist Party and also by at least half of the Radical Socialists put over a gigantic swindle on the workers, peasants and urban middle classes of France when they succeeded in devaluing the franc, last week. Under the guise of an "international move for peace by the three great democracies", France united with Britain and the United States in shifting the major burdens of the crisis on to the backs of the masses. The effects of the devaluation of the franc will be felt here, but, of course, its primary blow falls on the French masses.

The role of the Right wing was one of extreme demagoguery, against devaluation which they really wanted, carefully coupled with pruning the bill as to end all so-called "protection" for the workers and peasants (a la NRA). Blum had mouthed pretty phrases about rights to prevent price rises by being given the right to raise wages correspondingly. (It is interesting to note that this was to

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But, of course, everybody knows that this bitter civil war is not a war between classes but simply a struggle between two ideals, fascism and democracy.

Largo Cabellero, once termed the "Lerin of Spain", corrected his prematurely enthusiastic friends by announcing that: "After we have conquered the fascists, we will carry out Article 1, Section I of the Constitution, which provides that 'Spain shall be a workers republic of all classes'". Sadly enough, it is not a victory that can bring the workers' republic, but, as is increasingly apparent, only a workers' and peasants soviet republic, that can possibly bring a victory.

Tightening of the lines in Madrid is indicated in recent dispatches, whereby the early enthusiasm of the workers which expressed itself in independent organization, will be curbed. Centralization of the military command and strategy, certainly necessary, will be consummated not on a revolutionary proletarian basis, but on the premise of defense of the republic and the bourgeois regime. The election of leaders by the workers will be eliminated.

Catalonia has announced that conscription will be applied to all males between the ages of 18 and 40, and it is likely that Madrid will do the same.

DODGE AUTO LOCALS AMALGAMATE

Detroit, Michigan—Amalgamation of the eleven locals into one large organization in the Dodge plant here has been announced by Richard T. Frankenstein, Detroit organizational director for the United Automobile Workers of America.

Organization in the Dodge plant was divided into locals according to departments under the former Automotive Industrial Workers' Association, independent union that affiliated with the United Automobile Workers last July. The amalgamation makes the Dodge unit one of the largest locals in the International Union and was put through as a measure to concentrate the strength of workers in the plant, Frankenstein said.

Detroit, Michigan—A research department has been set up to make a complete survey of the automobile industry in order to illustrate in exact figures the status and relative position of the automobile worker, it was announced. William L. Munger of Lansing, Michigan has been appointed research director of the United Automobile Workers of America last week by Homer Martin, president of the International.

Two More Murders!

We have just received the news that Comrade Hermann Hoffmann has committed suicide in his prison cell in Essen.

Comrade Herman Hoffmann was arrested toward the end of 1933. He underwent great tortures and was sentenced to a long prison term as a result of his attempt to build the underground Communist Party of Germany (Opposition). We have no details at all concerning the "suicide" of our comrade. But even if it is true that he killed himself the guilt falls fully on the Hitler regime and its henchmen.

Hoffmann was a bank clerk in his early thirties; a charter member of our Essen local and a very courageous revolutionary functionary unselfishly devoted to the labor movement. As early as 1934 we received word that he had attempted suicide unable to bear the tortures inflicted on him by the Nazis. He was not very strong physically but he gave his all to the movement. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that he committed suicide since his prison term was nearing its close. Comrade Hoffman was a former

member of the Socialist Party. All who knew him will honor his memory as a model revolutionary. He is the 18th CPGO victim of the Hitler terror in this section.

A report from Cologne states that Richard Kreutzburg, a former member of the CPGO, drowned himself in the Rhine river. Kreutzburg a most intelligent comrade educated at the Western University of Moscow, was in serious straits because of his miserable financial condition even before Hitler's assumption of power. He was constantly unemployed and always on the brink of starvation. During the war he was a member of the Socialist Youth and lost his apprentice job as a result of his anti-war activities. After the war he became a member of the CPG and a leading functionary in the Middle Rhine section until 1924. After 1924 he occupied various leading posts in the CPG until 1928 at which time the CPG sent him to the Western University of Moscow. In 1929 he was expelled on the grounds of being a "Brandliterate." He returned to Cologne and joined our group.

ALP ANNOUNCES OWN PROGRAM

The official program of the newly launched American Labor Party in New York State was made public outlining a series of immediate and long-range legislative objectives to which the party pledges itself.

"A new political alignment is taking shape in our country in response to new economic and social trends," the preamble to the program declares. "The formation of the American Labor Party in New York State as the permanent political instrument of labor and progressive forces is an answer to the urgent need for a party rooted in the common people and giving concrete political expression to their aspirations."

The program adopted by the party covers the fields of labor, economic security, consumers' interests, and civil liberties. It stresses, particularly, the protection of workers in the right to organize and to bargain collectively, and demands the outlawing of company unions and deputized private guards. The party pledges itself to work for legislation fixing minimum wages, abolishing child labor, and progressive reduction of hours of labor. It also specifies the need for free state and federal employment agencies.

* * *

The New York Harbor District Council of the 21 Standard Railway Unions, with a membership in excess of 25,000 in the Greater New York area, has voted to affiliate with the American Labor Party, it was announced at campaign headquarters yesterday.

The action, the announcement said, was taken at a special meeting of the Council held last Thursday at the Times Square Hotel, in which representatives of 18 of the unions associated in the Council took part.

Other trade union organizations which announced their affiliation with the American Labor Party in the last few days, it was stated at headquarters, are the International Fur Workers Union; Local 325 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union; Bookbinders Union, Local 25; Fur Dyers Union, Local 88; Fur Dressers Union, Local 2; Dress and Waistmakers' Union, Local 22; Theatrical Stage Employees and Motion Picture Operators Union, Local 32; and Fur Floor Workers, Local 3; Buffalo Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Bakers' Union, Local 14, Rochester; Bakers' Union, Local 509, Brooklyn; Hebrew American Typographical Union, Local 83, New York; Meat Cutters Union, Local 665, New York; Waiters and Waitresses' Union, Local 2, Brooklyn; International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, Local 143, Mt. Vernon; Dress Patternmakers Union, Local 31, New York; Utility Workers Union, Local B752, Brooklyn; and United Vehicle Workers, New York.

AN APPEAL

to every Communist Party member
to every Socialist worker
to every progressive trade unionist
to every militant worker

The international working class movement is faced with a struggle for its very life. The spread of Fascism, the events in Spain and France, show this.

The labor movement of this country is faced with problems of the greatest significance for its future development. The crisis in the A. F. of L., the suspension of the C.I.O. unions, make this clear.

The workers' socialist fatherland, the U.S.S.R., is facing an attack from Nazi Germany. The recent Nazi Party Convention and the intensified rearmament confirm this.

For these reasons, it is your duty to

**JOIN THE COMMUNIST PARTY
(OPPOSITION)**

In its fight for

Militant class struggle
Revolutionary unity
Workers' rule
Progressive trade unionism
Independent working class political action
The defense of the Soviet Union
A working class united front against War and Fascism.

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IN THE FACE OF THE

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People's Front Rule In France.

Hitler Aggression in Europe.

Soviet Union's Struggle for Peace.

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FRANC DROP AIDS FRENCH BOSSES

(Continued from Page 1)

be done by decree—all hail democracy, beautiful democracy). However the Rights in the Chamber, but mainly the entire Radical Socialist Party threw out these sections. The result, after much bickering, of dubious nature, between Chamber and Senate, was that the bill was passed without even the "progressive" trimmings Blum desired. There is no price control, no wage control, instead the government is now in a position to force compulsory arbitration on all strikes; this was brought in here by grace of bourgeois legalism, but it exists—which is the important thing for the French bourgeoisie.

The Communist Party pursued not even a hypocritical policy on this issue, but openly defended and supported this move of Blum. It must be remembered that the Communist Party had made the question of devaluation one of its chief campaigns, in the form of "defend the franc." When devaluation was announced Thorez said: "Of course we are for the protection of workers' rights under this move. While we were against devaluation entirely we would not break the People's Front on such an issue." But they voted for the bill!

Once again the People's Front has proven itself to be a major bulwark for the bourgeoisie against any mass movement. It has carried out one of the primary tasks of capitalism in France and done it with an ease, and a repression of the masses, that only those who betray Marxism for phrases can effect.

semi-feudalism in the South, handled money for the first time. The bitter critics scorn at the amount of whiskey they bought, but the masses tried to purchase homes, to educate their children, and to send home for relatives and friends. Avoided by social ethics, they were pursued by salesmen. All over the North the poverty-stricken older generation is still struggling to carry investments in church property, city blocks, and a place somewhere near the sun.

Professional "uplifters" cautioned the Negro migrants against loudness, lewdness, and the tendency to desert the church, the home, and their leaders. Northern capital invested liberally (for Negroes) in education and social work. The Urban League was born under these circumstances, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People shifted its fight from a radical attack on lynching to an attack on Southern lynchings exclusively. The editor of The Crisis wrote against capitalism for a long time, but the increasing number of capitalists on the Board of Directors toned down his radicalism.

(Conclude next week)

Send me more information about the C.P.O.

Name

Address

City State

TENTH MAN MUST BE ORGANIZED

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groups in mastering machinery. Every well-informed capitalist knows that brief time and machine training will produce a rapid change in the crudest, black, farm worker. Moreover, American Negroes have had contact with machinery since the first days of slave mechanics. Marx knew this, and made numerous brief allusions to it. The simplicity of grasping the truth of racial myths of creative values undoubtedly accounts for the lack of extension in Marx's treatment of the African (Negro) problem in American industry. Certainly he was informed of "the only thing of interest in the book" (Henry Carey's—American economist), the fact that, the Negro now thoroughly "Yankeeized, English-speaking, etc." was "fit for emancipation."

The Northern Migration

Threatened by labor shortage, the result of the European wars, steel magnates turned to the Southern states. Not only Negro workers but white workers of equal backwardness were packed into trains and shipped to Northern points. The color problem, however, outranked the backwardness

of the Southern workers. White workers advanced rapidly, but the Negro was herded into the jobs where risk and pay were marked with figures of big R's and pretty-small p's.

Negro social workers were frequently guilty of conscious and unconscious strike-breaking. Consider the numerous and meaningless "studies" on the suitability of Negro workers. From the day of its foundation in 1910 the National Urban League was preoccupied with the need of proving that Negro workers were a profitable investment by Northern industries. These studies were the result of a newly-kindled racial consciousness. But as necessary as one's pride in his own humanity is, even today, the drift from pride to prejudice is quickly attained. The Negro press with Hearst-like zeal, rose against foreign-born workers. Understandably, Negro leaders denounced the persistent refusal of capital to employ black labor except in a pinch, but the zeal with which the Negro press rose against the foreign-born was more a step backwards than a drive ahead.

Proving that the North was a better place for the Negro than the retarded South, the Negro press hastened the migration of black laborers. All this recruiting was not innocent. Of course there were Negroes who enriched themselves recruiting black labor! (This is not an unknown experience among foreign-born bankers and steamship agencies.) Negroes who exploited Negroes rose to the ranks of the small, but secure, Negro middle-class. The Republican party was eager for this increase in the number of bone-dry Republicans. "The Republican party was the ship and all else the sea," but Frederick Douglass, the idol of the abolitionist movement did not envisage the new slavery of capitalism.

The Negro got his opportunity in Northern industry with the outbreak of the Balkan wars. Later,

the German drive through Belgium called thousands of Europeans home to the colors. Northern industry was shorthanded in a period of expansion.

Race Wars And Profits

Negroes were not new to industry; only to Northern industry. For years American capital hesitated, contemplating the migration of the Negro as a problem leading to race war at a time when American capital was in a position to capture European markets. But the fear of the South and race war was less than the fear of labor scarcity; and the fear of the South which saw share-cropper scarcity was appeased by the quick replacement of Negro hands by starved Mountain whites who had been even worse oppressed than Negro farm laborers.

At first the Democratic party was frightened by the coming of Negroes into the North. The Republicans were cheered: The Negro would not upset the apple-cart by asking for more than the privilege of living in the North amid Republican fellow-citizens. The Republicans were different from the radical generation of Lincoln which freed the slaves. Having "saved" the Negro from slavery would they hesitate about giving him the vote in the free North. Digging up Lincoln and the Proclamations, Republican bosses walked hand and hand with capitalist investment.

It is little wonder that the Negro press grew by leaps and bounds. Papers like the Chicago Defender and the Pittsburgh Courier became popular and influential on a national scale. Negro workers, newly liberated from

LET'S GO!

To the

ANNUAL DANCE

of the **NEW WORKERS SCHOOL**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10th

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