Workers Of The World Unite!

Socialist Appeal

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Stalinists Riot As SEAMEN FIGHT "FINK" HALLS Trial of Suspended Chiefs Begins in UAW

Stage Shameful Brawl to Discredit Proceedings; Switch Line After Lewis Fails to Intervene; Drop Rump Moves

But Danger to Union Is Mounting

DETROIT, July, 26.-Riotous scenes staged by organized Stalinist delegations marked the first day of the trial of the four suspended International officers of the United Automobile Workers of America. In a deliberate effort to set up a special tribunal to give an unofficial veto to the action of the regular International Trial Board, a deputation of friends of the suspended officers broke down the door and refused to allow the trial to proceed unless their participation was recognized.

The so-called "sit-down" to disrupt the trial proceedings, breaking out into fistfights and smearing the ugly situation over the front page of the capitalist press, came to an end after the Griswold Building was vacated through a misunderstanding of the "sit-

There can be no two opinionson the meaning of the occurrence on the meaning of the occurrence in the Griswold Building today.

The union had been clearly in-The union had been clearly informed by President Martin that the trial would be held in closed session. This was known weeks in advance. Irrespective of the merits of an open trial over a closed trial, the final decision on this matter rested with the Executive Board.

For their part, the Stalinists expressed no opinion on this matter one way or another. The specialists in frame-ups condemned the trial as a frame-up on the very day it was announced in the press, more than a month Their attempt to force into the trial today an arbitrarily hand-picked group was aimed at discrediting the proceedings. The violent action was intended to prove that the rank and file didn't have a look-in. To any objective observer, the motives of the Stalinist riot are transparen through and through.

A Major Defeat

The mad rampage of the Stalinists at the opening of the trial | few years proved the most efcorresponds directly with the be- fective of all parliamentary inginning of defeats at the hands struments for the sabotage of of the rank and file. At a meet- progressive legislation. ing of all Executive Committees of local unions held here last Friday, a motion to call upon John sal for Republican endorsement L. Lewis to intervene in the auto of O'Connor lies in its dramatic union was defeated by a vote of attestation of the fact-observ-145 to 122. The temper of the able also in a thousand other marank and file auto workers was nifestations - that the political unmistakable. Three former struggles in this country are now members of the United Mine compelled to step outside the Workers related their experiences limits of the traditional party with John L. Lewis in Ohio and boundaries. Illinois. They warned, on the basis of intimate knowledge, that leashed under the pressure of the the intervention of Lewis would crisis no longer find the old setmean the same kind of ruthless up of the Republican and Demodictatorship which once trampled cratic parties a sufficient arena over the miners union. In desper- in which to work themselves out. ation, the Stalinists retaliated by In this sense, the proposal to an attempt to gang up on John give Republican endorsement to W. Anderson, militant Fleetwood O'Connor is directly comparable member of the Executive Board to the Republican intervention of the West Side Local.

DEMOCRAT

Two Boss Parties Unite to Back Reactionary

Powerful forces within the New York Republican Party are demanding Republican endorsement in the coming elections of Representative John J. O'Connor, present incumbent of the 16th Congressional District in Manhattan. O'Connor is a Tammany Demo-

Representatives Rules Committee. This is the most influential committee in the House. Through it, in the regular order of business, all proposed legislation passes before going to the floor of the House. By O'Connor's iron control it has during the past

The significance of the propo-

The conflicts now being unto support Peterson against Ben-

crat, chairman of the House of

Party Lines Blurred

(Continued on page 2)

East Side Workers March for Housing

New York's East Side tenement districts will witness a parade on Saturday, July 30th by organizations affiliated to and endorsing the East Side Workers Housing Committee. The parade will open the fight for new housing projects in New York City and aim to enlist the support of thousands of low-paid and unemployed workers of the East

Members of the Socialist Workers Party, Young People's Socialist League, Workers Alliance Local 15, other progressive locals of the W.A.A., United Handicapped Workers of America, the Poish Workers Club, and other labor organizations will carry the slogans and banners of the

The parade will assemble at 159 Rivington Street at 1:30 P. M. and begin at 2 P. M. The following route will be followed: starting at Rivington and Clinton Streets, north on Clinton to Stanton Street, east to Avenue C, north to 11th Street, west to 2nd Avenue, south to Grand Street, east to Sheriff Street, north to Rivington Street, east to point

where parade began. All S.W.P. and Y.P.S.L. members are to report not later than 1:30 P.M., Saturday, July 30, at 159 Rivington st.

NEWTON, Iowa. guns guarded the entrance of the Maytag washing machine factory and National Guardsmen paunder martial law in the eleventh week of a strike against proposed wage cuts by the Maytag company.

The National Guard, called schel when union pickets prevented strike-breakers from trucking washing machine parts away from the plant, used their bayonets to force strikers and Police, Colonel Riggs, in 1936, Stalinists. "Rule or ruin" is their their wives away from the fac- they were taken to police headtory, breaking up the picket line. quarters and murdered in cold

Picket Line Crashed Shortly after the troops ar-

Nationalist Feeling Flares As Attempt Is Made On Puerto Rican Governor

Attempted Assassination Discloses Repressive Rule of U.S. Imperialism Against Independence Movement

Nationalist and anti-imperialist feeling in Puerto Rico, inflamed by the repressive measures of the Winship administration against all independentist sentiment, flared into violence again on July 23 when an attempt was made to assassinate Governor Winship at the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of American occupation.

Although the governor escaped the shots, two persons, a Colonel of the Puerto Rican National Guard at the head of troops marching in review and a Nationalist, were killed, and more than thirty were wounded. Seven Nationalists are under arrest for the attempt, bail being set for two of them at \$25,000 each.

It is almost an axiom that repression breeds terrorism. Marxists have always condemned terrorist methods as futile, and serving to

C. P. SPLITS PHILA

Up C.I.O. Charter

In Split Move

PHILADELPHIA, July 23.

direction of the Navy Yard Lo-

covering the Philadelphia Navy

A progressive step, with im

Yards into a militant union unit-

ing them with the shipyard work-

Navy Yard Council Set up

(Continued on page 2)

A Joint Council of Navy Yards

government-owned Navy

provoke greater repressions. Themistaken tactics of the Puerto Rican Nationalists will give the authorities further excuse to suppress Puerto Rican civil liberties and all manifestations of a desire for independence.

The fact remains, however that the military-police regime of Shipyard Loc'l Gives Governor Winship, backed by the erstwhile liberal, Ernest Gruening, in charge of the department of Insular Affairs, and egged on by super-imperialist Senator Tydings, has merey reaped what it sowed. Everything that could be After a long and intense fight to done to drive the Nationalists to secure a dominant position in the desperation has been done.

Sentiment for independence in cals of the Industrial Union of Puerto Rico is far more wide- Marine and Shipbuilding Workspread than is ever permitted to ers America (C.I.O.), the Stalinappear. Discrimination is widely ist-controlled group of Local 17 practiced against known advecates of the island's freedom Yard decided to return their from American rule. The largest charter to the I.U.M.S.W.A., and political party, the Liberal Party, to enter the Stalinist-ruled United has independence in its platform. Federal Workers of America trolled the streets of Newton, The extremist Nationalist group, (C.I.O.) where their ambitions however, is very small. It has lit- could be better satisfied. tle popular support and is in no way a threat to American domi- mense possibilities, was undernation. But it has been continu- taken when the IUMSWA began ally goaded, harassed and per- to organize the shippard workers cuted by the Winghin govern

> Police Murder Two When two Nationalist youths ers in private industry. But miliassassinated the Insular Chief of tancy is of no importance to the blood by the police two hours later. None of the guilty police- was established last year by a

(Continued on page 3)

Middletown **Gives Labor** Big Lesson

Auto Workers Smashes Attacks on Union

MUNCIE, Ind.—Carefully chos en by sociologists as the average American small city and dubbed "Middletown" by Mary and Rob ert Lynd in their two popular books, Muncie has become famous as the most thoroughly explored city in the United States, Cross-sectioned and cross examined, indexed and tabulated. Muncie, in its role as "Middletown," has presented the professors and students of the uni on the average American society. Recent events in Muncie have their significance for workers Not only the students of sociology can draw lessons from Muncie, but trade unionists can gain valuable knowledge from the ex-

Trusted Labor Board Workers at the John Lee Acme Co., manufacturing automo-

perience of "Middletown's" work-

tive parts and employing about 700 workers, struck the plant in 1937. They were induced to return to work, leaving details of settlement up to the State Labor Relations Division. While the State Labor Board

and Judge Guthrie were "settling up details," the company intimidated the workers to the extent of practically destroying the United Automobile Workers loeal. In June nine workers were discharged in violation of their Soviet army, stationed in those seniority rights. The members of the U.A.W. struck in a body and Lake Khasan on the Soviet-Mandemanded reinstatement of the discharged men. In spite of the terrorization by

a mass picket line. Immediately Republics. Nippon's ambassador the officers of the law resorted to the U.S.S.R., Mamoru Shigeto open violence. One of the deputies approached a group of men, ture. He shot tear gas into the hill was Russian territory accordgroup at close range, nearly ing to a treaty concluded in 1869, blinding one worker.

Machine Gun Threat

A few days later Judge Guthrie issued an injunction against rived last week, and were still men has ever been punished or decision of the National Conventue the strikers. Sheriff Puckett de making camp in the outskirts of even suspended from the force. tion of the union, to coordinate clared he would carry out the in-(Continued on page 4)

Pickets Open Drive On Militant Action by Muncie N.Y. Gov't Hiring Hall

Picket Line Answers Government Threat to Take Over Hiring; Seamen Act Despite N.M.U. Opposition

Hiring on Dollar Line Held by SUP

NEW YORK.—After a week of fruitless efforts to form a fighting united front with the National Maritime Union, the New York branches of the Sailors Union of the Pacific and the Marine Firemen established a picket line around the Maritime Commission versities with detailed material hiring hall, determined to defeat the government's plan to destroy union hiring halls.

Despite the refusal of N.M.U. officials to approve joint picketing, rank and file members of the C.I.O. union have joined the West Coast men in picket duty, and seamen as a whole are respecting the line. Added pressure, on and off the picket line, is expected to make it very difficult for the Maritime Commission to obtain crews for government-owned merchant ships. Already the Commission has

JAPAN RETREATS IN BORDER CLASH

Soviets' Firm Stand Forces Japan to Retreat

War clouds threatened the Sov-

iet Far Eastern horizon for a brief interval last week. The parts, occupied a hill overlooking chukuoan border south of Vladivostok. The Japanese press immediately raised a hue and cry Sheriff Pucket and his deputies about an invasion of Manchukuo the men stood pat and organized by the Union of Socialist Soviet its attempt to throttle the marine mitzu, at once protested the "invasion" to the Foreign Office in raised his gas gun and stated Moscow. Upon a reply from Forthat he was going to take a pic- eign Minister Litvinoff that the Mr. Shigemitzu declared such an answer unacceptable to his government and added that if she failed to get satisfaction, Japan "would have to reach a conclusion about applying force."

The hypocritical protestations of the Nipponese brigands overshot their mark this time, how ever. For the invaders of hundreds of thousands of miles of Chinese territory to shout about agreements coming under governthe "invasion" of a little hill in uncharted territory was like a thief shouting "Stop thief!" It was too ludicrous a piece of hypocrisy for even the most reactionary press to take seriously.

Military Importance Only What was involved was the seizure of a piece of territory too small to be of anything more than strategic military importance in a future contest. The title to the territory being in doubt, the Soviet army took advantage of Japan's difficulties on the Chinese battlefields to settle the question. The incident is of significance only insofar as it reflects a new stage in the Japanese-Soviet relation of forces.

Previously, Japan has been able to make all kinds of such sallies into Siberian territory unopposed banking on internal Soviet dif ficulties. The occupation of the hill near Lake Khasan merely signifies that the tables have been turned. Japan can no longer count on the advantage offered by Stalin's debilitating purge of the Red Army. Her own losses in China have offset the damage brought to the Soviet armed forces by the Stalinist annihilation of its competent leaders.

Apparently, the Tokio govern ment was reckoning with a relationship of forces that had al ready become outlived. To test the power of its arrogance, so successful only a little more than a year ago in the Amur region, the Japanese tried to back up the threats of their Moscow ambassador by landing a force on the Soviet island, Faingov. Two Japanese motor boats violated the frontier near the settlement of Vidnoye, on the Ussuri River north of the Changkufeng district where the hill had been taken. A

(Continued on page 3)

notified the S.U.P. agent, Frank Berry, that the agreement signed by the Dollar Steamship Line with the West Coast unions will be honored by the government. The Dollar Line recently was taken over by the Maritime Commission, and it was planned to ship crews through the fink hall. Any such action on any ship under West Coast agreement

would immediately precipitate a strike, for the S.U.P. is on record to oppose with all their strength any attempt of the government to move in on union control of hiring. Shipping a crew through the fink hall to a West Coast ship will tie up shipping on the Pacific.

On the East Coast the N.M.U., following the line handed down by the Communist Party, has consistently aided the government in unions. When the fink hall was first established a picket line was placed about the hall, but within a week the Stalinist officials were shouting, "Pack the fink hall." a policy that soon became official.

Fink Hall Old Stuff The duped seamen found them-

selves back in the days of the old shipping board, compelled to accept the tyranny of shipping authorities and herded around the commission hall like cattle. Well aware that the fink hall

represented a danger to all marine unions, and faced with the prospect of some of the major shipping companies under West Coast ment control-the Dollar Line and the Baltimore Mail-the S. U. P. and the Marine Firemen moved for militant action. A delegation from those unions approached the N.M.U. and the A. F. of L. Seamen's Union and asked for a united front against the fink hall Forced by an aroused rank and file the N.M.U. sent delegates to the conference, but they continually sang the Stalinist song, "You can't fight the government." After stalling for several meetings, Joseph Curran, representing the N.M.U., presented a proposition of recognizing the Maritime Commission hiring hall, and paying officials of the respective unions to "observe" the fink ship-When this open sell-out became

known to the rank and file sea-(Continued on page 2)

C. P. Gang Attacks Appeal Salesmen

DETROIT, July, 25.—Social-

ist Appeal distributors were set upon and attacked tonight by a Stalinist mob in front of the headquarters of the Stalinist dominated U.A.W. Local 157. In the course of a freefor-all which ensued, Stalinists threatened to smash the camera of a Free Press photographer. Although the Appeal salesmen were outnumbered by the organized hoodlums, they stood their ground and continued distribution of the paper. This is the second time since the outbreak of the U.A.W. faction fight that Stalinist "democracy" has taken the form of physical violence against members of the Socialist Workers Party.

Disappointed at any immediate son in the Minnesota Farmer (Continued on page 2) (Continued on page 2) **Trotsky Fears Fate Of**

Klement, G.P.U. Victim

My friends in Paris informed New York yesterday by telephone about the disappearance of Rudolph Klement, a German exile living in Paris. Klement, a former Hamburg student, was for two years my secretary at Prinkipo and in France. He was a well educated young man, 28 years old, possessing a fluent knowledge of several languages. From Paris he had continued to give me a great deal of assistance in my literary work. Like Erwin Wolf, my Czechoslovakian secretary, Klement took an active part in the unmasking of the Moscow frame-ups and through this provoked the violent hatred of the G.P.U.

My Parisian friends say that they received a copy of a letter from Perpignan addressed to me by Klement. I have not received this letter yet. But from Klement's previous letters it is clear that he had no intention of going anywhere. My Parisian friends think that Klement was kidnapped by the G.P.U., just as Erwin Wolf was some time ago. If this be so, it is entirely possible that the G.P.U. forcibly carried him to Spain for bloody revenge. I hesitated whether or not to give this information to the press before final verification. But since every hour lost may spell doom to my young friend, I consider it my duty to make public right now the information received by me.

LEON TROTSKY.

Coyoacan, D. F. July 18, 1938

Labor Under Attack ONLY ANSWER

Frank Hague's Jersey City is no isolated case in the United

It is not the only place where capital and its government threaten to deprive labor of its most elementary rights, where the guns and blackjacks of police and hired thugs are being employed to smash the labor movement.

In the last few months alone, we have had the police firing into a throng of defenseless strikers in Akron, Ohio, which is dominated by the powerful rubber magnates; and the gassing and beating of the American Brass strikers in Detroit at the end of May, in which 50 pickets and sympathizers were badly injured.

More recently, similar events have taken place in widely scattered parts of the country. In San Antonio, Texas, the local government, acting for

the local business men, has conducted a brutal drive against the C.I.O. and any attempt on its part to organize the heavily underpaid workers of that city. Organizers and militants have been arrested, thrown into jail, and beaten by the police.

In New Orleans, Louisiana, another bailiwick of President Roosevelt's party, a reign of terror was launched by the police against the striking truck and taxi drivers. At one time, some 400 strikers were under arrest. The leaders of the strike were also arrested and savagely beaten in the local jail; when released on bail, they were compelled to hide. The drayage firms and the struck cab company did not conceal the fact that they paid out of their pockets \$12,000 to the police for doing "strike duty."

One could not ask for a more impressive demonstration of the role of the police than this public subsidy to act as strike-breakers. In Westwood, California, vigilantes and police united to smash the strike of the fiercely exploited lumber workers, one of whom was shot, 30 of whom were beaten, and more than a thousand of whom-including their families-were driven out of

town by force. In North Chicago, not far from the scene of last year's Republic Steel massacre, police fired tear-gas bombs into the ranks of the strikers peacefully picketing the Chicago Hardware Foundry, with the result that 50 of the pickets were hurt.

In Newton, Iowa, the National Guard has been called out to break the strike of the Maytag Washing Machine Co. workers, and machine guns have been mounted on all the corners of the city's streets. Unionists and their leaders have been arrested. In Steubenville, Ohio, a mob of 200 thugs organized by the Weirton Steel bosses, endangered the lives of members of the National Labor Relations Board, who were forced to flee in the middle of the night, escorted by sheriffs and state police.

In New York, the police are on hand to enforce the infamous Cotillo anti-picketing injunction, which deprives the striking Busch workers from exercising a right for which labor has fought in this country for generations.

The same police of Mayor LaGuardia look on quietly while the tough-guys and thugs break up the meetings of the Socialist Workers Party and the Communist Party in Queens, which is ruled over by Borough President Harvey, LaGuardia's candidate in the last election and Frank Hague's closest imitator.

If labor takes these first significant signs of the reactionary offensive lying down-it will be in no position to fight back when a fascist wave sweeps over its head.

The way to fight it is not by words or empty gestures, not by relying on capitalist politicians and their police—but to smash it in struggle. Reaction is bold and aggressive only when it feels that labor

is passive and has no self-confidence. The time to fight fascism is when it first raises its vicious

All the events of recent months point to plain conclusions: The capitalist politicians, the "friends of labor"—talk about "labor's rights," but only a blind and duped worker will rely upon them to fight to preserve these rights.

Smart lawyers, and appeals to Washington, will not restore the picket line of the New Orleans taxi-drivers, of the Detroit brass workers, of the Akron rubber workers, of the Westwood lumber workers—or of the workers in any other locality who decide to fight against the capitalist offensive.

Only the workers themselves, organized, trained and properly equipped, can effectively defend their rights, their unions,

That is why it is a primary task of the unions everywhere to organize Labor Defense Guards, the fighting detachment of the working class.

There is no other way.

Press Ballyhoo Hides True Story of COPS FORCED TO RETURN PAPERS Housing Program; Slum Problem Acute OF UNION OFFICER

The past week has seen blaring Youth Sits Down headlines in the press about new appropriations for housing, particularly in New York City. After hemming and hawing for many long months, 50 million dollars were finally released for two new housing projects that will accommodate 5,000 families, when completed two years hence.

The metropolis of the nation, also the leading slum-center, has close to 3,000,000 people living in tenements that were condemned in 1901! But the new plan of the federal and municipal governments will accommodate the pitifull number of twenty to twentyfive thousand people. And they have the gall to put this forth as a "gigantic" effort to take care of the housing problem!

Headlines Hide True Story

Blazing newspaper headlines, pretty pictures of leading officials, ballyhoo and ceremonies galore, but new housing appropriations-only a drop in the bucket when compared to the needs of the population. Contrast to this the horrible total of dead as a result of fires in old-law tenements, and the cynical, pompous ceremonies become a gruesome farce. Law upon law has been passed, investigation after investigation has taken place. Yet decade upon decade roll by, and nothing serious is done to eliminate the death holes that lowpaid workers and unemployed call home.

With each passing year, the housing problem becomes more and more acute. Throughout the country, not only in New York, the rotting slums take their toll of the working class through fire, disease, and overcrowding. With the deepening of the crisis, overcrowding becomes a deadly menace to health and life. A recent survey of 16,000 youth (typical of life in the cities) in Maryland shows a perilous increase in the number of single and married young people forced to remain in the already crowded homes of their parents. Lack of jobs, poverty, compel large families to live in fewer and fewer rooms. No new houses are being built. Rents are mounting. There are no safe and sanitary homes to move into with rents low enough for the low salaries of the crisis-ridden working class. Poor Tenants Excluded

These are the conditions that make the government housing projects so inadequate. In addition, it is almost impossible for a low-paid worker to rent an apartment in the new housing projects. The rents of previous projects were supposed to have been set within the reach even of unskilled workers. But the real manner of renting proved this to he far from the case. For the acprojects) was far higher than the original figures. Moreover, a systematic process of investigation of applicants was installed, making it virtually impossible to rent an apartment on the projects unless one was earning a substantial salary and had a very secure job. The result was that municipal employees, higher salaried workers and small business men were given preference as tenants.

Outright discrimination was practiced against home relief recipients and W.P.A. workers. In ists on W.P.A. from the Workers a number of cases, W.P.A. workers were forced to hide their W.P.A. workers union under source of livelihood in an attempt to get into the new projects built for the poor." When their identity was discovered these workers were evicted from the housing projects. Negroes were universally rejected. Few, if any, will manage to get into the new projects.

It must be clear now to every working man and woman that the only way to get anything real accomplished is through a determined program and fight led by organized labor. There is nothing more horrible than death by fire. Yet that awful danger lurks as an immediate menace in every tinder-dry old-law tenement. The labor unions must answer the hypocrisy of the government in the face of that menace. The question should be Negro poet. The latter has raised in every labor organization! On this immediate demand because he seems to have spoiled mended that the factory reopen for more billions (not millions) the "monolithic" subjugation of for 60 days without a wage cut. for housing, members of the Negro workers on W.P.A. to the The union accepted but the com-C.I.O. and A. F. of L. should raise the call for joint action.

Republicans Swing Behind Democrat

(Continued from page 1) Labor primaries a few weeks ago.

enough advanced in 1936 to same formulae. throw the most prominent right- Non-Stalinist workers and laments to come.

In Relief Bureau

NEW YORK .- A suspended sentence-suspended as long as he stays away from the relief bureau-was the answer Will Lubin, jobless youth, received to the one-man sit-in he staged last week at the Williamsburg relief station in protest against the bureau decision refusing him relief.

Lubin, a member of Local 17 of the Workers Alliance and the Young People's Socialist League, had spent weeks entangled in the red-tape of applying for relief. Although he patiently filled all the forms and suffered the investigations of the officials, the bureau, after weeks of waiting, declared it could not grant single maintenance relief.

After being evicted from his room and pawning his clothes and books, Lubin resorted to the sit-in demonstration. In this he was supported by Local 17, although Stalinist - controlled locals of the W.A. in the neighborhood refused to back him up as he is a "Trotskyist."

Three policemen were called in by the bureau officials and Lubin was thrown out. When he continued to protest he was arrested and held in jail overnight. The next morning he received the suspended sentence—a sentence that makes it virtually impossible for him to continue his efforts to get

STALINISTS ORDER W.P.A. "PURGE"

C. P. Members Told To Dismiss All **Dissenters**

NEW YORK .-- A purge of the W.P.A. writers projects, to be pursued in true Muscovite style, has been ordered by Stalinist party headquarters here. The Communist Party unit on the writers' project has received instructions that "all Trotskyists must be driven off the rolls as soon as possible."

Thus runs a report in the curent New Leader, organ of the Social Democratic Federation, which claims to have this inforfrom unimpeachable

planned not only against Trots- hours. kyists but against all writers who tual figure finally set (in previous reject outright Stalinist dictation. in advance, strikers and their At the first possible moment, according to the report, non-conwarning slips about "inefficiency" from party-line W.P.A. officials on the project. Ultimately the anti-Stalinistis are to be dismissed entirely.

Alliance Purge First Step In view of previous experiences, there can be no doubt of the authenticity of the report. Stalinists have previously attempted to get around the problem by attempting to expel non-conform-Alliance, the unemployed and their control.

Recently they made such an attempt in the case of Liston George E. Campbell announced Oak, a former leading function- early this week that he was sure ary of the Communist Party who broke with it as a result of his order the troops to open the experiences in Spain. The "trial' of Oak in the Workers Alliance was reported in the Socialist Appeal two weeks ago. Readers will remember that the Stalinists did not achieve their aim of expelling him from the union as a step towards his removal from his W.P.A. job. They are, therefore, now pulling strings behind the scenes through their stooges in the administration here and in union, and although 21 union men der and Foster ordered it that Lewis in the past in the U.M.W.A Washington.

Another non-conformist writer whom the Stalinists are gunning for is Claude McKay, the famous aroused their wrath particularly party line. Neither Oak nor Mc-Kay are Trotskyists or in any way connected with the Fourth ever, that does not prevent the campaign against such non-conformists under the slogans of "anti-Trotskyism." In New York as in Moscow, the Stalin line of This process, already far frame-ups and terror follows the

wing Democrats into support of bor sympathizers should be on Landon, will neither cease nor their toes in the future to guard lessen. We may expect to find in against the carrying out of this this autumn's elections numer- vicious campaign of stool-pigeonous examples of that phenomeon ing and political discrimination. rare in the history of American The very first act against anypolitics, but well known else- one of the non-conformists on These, in turn, will only fore- ing point of a united struggle

Relief Red Tape Leaves Tenants Helpless Union Wins in Fight Before Marshals; Brutality **Features Evictions**

of protest they struck her.

Eviction Relief Inadequate

penses, the sum is never ade

and pay the first month's rent.

AUTO UNION TRIAL

(Continued from page 1)

prospect of John L. Lewis com

convention is contemplated.

C. P. Greater Danger

educational campaign must be

tants must be organized and edu-

cated on the basis of an genuine

democratic and progressive pro-

But these considerations en-

tirely aside, the most damning

argument against the special

convention is that it would

bankrupt the union. Tomorrow

of a treasury constricted by the

ravages of unemployment -

may be needed in a life and

death battle against wage cuts.

too well. They have it on first-

take control, then let it be. Brow

way. The sacrifices and interests

of the workers in the shops are

whatever, as far as they are con-

A Warning Repeated

what is to come.

The new course of the Stalin-

or the day after, every penny-

NEW YORK. - With LaGuar-, not long in the United States and dia's relief administration coldly unable to speak English well. The ignoring the plight of unem-evicting deputies were drunk and ployed slum residents, even the kicked the furniture about, tore filthy rooms of New York's tene-up the oilcloth from the floor ments are denied the jobless as and cursed the woman constantsystematic evictions are carried ly. When she dared offer a word out by deputy marshals.

The growing number of eviction cases is especially concentrated in the East Side slum area, where a large percentage of the population is on relief. Woman of 65 Evicted

There is the case of a woman of 65, on relief and living alone at 146 Suffolk Street. She could not even speak English to the marshal when he came to throw her few belongings out in the street. She merely wept. Members of the Young People's

Socialist League appeared on the relief rent allowance. There exscene as the furniture was being ists a real shortage of any kind further demolished by a down- of apartments. In Harlem less pour. They returned the furniture than three per cent and on the to the apartment. At Second Street and Avenue

D, one of the worst slum blocks in the country, a woman and her young daughter were thrown out. They had been on relief. When stances as long ago as 1901. the dispossess notice was received it was brought to the relief bureau. The bureau refused to STAGE RIOT AT it was brought to the relief bu-

Bureau Action Delayed A ruling in effect does not permit the bureaus to accept dispossess notices for action as emergency cases, but forces the family to wait for the final eviction notice. This final notice allows the tenant only 24 hours to clear out or be evicted by deputy

The bureau seldom acts before the client is on the street. Sometimes the furniture stands on the street for two or three days in all kinds of wheather, and the family remains homeless while La-Guardia's relief officials "investigate."

There is the case of a woman on relief who was being evicted from three wretched rooms. The woman was a Spanish Jewess

CALL GUARDSMEN

(Continued from page 1) the town, the company, emboldened by the presence of troops, attempted to open the factory. Scabs, guarded by armed thugs added to the sheriff's and constable's forces, crashed the pick-Of course, the purge is being et line in the early morning

Warned of the company's move the flerce fighting that followed, "special deputy" was knocked ship, the danger of C. P. domithe picket line. down and his gun taken from nation at the convention is not

Within 20 minutes two ar mored cars arrived from the Guard encampment and drove recklessly through the crowd, scattering the pickets. Shortly after, a company of infantry marched to the factory with fixed bayonets and drove the strikers and their wives a block away. Machine Guns Mounted

While the factory was kept closed by the Guardsmen, Mayor that Governor Kraschel would plant. Maneuvers of the Guard point to this, with machine guns being mounted in strategic positions for use against pickets.

The use of National Guard hand information from their Man troops to break the strike at the Friday, George Addes, former Maytag factory came after the Secretary-Treasurer of the union. usual routine strike-breaking by But that is of no concern to courts and police had failed. Dis- them. If the union must be banktrict Judge Homer A. Fuller is- rupted and smashed so they can sued an injunction against the were cited for contempt, picketing continued to be effective.

Another tactic that failed was no restraining consideration arbitration. Governor Kraschel appointed a board to arbitrate the dispute. The board recompany refused.

State Steps In

When the last resort of city begin. And we repeat what we Internationalist movement. How- government, armed violence said in previous issues of the against the pickets, failed, the Guard. This potent strike-breaking force, used in almost every State in the U.S.A., entered Newton to establish "law and order." piqued at the company's refusal to accept the "diplomatic" strikebreaking plan of his arbitration board, the Governor did not at once have his troops escort scabs into the plant.

Against Illegal Seizure

OMAHA, Neb. - The fight of teamsters against the police frameup and conviction of Al Russell on charges of "vagrancy" moved forward a step last week when the authorities surrendered to Russell all the property which was seized when the cops illegal ly searched his apartment.

Even when the relief bureau The property was returned belatedly grants moving ex-"voluntarily" by the police after General Drivers Local 554 in quate; with less than \$15 the stituted suit for a writ of re evicted family is expected to pay plevin to force the return of the moving expenses, put down a property. The union has directed deposit for electricity and gas, its attorney, Dewey Hanson, to continue the suit to establish the Low-rent apartments, even in illegality of the raid and seizure. the slum areas, are hard to find **Authorities Harass Russell**

and moving costs are high. Few In an attempt to induce Russel buildings safe from fire and with and the union to drop the appeal decent sanitation are within the from the 90-day vagrancy sentence, imposed despite the fact Russell is a paid organizer of the offices of Local 554 at the time East Side less than eight per of his arrest, the authorities are cent of the apartments are vadeliberately harassing the young cant. Of these almost all are in unionist. buildings condemned as unfit for The date for the first hearing human habitation, in some in

of the case was suddenly advanced, with Russell in Sioux City on union business. Although he rushed back to Omaha, Russell arrived a few hours after the time scheduled for his appearance in court. His bond was re voked and Russell was clapped into jail, prevented by the court from obtaining new bond.

To obtain Russell's release, At ing to Detroit on a dictatorial torney Hanson sued for a writ junket, the Stalinist machine is of habeas corpus. Only then did the authorities permit the union beginning to tack a new course. Recent statements of George Ad- to post a bond of \$250 to free des and the other suspended of-Russell.

Fully aware of the intentions ficers makes it clear that they have ceased their open splitting intimidate the unions and to halt naneuvers. Locals have been the campaign of union organizapublicly advised to make their tion in Omaha, the drivers union per capita payments to the Inernational Union. Litigation to is determined to fight the issue old up the funds of the International appears to have been

dropped. And despite indiscreet SEAMEN PICKET lropped. And despite indiscreet But it would be the most serious error to think that the Sta-

linists have given up their in-(Continued from page 1) tention or their campaign to men in the N.M.U. their indignadominate the auto workers un- tion knew no bounds. Prevented ion. On the contrary, the new by the dictatorial methods used legal forms their fight is taking by the Stalinist tops in the N.M.U. make them a greater menace from turning the union against than ever before. The continued the shipowners and the governagitation for a special convenment, more than 75 East Coast tion is to be carried forward men tore up their N.M.U. books along constitutional lines with to express their rage against their the aim of placing an onus of union officials. illegality on the actions of When the West Coast unions.

plus the A, F. of L. Seamen's If the entry of Lewis would Union, went ahead with the picket place a straight-jacket on the line the majority of the N.M.U. auto union, a special convention wives turned out at 4 A.M. and a showbles. To the reduce it to a to the consternation of the N.M.U. wives turned out at 4 A.M. and a shambles. In the midst of the officers. A leaflet, signed by the formist writers are to receive the gun-toting scab-herders. In present furore and with the main N.M.U. District Committee, was issues still indistinct in the eyes circulated on the waterfront, urg-20 were injured, six seriously. A ship the decrease of G ing N.M.U. men to pass through Declaring that the National lightly to be dismissed. Before Labor Relations Board, an arm

any convention is held in the of the same government that set

U.A.W., a serious and vigorous up the fink hall, would fight the

seamen's battle, the District Comconducted in the union. The mili- mittee asked that the fink hall be "reformed," not closed down. Gov't Still Determined The Maritime Commission, getting a taste of real militant action, is perturbed but is not changing its plans of eventually shackling the American seamen The S.U.P. agent, discussing matters with a member of the Com-

mission, was told that the govern

ment intends to institute a system

similar to that used in Australia in which all hiring is done by the authorities. The Stalinists know this only This system, notorious as union-busting trap, is responsible for the crushing of the once powerful and militant Australian fore 6 o'clock Monday evening. union movement. This is what the U.S. government has in store for

seafaring labor.

will become the most hated and despised man in the auto union It is not too late to change the course, but time is pressing. An alliance with progressive unionists, with Emil Mazev, President of the Briggs Local, and with the others who have broken with the ists is clear evidence that the struggle will not cease with the Stalinists in the "Peace Group," culmination of the trial, what- will mark the first step and a ever its outcome. Then it will just good beginning. **Duty of Progressives**

The duty of the progressives Socialist Appeal the fight must be irrespective of Martin's course ever, that does not prevent the against the pickets, falled, the Socialist Appeal the fight must be irrespective of Martin's course Stalinists from carrying on their State of Iowa stepped in with its taken to the membership! We which cannot be predicted at this Signal armed forces, the National predicted that unless this was time, is clear and unmistakable. done Martin would be forced to The organization and the brunt reorganize local unions. The re-lof the fight against the Stalinists organization of the Milwaukee vigilance for democratic princi-Local is an unfortunate confir- ples, is first and formost their Fearful of losing votes, and a bit mation of this prediction. But responsibility. They must carry it is a confirmation none-the- this responsibility regardless of less—and it is a harbinger of the actions of Martin or any other individual. And they must Without substantial support begin to seriously consider some among the membership, Martin plan for coalescing their forces will be compelled to adopt pre- and formulating a program that Long experience has proved cisely the methods Lewis would will sweep aside the reactionary that, despite the camouflage of employ if he intervened, In the obstacles and Stalinist disruption where: coalition candidates. W.P.A. must be made the rally-liberal "intentions," the presence eyes of the progressives, distinc- that stands in the way of a reof troops in a strike situation op- tions do not occur over names surgence of the powerful United shadow the more drastic re-align- against G.P.U. domination on erates only to the interests of and personalities but over pro- Automobile Workers Union. On grams. And Martin, no less than that path lies progress.

C. P. Slander Fails

NEW YORK. - Another attempt by the Stalinist slander machine failed here last week when members of Workers Alliance Local 22 voted down charges placed against Harry Shepherd, militant member of the Progressive Group, by a vote of 28 to 24, despite the hysterical pleas of the Stalinist officials.

Charges against Shepherd were: 1) calling George Renon, local Stalinist Alliance officer, a "rat"; and, 2) slandering the leadership. In defending himself Shepherd related an incident where Renon had denounced him in the presence of police in an attempt to have him arrested. Shepherd also backed up his statement that the Communist Party leadership in the W. A. capitulated to the relief administration at a time when militant action promised to bring results.

EIGHT ARRESTS IN union and was working in the offices of Local 554 at the time

Indianapolis Police Attack Striking Box Workers

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. - The strike at the Mohan Box Co., manufacturers of paper box cartons, is now entering its fourth week. Twenty-eight out of 35 workers, members of the C.I.O. local, struck against a ten per cent wage cut. The management has consistently refused to negotiate with the union.

July 4th, a policeman threw a pend the Council indefinitely. firecracker at one of the girls. burning her leg. Eight workers of the police to use this case to have been arrested for picketing, charged with acts of violence, inciting to riot, assault and battery, etc. Of these two have been released, judgment withheld on one and prosecution continued on the others. The police have continuously encouraged strikebreakers to enter the plant.

Mass picket lines, numbering as high as 450 last week, are indicating that Indianapolis workers are losing confidence in Labor Board agencies and friends of labor politicians to win their strike and are relying on their own strength. Locals of the United Rubber Workers and the Steel Workers Organizing Committee are giving full cooperation to the strike. They are determined to prevent the wage cut at the Mohan Box Company in the realization that they will be next in line unless the wage cut is defeated.

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C. P. SPLITS PHILA. In Alliance Local NAVY YARD UNION

(Continued from page 1)

the work of the Navy Yards on the East and West Coasts. A full time Director of the Navy Yard Locals was to be appointed, also in accordance with the decision of the National Conven-

Harry Kelner, Secretary of Local 17, was determined to get the job-by hook or by crook. He secured the recommendation of the Joint Council of Navy Yards for the position of Director. However, the National organization was in a very bad financial state, due to the shipyard strike which had recently ended in the Port of New York, and was unable to support a Director. This condition did not satisfy Kelner and his group in Local 17.

"Pressure" Campaign Begins

They began hammering at the National officers. Meetings of the two of the five Navy Yards Locals represented), were spent discussing nothing but methods of compelling the General Executive Board to give Kelner the job as Finally, in desperation, they de-

cided to go over the heads of the National Union, and to attempt to have the C.I.O. itself finance a Director. An appointment was made with Brophy of the C.I.O., and a committee from two Navy Yard Locals went to see him. The result of the entire meeting with Brophy, in which the National officers were given "the works" by the Kelner crowd, was only to refer the entire matter back to the National Union. In view of these actions of the Joint Early in the strike, around Council, the G.E.B. voted to sus-

Local Union Dwindles These actions took place over

a period of nearly one year. All efforts were bent in the direction of fighting against the G.E.B. Local grievances of the workers were ignored, Kelner and Co. claiming that satisfaction could only be secured through contact in Washington; organizational work was neglected, and attempts at concrete action were sabotaged with the intent of proving that nothing could be accomplished without a Director -and the Local membership dwindled. When the G.E.B. arranged meetings with Navy Yard officials. Kelner rejected them. But the G.E.B. was blamed. For did they not refuse to appoint Kelner as Director?

Finally, in view of all the rumpus raised by Kelner's group and of certain elements he influenced in the Brooklyn Local, the G.E.B. decided that the best way to prove Kelner's bankruptcy was to allow him to have the Director's job for a trial period of two-and-one-half months. The results during this time were to determine the permanency of the job. After a period of "discussion" at Local 17. Kelner refused Joint Council, which Kelner al- to accept and demanded a fivemost completely influenced (the month period. When that was Council was a shell, with only not forthcoming he threw in his charter.

Kelner and Co. will now attempt to swing other Locals into the path of Local 17. It can be stated with certainty, however, that not only will this disastrous policy be unsuccessful in any of the other Locals, but that Local 17 will again be established in Philadelphia under a healthier and a firmer leadership.

TEAMSTERS WAR ON FINKS

In a declaration of war against finks, the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council called upon every Minneapolis driver to refuse to purchase gas at any gas station not signed up with Filling Station Attendants Union, Local 977.

ASK FOR THE APPEAL AT YOUR NEWSSTAND

Appeal Army

We are glad to report that the | one who obtained it if any credit response to our emergency appeal last week was sufficient to enable us to avoid skipping an issue. As the first anniversary of the publishing of the Socialist Appeal approaches, we can point to a regular appearance of America's only revolutionary socialist paper We particularly want to thank those comrades and sympathizers who sent in donations, and those branches which leaned to the rescue by throwing parties, making collections, etc. But the emergency crisis is not

vet over! Summer is still with us and has a long ways to go yet. If each branch and literature agent sees to it that bills are promptly paid for and substantial amounts necessary to issue any emergency appeal again. We certainly don't want to! It gives the whole staff the jitters-especially our splendid printer!

Branches should now be actively engaged in their Canvassing Campaign. Get after all sympathizers, former subscribers, etc. for subs or renewed subs. This is the time for getting those subs in stuff, Ruth! . . . Louis Becker of and credited with us for that first N.Y.C. is taking 25 papers each prize in the sub-campaign. To week while vacationing at his date there are four comrades camp . . . From Melbourne in bunched together for first place Australia we received an order with Grace Carlson of St. Paul for 20 Appeals, with payment in ahead with a total of 6: followed advance! by T. R. Dostal of St. Paul Chester K. Johnson of Minneapolis and Karl Shier of Chicagoeach with 5. The campaign still has 2 months to run. We are still receiving subs

which do not contain the name of the sub-getter on them. Name of sub must have the name of the steadily growing list.

is to be given. Here is the list of new subs for the past two weeks: NEW YORK CITY 11 CHICAGO 11 Minneapolis 8 Foreign 8 Pennsylvania California 3 New York State 2 St. Louis 2 Massachusetts Akron St. Paul 2 Cleveland 2 Oregon 2 Newark TOTAL 69

Ruth Querio, our super-star saleslady of Allentown, Pa., has not only increased her bundle to 35, but is taking 50 extra papers this week to sell in the streets of her city. The entire branch is being mobilized for this. Good

Send all subscriptions and communications to: SOCIALIST APPEAL.

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We would like to have some the branch is not sufficient. Each more newsstands to add to to our

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Hull Note Masks New Imperialist Threat by Roosevelt

U.S. Starts Fight Against Mexican Oil Expropriation

Agrarian Claims Serve As Pretext for Establishing Precedent Against Right of Expropriation

In a long and provocative communication to the Mexican ambasador, promptly seconded by a public statement from Senator Key Pittman, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Secretary of State Cordell Hull last week expounded the real meaning but they proclaim that they will defy the law and refuse to abide of the Roosevelt "good neighbor policy" and the general Roosevelt conception of "international law and equity."

Secretary Hull's note dealt nominally with the Mexican expropriations, from August 30, 1927, of moderate-sized agrarian properties owned by American nationals. Figured even at the sum claimed by the former owners, the total value of these properties comes only to \$10,132,388. It was obvious to all observers that the real, though unexpressed, subject of the note was the recent expropriation of the oil companies.

Bankers' Hatchet Man

CORDELL HULL

JAPAN RETREATS

IN BORDER CLASH

(Continued from page 1)

Tokio Forced To Retreat

This test apparently settled the

question. The Tokio government

first of its kind in recent years.

Nippon thus proved that it was

obviously in no position to tackle

The explanation for this hum-

iliating retreat is not hard to find.

Japan has lost more than soldiers

and equipment in the Chinese

bogs. She has lost the freedom of

action necessary to the mainten-

ance of her claim as a fighting

power. But more than that, the

Chinese invasion has been disas-

trous from the point of view of

Japan Faces Crisis

Minister of Finance," says a

Times commentator, "provided

for the maintenance of the gold

reserve held by the Bank of

Japan, it has now become neces-

sary to ship three-fifth of that

reserve, in order to purchase raw

materials vital to military re-

quirements." In other words, the

continued sinking of resources

her militarists is fast bringing on

the total collapse of Japanese

currency, and with it, of her

The incident of the hill near

Lake Khasan thus throws a pier-

cing light on the state of Japan's

resources. Her position appears

to be even weaker than suspected.

Soviets In Fortunate Position

Insofar as the Soviets are con-

cerned, the stand of the Far East-

position brought about by the

harassing of their foes on other

powers recently on the question

of the Sudeten German problem

in Czechoslovakia; and with the

Japanese up to their necks in

have been able to move with

Office to act with greater dignity.

According to late dispatches,

Domei, the official Japanese news

may now propose the establish-

whole economic structure.

"While the program of her

her already tottering economy.

hypota with a "loss of face"

the Red Army.

Demand Arbitration With the customary hypocrisy which is the notorious and everpresent characteristic of American diplomacy, Hull modestly asks only that the agrarian claims should be submitted to arbitration in accordance with "the universally accepted principle of international law, based as it is on reason, equity and justice." Reasonable enough, it would seem on the surface.

But a study of Hull's note shows that acceptance by the Mexican Government of arbitration of the agrarian claims is made to imply acceptance by it of the general principle that no expropriation can be undertaken without "full and adequate compensation"; and that, furthermore, the amount of compensation is to be determined not by the government and people who decide that expropriation is necessary for their own well-being (the only proper and rightful judges), but by an international commission, that is, by a body dominated by "experts" committed to the views of imperialism on the question of expropriations.

The application of this doctrine Soviet cutter passing the island to the oil expropriations is evi- was fired on and an exchange of dent. Hull's note will also serve bullets followed. The Japanese to clear up any illusions that came out at the shorter end of may have existed about a differ- this encounter with two of their ence in the British and U. S. at- soldiers wounded and one matitudes on the oil problem. Eng- chine-gun, five rifles and a quanland and the United States have tity of ammunition seized by the merely divided a common labor. Soviets. The friendly tone of the first U. S. communications contrasted with the harsh wording of the British documents only in the retreated from its arrogant murderer contrasts with a scowling one.

American Seizures Unmentioned

It goes without saying that Hull's note makes no reference to the "uncompensated" seizure of tens of millions of Mexican acres by the U.S. through the Mexican War; nor to the graft, corruption, sharp dealings and briberies through which U.S. citizens got title to the lands in question as well as to the oil wells and mines; nor to the hundreds of millions of dollars which U. S. capital drained out of Mexico, paid for by the blood and sweat of the Mexican peoplesums far and away above any conceivable "compensation" 'that might be claimed on any basis.

All such practices are, of course, part of the universally accepted principles of international law, based on reason, equity and justice, for which Hull stands. It is only when an oppressed and exploited people turns upon its into the Chinese adventures of oppressors, and reasserts, however partially, its own human rights, that international law gets excited, and reason, equity and justice find themselves of-

Aim for Public Sympathy

Hull cleverly uses the agrarian rather than the oil expropriations to make his point of general principle. He may hope for more public sympathy in connection with the agrarian proprietors, some of whom were individually decent and hard-working, than he could toward the oil companies, whose infamous conduct is known to the world. But this ex- fronts. With Hitler preoccupied in ample, as the note itself makes the West due to the strengthening clear, is simply window-dressing. of the Anglo-French entente and

of the position taken by these two It should be noticed that Hull is appealing to exactly the same principles that form the basis for U.S. diplomacy as a whole, for its attitude on Spain and the Far East, and for the doctrine of "quarantining the aggressor." Each phase is carefully subordinated to one central program: protect and advance the property interests of U.S. capital on a world scale, against any and all rivals. And where diplomacy proves inadequate to its program, the new Navy matures to write the final paragraph.

ASK FOR THE APPEAL AT YOUR NEWSSTAND is ready to eat crow.

Committee Denounces Decree as 'Inhuman and Illegal': Trade Union Officials Join in Protest

A distinguished group of leading French trade unionists, scienrists, scholars and intellectuals have vigorously protested against the infamous decree laws promulgated by the Daladier government on May 23rd of this year. These laws impose severe penalties upon Political Prisoners and Refugees French citizens aiding exiles and further abridge the already restricted for funds to aid the militant la- at Versailles of French imperialism's armed might, proletarian Paris rights of asylum under the "Popular Front" regime.

Among the signers are the Noble Prize winners, the famous physicists, Marie Joliot-Curie and her husband, Frederick Joliot. They have not only demanded that the right of asylum be protected, by it. Their militant stand has been backed up by many militants in the trade unions.

Vicious Decree Law The complete statement fol-

"On May 2, 1938, the government issued a decree law containing the following para-

'Article 3-The foreigner who without valid excuse, omits within the legally fixed time limit to ask for a card of identity, will be liable, without prejudice to fiscal fines, to a fine of from 100 to 1,000 francs and imprisonment of from one month to one year.

'Article 4-Any person who directly or indirectly facilitates or tries to facilitate the entry, the movements or the irregular sojourn of a foreigner will be punished by the penalties provided in the preceding article. Declare Decree Illegal

"This decree law is purely and simply illegal because it bears no relation to the pur poses of the decree laws agreed to by Parliament.

"By virtue of 'a law for fl nancial readjustment' of April 13, 1938, the government was authorized to take 'such measures as it deems indispensable to meet expenses required for the national defense and to readjust the finances and econo my of the nation.'

"The decree law on foreigners has no connection with expenditures for the national debe adopted under the same prejust as well suppress, for example. freedom of the press.

Denouncing as 'Inhuman'

to be criminal and punishable. "France did itself the honor under all previous regimes to offer unreserved hospitality to political emigres. Today it is the government described as democratic which condemns the aid given in certain circumstances to these refugees.

Quote Victor Hugo "In May, 1871, Belgium forbade

entry to the 'Communards': "Victor Hugo, who had not approved of the Commune, and who lived at the time in Brussels, refused to bow before such a decree. In a letter to the "Independance Belge" on May 26, 1871, he wrote:

"'Asylum is an old right, the holy right of the unfortunate ... the asylum which the Belgian government refuses to the vanquished. I offer . . . I offer asylum in Brussels."

"Faithful to this example, the undersigned declare that they will personally take no cognizance whatever of an illegal inhuman decree law, which is contrary to the noblest traditions of our country."

Noted Figures Sign Among the other signers of the statement are:

Bouvalle, Secretary of the Bakers of the Seine; Digap, Secretary of the Agents of the Posts Telephones and Telegraphs; Foroibeval, Secretary of the Lockfense, nor with 'the finances or makers of the Seine; Roger Hageconomy of the nation.' Other- nauer, Secretary of Education of wise any fascist measure could the Seine; Gerard Rosenthal, labor attorney; Marcel Roy, Sectext. The government could retary of the Metal Federation and numerous others.

This statement, reprinted from La Revolution Proletarienne of "The decree punishing all aid June 10th, eloquently points out extended to foreigners in an ir- the terrible plight of the antiregular situation is not only il- fascist exiles in Europe. Here are egal, it is also immoral and the wolves' teeth that snap at individuals and organizations. The the political refugees and their secretary requests that collec-"Since morals have existed, friends in France and elsewhere tions be speeded up and all mo- trade union minorities issued a humanity has glorified aid to while the representatives of the ney now available be promptly powerful appeal throughout the the proscribed. This aid is to- Popular Front regime display

Nationalist Feeling Flares NEED FUNDS FOR As Attempt Is Made On FRED BEAL FIGHT Puerto Rican Governor

(Continued from page 1) Seven Nationalists, including their leader, Albizu Campos, were arrested after the murder of Riggs, but as no connection with the murder could be established, they were charged with sedition or treason. They were convicted and are now serving long terms

in the Federal Prison at Atlanta The following year, on March 21, 1937, the Nationalists had a permit to parade at Ponce. Just as the parade was about to start, the permit was withdrawn by the Chief of Police after a conference with Governor Winship. The Nationalists attempted to parade despite the orders, and the police opened fire on the unarmed demonstrators.

Twenty persons, including passers-by, were killed or died of wounds, and between 100 and 150 injured by bullets or clubs Eleven Nationalists were tried for the death of a policeman in ern army must be taken not so the massacre-he was probably much as a sign of inherent killed by a police bullet. The first strength as of an advantageous trial, after dragging out three ed in the assassination attempt months, ended in suspension of how the Puerto Rican people owing to the illness of a juror, and the second trial resulted in to the United States" could

Terrorists Seek Revenge The Ponce massacre and the cans' feelings toward U. S. imsystematic repression that fol perialism will be more sternly the Soviet Union, disgusted with distince and warring tendencies); lowed it have engendered great throttled than ever. Chinese bogs, the Soviet forces bitterness. That the Nationalists should seek revenge-a theory greater freedom and the Foreign that has been advanced with regard to the attempt on the Governor — is understandable. Certainly, a celebration of the anni- Sabinas and the Mexican Mining agency, announces that Tokio versary of American rule in Corporations. Both companies, fi- capitalist class, the real labor wheel-horses of the Socialist Par-Ponce was a provocative move in

ment of an "international com- itself. After the shooting was over mittee among Japan, Manchukuo and Soviet Russia" to settle not and the Nationalists duly arrestonly the latest incidents but all ed, Governor Winship proceeded border disputes of the past and to read his previously prepared present. In other words, Nippon address. It contained what the New York Times called "a defin-

nite warning," and which, in "threat."

"It is necessary," he said, "that the people of Puerto Rico do nothing to cast doubt on the unquestionable fact that the Island as a whole is decidedly loyal to the United States Government and the American flag, that it appreciates the help it has already received, that it is truly deserving of even more generous help in the future . . . In my opinion continued financial assistance will be needed for many years before the Island can be put on a self-sustained basis. That help must come from the Federal Government, and the amount received will depend to a great extent on how the Puerto Rican people are thought to feel about the relationship to the United States.'

The demonstration just afford-, feel about the relationship the expression of the Puerto Ri-

MEXICAN MINERS STRIKE

About 4,500 Mexican coal miners are now striking against the United States, have refused con-service to its cause. We urge all were progressive. stant demands of the miners for pay increases.

ASK FOR THE APPEAL

Money Rolls to Committee from All Sections of the Country

The initial response to the appeal of the American Fund for bor refugees from Fascism has been extremely encouraging, reports George Novack, secretary of the American Fund. Four hundred dollars have already been collected in the first few weeks of its campaign.

First honors belong to the local Cleveland Committee, which \$15 to \$50, and is now heading towards a quota of \$85. Cleveland

Aid Given Five Refugees

The secretary reports that money already on hand has enabled the Committee to give immediate relief to five urgent cases: Two German refugees and an Italian exile in France, one political prisoner in Spain and a German refugee now seeking asylum.

found house-to-house canvassing a most effective method of raising money. Two members collected \$10 on two blocks during the first tag day.

Tag Days Effective

A tag day in Minneapolis raised \$51 for the Fund, while Philadelphia ran it a close second with a contribution of \$50. The Detroit local is off to a fine start with \$24.35, and plans are being made to extend its contribution and activities beginning with a garden party.

The New York local thus far raised \$44.74 and is planning a tag day which it expects will put it at the top of the list.

Southern Unionists Give Collection lists are bringing in a steady stream of contributions to swell the total. One dollar bill has been received from "twenty industrial unionists of the South,' with the inscription: "Wish we could contribute more than one nickel apiece! Best wishes to our friends, the working heroes and fighters-our militant brothers and sisters in Europe."

The news of the American Fund's formation has brought numerous requests for aid from forwarded to the committee so that it can continue its work without difficulties and delay.

Redoubled efforts have been made to obtain the liberation of Fred E. Beal, framed-up leader of view of his previous policies, the militant Gastonia textile could be more plainly termed a strike, who is now serving a 17 to 20 year jail sentence in North Carolina.

> Beal was sentenced in 1929 to serve a living death behind bars because he dared to organize a group of the most exploited negro and white workers in the heart of the South. He was incarcerated several months ago after evading 1934. capitalist "justice" for nine years. Committee Asks For Funds

An emergency appeal has just een issued by Margaret De Silver, treasurer of the Non-Partisan Committee for the Defense of Fred Beal. She reports that the attorneys for the class war prisoner are enthused about the possibilities of obtaining a pardon. Her message read:

"It cannot happen automatically. There are important steps to be taken, and they cost money. Beal is behind bars because he organized American workers. We must and can obtain his release. The need for funds is of an emergency nature."

The Communist Party, of which Beal was a member at the time acquittal. The police received scarcely have been encouraging. of the Gastonia strike, has reneither punishment nor official It is certain that if Winship has fused him aid. Beal fled to the cialist" party, the P.S.O.P., on his way, reprisals will follow and Soviet Union in 1929, rather than July 16-18. It is still ideologically hand his life over to the Southern a muddled grouping (e.g. in one capitalist class. In 1933, he left committee of 12, there were five the Stalinist bureaucracy and re- yet although it refused to receive he voluntarily surrendered to ary socialist party, the P.O.I., and North Carolina authorities several months ago.

> readers to speed the liberation of AT YOUR NEWSSTAND West 44 St., New York City.

Leading French Scientists BRANCHES ACTIVE Labor Militancy Rises Anew in France; Protest Law On Asylum IN FUND DRIVE Progressives Gain Strength in Unions

War-Monger

FOR REFUGEES Reject People's Frontism at Left Socialist tached. It sent a strong protest to the Spanish Loyalist Government for its suspicious imprison-Convention; New Awakening Seen In Political Trends

By TERENCE PHELAN

PARIS, July 19.—While bourgeois Paris gawps at the dummy sovereigns of England amid expensive decorations whose principal motif is the fasces, and whose featured entertainment is the display wonders rather what were the exact contents of the "letters" exchanged between the French and British premiers on the eve of the visit, unconfirmedly rumored to be the final sealing of the Franco-British alliance.

For the French working class is justifiably jumpy. In recent weeks it has seen Daladier-la-Guerre's Radical-Socialist government release the last of the fascist "cagoulards," while at the same time quickly lifted its initial pledge of imposing crushing jail sentences on the aroused workers and students of Tunisia, France's martial-law colony in North Africa-200 years of prison sentences in one month. (So severe is the repression that even the reformist-socialist newspapers have been suppressed—and Blum & Co., heretofore deaf to the appeals of the miserably exploited worker natives, suddenly howl to high heaven should the Pivert group retain themselves. Franco Welcomes Doriot

> The French worker has just read of Franco's triumphal reception of the renegade communist Doriot, most dangerous of French fascist leaders, while the Stalinists push ahead for unity with anyone, including fascists, who will help them build up France's imperialist war-machine. Bosses simply scorn the decisions of governmental arbitrators when not overwhelmingly in their favor; they snipe off any militant who protests; and they proceed, with the help of the "explanations" of Stalinist intermediaries, to the most bare-faced sabotage of the hard-won 40hour week. And the cost of living

inexorably rises. Strikes Increasing But the workers begin to grow not only jumpy but angry, And impatient. Strikes (characteristically sit-downs that the union leaders are hard put to turn into evacuations) again increase: the whole building-trades in the Isere; 700 metal-workers at Marseilles; other strikes in Guingamp, Venisseux, Prouvy-significantly including war industries, which infuriates the war-mongering Stalinist Humanite. Equally infuriated is the big-bourgeois Temps, at the Marseilles dock workers, who have found their own way to enforce the 40-hour week, i. e. to work 40 hours and then go home, leaving Le Temps to tear its hair all it wants to. It is still a long way from June, 1936, yet workers' militancy seems to have passed the low

ebb. In June the conference of national trade union federation, the C.G.T. Its program, condemning the fatal class-collaboration policies of the Popular Front, calling for a return to the classstruggle policies of 1936, met an immediate response, spread rapidly through the C.G.T., and continues to win increasingly impressive support. The bureaucrats at the top are feeling the pressure,

are being driven to the left. Statement Causes Flurry On July 17, Leon Jouhaux. reformist head of the C.G.T., announced that the interrupted reforms must be completed, "And that day," he added. "may be near. October or November may call us to action. We are prepared for it. The fascists will not pass in October 1938 any more than they passed in February,

Le Temps immediately threw front-page fits: this was not the language it had expected from the tame Green-like Jouhauxespecially since as recently as June 25, when at the Rassemble ment du Front Populaire the Radical-Socialists, by flinging back in their faces the Socialist and Communist propositions, had proved the political death of the Popular Front, Le Temps had permitted itself some pompous gloating over the "impotence" of the Left. Jouhaux is certainly no firebrand, and if he speaks as above, the rank-and-file must be putting some uncomfortable iron in his soul

"Left Socialist" Convention Also significant are some of the decisions of the constitutional convention of the new "left soturned to the United States where a delegation from the revolutionmildly condemned the Fourth International as having insufficient Although the Stalinists refuse internal democracy (this from to aid this innocent victim of the some of the bureaucratic ex nanced by capital from the movement cannot forget Beal's ty!), yet many of its positions

Its supposed ideological leader, Fred Beal by sending contrib- Marceau Pivert was so soundly ution, immediately to the Non-trounced on a motion to affiliate Partisan Committee for the De- with the Popular Front that he fense of Fred Beal, Rm. 610, 19 thought it prudent not even to

ment for its suspicious imprisonment of POUMists and other militants; and protested equally strongly to its own government against the savage repressions in all French colonies. The party rejecting the term revolutionary defeatism," it nevertheless called for revolutionary defeatism in other terms. And lastly, significant in view of Pivert's notorious affiliations, it sent to referendum a vote to expel all Freemasons, a politically active and class-collaborationist fraternal organization in

Party Direction Undecided Those whom the fatal role of the POUM, which herded into a suicidal centrism the left-moving workers. has made, with much justification, suspicious, warn that the P.S.O.P. gives birth to

a similar danger, especially complete control. To them it can be recalled that the POUM was a left-wing organization that moved right, whereas the P.S.O.P. is a right-wing organization moving left. There are furthermore signs that the maneuering Pivertists are unsteady in the saddle. It is not yet excluded that the pressure of rank-and-file miltants, pushing the party policies from the centre to the left, may make it true revolutionary party.

Meanwhile the Fourth Internationalists give it their friendly criticism, and make every effort to establish with it united fronts-against capitalism and its social lackeys, for the workers'

Telegraphists Present Demands

A series of demands affecting hours and working conditions were adopted for presentation to the Postal Telegraph and Cable Company by the convention of the American Communications Association, C.I.O. Negotiations for a new contract with the company will begin late in October. The present contract expires in

The demands call for a fortyfour-hour week instead of fortyeight, without decrease in pay: elimination of certain technicalities in the present agreement; a closed shop and clarification of classifications and rates of pay to provide for the transfer of emnotorious betrayals, remains for ployes from one classification to the time internationally unat- another.

Daily Worker Exposed

By GUSTAV MULFINGER

EDOUARD DALADIER

liation with the London Bureau;

and the P.S.O.P., after roundly

condemning the Second and the

Third International for their

Worker of July 20, entitled ly reprimanded by the Central "Workers' Enemies Exposed," I Committee for removing their was informed of my expulsion trusted henchman and eventually from the ranks of the Commu- forced to reinstate him. He, by nist Party. Declaring that I am his own admission, had misap-"politically irresponsible" and propriated hundreds of dollars have failed to attend meetings for his own personal benefit. or pay dues, the official organ of the Stalinist party solemnly "ex- leaders again misappropriated poses" me as "an enemy of the funds to the amount of \$430.00. working class."

in headlines I am at a loss to tion of corruption in the party understand why I have "forfeited | did not come up, but, by lies and the confidence of all workers and frame-up, Mulfinger was again working-class organizations." Is it because I have stopped paying against their thieving protege, I dues and no longer attend party meetings? Or is it because, well has not, however, been "exposed aware of slander campaigns as an enemy of the working against former party members, I class." have, through my attorney, warned them not to attempt such tactics against me?

countant to clean up the mess. | Worker!

For this "political irresponsibil-Through a notice in the Daily ity and disruption" I was severe-

In 1937 this protege of the C.P. When this case reached the Cen-Unless one has a blind belief tral Control Committee the quesattacked. As for the second case have heard of no decision. He

As for me, I did not wait for a decision. Without words. ashamed of the party I had done In 1935, as an official of the my best to build for ten years, I C. P.-controlled Uptown Press, I left. Ten months later, but only reported certain financial irregu-one week after I had begun to larities and demanded a clean-up. print the Socialist Appeal in the The thieving functionary in- printing shop I am connected volved was protected by party with, these gentlemen have the "tops" and I was forced to bring effrontery to designate me as an the affair to the Board of Direc- enemy of the working class in tors and call in an outside ac- their slander sheet, the Daily

NOT GUILTY

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE CHARGES MADE AGAINST LEON TROTSKY IN THE MOSCOW TRIALS

The findings of the Commission headed by John Dewey, and its comprehensive analysis of the Moscow trials based upon the official records and its own hearings in Mexico City, Paris and New York, is now available.

The most thorough and objective study yet made of the trials. Indispensable to an understanding of contemporary Soviet Russia. (422 pp.)

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MAX SHACHTMAN

HAROLD ROBERTS FRANK GRAVES Associate Editors

S. STANLEY

Horse-Trading Politics

After having begged in vain for recognition by the Democratic Party, the leaders of the American Labor Party in New York have announced the consummation of a deal with the party of Landon and Hoover for contesting seats in the coming state legislative elections.

The program for Brooklyn has already been worked out. It provides for nine Republican Assembly candidates to be endorsed by the Labor Party and eight Labor Party Assembly candidates to be endorsed by the Republican Party. Similar arrangements are already made for the endorsement of two state Senatorial candidates of each

In Manhattan, the program calls for the endorsement of five Republican Assembly candidates and one Senatorial candidate by the Labor Party, and four Labor Assembly and two Senatorial candidates by the Republicans.

It is hard to imagine a more wretched and unprincipled piece of political horse-trading than the one that the Labor Party leaders have so blandly announced.

The Labor Party, in the face of this agreement, continues to affirm that it is not only still a "New Deal" party, but indeed the only "New Deal" party in New York. We don't think that's anything for a party carrying the name of Labor to be proud of, but let that be for the moment. In the same breath, the "only New Deal party" makes public a shameless horse-trade for legislative seats with the most pronounced conservative opponent of the "New Deal."

In the days when Republicans and Democrats endorsed a "fusion" candidate to oppose a socialist or working class candidate, there was at least some measure of principle taken into consideration: Unite to defeat the labor candidate!

What principle is behind the present move? What program or platform does the Labor Party have in general, or issue in this election, in common with the party of Hoover and Vandenberg? Only the "principle" of getting a few seats in the legislature of the state. And for the sake of this contemptible bargain, everything worthy of the dignity of the labor movement is trampled under foot.

The only possible justification for labor forming its own party and giving its name and support to such a party, however inadequate its program or leadership, is as a step in the direction of independent working class action. The worker feels that just as he would not be in the same union with a boss, so he will not be in the same party as a boss. He wants a party of his own, breaking from the dirty practices and the reactionary policies and leadership of the old capitalist parties.

From the point of view of the labor masses, this is an entirely progressive movement. The labor bureaucrats, however, seek to prostitute this healthy movement to the basest and most conservative ends. And that is precisely what is being done by the bosses of the American Labor Party in their latest deal with the Republicans.

Is it any wonder that these bosses do not even bother to consult the rank and file of the Labor Party and of the unions that make up its membership and its strength? They are the ones who should have the final say on such a matter—not after it has been done but even before it is proposed outside the ranks of the A.L.P.

The workers in the ranks of the A.L.P. must react promptly and vigorously to the disgraceful and humiliating horse trade carried out by the party bureaucracy. It must be repudiated, if the movement for independent working class political action is to be a healthy and genuinely progressive movement.

Labor is strong enough to stand on its own feet. More truly, it is only when labor stands on its own feet that it is strong. Dependence on "friends" was the curse of Gomperism in the labor movement for years. The founding of the A.L.P. as a vote-collecting agency for Roosevelt and Lehman stultified and stunted the development of the party from the beginning. The horse-trade with the Republicans is no less rep-

Middletown Labor Teaches a Lesson

(Continued from page 1)

junction even if he had to use machine guns. This threat was met in a determined fashion by their ability, the company quickthe workers, and they decided by agreed to meet in conference that they must meet such threats in similar language.

More than 200 strikers ap-

peared at the plant with shot-1 was reached. The discharged guns, rifles, crude gas bombs, fire- workers were re-instated and the citizens. Yes, I have actually crackers, etc. and started to dig U.A.W. was granted bargaining and entrenched themselves The A. F. of L. bargained for the with great pleasure. around the plant. Seeing that the die makers, machinists and metal workers really meant business polishers. and were prepared to the best of

Victories for Strikers The following day a settlement pany property.

with the union representatives.

In addition the injunction against picketing was withdrawn, ernment and municipal authoriand the company dropped a suit ties, I met nothing but considerafor \$50,000 against the U.A.W. tion and hospitality which in local. The company had charged general so brilliantly distinguish the union with damaging com- the Mexicans. In Patzcuaro,

Taxing the Poor

A subordinate official of the Treasury Department jumped the gun a few months on plans to reduce income tax exemptions, and the Department found it necessary last week to issue a hasty disavowal. No one, however, should be so naive as to imagine that the last has been heard on this subject.

It would not do, however, to have the issue raised prominently during the primaries and the congressional elections this autumn. Once the administration has its majority safely under its belt, it can be returned to with greater calm and less chance of effective opposition.

The idea of reducing the income tax exemptions, for some years a favorite theme of the LaFollette brothers, is quite in keeping with the taxation policy followed during the last session of Congress under the dictation of the big banks and Wall Street.

The general theory of the banks is, naturally, that the main incidence of taxation shall fall on the workers and the lower middle classes. In spite of the tariffs, the sales taxes, the various kinds of open and hidden taxes on consumers' goods, the rent-raising real property taxes, all of which affect directly the living standards of the masses and which together account for the great bulk of public income, the banks feel that the squeeze is not yet being tightly enough applied.

In the last Congress they drew the teeth from the undistributed profits tax, the taxes on personal corporations, and the methods of taxing captial gains (all of which taxes affect primarily the wealthy). Simultaneously they began a determined campaign for lowering the income tax exemptions, in order, they said, to provide greater stability to the tax structure, help balance the budget, and "equalize the burdens."

The absurdity of these arguments is to be seen in the fact that the entire sum which could be realized from the proposed lowering of the exemptions (estimated at from 50 to 70 millions) is far less than the individual 50 highest incomes in 1937. Here, as in general, in the aim of making the masses carry the burden of depression and crisis, tax policy only supplements the wage cuts and speedups at the point of pro-

Lasser's Resignation

The Socialist Party's national office announces that David Lasser, president of the Workers' Alliance, has resigned from the party following the presentation of charges against him by the party's national secretary.

With this resignation ends a symptomatic and symbolic episode in the life of the Thomas

Like so many other petty bureaucrats," Lasser stayed with the Socialist Party so long as he could make use of it for himself. In the Alliance, he carried out his own private policy, regardless of whether or not it conformed with the decisions of the party. When militant and left-wing socialists complained against Lasser and his policy, when they criticised him for playing the dirty game of the Stalinists, when they demanded that he follow a militant, class-struggle policy, Lasser easily crushed their opposition, because he always got protection from the official party leadership. Lasser knew how to play this game to perfection, as others had done before him and as still others are doing right now in the S. P.

Lasser was a "Thomas man," which meant he was under Thomas' wing and that he joined in every vicious attack-including expulsionsagainst left-wingers. In exchange, he obtained immunity for all sorts of rascality and opportunism committed in the name of his party Thomas, Tyler and Co., in turn, sought to cover their own impotence by pointing proudly to Lasser as an example of the "mass work we socialists are doing." Only, Lasser wasn't working for the party; the party was made to work for him.

Before the bureaucratic expulsion of the left wing by Thomas, Tyler and Lasser, when there was still time to do something about it, the revolutionary socialists tried in vain to haul Lasser before the party and compel him to give an account of himself. The party bosses answered with thunder and lightning—not against Lasser but against the left wingers!

Finally, when Lasser was through with the S. P. for good, when he no longer needed it, when he no longer bothered even to make believe that he was listening-the national secretary timidly filed his charges on May 24th. Some two months later it announced obscurely that Lasser had resigned from the party.

Will the Thomasites draw any lessons from this instructive experience? Not on your tintype! They will go right on producing more Lassers and Lashes and . . . resignations. For their idea of party democracy boils down to this: free reign to all opportunists and bureaucrats, but the gag and the boot for all

n. They dug holes in the ground rights for production workers.

layers of population: workers teachers, army men, artists, govfew teachers who visited Diego

rehensible and injurious to the labor movement. Let the rank and file speak out clearly in denunciation of it. AMERICA'S PERMANENT DEPRESSION

Experts Baffled for Explanation -- But New Millions Face **Unemployment and Disemployment -- A Future of Hunger and Insecurity**

By ART PREIS

Historians of some future age, unearthing the writings of our current sooth-sayers on the "New Deal" depression, will undoubtedly publish their findings in some journal devoted to the study of mental diseases. The average "expert", when not blaming depressions on the misbehavior of sun-spots, usually attributes economic crises to the mental state of the business class.

If the bottom drops out of the stock market, or increasing millions of unemployed haunt the gates of silent factories, the pundits of the press bark, "Pessimism!", and let the matter ride. Undoubtedly, pessimism has characterized the state of mind of the average business man for the past twelve months. The economic guess-alls have failed to show, however, whether this frame of mind is a cause or result of the present

Third of Nation Distressed.

In a similarly enlightening fashion, these economic gospel-pounders view the facts of chronic mass unemployment. America's 15 million unemployed, who, with their dependents, represent one-third of our population, when not dismissed as "lazy bums who won't work even if they had a job," are considered at best merely temporarily unfortunate beings to whom some attention should be paid-after the real tragedy of declining profits has been properly remedied.

Between June, 1935, and August, 1937, dates which roughly mark the life span of the "New Deal Boomlet," unemployment was regarded largely as an irritating, but not dangerous, skin blemish, which could be concealed under the powder and rouge of mounting production and profit figures. It could be soothed, whenever it itched, by a light application of W.P.A. jobs and starvation pensions for the helplessly aged.

Unemployed Census Revealing It was with undoubted optimism that F.D.R. undertook the nation-wide census of unemployment in June, 1937. Production was heading steadily for the pre-depression peak of 1929. Business men were staggering gaily from heady draughts of fresh-drawn profits. Everything was hunky-dory, if only the Budget were balanced, taxes reduced, and the "goddam relief racket cut out."

When the figures of the census were revealed finally in November, 1937, America was already hurtling down an economic land-slide at the most precipitous pace in its history. What use to bemoan the fact of 8½-11 million unemployed during the peak of a boom, when six months later at least five millions more had been piled on those figures-and profits were melting away, to boot?

Figures Give Vital Lesson

But the American workers dare not forget these figures. They reveal a fact that is truly ominous. The figures of mass unemployment registered at the peak of Roosevelt "prosperity" prove conclusively, that, despite temporary periods of comparative recovery, larger and larger sections of workers are condemned to permanent joblessness - disemployment. Increasing millions under capitalism are cut off forever from productive labor in normal economic pursuits. This economically disenfranchised "nation

within a nation" (larger, including dependents, than the entire populations of such countries as Spain, Canada or Mexico) is supplemented from time to time by new millions of jobless workers. who are periodically cast by each succeeding wave of depression upon the desolate shores of our economic system. While some workers are lucky enough as individuals to be drawn back into the economic currents by the receding waves, other millions are left permanently stranded, part of the rapidly accumulating wreckage of labor and talents, of human lives and aspirations which is mass disemployment in America.

try I have been accused of a

number of dreadful conspiracies.

A few months back Mr. Tole-

dano declared at various meet-

ings that I was preparing a gen-

eral strike against the govern-

more and no less!

ment of General Cardenas. No

borde) declared at a public mass

meeting in the presence of the

President of the republic that I was in a fascist conspiracy with

Generals Cedillo and . . . Villa-

On the morrow each of the

Messrs. Accusers cast aside his

own accusation like a cigarette

butt, forgot about it, and passed

The "Conspiratorial" Trip

At present my vacation trips

to Patzcuaro, Jiquilpan, Guada-

lajara and Morelia is placed on

the agenda. Now I am no longer

strike and a fascist uprising but

of . . . a trip through Mexico.

stopping at hotels, and meeting

and conversing with Mexican

committed all these crimes. And,

I must add, I committed them

On the part of the various

on to new inventions.

ON MY CONSPIRACY

By LEON TROTSKY

During the eighteen months of Rivera and myself on their own

my stay in this hospitable coun- initiative, conversed with me

The leader of the Communist ers, so far as I know, considered

a few hours.

Party (his name, I think, is La- or called himself a "Trotskyite."

concerning the situation in the

U.S.S.R. and in particular about

public education. I expressed to

them the same views which I

have expressed many times in

my books and articles. In order

to assure complete clarity of ex-

position, I gave them a written

statement. None of these teach-

"Plot" in an Orphan Asylum

me great moral satisfaction.

first time from the "unmaskers."

I never met Dr. Atl and do not

Two Factors Reveal Depths

Two factors distinguish the 1929-? economic decline from all previous depressions. One is the increasing mass disemployment. The other is the increasing regularity of periodic lay-offs suffered by almost every worker regardless of his trade or industry. The unemployed of previous depressions were largely re-absorbed into industry during the following upturns. Each recovery period which succeeded former depressions surpassed previous booms in the volume of production and brought forth new industries. Indeed, certain industries formerly weathered the depression fairly well, and the workers in these industries considered themselves permanently secure. Until 1929, a railroad job was considered a guaranteed life-time security. But the present depression has made an exception of no industry. A million railroad workers, for example, have lost their regular occupations during the past nine years.

These burning facts must be seared into the consciousness of every American worker. Every worker, in all industries without exception, is from now on threatened by the ravages of periodic lay-offs; and increasing millions of unemployed face the dismal future of permanent disemployment.

Workers Pay Price of Crisis

The American working class is paying an incalculable price for these conditions in terms of physical suffering, disordered family life, mental break-down, disease and death. Compare the \$2500 yearly income estimated by the U.S. Children's Bureau as necessary to provide the minimum comfort and decency level of living for a family of five with the \$400-\$700 per year which the average W.P.A. worker earns. Then remember that the W.P.A. workers, who represent less than 20 percent of the unemployed, are considered a relatively "privileged" group. We can well understand why certain authorities have claimed that the unemployed as a group suffer five times as much from sickness and disease as the rest of the population.

Millions of workers find that the few comforts and conveniences they manage to accumulate over years of hard work are snatched away during even a few months of unemployment. A couple of instalment payments missed, and automobiles, radios and washing machines are promptly taken away. Every day hundreds of homes, representing life-times of sacrifice and scrimping, are foreclosed. Thousands of families are evicted to join the homeless hordes that today aimlessly travel our highroads.

Class Strength Sapped

If we permit these conditions to continue for any length of time, the resistance of the American working class will be sapped. The unparalleled militancy displayed by the American workers during the past four years of bitter struggles will be dulled. Hunger and disease demoralize the workers and drain their fighting spirits.

It is this possible demoralization, rather than any immediate suffering, which is most to be feared by the workers. In both Germany and Italy, desperate and demoralized unemployed, susceptible to any demagogic appeal, and lacking powerful organizations knit firmly to the trade unions, helped form the storm-troop gangs of the fascists which utterly destroyed the labor movements in these countries. The American labor movement dares not permit our homegrown Hitlers so fruitful a field for exploitation. The dangers are too hideous to contemplate.

(This is the first of a series of articles on the nature of unemployment, its causes and how it can be remedied. The next article in the series will be "The New Deal and the Unemployed," an analysis of how the Roosevelt administration has dealt with the unemployed and unemployment since 1935.—Ed.)

This scene from Cleveland vividly depicts the plight of the unemployed, facing starvation in a land of plenty.

George Sokolsky One More Chapter In a Venal History

nufacturers and the big steel corhostility against the Committee for Industrial Organization and organized labor generally, by means of planned propaganda campaigns, was made last week in Washington by the Senate Civil Liberties Committee.

The boss organizations, it was

Bosses Finance Campaign

One of the methods to create prejudice against the C.I.O. was kuo government at a salary of the publication of a series of "prosperity dwells where harmony prevails" advertisements. were sent through the country by a South Bend advertising firm. Testimony showed Sun Yat-sen (then already dead) that the advertisements were and the entree which this gave paid for by employers, although him to Kuomintang circles, disthey were made to appear as covered he had value for the having originated with public North-China Daily News, leading and civic or "third party" groups organ of British such as women's clubs, dental Shanghai. He was given a job on groups, farm organizations and the editorial staff at a fancy garden societies.

A prominent social worker of Youngstown, Ohio, who is a leading figure in nearly every health and social service activity in the vicinity, said he was glad to "cooperate" in the work because he opposed "outside" labor leaders. Although paid for wholly by employers and merchants, with a slight contribution from two civic groups, the witness said it was decided to have he advertisements published as sponsored by "neither industry

Sokolsky Revelations

read into the record by the La- as they found him useful. Follette Committee, concerned George E. Sokolsky, prominent and character, and his penchant wrifer and lecturer, who was for intrigue, Sokolsky finally beshown to have received \$28,599 came a source of embarrassment from Hill and Knowlton, public to China's new rulers and acrelations counsel for the steel cording to reports believed true corporations, for speaking at by all who know him in China, publicly sponsored" meetings, the Kuomintang finally paid him between June, 1936, and Februa- a substantial sum to leave the ry, 1938. In addition, Sokolsky received \$3,409 directly from the that he was never to return. National Association of Manufacturers for expenses from May, built a reputation as a writer 1936, to March, 1938.

and writing activity has always lette Committee's evidence, beinternal life of Mexico." But this endeavored to appear as an "im- came a propagandist hack for partial observer" of the struggle the steel corporations. definite obligation to the govern- between capital and labor, thus emerges in the role of paid tool propaganda much more than the Government of General Car- of the big boss organizations. This is quite consistent with his past numeration appears relatively in-

quired in his high school days \$248,654 between August, 1933, something of a reputation as a and December, 1937, the evidence radical and being expelled from last week showed. This sum was Nationalist movement a chance American Iron and Steel Insti-

Disclosure of methods by which | floor of something that might bethe National Association of Ma- come big, he made the aquaintance of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, founder porations sought in 1936 to stir and leader of the Kuomintang.

Sells to Japan

Several years were to elapse, nowever, before that party came to power and as Sokolsky was, and remains, salable to the highest bidder, he soon discovered that attachment to the cause of revealed, developed their propa- Japanese imperialism paid more ganda drive against labor at a substantial dividends. He enlisted time when the C.I.O. was push- under the banner of the Rising ing its drive to organize workers Sun and became associated with in the steel and rubber indus- the Japanese-subsidized Far Eastern Review, edited by the late George Bronson Rea, who after Japan seized Manchuria became an adviser to the Manchu-

> \$75,000 a year. In 1925-27, when the star of Chiang Kai-shek and the Kuomintang was rising, Sokolsky, because of his friendship with

> salary. Early in 1927, when the Kuomintang government established itself at Nanking with Chiang Kai-shek as military dictator, Sokolsky secured himself a wellpaid job as an "advisor" to the butcher of the Chinese masses.

Employed by Kuomintang

Known in China by all his associates, Chinese and foreign, as petty intriguer, Sokolsky was interested only in espousing causes that were financially profitable to himself. His Kuomintang employers understood his character well, and they kept The most revealing evidence him on their payroll only so long

But with his venal reputation country, with the understanding

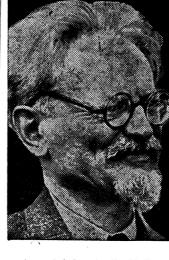
Back in the United States, he and lecturer and shortly there-Sokolsky, who in his lecturing after, according to the LaFol-

The steel corporations spend on they paid Sokolsky, whose resignificant. Hill and Knowlton Years ago, after having ac- received for "publicity" a sum of Corporation, the Youngstown

BUILD THE SOCIALIST APPEAL! FORWARD TO CIRCULATION OF 10,000!

taken upon themselves the assignment to obtain by lies and slander, my deliverance into the

No Silence on Slanderers I do not doubt that this state- Coyoacan, D. F.



In Jiquilpan, Guadalajara and Morelia, I am sorry to say, I had ment containing in itself the refno such meetings, since at each utation of a false denunciation of these places I stopped for only also will be interpreted by my detractors as "interference in the trick will fool no one. I gave a In Guadalajara, the field of opment of this country, that is to eration for my "conspiracy" was the government palace, the unidenas and not to the government versity, and the orphan asylum, of Lombardo Toledano. No one career. where I examined the frescoes of has informed me that the task Orozco. Various people ap- of keeping my behavior under obproached me asking for auto- servation has been conferred graphs or simply to press my upon Mr. Toledano. I never obhand. Some of them I asked jest- ligated myself to keep silent on at least one educational institu- subscribed by the Republic Steel accused of preparing a general ingly, just as of the teachers in slanders and slanderers. I retain tion, Sokolsky went to China. Patzcuaro: "Aren't you afraid to the right in my house as well as There, recognizing in the rising Sheet and Tube Company and the approach a counter-revolutionist during trips to breathe the Mexand fascist?" Almost invariably I | ican air, to meet citizens of this | to sell himself in on the ground | tute. received the answer, "Not a single country, to enter into conversasensible person believes this." tion with them, to visit monu-Needless to say, this answer gave ments of art-and in such cases as I find it necessary, to brand openly and by name those "demo So far as the conspiracy with crats." "socialists." and "revolu-Dr. Atl is concerned, I can only tionists," who-oh shame, have say that I heard his name for the

> have the honor of knowing him. hands of the G.P.U. July 19, 1938