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## TWO MINE DISASTERS AS DRIVE ON UNION STARTS

### Torn Bodies of Chinese Workers Strew Nanking

#### U. S. and British Warships Pour Five Hundred Tons of Shells Into Crowded Streets

(Special To The DAILY WORKER.)

SHANGHAI, March 30.—The horrible details of the Nanking bombardment, when American and British ships poured over five hundred tons of shells into the crowded streets of the defenseless city, have just reached Shanghai.

That the object of the bombardment was to smash the Nationalist drive and not to rescue a few missionaries was clearly indicated by the reports received here.

The American command shelled not only the right bank of the Yangtze in order to "clear a path" to the warships in the harbor, but also the left bank of the river, where the Nationalist troops were pushing on against Pukow. The shot and shell from the American guns in the harbor opened a free passage for the Shantungese, who were attempting to leave the city.

### Current Events

By T. J. O'FLAHERTY.

COMMENT made by Will Rogers on Americans in China is original enough to be worthy of reproduction here. He says: "Any person that will stay in the middle of a civil war for six months and don't know enough to even send his family out, it won't do much good to rescue him. You bring him back home and he will run right in front of a Ford. We had to shell that Chinese town to let our people know it was time to come out and be rescued. Yours for home missions."

WHY does not the United States send missionaries to Japan? Is it because the Buddhist darkness in which the heathen souls of the Japanese are enveloped in less spiritually deadly than the Confucian pall that hangs over the souls of the Chinese? Or is it because Japan is able to meet the bibles of the Christians with the bayonets of the Shintoists? It is interesting to note that while the guns of the Christian British and Americans were snuffing out the lives of peaceful Chinese the guns of the heathen Japanese were silent. Yes, it is quite evident that our missionaries are needed in the Orient.

THE United States is chock full of atheists, agnostics, evolutionists and other "criminals" that need the spiritual medication of preachers that do not happen to be on the inside of a hoosegow for forgery, rape, murder or other crimes common to a Christian society. Why is it that John D. Rockefeller, Gary, Morgan and others keep a tight hold on their purse strings when appealed to for funds to save the souls of our native damned? Is it because saving souls does not pay spiritual dividends only when the saved can be induced to put their necks in the profit-making yokes? "We are willing to wager our hat, a good one in its prime, that the "heathen" Chinese could go to the devil without let or hindrance if they happened to live in a country that was not blessed with untold mineral wealth.

BENITO MUSSOLINI ordered a number of officers that were blinded in the world war restored to full pay and active service "so that the younger generation may see that Italy is profoundly grateful." This is more than the poor blinded vic-

### MASS DEMONSTRATION OF WOMEN FOR DEFENSE OF NEEDLE WORKERS IN JAIL FOR PICKETING

A mass demonstration of women had been arranged by the Unity Committee of the Needle Trades to be held on Wednesday, April 6, in Cooper Union.

Women dressmakers, cloakmakers, furriers, and wives of union men will meet to discuss the defense of union men now serving long terms for their activities in the recent strikes of cloakmakers and furriers, and to organize to carry on the fight against union breaking tactics of the reactionary right wing.

Speakers at the meeting will include Juliette Stuart Pointz, Fannie Warshafsky, Kate Gitlow, Rose Wortis, Lena Chernenko, Gladys Schecter, Ben Gold, and Louis Hyman.

In commenting upon the calling of the meeting, Rose Wortis, member of the Unity Committee declared "The demonstration of the women is most important, since women have played

such a prominent role in building up the needle trades union. We are calling not only women who are working in shops, but also women who are working in the homes. The wives of workers took an active part during the strike, going to the picket lines and supporting the struggle in every way. Now that Sigman and Schactman and their agents are attempting to smash the union and nullify all the gains which the struggle achieved, the women must enter even more actively into the struggle. They must take a leading part in the movement to free the imprisoned cloakmakers and furriers, and save the union for the mass of the workers."

The Anti-Saloon League yesterday sent out an appeal for \$300,000 "to make it possible to extend the full benefits of prohibition in the Empire State."

### French Colonial Troops Fraternize with Chinese Nationalists at Shanghai

BULLETIN.

SHANGHAI, March 30.—French colonial troops from Anam, on guard at the French concession line at Sicawei Creek, fraternized with groups of Chinese Nationalists and permitted three separate groups to come into the French settlement for propaganda purposes. They carried away the heavy iron barrier gates. French imperialists are appealing for American and British marines as guards.

### Dubinsky's Gang Framing Up On Feltman

#### Innocent Cutter Arrested; Released On Bail

The policy of frame-up by which the reactionary officials of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union are attempting to intimidate the membership of the cloak and dressmakers' unions was continued yesterday with reprisals against Martin Feltman, member of "Cutters' Local 10, who was arrested on a framed-up charge brought by William Lubelski. He was accused of taking part in an assault at an hour when the time clock record of his shop shows he was at work.

Feltman has been an active worker in the union for the past seven years, and demonstrated his loyalty during the last strike in spite of the orders of David Dubinsky, czar of the cutters' local, which discouraged many cutters from picketing. Since the illegal expulsions of four locals of the International, Feltman has been openly and publicly threatened by Dubinsky because of his stand in favor of the Joint Board and the rights of the ousted members. Members of the Legal Committee, of the Joint Board, who have investigated his case declare it a clear case of frame-up in which Lubelski, the complainant, has been used by the Dubinsky gang to "get" the innocent cutter.

Out On Bail.

Feltman was released on \$5,000 bail by Judge Silverman in the sixth district court, for a hearing on April 1.

Five pickets were arrested at the instigation of the industrial squad as they were picketing the shop of Slarlen and Kaufman, 327 West 36th street this morning. They were Sam Kugler, Mary Shore, Bertha Seid, Mary Leyne and Anna Greene. Police testified that one of the girls had shouted "scab" when the industrial squad brought up a scab to go to work in the shop, which was called on "strike by the Joint Board because of the employers' refusal to recognize the business agents of the Joint Board. Members of the industrial squad demanded the arrest of the girls, police said. They were all released upon payment of a \$2 fine by Judge McKennery in Jefferson Market Court.

Postpone Goretzky Case.

The case of Joseph Goretzky, manager of Local 35, before Judge Rosalsky in general sessions, has been postponed until April 8. The Sigman gang has been particularly anxious to incriminate Goretzky in some framed-up charge, since he is manager of Sigman's own local, the Pressers' No. 35, who have repudiated Sigmanism.

Huge Flour Merger

That a gigantic merger of the leading flour mills of the country has been formed was revealed in a suit filed in the Supreme Court yesterday by Kenneth H. Bristol against John H. Dahn of the Clifford-Dahn Corporation.

### Over 10,000 Killed In Nanking; Claim Of The Shanghai Koumintang

More than 10,000 were killed in Nanking when that city was recently shelled by American and British warships is the substance of a cablegram received by the local branch of the Koumintang from the Shanghai branch of that organization.

### Motor Accident May Keep Ford Off Stand

#### Reed Cross Examines Sapiro To Prove Extortion

DETROIT, March 30.—The headlights in the Sapiro million dollar libel suit against Henry Ford today were the earnest attempts during cross examination of Sapiro by Jim Reed, to show that the wheat king exploited farmers, and the announcement by Ford's lawyers of the accident to their client.

"Drove Alone"

Their formal statement issued at the trial reads as follows:

"At 8:30 p. m., Sunday March 27th, a Ford coupe driven by Henry Ford and occupied alone by him, was forced off the south drive of Michigan Avenue a few feet east of the Rouge River Bridge, and plunged down a steep embankment into a tree. Mr. Ford states that he was forced over the embankment by a car which came upon him from behind as he emerged from the driveway of the Ford Laboratories at Dearborn. After a period of daze or unconsciousness, Mr. Ford walked with difficulty several hundred feet to the gate keeper on his estate who summoned Mrs. Ford.

"Dr. R. D. McClure, chief surgeon of the Henry Ford Hospital was immediately called and remained with the injured man until Tuesday night, when he was removed in an ambulance to the Henry Ford Hospital where he is now undergoing treatment. There has been a minor operation. "Because of the lawsuit now in progress and the unfavorable and unfounded inferences that may be drawn, the facts were withheld from the public although communicated to the court Monday morning.

"Today, however, it developed that the newspapers had somehow obtained information, and a statement is issued."

### Sign Painters Will Go On Strike In Jersey Unless Men Reinstated

By PAUL STEUBEN (Worker Correspondent)

JERSEY CITY, March 30.—Fearful of the increasing strength of the Sign Painters' Union, Local 1127, of Hudson county, the O'Melia Outdoor Advertising Co., has been discharging those of its employees known to be members of the union. At a shop meeting held last night, at which every worker in the firm's employ attended, it was unanimously decided to strike unless the company reinstated all discharged men at once.

The O'Melia Co., has a monopoly of national outdoor advertising in Hudson county. Tomorrow night a committee of the workers will present their demands at a meeting of the employers of commercial sign painters.

### Jersey City Central Union Will Organize Hotels, Restaurants

JERSEY CITY, March 30.—Determination to begin the immediate organization of the 2,000 hotel, restaurant, and lunch room workers of Hudson County marked the meeting of Central Labor Union at its last night. Committees will be appointed in the very near future, and the program of unionizing these workers will be started with vigor. Assurances of support from the entire labor movement of Hudson County were received in this organizational work.

### Dawes Leaves Panama; Thinks Treaty Is Real Reason for His Visit

PANAMA, March 30.—Vice-president Dawes has left Colon for Havana. Altho his visit to Panama was ostensibly made for non-political reasons, it is suspected here that it had a good deal to do with the rejection of the American treaty by the Panama Congress. The Panama-American treaty made Panama the virtual possession of the United States, permitting the U. S. to use Panama as a military base in war.

Read The Daily Worker Every Day.

### Coal Miners Mourn The Death of Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg

AVELLA, Pa., March 30.—At a mass meeting of coal miners held here resolutions were adopted pledging support to the Workers (Communist) Party and extending honor to Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg, leader of the American Communist movement, who recently died.

It reads in part as follows: "The entire working class should by all means remember the last words of Ruthenberg, 'Let's fight on! There should develop a spirit of solidarity not only among Communists but others as well.'"

### I. R. T. Workers Get Fake Wage Raise

#### Yellow Dog Union Used As Mask For Fare Increase

A definite move in the direction of higher fares for New York and an effort to make the "Brotherhood" of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company appear as a going concern are seen to be the reason for the 5% increase in pay announced yesterday. Positive evidence of the basis of the increase is found in the letter said to have been sent to Frank Hedley, president of the I. R. T., and read at the last meeting of the board of directors. The letter, purporting to have been written by M. J. Mangan, secretary of the "yellow-dog" company union, requesting the increase, and suggesting a two year contract with the "brotherhood" at the increased rate.

Fake Union, A Mask.

The hand of E. L. Quackenbush, I. R. T. lawyer, is seen by leaders of the subway strike last summer in the phrasing of Mangan's letter, which contains a reservation to the effect that "if prior to the termination of the two-year period of the present rate of fare on the Interborough lines were increased, nothing in this request, or in any agreement made herein, shall be urged by the company as an objection to a discussion of a further readjustment of wages based upon such increased fare."

The present increase is given, according to Hedley, only to "members of the Brotherhood of the I. R. T." This is a further indication of the serviceability of the fake "union" in playing the role of the company.

Cut Wages.

In 1921 the workers on the Interborough lines were asked to submit to a voluntary 10% in pay. In spite of crooked balloting and the other well-known devices utilized by the employer-worker "cooperation," the proposal was snuffed under. The cut was effected nevertheless, however, with the active assistance of Pat Connolly, president of the company brotherhood.

As a result of a threatened strike in 1923, 5% of the cut was returned to the men. Since that time the men have been working under the worst conditions prevalent in this city, and wages have ranged as low as \$21 per week.

Workers Restless.

Indication that officials of the company union are aware of much unrest among the workers on the Interborough is revealed by the fact that the present increase is announced two months before the present agreement between the brotherhood and the company expires on May 1st.

Buying Heavy In Wall Street. Secretary Mellon's optimistic views on the money market and business conditions brought about a flood of buying of high grade securities in Wall Street yesterday and the demand for stocks continued up to the close.

Bible In High Schools.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 30.—The commissioner of education today ruled that hereafter high school students shall receive academic credits toward graduation for study of the bible.

BUY THE DAILY WORKER AT THE NEWS STANDS

### Kill Eight in Illinois; Ten Die at Cresson

#### Dust and Gas Explosion Buries Alive 380 Who Afterwards Escape; Police Sent For

BACKGROUND OF THE COAL MINING SITUATION

1. The Jacksonville contract (so-called because negotiated at a joint meeting of coal operators and union representatives in Jacksonville, Fla., 1924), expires at midnight tonight.

2. It provided for a basic wage scale of \$7.50 for men working by the day, tonnage rates for contract coal digging and loading and fixed working conditions.

3. Following the signing of Jacksonville contract, described as the basis of stabilization of the industry which had expanded tremendously during the war period, the coal operators in union fields began a systematic campaign to starve out miners by widespread shutdowns extending over periods of three months to two years as in the Illinois field. Violate the contract working conditions in the mines still operating came common.

4. Expansion of operations in the non-union fields of West Virginia, Kentucky and other sections was undertaken with the result that today non-union tonnage totals about 70 per cent of all production.

5. Employment in the union fields reached a high point last summer and fall only as a result of the shortage in the world markets created by the British strike and the storing of coal by operators and consumers.

6. As a result of the bad conditions there developed in the union a strong left wing movement which, in addition to certain internal reforms, demanded a militant organization campaign in the non-union fields as the best method of strengthening the union.

7. National strikes were waged by the United Mine Workers in 1919 and 1922. The 1919 strike was outlawed by a federal injunction and called off by President Lewis, who issued a statement saying that "we cannot fight our government."

8. The coal operators are demanding a revision downward of the basic wage scale contained in the Jacksonville agreement.

9. President Lewis has discarded the established policy of a national agreement based on the central competitive field—Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and western Pennsylvania—and announced that the Policy Committee is ready to sign district agreements.

10. This policy is in direct contradiction to the decisions of the Indianapolis convention which went on record as being opposed to any "backward step."

(Special To The DAILY WORKER.)

HARRISBURG, Ill., March 30.—Eight men were killed today in an explosion of Mine No. 2 of the Saline County Coal Company here. The explosion was believed to have been caused by the igniting of a gas pocket by an open flame lamp.

All available doctors and ambulances were pushed to the mine from here, and the mine rescue team from El Dorado was sent to the disaster scene, to locate the bodies of the men.

The gas pocket was said to have been about fifteen feet from the face of the entry.

CRESSON, Pa., March 30.—About 400 men were today entombed in a terrific gas and dust explosion at the Ehrenfeld mine at South Fork, near Grafton. Although 380 of them have escaped from their living grave, thru other passages into the mine than the main entrance, which was entirely wrecked by the explosion, at least ten are still below, unaccounted for, and probably dead.

The explosion was one of unusual violence, and wrecked the small company office several hundred feet from the entrance to the mine. At first it was thought that none of the workers below ground could possibly have escaped, and state police were brought in to keep the grief stricken families away from a roped off area around the mine entrance. These police had been kept in readiness at nearby barracks to suppress any strike activity in this district, but were brought out and used to intimidate the wives and children of the victims in the accident.

The known dead are: Daniel McCoughey, 41, single; John Fresko, 30, single; William Connelly, 34, single; and John Shedlock, 40, who leaves a wife and six children. All were residents of Ehrenfeld mining camp. The other dead have not been taken out yet.

Unionists Warn.

Union miners in adjacent territories point to the overwork, the rush, and deterioration of safety provisions in the Ehrenfeld mines as a condition likely to become normal in all mines if the present union-smashing drive of the operators is successful.

Company Pleads Ignorance.

The Pennsylvania Coal and Coke Company has issued from Cresson a statement that its officials neither know what caused the explosion, nor how many men were at work in the

### BRITISH MINERS PREPARING FOR NEXT FIGHT

THIS is the third of a series of three articles specially written for THE DAILY WORKER by Louis Zoobock, who recently finished a study of the situation in the British mining industry. While the miners have suffered a stunning defeat due to the treachery of the right wing leaders their militancy is still strong and they are preparing for another tussle with the mine owners and the capitalist government.—Ed.

Article III.

By LOUIS ZOOBOCK.

Miners Think of Next Time. There is no doubt that at the present time the miners are on the bottom. They have been compelled by the united forces of the government, capitalists and treacherous leadership of the general council to accept dictated and unjust terms. But will they endure these terms for long? Will they wait until these forced "agreements" expire? All signs point to the contrary: the miners

(Continued on Page Two)

(Continued on Page Three)

# CANTON HONORS DEAD MARTYRS OF 1910 REVOLUTION

## 100,000 March to Tomb Of Early Rebels

(Chinese Nationalist News Agency.)  
CANTON, March 30.—The 17th anniversary of the martyrdom of 72 revolutionary heroes, who were killed in an abortive attempt, in 1910, to overthrow the Manchu imperial regime, was observed here yesterday. Bad weather failed to dampen the ardor of more than 100,000 paraders who marched through the streets of this city to the monument which stands on Sunflower Mountain in memory of the fallen patriots. (The monument is a pyramidal mound of greystone at the peak of which stands a replica of New York Har- vey's Statue of Liberty.)

The procession was orderly. Po- lice and military forces provided to maintain order had little else to do than to witness the march of the pil- grims through the streets.

The ceremonies at the monument were participated in by government officials, Kuomintang members, stu- dents, workers, peasants, cadets, sol- diers, members of various organiza- tions, and men and women of all classes.

Read The Daily Worker Every Day

# Torn Bodies of Chinese Strew the Streets of Nanking After Attack

(Continued from Page One)

are actively engaged in spread- ing aggressive ideas in the schools.

## Big Troop Movement.

PHILADELPHIA, March 30.—Scenes reminiscent of world war days were enacted here today as 805 U. S. marines, China-bound, steamed out of Philadelphia to join the thousands now in China. The men left on four special trains, which departed simulta- neously from the Reading, B. and O., Pennsylvania and the navy yard railroad stations.

## More Marines.

REIDSVILLE, N. C., March 30.—The first battery of marine artillery passed through Reidsville today en- route to China. On the train were 130 marines commanded by Capt. F. J. Nettikoven. Two more marine trains are scheduled to pass here to- night.

## To Sail For China.

HAMPTON ROADS, Va., March 30.—Small detachments of marines from New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk arrived here today to sail for China aboard the U. S. S. Nitro. The Nitro will carry large supplies of am- munition, food and equipment.

BUY THE DAILY WORKER AT THE NEWSSTANDS

# RUSSIAN WORKERS SCORE NANKING MASSACRE; PLEDGE AID TO CHINA

MOSCOW, U. S. S. R., March 30.—A manifesto issued by the Central Council of Trade Unions yesterday bitterly attacks the British and Amer- ican imperialists for the bombard- ment of Nanking. Pointing to the successful struggle of Russian workers against exploitation, the manifesto exhorts the Chinese workers and peasants to continue their heroic struggle against their foreign oppressors.

The complete text of the manifesto follows:  
"The British and American imper- ialists have committed an unprece- dented act of violence against the Chinese people. Under the cover of provocation lies, and alleging that Nationalist troops had attacked for- eigners, the British and American ships shelled Nanking with heavy ar- tillery, killing seven thousand inhab- itants and destroying hundreds of houses.

"This new atrocious act was com- mitted because great Chinese masses have arisen in a struggle against for- eign imperialism. This is not the first time that the imperialists have massacred Chinese toilers, but what has happened at Nanking leaves far behind it anything that has thus far been committed, even the Wansien and Shanghai shootings.

"Each time that the imperialists have attempted to drown in a sea of blood the struggle of the Chinese masses, the flame of hatred against the exploiters has grown stronger and stronger. The same thing will happen again. The unprecedented crime com- mitted at Nanking will but strength- en the resolve of the toilers of China to carry their struggle thru to a com- plete victory.

"Workers and peasants of the Soviet Union have themselves experienced the benefits of bourgeois civilization. For four years they fought off the onslaughts of the imperialists and of their Russian white guard bands. The toilers of Russia can appreciate the events in China because those who are trying to crush the Chinese revo- lution waged war against us yester- day and are ready to repeat the ex- periment at the first suitable moment.

"Chinese workers under the leader-

## CURRENT EVENTS

tims of Italian imperialism will be able to see.

A HEARST dispatch from London boasts of the speed with which British justice is carried out. A 26 year old laborer was hanged for murder. It took only 87 days from the time the murder was committed until his neck was broken on the gallows. The government that boasts of this accomplishment is the same govern- ment that is boasting of the slaughter of several thousand Chinese men, women and children in Nanking.

ONE of the most serious crimes charged against the Nationalist government of China is the encourage- ment it has given to the working class to organize and secure a betterment of their economic conditions. The proletarian stamp of the National- ist government is the main reason for the hostile attitude of the imper- ialist powers towards it. If it con- fined itself to establishing a nice, respectable bourgeois republic, the money lords of the west would drop Chang-Tso-Lin speedily. But even a hold-up man is preferable to a movement that bids fair to give the capital- ist system a strong push off the map.

ALEXANDER KERENSKY visited Washington and issued his weekly prediction that the Soviet govern- ment was about to topple. William Green promised him his sympathy but if Green's sympathy is no more useful to Kerenky than it is to the members of the United Mine Work- ers of America, Alex will have to depend on other hands for a handout. Kerenky hopes that China will not go the way his beloved Russia went to he sympathizes with their aspira- tions. And so does Austen Chamber- lain.

THE editor of Collier's Weekly is a hopeful fellow. He still believes that peace exists in the world today. The war on China means nothing in his young life. Or the occupation of Nicaragua by American marines. It is a comfortable feeling to have, tho I doubt if such a christian science at- titude would get a person by in a restaurant if his pockets were empty. The Collier editorial thanks scientific achievement for our approach to peace. Perhaps he never heard of the achievements of the chemical de- partments of every war office in the world! Let's not disturb his pleasant dream.

JOHN L. LEWIS has promptly sur- rendered to the operators without even shooting off his mouth. The Jacksonville agreement will have ended his inglorious career on March 31. This agreement has been honored more in the breach than in the ob- servance since it was signed in Flor- ida three years ago. With its death from natural causes on March 31, the miners will not even have this poor agreement to lean on and Lewis leaves them to fight it out with the bosses, each district by itself instead of all districts in a united front. If this is not treason I miss my guess.

# LESSIG, SPY ON PATERSON LABOR, TURNS MERCHANT

## Bosses' Stool-pigeon For 14 Years

PATERSON, March 30.—Adolph Lessig, former Paterson silk workers' union official, who for 14 years served as undercover informant of the International Auxiliary Co., labor spy corporation, has gone into business. He has opened a newspaper and mag- azine store, and is said definitely to be "out of the silk."

Silk workers here declare that the spy corporation dropped Lessig from the payroll when it saw he was no longer valuable, as he had lost all influence in the Associated Silk Workers.

Lessig was exposed in 1925 by Col. Casimir Pileus Palmer, a former Scotland Yard man, and formerly on the general staff of the U. S. naval intelligence. Palmer came across Lessig's name while making an investigation of the books of the Inter- national Auxiliary Co., which oper- ates also under the name of the East- ern Engineering Co., at 17 West 60th St., New York. It is one of Amer- ica's biggest labor spy concerns and has operated actively in the textile industries.

Formal charges were brought against Lessig by officers of his union and Palmer appeared to testify as to what he had seen in the spy bureau. Lessig failed to carry out the instructions of the union which offered to assist him in a libel suit against Palmer in order to bring the matter into the courts. Instead he broke from the union and brought a suit for slander against the union official who had read the charges against him at the trial.

The charge against Lessig declar- ed him "guilty of conduct unbecom- ing a member of our union in that he has been in the employ of a private detective agency and furnishing information regarding our union, in- tended to be transmitted to our em- ployers, and that he sent communica- tions to the detective agency during the progress of the recent strike (1924) in the broad silk industry of Paterson.

Lessig's suit against the union official, Frank Fried, is still pending in the Passaic county circuit court. The union officials hope it will be pressed in order that the whole mat- ter may be cleared up. Palmer de- clares himself ready to testify at any time as to what he saw on the books of the spy agency. He charges Lessig and the International Auxil- iary Co., with having shadowed him and with having attempted to perse- cute and discredit him since he first brought the charges against Lessig two years ago. Lessig hired both Paterson and New York detectives in an effort to "get" Palmer.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Anti-Horthy Meeting in Newark.

A protest meeting against the threatened execution of the 53 Hun- garian Communists by the white-ter- ror government of Horthy will be held at the Hungarian Workers' Home, Newark, on Sunday afternoon, April 3. A number of well-known speakers, active in the American labor move- ment, will discuss the most recent de- velopments of this situation.

### Find Mariner's Body.

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., March 30.—The body of Guy C. Mariner of Bon Mar Road, Pelham Manor was found today 200 feet from the spot in Long Island Sound, near Fort Slo- cum where he and four companions were thrown into the water when their launch was upset last Friday. Mariner and two others were drown- ed.

### 2,000 Homeless in Tenn.

MEMPHIS, March 30.—Two thou- sand persons, driven from their homes last night when the Leaconia Circle levee tumbled into the river and flooded 19 square miles of farm lands, were being housed today in box cars and tents at Helena and Snow Lake, Ark.

### Caught In Door of Bank.

Yells of an eleven year old boy who had got his leg caught in the revolving door of the Capital National Bank, Broadway and 146th street, set rumors of an attempted hold-up in motion during the noon lunch hour yesterday and before the excitement was over a crowd of more than 500 had collected.

### "Peaches" Out of Luck.

Frances "Peaches" Browning while in the midst of preparations yester- day for a trip to Pittsburg, where she was scheduled to play an impor- tant part in the opening of a style show, received notice that her en- gagement there had been cancelled.

### ALBANY, N. Y., March 30.—Governor Smith today vetoed a bill de- signed to prevent the erection of a tuberculosis hospital near Goshen, Orange county, unless the proposal had been approved by the supervisor of the town and the trustees of the village.

# Organize the Traction Workers

## ARTICLE XIII—BETWEEN STRIKES; THE RELIGIOUS ISSUE

By ROBERT MITCHELL

The story of the traction workers appears to be a record of successive strikes. In reality the struggles for organization are merely highlights in years of obscurity and consistent exploitation. The years between strikes were not of course as peaceable as the Interborough would have the pub- lic believe. Underneath the surface there raged at all times the pent up forces of bitterness and discontent. Throughout these in between years we find records of consistent dismis- sals for "agitating." Men were al- ways being "put on the carpet" for real or fancied attempts at arousing their fellow workers to the injustice of their conditions.

### Pretends Superiority.

The methods by which the Inter- borough succeeded in holding down its men have already been related. The spy system was here developed to a high art. The normal divisions between workers in different kinds of occupations were played upon until there was built up chasms of craft pride and pretended superiority of one grade over another.

In addition, one other means of di- viding the men was utilized. This method must be carefully explained and clearly understood because it has played a considerable part in prevent- ing organization in the past. During the last strike it acted as a barrier to unification of the men's ranks. Un- less it is overcome and its true nature exposed, the next attempt of the men to better their conditions will likewise be placed in jeopardy.

### Dividing the Workers.

This is the method of dividing the men on the basis of their religious beliefs, Protestant against Catholic. Beginning with the highest officials of the company down to the last work- er in the shops, the personnel is di- vided on this issue. The important thing to note is that this division is a conscious and deliberate plan of the Interborough.

Frank Hedley, for instance, is a protestant and a Mason. Vice Presi- dent George Keegan is a catholic and a Knights of Columbus member. If you were to go down the line of the road superintendents, the shop fore- men, the inspectors, the dispatchers,

you would find a similar pairing of men on this basis. The head or super- intendent of a division might, for ex- ample be a Mason. In this case, it would inevitably follow that his as- sistant would be a Knight.

### Organize Clubs.

There are also numerous clubs and associations within the Interborough based on this distinction. Such are the catholic and Masonic Transporta- tion Clubs. These clubs, organized manifestly to promote the welfare of the service, are really agencies utilized by the company better to control the men. The rank and file members of these clubs are not, of course, all aware of the true part played by them. The controlling officers, how- ever, are quite certain of their pur- poses.

A new man coming to the Inter- borough is immediately given "the once over." Then an attempt is made to line him up where he belongs. Once "assigned" to one or the other of the divisions, he is thereafter kept from learning the true facts of the other side. The "dollar-a-day" men play an important part in this con- nection by spreading false rumors and deceptions among the men to fur- ther increase their suspicion and hat- red of the opposing group.

### Fool the Workers.

Especially during elections does this religious prejudice play an im- portant role. The information is broad- cast that the particular candi- date is a Knight or a Mason. The suggestions are thrown out that he is seeking office merely to control the men for the interest of the par- ticular body to which he is attached.

To what extent this division may be carried and the danger of the practice is vividly illustrated from the experience of the last strike. One of the leaders of the motormen before the strike was a man by the name of Post. Post is a mason. The evidence seems to be, though we can- not be certain, that Post was used knowingly or otherwise as a tool to offset the growing popularity of Ed. Lavin who is a catholic. The strong point about Lavin had always been his careful avoidance of this issue. It seems that this did not satisfy Post and underneath the surface he always utilized the fact that Lavin

was a catholic to influence certain men.

### Was Unsuccessful.

That he was entirely unsuccessful in dividing the motormen on this fake issue is clearly evidenced from the 100% walkout last July. Signifi- cantly enough, however, it was Post whom the Interborough used as the first means of breaking the ranks of the men. As is now well known, Post turned traitor, went over to the com- pany and attempted to draw his fol- lowers with him.

The company union is likewise con- trolled upon this basis of division. Paddy Connolly is a catholic while some of his right hand men in the company union machine are protest- ants. The delegates of the "Brother- hood" are lined up as soon as possible into the various clubs. Instructions are always outlined to them as to their activities among the men. The fact of common religious connections or membership in the same fraternal organization is utilized for the low purposes of beating down the men and casting suspicion and lies among them.

### Sent Telegrams.

During the strike, both the catholic and masonic organizations sent tele- grams urging the men to return to work. Other influences, direct and indirect, were utilized to break down the moral of the workers.

The lesson of these facts is clear: The interests of the workers are one! All issues which result in the fact of division among the workers will be found to have as their source the propaganda of the bosses. The capital- ists use religion just as freely as they use the government and the police force to maintain and carry out their purposes. The religious habits and instincts of the American work- ers are still strongly ingrained.

But the workers must realize that like all other forces in the life around them, these habits arise out of the conditions under which we live. These conditions are, of course, controlled by the capitalists. They therefore control the religious feelings just as easily as they control the feelings of patriotism. The traction workers, like all others will realize that the only dependable force is the solidar- ity of the working class.

# ILLINOIS OPERATORS TO LOCK OUT AT MIDNIGHT; FEW CONTINUE WORK

(Continued from Page One)

The membership of the United Mine Workers of America.

Fishwick Claims Agreements. Miller's statement that none of the Illinois operators will continue work after April 1 is contradicted. Ap- proximately thirty bituminous coal operators, both independent and those affiliated with the Illinois coal op- erators' association, have completed agreements with the Illinois mine president of District No. 2 (Illinois) United Mine Workers of America, an- nounced today.

Suspension Appears Inevitable. CHICAGO, March 30.—Complete suspension of soft coal mining in the central competitive union field on April 1, when the Jacksonville wage scale agreement expires, appeared inevitable today.

The coal operators association of Illinois was standing pat on its an- nounced policy of shutting down its mines unless the United Mine Work- ers agree specifically, and in advance of negotiations, that they will sign contracts for a cut in the miners' al- ready low wages.

### Snub Policy Committee.

Not even the tempting prospect of separate agreements for the various union districts as suggested to the operators by the union policy com- mittee yesterday will budge them from their determination to lock out the coal miners, use up the surplus stocks of coal, and then begin nego- tiations for worse conditions and lower wages.

Rice Miller, president of the Illinois Operators Association, has stated that his organization executive board meets in Chicago tomorrow, on the last day of the old agreement, but that it expects to have only formal decisions to make, the coal mine owners being united on the matter of a lock-out.

No Scabs In Illinois. Miller also claims that organiza- tions of coal companies in Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania have notified him that they will carry out the same policy.

"As far as the Illinois field is con- cerned," said Miller, "there will be no attempt to run the mines with strikebreakers after the suspension. We are not opposed to the union."

Miller said he knew of no Illinois companies that expected to sign in- dividual temporary extensions of the existing contracts. "Complete sus- pension on April 1 appears inevi- table," he said.

No scabs have been used in Illinois since the Lester strip mine at Her- rin attempted to work with them, in the 1922 strike. The result was dis- astrous to the strikebreakers, who at- tempted to terrorize the neighbor- hood in the manner employed in other industries, and were beaten in the fight. Illinois is the very heart of union territory, being solidly organ- ized, and including about a third of

monthly earnings and turned over to the U. M. of A.

The advantage of the "check-off" to the union is that it means one hundred per cent organization in a given mine.

"Button strikes" are called to en- force hundred per cent membership and other forms of pressure are ex- erted, but they do not as thorough financial results as the "check-off."

### Need Strike Funds.

With bituminous strikes to support, the International union needs all the dues that can be gotten from the anthracite, and the "check-off" is re- garded as of the utmost importance.

The union brought up the issue at the last meeting of the conciliation board but the operators managed to delay it till the next meeting. The board is presided over by a chairman from outside the industry who will have the balance of power.

The "check-off" decision will de- pend on the official interpretation that will be given to the "reciprocal cooperation and efficiency" clause. Lewis will be the chief witness for the union as to the operators' verbal assurances that the clause meant the "check-off." He will be seconded by Rinaldo Cappellini, Andrew Matvey and Christ Golden, president of the three hard coal districts. An impor- tant witness will be Richard I. Grant of the Hanna coal interests, who played the leading role in arranging the settlement.

### Coal Operator Arrested.

SCRANTON, Pa. (FP).—The ques- tion whether a wealthy coal operator can continue to wreck the streets of south Scranton and endanger the lives of its inhabitants will be tested in the Lackawanna county courts. Robert Barron, president of the Bar- ron Coal Company, has been arrested on a charge of violating the Kohler mine cave law.

Miners' wives have been living in a state of terror as portions of the streets caved in, one after another, over the tunnels of the Barron Coal Company, not far underneath the surface of the city. Houses began to dip and it looked as though at any moment buildings might crash through. At last a citizens' petition brought action from the district at- torney.

### Fight for "Check-off."

SCRANTON, Pa. (FP).—The miners' leaders in the three anthracite districts are making an issue of the "check-off" demand at the coming meeting of the anthracite conciliation board in Philadelphia, April 21st.

The conciliation board represents the union and the employers in the hard coal region. It is a higher court, whose job is to interpret the agree- ment and to settle grievances. The union is contending that the agree- ment signed 13 months ago, after the anthracite strike of 1925-26, called for the "check-off." This the op- erators deny.

### The "Reciprocal" Clause.

In the text of the agreement is a clause calling for "reciprocal cooper- ation and efficiency." International President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America says the clause was understood to mean that the "check-off" would be applied. The "check-off" is a coop- erative arrangement that has long been used in the union bituminous fields. It is a plan by which union dues are collected by the company paymaster from the men's semi-

# LABOR LEADERS

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# Newark Barbers Start Big Membership Drive At Tonight's Meeting

NEWARK, N. J., March 30.—Bar- bers of this city will cooperate with the barbers of Brooklyn in launch- ing a vigorous organization campaign tomorrow evening at a joint meeting of locals No. 877 and No. 913 at Franklin Hall, 44 Franklin street.

Rosario Rotolo, organizer of the Newark local, and John Tartenello and Pete Materano of the Brooklyn local will be among the speakers. Leaders of both locals are deter- mined to organize the large number of barbers who remain outside of the union. Leaders have hitherto neglect- ed to wage any real organization campaign.

# FASCISTS RENEW PERSECUTION OF ITALIAN WORKERS

## Hundreds to Face Trial By Field Court Martial

PARIS. (By Mail).—After the period of deportations and arrests, a period of huge trials against representatives of the working class, who dared to stand up in defiance of the Fascist terror, is now setting in. Numerous trials are in preparation, most of which will be brought before the Field Court Martial. Considering that the Court Martial is composed of officers of the Fascist militia, one may conclude that the slightest offence, such as the distribution of leaflets, or an insult of Mussolini, etc., will be severely punished.

Apart from the numerous small trials, there are also several monster Communist trials in preparation. Thus, 30 Communists were arrested about 7 months ago in Catania (Sicily) on the charge of being agents of the Communist Party and the International Red Aid, and of preparing an armed rising against the Fascist dictatorship. Although no documents were found on the arrested comrades to prove that they had any such intentions, the Fascist government considers their Communist Party membership as sufficient evidence against them.

**Police Arrest Workers.**  
Another trial will involve about 50 workers, members of various political parties, who met in the vicinity of Tarrant to discuss some immediate problems concerning their every-day struggles. The police discovered the meeting and arrested all present on charges of high treason. The prisoners have been kept in prison for months without knowing what charges were made against them. The Tarrant workers are showing their solidarity by collecting money which they place at the disposal of the IRA.

About 60 comrades were arrested some fourteen months ago in Bari; they are still kept in prison without any charges having been brought against them. The investigating magistrate made a plea for the liberation of some of these comrades but the public prosecutor objected; now that Emergency Powers are being introduced, the fact that they are members of the Communist Party will be sufficient ground for passing heavy sentences upon them.

**Leaflets as Evidence.**  
Another trial is being prepared in Florence. Also in this case 60 Communists, who have already been imprisoned for about a year will be tried for plotting against the existing order. Some Communist leaflets and a circular letter of the Central Committee of the Party, found in the possession of one of the arrested comrades, will be used as evidence. This trial was scheduled to take place shortly, but has been postponed, evidently, also with the view of bringing it before the court martial. Similar mass trials, almost exclusively against Communists, are being prepared in Verona, Padua, Trieste, Bologna and Rome. In Bologna there are 71 comrades under charges, and another 28 were arrested a few days ago.

One trial which may well be considered as a trial against the Communist Party, merits special consideration. Many comrades arrested before and after the attempt on Mussolini's life, among whom are such prominent leaders of the Communist Party as Gramsci, Teracini, Riboldi, Scoccimaro and others, are accused of having plotted against the State. The scheduled individual trials of some of these comrades were all suspended and all of them will have to face the court martial in a body.

**A Beloved Leader.**  
The attitude of the population to these trials may be judged from the ovations the especially beloved Comrade Gramsci received on his way to Milan, from Ustica island, where he had been in exile. In Neapoli, workers brought him food and cigarettes to the prison, and on leaving the next morning, women workers brought him coffee and bread to the station. All along his journey, the stations were guarded by police so as to prevent solidarity demonstrations.

The Italian workers have not been frightened by the Fascist terror, and the pending trials will only make them still firmer and more determined fighters in the struggle.

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# WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S WHAT AMONG WALL STREET'S TOOLS IN CHINA



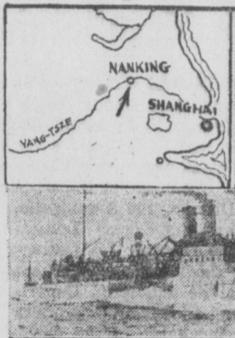
ADMIRAL HENRY H. HOUGH



JOHN K. DAVIS



Hon. Frank Kellogg.



TYPE OF SHIP THAT SHELLED NANKING - ADMIRAL WILLIAMS



BRIG. GEN. SMEDLEY BUTLER

Bear Admiral Henry H. Hough, in charge of American naval forces in the Yangtze river off Nanking, together with British, ordered bombardment of Nanking, killing and wounding over 7000, men, women and children. Sketch of sampans in which foreigners and natives escaped along the Yangtze river. John K. Davis, American consul at Nanking, former resident of Wooster, O., escaped. Map shows Nanking and its proximity to Shanghai. Admiral Clarence S. Williams, commanding American naval forces in Chinese waters, has maintained Shanghai as the chief base. Brig. General Smedley Butler is in charge of United States marines in China.

## Australian Agent of Employers' Government Refuses Workers' Plea

SYDNEY, Australia (By Mail).—Just before the end of 1926, the Industrial Commissioner in New South Wales (Mr. Fiddington) threw a bombshell among the ranks of the workers of that state by side-stepping the declaration of an effective basic wage. He laid down the basic wage at \$20.16 per week (exactly the same as it was during the previous 15 months, despite the rise in the cost of living) and recommended that the government introduce legislation to make provision for childhood endowment.

He also stated that \$25.44 was a reasonable wage for a man, wife and three children. The workers' representatives on the commission submitted a minority report recommending a basic wage of \$31.20 and the employers' representatives thought that \$18.84 was enough to live on. The mass of the workers are furious at government declare an effective basic wage, and are demanding that the government declare an effective basic wage. They are all the more indignant because the conciliation committee's chairmen have been refusing to grant increases in wages because of the expected rise in the declared basic wage.

**Sing Sing Over Crowded.**  
OSSINING, March 30.—Because Sing Sing has 1,657 prisoners today and is filled to overflowing, Warden Lewis E. Laves has had to open the jail there.

Ordinarily only prisoners who misbehave are placed in jail. They are then impounded there in solitary confinement. Lately prisoners have all behaved so well none have been in isolation and the jail has been empty.

# British Miners Prepare for Next Fight

(Continued from Page One)  
will rise again; they cannot and will not forget the lessons of the last lockout and, there is no doubt, that the victors of today will live to regret their unjust treatment of the miners.

Already the coal fields are seething with revolt. The miners' reply to the regime of oppression, wage-cutting at the present time—is a series of guerrilla lightning strikes throughout the mining fields of Great Britain. In Fifeshire, lightning strikes have already taken place in some of the collieries—in particular, Gelsraig and Bowhill, where the men struck against victimization and the refusal of the manager to make men up to the minimum wage.

In both instances the men made a magnificent response to their local leaders, and remained on strike for two days until their demands were conceded.

In Hickleton Main Colliery (Yorkshire), in the middle of December, 5,000 men stopped work, refusing to work with scabs. In the Cambria collieries, 10,000 miners struck for one day, on January 24th, as a protest against the victimization of active men, and in order to enforce the observance of long established customs concerning the supply of house coal. These are merely a few examples of the many lightning strikes which are spreading like wild-fire throughout the mining regions. And it must be stated that in most cases the miners win their demands.

But these lightning strikes and guerrilla warfare are merely means to gain some immediate demands, such as reinstatement of victimized

## MINERS STRIKE AS GOVERNMENT INCREASES HOURS

### Railroad Men Failed To Back Coal Diggers

MELBOURNE, Australia (By Mail) (FP).—About 1,000 men employed at the brown coal mines near Melbourne, and owned by the Victorian State government, ceased work as a protest against an award of the Arbitration Court which fixed their hours of work at 48 per week, whereas previously the majority of the men had worked only 45 hours a week. The men demanded a 44-hour week, and made overtures to the engine drivers and firemen to assist them in the fight. Unfortunately that assistance was not forthcoming and the miners had to fight the issue on their own.

The Melbourne Trades Hall Council's Dispute Committee took the matter up and held several conferences with the government and finally at a mass meeting of strikers the strike was declared off on the following terms: No victimization, and several small points satisfactorily agreed to—the question of hours to be left to the Arbitration Court. Next day, the court sat and refused to reduce the hours of work, but gave the workers a sop to keep them quiet in the shape of a day increase in wages.

## German Reactionaries Bring Up For Passage Bill For Ten Hour Day

BERLIN, March 30.—Bitter denunciation has risen from every corner of Germany at the 10-hour bill which the new Reich government, dominated by big employers through the Nationalist party, has just brought out.

"This bill," says the Berlin office of the Intl. Federation of Trade Unions, "has relegated the German government to a place among those backward, and yet naive governments, which are still seriously of opinion that they can suppress the eight-hour day. Belgium has ratified unconditionally, France is ready to ratify, and in Britain matters are at least so far that the adherents of the conservative government pronounce publicly and unequivocally in favor of ratification, and will ultimately force ratification through. In fact, the general trend is toward ratification. And yet the reactionary parties in Germany are still opposing it in deadly earnest."

## Censor Stopt Protest Against Morocco War

MADRID, March 30.—Fearing a revolt against his reactionary dictatorship, Premier Primo de Rivera, the Spanish Mussolini, exercises a more rigid censorship than ever over publications.

Implying that only the most rigid censorship could have stifled mass protest against the Rif war, Rivera defended his rigid supervision over Spanish publications yesterday.

## MARINES 'FIGHT' IN NICARAGUA BECOMES 'BATTLE'

### Navy Enlarges On First Account of Firing

WASHINGTON, March 30.—The firing on the marine corps plane near Managua, Nicaragua, which was yesterday officially stated to be an isolated incident in which some unknown person on the ground shot at the aviator, is now seized upon as the basis for the announcement of a regular battle.

The navy department today says that a detachment of several hundred Liberals engaged the plane with machine guns and rifles, that the plane replied with its machine guns, and altho its fliers were not hit, the propellers and tail were riddled.

The Constitutional army, supporting President Juan Sacasa against the Wall Street hireling Diaz, whom the United States recognizes as president of Nicaragua, has been restraining its natural fury against the American marines who snatch away all its victories over Diaz by occupying "neutral zones." Under international law, they have excellent grounds for attempting to drive the invading marines from the country, but in spite of the navy department story it is not believed that they have yet resorted to hostilities.

## Largest Jewish Farmer Colony Is Founded in U. S. S. R.; Has 27,000

MOSCOW, U. S. S. R., March 30.—The largest Jewish agricultural center in the U. S. S. R. was recently formed in the Kherson district when the Soviet government recently apportioned 50,600 hectares of land in the district to the Jewish agricultural community.

In the last two years 15,000 Jewish settlers have founded 38 new settlements in Kherson. These settlers together with the 12,000 Jewish colonists already occupying land there form a Jewish agricultural population of 27,000 people.

The newly-organized Kherson Jewish area, which will have a regional

Executive Committee seated in the Seyde-Menukhe colony, will be made up of six Jewish village Soviets. The remaining Jewish settlements are located near the Novo-Boroslav colony and are administered by separate village soviets.

The elections to these soviets in the recent electoral campaign aroused a great deal of interest in the district.

TIENTSIN, March 30.—Tientsin is being terrorized by the northern war lords. A state of war has been declared and the execution of labor leaders and Nationalist sympathizers is a daily feature. Workers and merchants are forced by the police to accept valueless notes issued by military commanders.



**Startling Progress!**

"Lightning changes in The DAILY WORKER," one of our friends has called them. This is what has taken place in the paper during the course of the last few weeks. This is but a slight taste of what is coming. With our removal to New York, The DAILY WORKER has made a bold leap forward in the field of labor journalism, so much so that it has already aroused the deep ire of Green, Woll and the rest of the reactionary gang.

It is this ability to make lightning changes, when the situation demands it, that is a necessary qualification of a revolutionary organization. It is this faculty which insures our movement against the dead hand of tradition and conservatism. It is this ability which was one of the outstanding qualities of Comrade Ruthenberg. It is this tendency toward rapid self-improvement in our paper which must be encouraged in every possible way.

There is no better way of insuring the introduction of new features and even more interesting matter than by the building up of a large Sustaining Fund for the purpose. The Ruthenberg DAILY WORKER Sustaining Fund is a guarantee of the growth and development of our paper. Upon the size of the Sustaining Fund, upon the energy and enthusiasm with which it is supported, will depend the amount of "startling progress" we can make in the future. Do your bit toward this end by becoming a REGULAR contributor to the Ruthenberg DAILY WORKER Sustaining Fund.

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## The United Mine Workers Face the Greatest Crisis In Its History

The most disgraceful surrender in the history of the American labor movement has been made by the Lewis machine in the United Mine Workers. The capitalist press is jubilant.

A fair sample of the comment is the following from the New York World:

"It is a source of satisfaction to friends of industrial peace to find the United Mine Workers making a proposition to the operators in the bituminous coal field providing for the continuance of work in the mines, pending negotiation of a wage agreement in April. In the usual course nothing less than a suspension of work in this field would be declared on April 1.

"This is a move in the right direction. Nor is this the only concession the miners are making. Accepting the operators' position that differing conditions in different states make an interstate conference and agreement impossible or impracticable, the miners propose that district scales be made. Thus President Lewis and his colleagues among the officials of the miners' organization have signified a disposition to go as far as possible to prevent a suspension that would be costly to the public. This concession of public interest in an industrial controversy involving the coal industry is highly commendable."

Unfortunately for the coal miners President Lewis is supposed to represent them. Actually he appears in this life and death struggle of the most important union in the American Labor movement as a representative of the "public"—that mythical entity which is used to justify all attacks on workingclass and its living standard.

The New York World and the other capitalist papers are proving the charges made against the Lewis machine by the Communists and the left wing in the miners' union. We have said time and time again that Lewis does not fight for the interests of the miners and his surrender without even an attempt to strike a blow, his reversion to the futile and fatal policy of district agreements, is the crowning corroboration of our statements.

Lewis talks peace while the union is being cut to pieces. He weeps for the public while the non-union territories are strangling the United Mine Workers of America.

Cynically the New York World says:

"Unless the primary object of the operators is to take advantage of the situation to wreck the miners' organization, some basis of agreement which takes into consideration the varying conditions in the different districts ought to be possible."

The surest way to destroy the miners' union is to substitute district agreements for one uniform national agreement and this is what Lewis has agreed to do. "The primary purpose of the operators" IS to destroy the miners' union and Lewis is playing into their hands while he prates of the public interest.

Lewis has thrown away the greatest weapon the miners ever forged—the national agreement for which the coal diggers fought years to obtain.

This is the labor leader who wars on Communists and other militant workers, boosts his salary to \$12,000 per year and spends the union money organizing fake delegations to conventions instead of organizing the non-union fields.

The UMWA faces the greatest crisis in its history. The "Save the Union" bloc must play the role its name implies—it must fight uncompromisingly for its program of no district agreements, no wage cut, organization of the non-union fields and honest and militant leadership.

It must rally the rank and file to its program and to save the union is its immediate task.

## The Nanking Massacre

Details slowly coming thru the deluge of lies reveal that the bombardment of Nanking by British and American warships is one of those bloody and wanton atrocities which redden the path of imperialism.

Five hundred tons of metal and explosives were poured into an unfortified city and its helpless population. Not only was Nanking laid in ruins but Pukow was shelled and burned. Both sides of the Yangtze were bombarded and one gets the picture of noble British and American naval heroes, their warships anchored in the river, as safe as if they were in the Hudson, murdering with modern artillery men, women and children unable to defend themselves. No more cowardly proceeding is recorded by history.

But the result has been to strengthen the anti-imperialist drive of the Chinese masses and with the bodies of the 7000 victims of the British and American murderers will be buried the corpse of imperialism in China.

No more costly target practice has ever been indulged in by the gunboats of Britain and America.

## TELEGRAPH WORKERS LOSE OUT ON BONUSES

By SIDNEY TEPPER,  
"Why did we get a smaller bonus this year compared with last"—is the question asked by the workers of the Western Union Telegraph Co. The company made more money and did a greater business, during the last year of 1926 than in the previous year.

Some workers simply shrug their shoulders: "We do not know how they figure the bonus, how much they have to have before they give us something. One thing we do know. This year we got only a half of the sum received last year."

Less Bonus—Fewer Jobs.  
Others who understand the company's figures, state: "The Western Union Telegraph Co., has spent about four million dollars for installation of new simplex automatic machinery

and other improvements. This was taken out of the profits and figured in as expenses, therefore, we received a smaller bonus. We paid with our bonus for new improvements. The immediate results of these improvements already has been felt by the Morse operators who were either laid off or put on part time basis.

Plenty of Net Profit.  
The sum taken in during 1926 was 136 million. Net profit, after deducting maintenance expenses, depreciation, repair taxes and appropriations for new contracts—was 15% million dollars. Last year's total income was 129 million, with a net profit of 15 million dollars.

The big appropriations for new circuits accounts for almost the same net profit as a year before, although the business exceeded by 7 million dollars that of last year.

## New York District to Open Ruthenberg Drive with Membership Meeting Tuesday, April 5th

The District Executive Committee of the New York District of the Workers (Communist) Party announced Monday night that the Ruthenberg Drive in the district will be opened officially with a general Party membership meeting at Manhattan Lyceum on Tuesday, April 5th.

The District Executive Committee held a special membership meeting at which very extensive plans were worked out for the drive.

The Organization Department of the District consisting of representatives of all departments of the District, the Organization Department, the Agitprop Department, the Women's Work Department, the Negro Department, the Co-operative Department, the Young Workers League, the Industrial Department, and all Section Organizers will be in charge of the drive.

### Outline of Drive

The following is a brief outline of the Ruthenberg Drive in the New York District:

1. The Drive is to begin with the membership meeting and last to July 9th.

2. The Drive shall be based on the following campaigns of the Party:

- a. Fight against the right wing in the unions that are now making a drive against the Communists and the left wing;
- b. Organization of the unorganized;
- c. For a United Labor ticket in the coming elections;
- d. Anti-imperialist campaign—China, Mexico, Nicaragua, etc.;
- e. For the protection of the foreign born.

### Slogans

3. The slogans for the Ruthenberg Drive in addition to those slogans arising out of the general party campaigns shall be:

- a. EVERY MEMBER GET A MEMBER;
- b. DOUBLE THE PARTY MEMBERSHIP;
- c. "LET'S FIGHT ON"—Get a Ruthenberg Member;
- d. "BUILD THE PARTY";
- e. "Let's Close Our Ranks";
- f. Ruthenberg Died Building the Workers' Cause—Communism;
- g. BUILD THE WORKERS (COMMUNIST) PARTY.

### Aim of Drive

4. The aim of the drive is to achieve the following results:

- a. Recruiting of new members;
- b. Win back the old members who dropped out from the Party;
- c. Build the circulation of The DAILY WORKER;
- d. Build THE DAILY WORKER SUSTAINING FUND;
- e. Raise the ideological level of the Party membership;
- f. The activation of the Party membership.

5. The following steps shall be taken to mobilize the Party for the drive:

- a. General Party Membership Meeting—to dramatize the campaign;
- b. Functionaries meeting to consist of all Section Committees, Sub-Section Organizers, all members of the Organization Department, all Language Bureau Secretaries, all Party Editors—to mobilize the machinery for the drive;
- c. Hold Section Meetings

6. Section membership meetings

where the life and work of Comrade Ruthenberg will be discussed and particular emphasis laid on work among the farmers, among women, among workers, youth, anti-imperialism, the role of the Party, the importance of organization work, etc. The agitprop will prepare special bulletins for the speakers for these discussions;

d. Meeting of all Trade Union Fraction Secretaries to mobilize for the drive in the unions;

e. Every Section, Sub-Section, Trade union and Language Fraction as well as every shop and street nucleus to elect a committee to be in charge of the drive. These committees to send regular reports on the drive to the District Organization Department;

f. The Organization Department is to report on the drive to the Political Committee of the District at least once every two weeks.

### Shop Meetings

6. The drive should utilize the following means in its course:

- a. Regular Shop Recruiting and DAILY WORKER Builders meetings;
- b. Section Mass Meetings;
- c. DAILY WORKER Readers Conferences by Sections;
- d. Open Educational Meetings of the nuclei—effort to bring large number of sympathizers to these meetings;
- e. May Day and other mass meetings—appeal and recruiting, also appeal for The DAILY WORKER at all Mass Meetings;
- f. Open Forums, Picnics, Concerts, etc., arranged by the Party;
- g. Utilization of the Trade Unions Fractions;
- h. Special effort to recruit Party members from the T. U. E. L., the I. L. D., the Women's Councils, etc.

i. Special recruiting by the Street Nuclei in their neighborhood.

### Negro Workers

7. The drive shall utilize and emphasize special appeal to:

- a. Negro Workers;
- b. Women Workers;
- c. Specially worked out appeal to native American elements;
- d. Effort to secure young workers to join the YOUNG WORKERS' LEAGUE under the general slogan, "A LEAGUE UNIT WHERE THERE IS A PARTY UNIT";
- e. The building up of the children's movement, the YOUNG PIONEERS. The committees and departments in charge of these activities are to work out material and supervise the special appeal in each case and see that it is utilized thruout the Ruthenberg Drive.

### Special Features

8. Special features of the drive:

- a. Thruout the drive there shall be

concentration points as for example a week devoted to New Jersey, another to Section 1, etc. When concentrating upon a given territory the campaigns should be directed to appeal to the industry concentrated in that territory and special literature published as for example Sec. 1, will have a special appeal to the Printing trades, the Waterfront, the Jewelry Workers, Section 2 a special appeal to Needle Trades Workers, etc.

In these concentrated weeks The DAILY WORKER will carry material dealing with the local municipal problems and the particular industry involved. The sections should pay for a quantity of DAILY WORKERS to be distributed free in the shops, the union meetings, and from house to house distribution of the works of Comrade Ruthenberg. His writings and pamphlets should be properly organized and thruout the drive the pamphlet, "WHAT THE WORKERS (COMMUNIST) PARTY STANDS FOR AND WHY EVERY WORKER SHOULD JOIN," is to be distributed.

Special leaflets dealing with the Party campaigns on which the drive is based are to be distributed.

All leaflets are to have an appeal for membership and an appeal for The DAILY WORKER CIRCULATION.

9. The winning back of the old members must be given a great deal of effort and energy. This is to be accomplished by visiting committees organized by the sub-sections and the nuclei and by special appeals thru the press.

10. The District Executive Committee will give a large picture of Comrade Ruthenberg to the section that in proportion to its size will secure the largest number of new members. This picture will hang in the headquarters of the section that wins the prize.

### Give Prizes.

The District Executive Committee will also give other prizes to individual members who will excel in the drive. These prizes will be most likely the collected works of Comrade Ruthenberg. Detailed announcements will be published later.

The District Executive Committee will put its main energies in the Ruthenberg Drive for the next few months, so that we may make good the will of Comrade Ruthenberg embodied in his last words, "LET'S FIGHT ON AND BUILD THE PARTY!" in an effort to overcome the great loss to our Party and the American workingclass.

The District Executive Committee calls upon the membership to rally in full strength behind the drive, to achieve the aims outlined above.

## The Disintegration of the Socialist Party

By DAVID KVITKO  
Article V

In the motley crowd of reactionaries, liquidators, adherents of "watch your step," and "every dog has his day" theories, the position of L. F. Budenz (the editor of the "Labor Age") in the Socialist Party is a very peculiar one. The reason is that his standpoint is a proletarian one. One wonders what kinship is there between him and the socialist party, which according to his own characteristic, is "middle-class."

WITHOUT suspecting it Budenz speaks a language of a semi-conscious, near-communist. That is what he says in his criticism of the socialist party: "Lost in the mazes of parliamentarism, it has all to long neglected the obvious fact that the primary struggle of the American workers for control of industry is still on the industrial field, rather than in the halls of Congress, and probably always will be . . ."

IT may be of interest to Budenz to learn that at the beginning of the Communist movement its syndicalist wing criticized the parliamentarism of the socialist party in a similar manner. It is not important for us now to analyze Budenz's confused notions. What we wonder is how can such a view live in close proximity to a party for which parliamentarism is an idol? How can these following words appear in a paper whose chief editor is Mr. Oneal? "The call to the socialist party is to build up the trade unions, to carry ahead the fight of the trade unions, to peer into the fields where unionism does not exist. It should confine itself to the economic fight against the capitalist system—expressed through the trade unions and through the consequent wide-spread educational activities, which go hand and hand with this idea."

DOES not Budenz know that the trade union bureaucrats with the help of the socialist party persecute the left wing exactly for such activity? To organize the unorganized, to work in the unions—this is the

militant slogan of the Workers (Communist) Party! For this activity are its members hunted by the A. F. of L. and the S. P. hounds. Is it possible that the editor of "The Labor Age" does not know it?

WE already saw that Budenz criticizes the parliamentarism of the socialist party, yet he is not altogether opposed to political activity. He is for a . . . labor party. In the labor party, he says, the socialist groups can very successfully serve on the educational field as the independent labor party of Great Britain. There they should support the following program:

- 1. Extension of unionism, as the chief hope of the workers.
- 2. Socialization of industry, with workers' control, as the full fruition of the workers' hopes.
- 3. No compromise with war or economic imperialism, and the necessity for extending international cooperation between the labor movements of the world.
- 4. The need for a labor party, as auxiliary to these efforts—largely to solidify the objective of the workers."

EVEN if Budenz's information about the Communist movement in the United States is third rate, he would have to acknowledge that his plan is taken from the Workers (Communist) Party, and though it is copied very badly, nevertheless it is borrowed from the "damned" Communists. The question here, to be sure, is not about a copyright, but about that naive of Budenz when he thinks it possible to cheat the old birds, that is that such a program could be acceptable by the socialist party only for the reason that he would call it socialist and not Communist. "But," it will be objected, "nothing is here said about dictatorship and Sovietism." True, but Budenz advises to speak the "American language," and, therefore, he avoids those "terrible" words. Well, and what is the meaning of such words as "socialization of industry, with workers' control as the full fruition of the workers' hopes," or "extension of unionism, as the chief

hope of the workers?" How can such words be interpreted as "nothing will convince the worker of the inefficiency of the capitalist system, so far as he is concerned, more than the voice of some one standing shoulder to shoulder with him in his immediate fight?" Or such criticism as "They did not really wish to soil their hands by too much contact with the honest-to-God workers?" Budenz "is careful." He pleads "not for the capture of the unions by certain socialists or radical groups or leaders—a policy doomed to complete defeat—but for penetration of the unions by a radical philosophy, based on a sympathetic desire to attain victory for the workers, now and in the future."

IF Budenz were a more diligent reader of Communist literature and keener observer of the left wing tactics, he would understand that the aim of the left wing is not to "capture," but to "penetrate." To capture control in the unions, brother Budenz, is possible only by force in the interests of a minority or gang (and this purpose is being pursued now by the right wing union smashers), but to "penetrate" means through correct tactics and constant "contact shoulder to shoulder" with the masses (as the left wing is doing) to win over the majority of the members and with the help of true representatives of the workers to work in the interests of the rank and file, exposing the treacherous leaders and their gang.

BUDENZ's advice to be a realist, that is to endeavor to size up the situation in a given industry and to lead the struggle in accordance with such correct estimate is Communist strategy.

THIS is Leninism, brother Budenz. A Leninist is not afraid to "soil his hands" by the contact with the masses in their daily struggles. The Leninist program is to go into the unions, to help to build them, to organize the unorganized, yet never forgetting the ultimate goal of the movement. Leninism throws out the slogan of building of a "labor party," yet does not regard parliamentarism

# DRAMA

## The Death Sentence

"Chicago," With a Wide Grin, Says That American Courts Have a Fatal Sickness

Reviewed by HARBOR ALLEN

It is late in the year to praise Maurine Watkins' "Chicago" (produced by Sam H. Harris at the Music Box). But the critic for THE DAILY WORKER doesn't get tickets as easily as the critic for the New York Times. No good at crashing the gate, he sometimes has to buy his way in.

In spite of having to buy my way into "Chicago," I think it's a good play. Together with a hilarious audience, I snickered and laughed and roared and smirked and slapped my knees. "Chicago" is the best comedy I've seen for years.

It's the kind of play that I personally, get soft about. It isn't a great play: too ephemeral, too noisy, too limited, too repetitious. But it has elements of a first-rate working class satire. It starts with a bang—literally, a revolver shot. It is full of action. It is not afraid of horseplay or slapstick humor. It is simple. It has suspense and a stout story. It goes in for crowds and the unsheltered places where life is boisterous, real and kicking. Its material is drawn from the tabloids. Its speech is the speech of the people. From the first minute—when Roxy Hart kills her lover—to the last when she thanks "all youse guys of the jury" for acquitting her—the story is the old one you've read once a month in the Graphic. Didn't the Greeks use the people's stories for their dramas? So does Maurine Watkins.

A Tabloid Debauch  
But "Chicago" is not all just belly laughter. It has a target which it hits not only with gusto but with dead aim. No scholar in ten volumes could do so much to convince the people that our courts are circuses, our judges and prosecutors publicity seekers, our cops boobs, our lawyers highway robbers, our moralists humbugs, our jails bedlams, our public officials crooks. Under Miss Watkins' laugh is a snarl. Under her horseplay is the conviction that justice is sort of drunken debauch for the tabloids.

We revolutionists ought to get a lot of courage out of watching the crowds pack "Chicago." Ten years ago Miss Watkins would have been lynched for questioning the sanctity of American courts. Today even the hardened Broadwayite laughs with her. Who respects the courts today? Who thinks American justice is anything more than a farce today? And who can doubt, when he sees not only "Chicago," but the audiences of "Chicago," that our government is so rotten, so ready to fall apart that it is to laugh at itself; is ready to hang itself with senile glee.

A Very Sick Patient  
Go see "Chicago." Go early for tickets: the scalpers snatch up the good ones. Go and convince yourself that all the whole worm-eaten structure of capitalism needs is a good push to topple it over into junk and kindling. Another war, another ten years, another twenty. "Chicago" is one of the doctors pronouncing the death sentence. "Chicago" says the patient has spinal meningitis, locomotor ataxia, and softening of the brain; nothing on God's earth can

CHESTER MORRIS



Co-featured with James Rennie in "Crime," the Shipman-Hymer melodrama at the Times Square Theatre.

save it. Only, the doctor is funny and says it with a grin. It's better that way. People listen to funny doctors.

### BROADWAY BRIEFS

"Queen High" will celebrate the end of the first year at the Ambassador Theatre tonight.

Francis Edwards Faragoh, author of "Pinwheel," which just closed at the Neighborhood Playhouse, has collaborated with Irene Lewisohn in a number which is to be a feature of the bill of Lyric Drama which opens next Tuesday.

Marjorie Gatenon has been engaged for the part of Gwendolyn in "Tangles," the musical version of Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest." Flavia Arcaro will play Lady Bracknell.

"Hearts Are Trumps," a comedy from the French of Felix Gauder will be presented by Henry Baron at the Morosco Theatre next Tuesday night. The cast includes Frank Morgan, Vivian Martin and C. H. Crocker-King.

Lynn Riggs, the author of "Big Lake," which the American Laboratory Theatre has in rehearsal for production in April, is the author of "Sump'n Like Wings," an Oklahoma play announced by the Actors' Theatre last year but as yet unproduced.

Ernest Vajda, author of "Fata Morgana" and "The Crown Pine," will address the European history classes of Columbia University this afternoon. Vajda is planning a trip to California to engage in moving picture work.

"Pogrom," is the new title for "The Message," which opens next Monday night at the Bronx Opera House prior to showing at a Broadway theatre. Howard Lang and Elizabeth Spencer head the cast.

Hal Forde will play a leading part in the forthcoming musical version of "The Importance of Being Earnest." The production is now in rehearsal.

## AMUSEMENTS

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WALLACK'S West 42nd Street. Eves. 8:30. Thurs. & Sat. 2:30  
What Anne Brought Home  
A New Comedy Drama

Edith Fitzgerald, who plays the part of Kitty in "Chicago" at the Music Box Theatre, is now working on a new play. Miss Fitzgerald is the author of "The River," to be produced in the fall.

as the ultimate aim, but only as a weapon in the hands of the toiling masses.

BETWEEN the views of a Russell who advises forgetting socialism and following the footsteps of the A. F. of L. bureaucrats, of a Hillquit to whom parliamentary action is the only hope of the socialist party, and that of Budenz, who almost turns his back on political activity, there is such a distance that the socialist party, which has dwindled into a handful of people, will never be in a position to cover. Of course, it is possible to prolong the agony of the

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THE SILVER CORD  
Week Apr. 4—Ned McCubb's Daughter John Golden Th. 5:30. Eor By Circle Mts. Thu. & Sat. 5:15

New PLAY WRIGHTS Theatre. 52nd Thea. 306 West Mats. Thurs. & Sat. Th. 5:30. Eor By Circle Mts. Thu. & Sat. 5:15  
"Loudspeaker" By John Howard Lawson

dying, but this only helping to poison the atmosphere for the remaining members. But to save the socialist party, to restore it to its former status, who but a fool can believe it? It is high time to let the dead bury their dead, Brother Budenz, to put aside prejudices and to remember that there is a choice between the progressive forces with the Workers (Communist) Party as the leader, and the reactionary alliance of the master class, A. F. of L. flunkies and discredited socialist party politicians. The S. P. as a party is doomed.

## SOCIALIST OUSTS MILITANT FROM JEWELRY UNION

### Beardsley Expels His Opponent for Office

The depths to which the Beardsley clique in the Jewelry Workers' union will descend in their attempt to stifle the will of the membership is seen in its latest move, that of expelling from the union, Sam Nesin one of the leading progressives and candidate against Beardsley for organizer in the coming election.

Nesin has addressed a letter to the members of the local in which he presents his case. He points out that the reason given for his expulsion does not hold water.

It reads in part as follows:

"Having been a member before and worked at the bench first as an engraver and then at setting and now as jewelry clerk, which is still under the jurisdiction of the I. J. W. U., I felt that I was at least entitled to be a member as well as brother Beardsley who was not a member of the local previous to his becoming organizer nor did he work at the bench at the time of his admittance. The same applies to Joseph D. Cannon. There is also Ruben Schwartz our delegate to the United Hebrew Trades who was re-admitted into the local while not working at the bench and who is at present not working at any branch of the jewelry trade.

In spite of all these precedents I received the following letter of Feb. 5th, 1927:

Dear Sir and Brother:

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Executive Board of Local No. 1, I. J. W. U., on Tuesday, Feb. 8th, 1927, at 6 P. M., in Room 307a World Building, New York City.

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) S. E. Beardsley,

Org. Secy., Local 1.

I responded to this summons and asked if there were any charges against me.

No Charges.

Brother Williams informed me there were no charges but that the Executive Committee had a right to call a member and question him. After a great deal of questioning they asked me to leave and I later received the following letter:

To Samuel Nesin:

Dear Sir:

This is to notify you that the Executive Board of this local at their meeting held on Tuesday Feb. 15th, 1927, in Room 307a, World Building, N. Y. C., by a unanimous vote declared your membership in local 1, I. J. W. U., null and void on the ground of misrepresentation in making application for membership and

## "Brussels Conference" Subject of Talk at the Workers School Sunday

Richard B. Moore, a prominent member of the American Negro Labor Congress, and who has just returned from the Brussels World Conference against Imperialism, of which he was a delegate will be the speaker at the open forum of the Workers School, 108 E. 14th St., next Sunday night.

"The World Struggle Against Imperialism" will be the subject of his lecture, it is announced by Bert Wolfe, director of the school. Questions and discussion will follow the talk.

your own admission that you have worked as a salesman for the past ten years.

I remain, very truly yours,

S. E. Beardsley,

Org. Secy.

By order of the Executive Board.

Afraid of Election.

It is now March. Elections according to the constitution are to be held during the month of January. Many hasty and illegal actions have been taken by the administration. It is clear to me that the action taken in declaring my membership "null and void" at this time is not because of any misrepresentation but an effort by the present administration to interfere seriously with a true expression of the membership in an honest election. It is fear of defeat that makes them frantic.

I appeal to you brothers for an opportunity to defend my membership as against the autocratic action of the Executive Board. The Executive Board had no right to act in violation of my constitutional rights in declaring my membership "null and void."

The regular procedure of preferring charges and the membership electing a committee to investigate these charges was never complied with, and I request the right to appear before you to state my case and appeal from the decision of the Executive Board.

Fraternally yours,

Samuel Nesin.

## Mothers Ask Housing Relief; Surveys Prove Shortage Exists Here

The existence of the housing shortage is proved conclusively in the following article, and the subsequent one, by The DAILY WORKER's housing investigator. Surveys, facts and figures are presented, all drawn from authoritative sources, none of which may be questioned.

By WILL DE KALB

There is one point around which the entire housing controversy revolves, that might as well be settled right now. That is, is there a housing shortage? Of course, the facts revealed in The DAILY WORKER's housing survey should be conclusive, but to clinch the matter, this writer will quote recognized authorities to prove the claim.

A survey made by the United States Bureau of Health made public recently states that there are 26,219,100 dwellings in the entire country. One fifth of these, the report shows, are in and about the state of New York. According to the statisticians, nowhere in the United States is there such a density of dwellings as there is in the vicinity of Greater New York.

Dwelling Survey.

As a matter of record, here are some of the figures.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| New York & Vicinity.. | 5,476,000  |
| New England .....     | 1,815,000  |
| South .....           | 3,219,000  |
| Elsewhere .....       | 15,708,500 |
| United States .....   | 26,219,100 |

The figures show that the metropolitan area has more dwellings than any other section of the country. It has five times the number commanded by New England, double those in the south, and one third the number of dwellings in the rest of the country, giving it one fifth the number in the entire United States.

No Building Here.

It is more significant to note that the figures for New York have changed very little in the past five years, while the population has increased tremendously. This has placed the rent-payer in the clutches of the unscrupulous landlord. And has the rental figures in this newspaper's survey shown, the landlord has taken advantage of every opportunity.

Another survey, undertaken by the Department of Labor, showed that outside the New York area, one half the dwellings in the United States, 13,426,400 to be exact, are owned by persons whose income is less than \$2,000 a year. Thus, workers in the rest of the country, solve the housing problems by buying their own houses.

City Workers Handicapped.

In the cities, and the densely populated area, however, this is impossible. Plot of land, 40x100, that would be covered by a one-family house in other areas, must here support a house sheltering twenty and thirty families. So the workers in the congested areas must look elsewhere for a solution.

That the 5,000,000 dwellings in the metropolitan area, which includes New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania are inadequate to house the millions of people who live there is proved by countless surveys, petitions, and resolutions, made by independent and interested organizations.

Mothers Protest.

Not long ago the League of Mothers' Clubs of the United States Neighborhood Houses made a stirring pro-

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## The Hands Off China Committee Will Hold Mass Meeting April 8

The Hands Off China Committee that recently held a local conference attended by 135 delegates from labor organizations will hold a mass meeting Friday evening, April 8th at the Central Opera House, 67th St. and Third Ave. to protest against the barbaric and brutal action of the American warships in shelling Nanking where thousands of defenseless Chinese workers were killed, and against the entire policy of suppressing the Chinese Nationalist revolution that is being displayed by the American government. The names of the speakers will be announced later.

test to the New York legislature, appealing for assistance to curb the activities of rent-gouging landlords. In writing to former Senator James W. Wadsworth, who lost out in the last election when his open affiliation with the moneyed interests were exposed. Mrs. Mildred O. Schroeder, president of the league, said:

"The greatest need and wish of the mothers of this city is to have better homes to live in, where they will not have to pay so much for rent that they have very little income left for other necessities. We implore you, we beseech you, to aid us in improving the terrible conditions in which so many of the women of New York live and work." Despite the fact that the league endorsed and fought for each new housing bill, the improvement they hoped for was not forthcoming. The landlords, you know, have a lobby like all other vested interests.

So the records run. In the next article, this discussion will be continued. One of the most important proofs of the existence of a housing shortage, and of the terrible living conditions in New York, is found in the report of A. F. Hinrichs, of the New York State Bureau of Housing and Regional Planning, to the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. This will be printed in the following article.

## Bronze Workers Strike Continues Strong After Nine Weeks of Struggle

The Iron and Bronze Workers' Union has been conducting a strike at the Royal Brass Co. for the last nine weeks.

The cause of the strike is the breaking of the agreement by the Royal Brass, which was signed with the union six months ago. It was agreed at that time that the working hours per week should be 44. That a certain minimum scale of wages should prevail and several other union conditions would be inaugurated. The agreement was made for a years time. But the Royal Brass became tired of the union conditions in the shop and is trying to break the agreement.

The Royal Brass wants to go back to the 48 hour week and all other "good things" he had six months ago. And although the bosses claim that he never dealt with the union, yet he knows all the tricks and schemes of fighting the strikers. Gangsters, police and detectives are not strange to him. But the strikers do not mind them. They are carrying on the picketing duty without fear. And they are convinced that the Royal Brass will have to give in to the demands of the union.

## Agitprop Of Section One Meets Friday To Discuss China Crisis

The Chinese situation and the Ruthenberg Memorial drive are two of the important questions that will be taken up at a meeting of all sub-section and nuclei agit-prop directors Friday, 6 P. M., at 33 East 1st street. All agit-prop directors belonging to Section 1 are urged to attend.

## Clarence Miller Speaks This Sunday Afternoon

Clarence Miller, youth organizer and participant in the recent Passaic textile strike will lecture on "Youth and Child Labor" this Sunday, at 2 p. m. at the Downtown Open Forum, located at the Downtown Workers' Club, 25 East Second street. Questions and discussions will follow the lecture.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL DAILY WORKERS BUILDERS

Volunteers and active workers are wanted for the big Freiheit Jubilee at Madison Square Garden to sell The DAILY WORKER, Saturday evening, April 2.

Comrades should ask at the door for The DAILY WORKER agent. Volunteers should report not later than seven o'clock.

## UNION MUST BE WON, STATE HAT SHOP STRIKERS

### Bolivian Co. Workers Stand Fast

(By Worker Correspondent)

The strike of the 54 workers employed at the Bolivian Panama Hat Co., 653 Broadway, has just entered its second week. Determined to stay out until the demand for recognition of the union is met with, the strikers, the majority of whom are girls, are picketing the shop each day.

The strike was initiated by the 14 boys between the ages of 17 and 19, who were working in the factory, and whose wages averaged between \$15 and \$17 a week. According to the strikers, the workers were expected to work 10 and 11 hours a day, besides cleaning and sweeping the factory in addition. There is some scabbing being done by inexperienced girls, it is said, but very little work is being produced.

## Young Worker to Make Merry on 4th Birthday With Mammoth Affair

The Young Worker, the fighting paper of working class youth, will celebrate its fourth anniversary with a mammoth ball and entertainment on April 9th at the Harlem Casino, 116th street and Lexington avenue. In the four years of its life the Young Worker has constantly fought the battles of working class youth in this country. Resistance to the attempt to foist militarism upon the youth of this country and a campaign for better working conditions are some of the campaigns which the magazine has waged.

Tickets for the ball may be purchased for 50 cents at 108 East 14th street; tickets at the door will cost 75 cents.

## Lower Downtown I. L. D. Meets Thursday

A meeting of the Lower Downtown branch of the International Labor Defense, meets on Thursday, March 31st, in the Ukrainian Hall, 17 East 3rd street, at 8 p. m. Come and swell the ranks of labor's defense army.

## Agitprop Meeting Section 1

A meeting of all agitprop directors of Section One will be held on Friday evening April 1st, 6 p. m. at 33 East First street.

Order of business: (1) The Chinese Situation; (2) The Ruthenberg Membership Drive and reports of unit directors.

## Calverton in Debate

V. F. Calverton, editor of "The Modern Quarterly," and Prof. Kelly Miller, of Howard University, Washington, will debate on the subject "Does Orthodox Christianity Handicap Negro Progress," at the Community Church, 34th St. and Park Ave., on Sunday afternoon, April 24, at 2:30.

## Meeting of the National Committee of the Needle Trades

Section of the T. U. E. L.

will be held

Friday evening, April 1, 1927, at

8 p. m. sharp at 108 East 14th

street, N. Y. C.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE MUST BE PRESENT.

## SCOTT NEARING

On

Where Is Civilization

Going?

TONIGHT, MARCH 31st

8:30 P. M.

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## OPEN FORUM

OPENING MEETING

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FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 8 P. M.

DON SEITZ

of the "Outlook," formerly of

the "World"

"CAN A PEOPLE BE FREE

UNDER PROHIBITION?"

(The 18th Amendment)

Discussion. Open to All.

## Gold and Hyman To Ask Conviction of A. F. L. Crooks at Mock Trial

Much interest has been aroused in the forthcoming "mock trial" against the officers of the reactionary International Fur Workers' Union and the officials of the A. F. L., to be conducted by the Shop Chairmen Council of the furriers' union at New Star Casino, 107th St. and Park Ave., Sunday afternoon at 1:30.

# Borah Takes His Place with the Imperialist Foes of the Chinese Republic

By J. LOUIS ENGDahl.

As the United States plunges toward actual war openly declared against China, the lip service friends of subject peoples rapidly fall away. This always takes place. The present situation, not only with regard to China, but also Mexico and Nicaragua, is no exception.

It will be remembered that prior to the world war, Newton D. Baker, of Cleveland, Ohio, had a reputation as a pacifist and liberal. Yet he became Woodrow Wilson's secretary of war, one of the worst jingoes of them all.

J. Mitchell Palmer, of Philadelphia, was a Quaker and pacifist, with a supposedly liberal twist of mind. But as Wilson's attorney general, he led a reign of terror, antedating the deposed Attorney General Daugherty as a red baiter and radical hunter.

Now Senator William E. Borah joins the casualties including those turning against the Chinese masses. He strips himself of the last shreds of the anti-imperialist cloak that he has been wearing as a so-called friend of oppressed nations.

The stripping has been a gradual one for Borah. But it has, nevertheless, been effective.

He has continually urged the recognition of the Union of Soviet Republics. Recently when he was charged with having deserted his stand on this question, he reiterated his demand for the recognition of the Soviet Union. The crucial test, however, occurred when Samuel Gompers, the late president of the American Federation, an enemy of the Workers' Republic, challenged Borah's stand. The open clash came at hearings held by the senate foreign relations committee, of which Borah is chairman. At the crucial moment, when Borah was expected to make an aggressive fight, he suddenly adjourned the hearings. His militancy on this question has gradually faded.

Borah's failure to take a definite and aggressive stand against the open intervention in Nicaragua is of more recent date. In speeches delivered on Tuesday at Utica and Syracuse, New York, he revealed himself more than ever as drifting closer and closer to an open stand with the imperialists. On the Nicaraguan issue he said:

"I object to the Nicaraguan situation not so much because our marines are there to protect life, but because we recognized the wrong individual."

That is about as deep as Borah's differences with imperialism go at the present time. Borah, in the same speech, declared that he had been campaigning for the republican party ever since the campaign for Blaine and Logan, way back in the last century, which means that he claims to have always been a good republican. Borah has been an upholder of the republican party during all the time that it has been the political spokesman of the developing American imperialist empire. He has never broken with it.

At Utica Borah declared that, "I think he (Cal Coolidge) is entitled to the nomination (for re-election as president in 1928) and can have it if he wants it." Borah knows Coolidge wants it.

To support Coolidge in the United States is to support the creature, Diaz, in Nicaragua, of the imperialism that keeps Coolidge in the White House. This exposes how sincere Borah is in lending lip service to Sacasa, the opponent of Diaz. This is the Borah that contents himself with a speech in the senate on the "legality" of dollar diplomacy's aggressions in Central America, as if robbery could be committed "legally."

Another shred of large proportions was torn from Borah's anti-imperialist cloak when he meekly surrendered to the administration in its refusal to permit him to go to Mexico with other members of the senate foreign relations committee and investigate conditions there for themselves.

Senator King at least made an effort to get into Hayti, forcing the local stool pigeons of the Dollar Kings to keep him out. Not so, Senator Borah. At this time when Coolidge and Kellogg are trying to explain mysterious letters sent to the enemies of the Mexican workers, promising American aid and sympathy in support of any uprising against the Mexican government, Borah is upstage in New York making speeches that are favorable if anything to administration policies. The least that could be expected from Borah would be an immediate investigation of these letters and a strenuous demand that they be made public so that the workers and farmers of the nation could get a look at them and decide for themselves whether they are forgeries. But Borah has lost his zeal for open diplomacy. He winks both his eyes at secret, dollar diplomacy.

But it is in his latest statement on the Chinese situation, that Borah stands stark naked as an imperialist ally. No longer he parades as an anti-imperialist politician, as "the friend" of oppressed peoples and subject nations. Wall Street may be proud of the chairman of the senate foreign relations committee who says:

"The United States government is simply protecting the lives of its citizens there (in China); the government has gone no further and will continue to protect its citizens until the spirit of the revolution has passed away."

No protest here against the wanton murder of 7,000 defenseless men, women and children at Shanghai. No voice raised against the assassin's aerial attack on the quiet villages of Bias Bay, under the shallow pretense that they were the abodes of pirates. No indignation at the slaughter of workers in Shanghai, both by native Chinese exploiters and alien imperialist soldiers who now number approximately 20,000.

One American has met his death at Nanking. It is shown that his slayers were the Shantung allies of the United States, France and other nations that continue as invaders in China. But Borah has closed his eyes to the actual situation. He wears the goggles of Wall Street and beholds the situation in China as presented to him by the gifted propagandists of Dollar Diplomacy.

All that is necessary now is for J. Pierpont Morgan to step forward and pin Dollar Diplomacy's most famed decoration, "The Double-Cross of Gold," on Borah's breast, heaving with love and admiration at the achievements of the armed fists, the army and navy, in crucifying helpless peoples. Yet, even without this decoration, Borah is now branded.

## SEND IN YOUR LETTERS

The DAILY WORKER is anxious to receive letters from its readers stating their views on the issues confronting the labor movement. It is our hope to develop a "Letter Box" department that will be of wide interest to all members of The DAILY WORKER family. Send in your letter today to "The Letter Box," The DAILY WORKER, 33 First Street, New York City.

# What Russia is Doing About Homeless Children

By Our Own Moscow Correspondent, WILLIAM F. KRUSE.

There are two lines of activity directed towards coping with the problem of the not more than 125,000 homeless children, and the approximately 300,000 in homes and institutions of various sorts. One is in the hands of the state organs directly, and the other is conducted by various social organizations, by trade unions, by the Young Communist League, the Young Pioneers (Communist Children's Movement), and especially by a voluntary membership society of about two million members, the "Friends of the Children." All of the activities of all of these organs are of course closely interwoven and co-ordinated, for here certainly the state does not stand over and above the social organs of the working class.

### Voluntary Workers.

It has already been pointed out that about 60 million roubles a year are spent in liquidating this post-war and post-famine evil. Most of this is furnished and spent by the various branches of the government. It may be well, though, to outline first the social units and their work in collaboration with the official agencies. The "Friends of the Children" is a great voluntary society of the type of "International Red Aid," "Society for Combating Illiteracy," etc., in which the masses of Russian workers who are not Communist Party members, are actively engaged in political organizational life.

These members pay about 15 kopeks per month in dues, and thereby help maintain some of the children's homes, labor communes, night shelters, trade schools, etc.

In addition many trade unions are directly connected as "patrons" over certain homes, donating funds for special clothing, holidays, gymnastic equipment, etc., and the children from these homes in turn frequently visit the union meeting, give little entertainment programs, etc. The railroad workers in particular have provided very extensively for the salvaging of the young "tramps" with whom they come into specially close contact.

The "Friends of the Children" publish a magazine, run lotteries to raise funds, and employ specially qualified agents who go about among the young waifs to seek to persuade them to abandon their vagabondage in favor of the social arrangements at their disposal. The Young Pioneers, children themselves, do very valuable work in getting hold of the younger waifs, in uncovering cases of mistreatment of children in which event they teach the wronged child what its rights are and help him maintain them.

The constant friendly influence of the spic-and-span young Communist children is one of the most powerful means of drawing hundreds of children off the streets. Hand in hand with their government the workers, young and old, are exerting all energy to cope with this big and complicated problem.

### Activity of Soviet Government.

The programme for dealing with these youngsters was laid down in the decree of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee of the Soviets on March 8th, 1926, and on the basis of this decree the following measures are now being pursued by the Soviet authorities:

- 1) Help the children get back to parents or relatives.
- 2) Place these children with working-class families, helping such families materially to care for them. (I have seen many such children now living as members of Russian families, and they share every advantage open to the children of that family.)
- 3) Placing the children in institutions run by the "Department for the Protection of Mother and Child."
- 4) Placing the children in various children's institutions run directly by local government.
- 5) Placing them in hospitals and medical institutions.
- 6) Placing them in industrial and agricultural productive enterprises.
- 7) Material aid to children in their own homes.
- 8) Placing them in apprenticeship, trade schools, handicraft arts.
- 9) General state guardianship over all children so aided.

### Spend Ten Times Over U. S.

At present the Soviet Government is spending 46 million roubles a year directly, to which must be added 9 million spent by individual unions, voluntary societies, etc.; and other items on the medical budgets which bring the total up to about 60 million roubles a year.

The present annual appropriation available to spend through the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, amounts to \$1,240,000 provided it is matched by about an equal sum from the various states—less than one-tenth of what is being spent in the Soviet Union, and yet the whole appropriation is not used because some states refuse to participate.

When the Children's Bureau was first started, its appropriation amounted to \$25,640—less than 1% of what is devoted to the same item by the Young Workers' Republic. I have been able to find no record of appropriations for those 10,000 Porto-Rican "bezprezhorny"—but plenty has been spent there on bullets for the U. S. Marines.

There are more than 3,000 children's homes, colonies, schools and

other institutions, in which 17,257 teachers and attendants look after 226,051 children. 56% are children of peasants, workers 25% and soldiers and artisans 20% (Commisariat of Education Weekly), while out-relief is being given to 175,000 additional children.

During the next three years, according to government plans, a "Lenin Memorial Fund" of 100 million roubles will be devoted to the special task of wiping out the last traces of child homelessness. Since the problem of vocational guidance is the greatest, 590 new working communes are being planned with an equipment that is to cost 11 million roubles.

### The Situation in Moscow.

The capitalist press charges that there is a homeless army of 65,000 children in Moscow, with room in the institutions for only 2,410; that 8,025 were assigned to these institutions by the authorities and that half of these have escaped. Not a single one of these figures is anywhere near the truth.

Below we give a list of the institutions in the Moscow gubernia and the number of children harbored in them. I am told that there are not more than between 500 and 1,000 children, practically none of them native to Moscow, still uncared for on the streets, and they are being gathered one by one, not by the police, but by conscientious volunteer and professional workers among these children.

The official census taken recently will give us accurate data. In the year from October, 1925 to October, 1926, there were 2,640 dependent and 612 delinquent children placed into Moscow institutions, a total of 3,252.

### Boys Will Run Away.

As far as runaways go, of course, there are runaways, but the number is nowhere near that indicated. And running-away does not mean here what it does in our reform schools in the states, climbing down leader pipes and crawling over walls studded with steel pickets and jagged broken glass bottles.

Thus far not a single one of the homes and other institutions locks the children in or takes any measures to hinder their going if they wish. An essential factor of the treatment these youngsters receive is to convince them that they are not being shut off from their fellow-workers that they are not being kept against their will as though they were criminals.

### Money For Clothes.

In one home I visited I found that all the boys, about 50, had been furnished work of one sort or another outside the home and that they kept their wages (after paying very low board) to do with as they pleased. These wages did not go, as might be supposed, for drink and dissipation,—the first possession the boys invested in was a pair of fine shiny new "goloshes," and after that came the wide-pegged riding trousers now considered by the Russian youth as the acme of smart dressing. So running away here simply means the young vagabond holds out a little longer against the social influences that surround him and that are bent on enrolling him as a useful member of proletarian society.

### Discus Compulsion.

This month the first home for "bezprezhorny" at which any compulsion is to be introduced will be opened in Moscow. This home will be particularly well equipped, with gymnasium, manual training school, specially qualified teachers, etc., to make it so attractive that if possible the boys (who have run away from other institutions in the past before being sent here) will not want to run away—but if they do want to they will be prevented.

This is arousing considerable discussion, A. V. Lunacharsky, Commissar of Education, being opposed to it. The fact that so mild a method, which so distantly resembles the police method of dealing with the problem, should arouse opposition of this kind completely shows how impossible is this fairy tale of an Arctic exile, and all the other tales of "children's hard labor prisons."

In Moscow there are almost 200 institutions harboring about 25,000 children. About 80% of them came from outside of the gubernia during the great migration attending the war and famine.

| Kind of Institutions   | Num-ber | Quar-tered |
|--|---------|------------|
| Homes of normal type   | 74      | 12,243     |
| Special homes, observation centres special backward, wayward                           | 16      | 2,415      |
| Special homes for physically handicapped, deaf, blind, epileptics, feeble-minded, etc. | 18      | 2,788      |
| Open-air forest schools, etc.  | 17      | 1,124      |
| Isolation camps for children with tuberculosis, eye and skin diseases                  | 11      | 500        |
| Dormitories for young workers  | 16      | 847        |
| Central and district workshops   | 17      | 4,487      |
| Working Communes   | 22      | 1,293      |
| Children's overnight shelters also connected with the permanent homes                  | 1       | 100        |
|  | 192     | 25,747     |

(From the official publication of the Moscow Department of Education, 1926.)

# The Teachers' Case

By JOSEPH KALAR.

Teachers are in absolute swinish slavery. Their personalities, and personality as the keynote of successful teaching, are ignored by the politicians who formulate the educational code. A teacher is a machine, a curious and humorous mechanical contrivance to enlighten the pupils in mathematics, reading, writing, geography, and the like. That he be able to perform his duties in a mechanical way is the first requisite, but God help him if he attempts to use his own head! God help him if he tries to do any real cultural work, any work of real significance! He is only a machine, an automaton—and must perform as such, and if he steps outside of his immediate duties he is dealt with as we deal with a rusty machine, he is oiled back into shape, the oil in this case being threats.

In the first place teachers are not chosen for their real innate intelligence, for their personalities, for their ability to teach. Normal School Training is the mill from which all perfect teachers come! A County Superintendent of Schools in Minnesota sent a form letter to all of her dutiful slaves in which, among other things, she said, "I had to get rid of the best teacher I had in the county because she didn't have the proper training (i. e. the proper scrap of paper)." Get that! The best teacher she had! And what is this wonderful normal school training that will convert the most sour of old maids into a perfect teacher? High talk about eye-span, curves, poetry study (no wonder all school children hate poetry!), technique, observation—stuff that has no more actual relation to teaching than Cal Coolidge has to intelligence. In other words a teacher that would frighten and revolt any child by the severity of her physiognomy, a teacher that looks upon children as brats, and very unruly brats, is yet a one hundred percent teacher because she has mastered (?) the purely mechanical aspects of education.

After graduating from a normal school a teacher is castrated of all original intelligence, all personality, all humanity. He is a machine.

In normal school he is forced to attend a period set aside for chapel. During this period he must join his voice with the rest in singing HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, and must sit mute and submissive through a tirade of pious vomit from some heavenly reverend.

The scrap of paper he receives on graduation presumably fits him for the arduous moulding of the brats in his charge into his own image. And what is this image? Let me tell you: the poetry of Eddie Guest, Cal Coolidge, the Stars and Stripes, the close relationship between the president of the U. S. A. and God, white supremacy, anti-red, Longfellow, the Saturday Evening Post—that is the image in which, O Worker, your child shall be moulded.

His slavery, upon beginning to teach, is apparent to everyone except himself. He is told what to teach, how to live, how not to live, what to read, what to believe, what church is especially ordained by God! For instance if a teacher were so rash as to tell his pupils that the World War was hardly fought for democracy and that the Germans were not rapers of crippled children, he would go on the mat. Not so long ago during National Education Week he was even told to tell his pupils all about the Red Menace (capitalist definition), the Communist threat to religion, morals, etc. That was National Education Week!

A very good friend of mine, possibly the only intelligent teacher I have yet met, once was so indiscreet as to read part of SMOKE and STEEL by Carl Sandburg to his pupils. Almost immediately a colossal caricature of woman rushed to the board and told them that he was reading indecent literature. She read an extract that presumably clinched her argument, and then said "There is a lot more dirty stuff here, but I couldn't read it before all you men!"

We have the Anti-Evolution Bills. Science is a hated word among the plutocrats that control the educational system. New discoveries in the "spiritual" line of science are usually taught a century after they have become common property to everyone. In certain rural communities a teacher has to teach Sunday School (and most of them are glad to)—or get out.

All of the history she teaches is a subtle propaganda for race and class hatred. Many pupils, upon graduating, find themselves in possession of an inexplicable revulsion for the English people. Many of them have never seen a real Englishman, and yet they have that prejudice.

The teachers are expected to teach that the Bolsheviks are a menace to civilization, that they are aiming to destroy the very foundations of our government. Very well. But the teachers are not permitted to go into any detail concerning this chimerical foundation of our government, because if they did, the pupils would welcome the Red Menace!

A teacher is not rated according to ability or intelligence. There are those poor pitied teachers who possess only a second grade certificate, there is the middle class, or those possessing a first grade certificate, and the elite, the professional first class. I have known a teacher who had only a limited Second Grade (or Class) certificate, and yet she was a perfect, if not over intelligent, teacher. I have known another that belongs to the elite, and he is worthless. Yet the former receives \$70 a month and the latter about \$150.

When such importance is placed on a mere scrap of paper, is it any wonder that our children grow up into Babbitts, into lynchers of the I. W. W., burners of Negroes, staunch upholders of the very class that exploits and brutalizes them?

The very irony of it is that very few teachers care to teach evolution or know anything about it, very few teachers are class conscious, or intelligent. But what can you expect? To be able to teach they had to go through the whole educational cesspool, and very few people are able to get through the cesspool without retaining a little of the odor. By the time they had the scrap of paper that gave them legal rights to teach they had become willing, unconscious slaves of the politicians who run the educational system.

# The Letter-Box

## Remember Ruthenberg in Alabama.

Editor, Daily Worker:—I have read of the "passing on" of my friend and comrade C. E. Ruthenberg. We have had many things in common—yes.

Both of us joined the socialist party the same time. Both of us were disciples of good old Robert Bandlow—at that time editor of the Cleveland Citizen—an idealist, a dreamer of the things to come. Many a time did we stand in wrapt attention listening to Max Hays explain his theories of socialism at the Square in Cleveland.

Soon young Ruthenberg (we called him Ruthy then) himself essayed the platform and often did I have the pleasure to introduce him to the audience from the box. I never became a speaker as so many of the boys did who "joined" at that time.

We met and had a good talk for the last time in some Jewish hall on E. 55th St., near Central Ave. in Cleveland—the tall, handsome, frail looking boy of 1909 had become a rather corpulent man. Among other things I remarked on his physical condition—he smiled that wry indulgent smile.

Dr. J. J. Scholtes, Huntsville, Ala.

# Fighting Flood and Famine in China to Save Millions

(By Nationalist News Agency)

HANKOW, China, Feb. 20 (By Mail).—It is not only enemy armies that the nationalist forces of China are fighting and defeating today. There is another, even greater enemy—flood and famine. Nationalist China is putting up defenses in Central China today that will cheat the floods on the Yangtze of ten million victims.

They came just in time last fall. Provisionally, the peasants say. "One month later, and we should have been lost," the farmers tell you as they work feverishly under the supervision of the new Hupeh Dyke Commission of the Nationalist Government to repair the unprecedented breaks in the dykes caused by last year's torrents, which left the Yangtze dyke system in such a battered state that, it seemed, nothing but a miracle could prevent wholesale famine in 1927.

### No Urging Needed

The Nationalist Government today is urging the peasants of Hupeh on, but their words are scarcely necessary. Seventy thousand peasants are working like mad men. They know, better than anyone can tell them, what is at stake. A chance of saving their homes and their very lives was offered them when the Kuomintang forces came last fall. They need no urging to help in the work of repairing the broken dykes.

Last year there was the worst flood Central China has seen in fifty years. The waters came raging down from the uplands, down the Yangtze and the Han, and the dykes, which for thirty years had been neglected by the various warlords who had held the region, broke in a score of places. Thousands of acres of farm land were under water. Crops were ruined. Hundreds died in the floods or, later, of starvation. And when in the early fall, the water subsided and the people came back to their land, they looked with dismay at the battered dykes, convinced that with the rising of the waters the next summer, nothing could save them.

### No Help From Wu Pei-fu

There really seemed no hope for the peasants late last summer. To save Hupeh, repairs on a large scale, with organized labor and expert supervision were needed. It meant money, and the peasants were penniless.

Late last summer, Wu Pei-fu seemed secure in Hankow. And the peasants knew they could look for no help from him and his subordinate generals in the matter of dykes. Wu had watched last year's flood, as he had watched previous floods, without lifting a finger. All the money he could raise went into his armies. For years, the dykes had been neglected.

It is no wonder, then, that the peasants look upon the coming of the Nationalist forces to Hankow as a miracle. It meant that immediately money and men were thrown into the battle against the coming of the floods. Actually, however, it was a part of the Nationalist plan. The Kuomintang knew in advance all about last year's breaks in the Yangtze dykes. They knew that disaster loomed ahead for the people of Hupeh and Hunan. This was one of the things that urged the armies on. Every day on the way, the leaders knew, meant one day lost on necessary work of repair. Ten million people were in danger of famine.

### No Time Is Lost

When the Hankow region was finally taken last fall, no time was lost. Immediately a commission was formed, the Hupeh Dyke Commission, composed of the head of the Ministry of Communications, Mr. Sun Fe, the head of the Ministry Finance, Mr. T. V. Soong, and General Chang Tso-pin. There was a hasty survey of the damage from last year's flood, and a budget. Three and a half millions were needed immediately to mend the dykes sufficiently to prevent the flooding this year of half the province, including the Wuhan cities, Hankow, Wuchang and Hangang. Mr. Soong raised the money, and the work began. The actual direction was placed in the hands of Mr. Wang Chi, a local Hupeh man, familiar with dyke problems. Under him were placed Chinese engineers. Recently, a foreign engineer, Mr. O. J. Todd, who has been in charge of engineering work for the International Famine Relief Commission, was employed as supervising engineer.

"It is a close race, this race against flood and famine," said Mr. Sun Fe in an interview yesterday, "but we believe we will win. We have started late, but we are working overtime. We must erect temporary barricades before high water comes. Half the province is at stake and the lives of ten million people."

### Save Rich Rice District.

The region that is to be saved is the rich rice-producing district along the Yangtze, above Hankow, and along the Han, the river that enters the Yangtze at Hankow, and that gives the city its name.

There are two places which are being given particular attention. Above the city on the Han, last year's torrents broke thru the dykes built thirty years ago by the Viceroy Chang Chi-tung. It is this break that threatens the city of Hankow. The second bad break is at the Chieh Wan Dyke, above Hankow on the Yangtze, where repairs, costing \$822,000, are under way. Twenty

thousand peasants are on the job at that point.

The whole repair job this year will cost approximately three and a half millions. The work will be done by local, peasant labor, working at very low pay, twenty cents a day, just enough for food. It is because the peasants and villages know what is at stake that it is possible to do the repairs for three and a half millions, Mr. Sun explained yesterday. The flood last year left the dykes in an appalling condition. There are a score or more places that must be repaired.

### 70,000 Volunteers On The Job

But the call for labor has had an immediate response. Seventy thousand volunteers are now working in frenzied haste, knowing that the time is short between now and the coming of the floods. Thirty thousand more are to be called, Mr. Sun Fe stated yesterday, and they will be gathered in a day.

"But even if we beat the floods, Hupeh will not be safe from the threat of famine," he stated. "These repairs are purely temporary makeshifts. The problem of floods along the Yangtze and the Han cannot be adequately solved until many times three and a half millions are spent. It involves work on a gigantic scale, the regulation of the whole Yangtze river system."

"But the present repairs will give us a breathing spell. The dykes will be fixed so that they will hold until we can start work on the big plan. These repairs should have been done long ago. The situation has become more and more acute. The peasants are right in saying we came just in time. This year would have meant a disaster on such a scale that it challenges comprehension."

### Floods Due to Neglect

When asked the cause of the disastrous flood of last year, Mr. Sun Fe said that it was partly the unusual torrent of water that came down from the uplands, but it was partly due to neglect. Nothing has been done on these important dykes for years, except local tinkering by the desperate peasants. Adequate repairs meant money and organization, and all the money and organization of the former tapers of Hupeh and Hunan have gone into armies. So year by year, the dykes, upon which the lives of the peasants depend, were allowed to fall into worse disrepair.

"This apparently meant nothing to the warlords," said Mr. Sun Fe. "But it means a great deal to the Kuomintang. Down in Canton last year, we knew of the flood on the Yangtze, we knew that unless rapid repairs were undertaken, nothing on earth could save Hupeh and Hunan this year. Flood is a more implacable enemy than an army."

"This is a part of the fighting front of Nationalist China," he concluded. "To the east and the north, we are ridding China of the curse of militarism. Here on the Yangtze, we are fighting to hold the devastating floods at bay."

# Michael Gold's 'Fiesta' Has In Hortense Alden Actress Worthy of It

"Fiesta" the drama of Mexico by Michael Gold, and the third production of the New Playwrights Theatre, boasts an unusually large and interesting cast. Notable among the younger players in it, is Hortense Alden, who enacts the role of Guadalupe, a young orphan, a victim of the Mexican revolution.

Miss Alden has had a long and varied stage experience. Among the recent productions in which she has appeared are "Crocles" with Richard Bennett, "Ghosts," by the Actor's Theatre, "Arabesque" the Norman Bel Geddes presentation, and numerous roles with the Theatre Guild.

Although Miss Alden accepts the protection of the dominant male in "Fiesta," in real life, she is by her own confession, a "rapid feminist."

"I am very happy," she admits, "to be living in a generation, in which women have come into their own. That is as much true of the commercial world as it is in the realm of arts. Certainly on the stage, the triumphs of women have been so numerous and so great that they have far eclipsed those of the men. And in recent years, some of the outstanding hits have been written by women."

"Women, also, have contributed the large audiences for the more intelligent and thoughtful plays. They do not come to theatres with prepared, bored attitudes, and are appreciative of the new and the stirring."

"Fiesta" in which she will appear, opens at the 52nd Street Theatre. The DAILY WORKER has bought out the house for the week of April 11. Tickets are now on sale at the local office, 108 East 14th Street, Phone Stuyvesant 6584.

### Old Watchmen Killed.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 30.—William Gaskill, 72 years old, watchman at a local coal yard, was found unconscious during a fire in a shack in which a small coal stove had overturned. He died at noon yesterday.