Workers

A PAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS

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Court Upholds Security Act

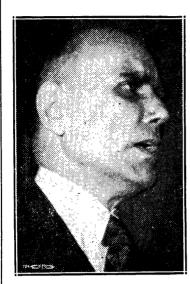
Third "Liberal" Ruling Throws Court Reform **Into Crisis**

The administration's weak and ineffectual Social Security Act was upheld by the Supreme Court in separate decisions, validating its unemployment insurance and oldage pension provisions. The usual liberal-conservative division resulted in 5-4 decisions. The "liberal" wing declared that states' rights were not invaded by such federal legislation, primarily on human-itarian grounds. The accustomed arguments of the bitter-enders were used to oppose this point of view, enlivened by McReynold's extraordinarily bitter words in "defence of the Constitution," denying the right of anybody to interpret the provisions of the Constitution in the light of contemporary needs.

Now that, temporarily, the right of Congress to pass social legislation has been validated, the mist that has enveloped labor's vision can be cleared, and its struggle for real social security need no longer be limited to the stop-gap fraud that is Rooosevelt's Act. The fight for a labor social security bill now must be a fight against the administration measure.

This third "victory" for the administration's program, plus the resignation of Van Devanter, has put a serious crimp in the New Deal's superficial attempts to reform the court. So long as the whole issue has been raised on the basis of personnel, it becomes difficult to gain support on the basis of "5 - 4" decisions—when these rulings are favorable. Next week's Workers Age will carry a detailed analysis of the new situation in regard to the Supreme Court.

DIRECT STRIKES AGAINST STEEL **INDEPENDENTS**



VAN A. BITTNER SWOC Director for Chicago area



PHILLIP MURRAY

Spain Accuses Mussolini; Negrin Gov't Moves Right

New Valencia Cabinet to Restore Property to Expropriated Capitalists and Return Civil Rights **To The Catholic Clergy**

set-back of the Catalonian revolutionists (Anarchists and POUM) and the subsequent establishment of the Negrin Cabinet was expected to result in a swing to the right. This has not been long in coming. The Negrin Cabinet is said to be contemplating the return of certain privileges to the Catholic clergy which they had lost because of their counter-revolutionary and pro-fascist role. In addition, plans are said to have been made for the restoration to capitalist owners of

On the home front the temporary | all confiscated property (land and factories) except certain war industries which will remain under government supervision. These steps, tending to secure a restoration of pre-revolutionary class relations in industry and agriculture, are laying the basis for even greater dissatisfaction among the masses of toilers and for possible new clashes with the Valencia government.

> The military situation has remained practically unchanged except around Bilbao where desperate Basque resistance has stopped Fascist Mola's advance. The frontal attack having failed, Mola is now trying to break thru at the very southernmost tip of the battle front.

In the field of international relations Spain has come forward with an exhaustively documented White Book, entitled "Italian Aggression," in which Julio Alvarez del Vayo tries to prove to the Council of the League of Nations what children in their cradles have learned to accept as a fact-namely that Italy and Germany have violated the mythical neutrality pacts and have flooded Spain with 'volunteers" sent against their will or without their knowledge.

But where international diplomacy is concerned ordinary rules of common sense do not apply. What may be evident to all undiplomatic souls simply does not exist for the astute diplomat who realizes the sad consequences of recognizing facts as facts. If the Spanish representatives intend to convince the world of the justice of its case, that has already been achieved in the course of its heroic struggles against tremendous odds. But if it really hopes to secure League of Nations' action against Italy or Germany it is doomed to bitter disappointment. The league of democratic nations is not at all interested in precipitating action against any fascist power. Hence its determined effort not to see the things it does not want to see.

SWOC STRIKES 27 STEEL PLANTS FOR SIGNED CONTRACTS

Republic and Youngstown Sheet and Tube State Opposition To Signing, But Union Calls Out 80,000 To Force Contract

ONE SIXTH of the entire steel industry, embracing 80,000 steel workers, is affected by the strikes called in the plants of the stubborn independent corporations: Republic, Youngstown Sheet and Tube, and Inland Steel. The Steel Workers Organizing Committee had earlier in the week signed a contract with the Crucible Steel Co. Republic Steel Co. is the backbone of these last remnants of open-shoppism in the steel industry, a major part of which has already been brought to terms by the SWOC.

Terror Spurs

Ford Drive

Beating Of Organizers To Be Protested In Mass Meet

Ford Special Police ruthlessly attacked and beat Richard Frankensteen, Detroit District Organizer for the United Automobile Workers, Walter Reuther, and a group of auto workers who aided in the distribution of union leaflets. This was one of the first attempts to distribute leaflets in the great orive to organize the last citadel of open-shoppism in the auto in-

While Harry Bennett, infamous ing leader of Ford's hordes of hugs and criminals who make up tre Special Police, declared that 'Ford workers" simply expressed their opposition to the union and their undying loyalty to dear old Ford speed-up, published photos of the attack have belied his words, showing these attackers to have carried the usual paraphenalia of the company police: handcuffs, etc.

According to the story of an eyewitness, Rev. Sandford, Frankensteen and Reuther were each atacked by four or five men and pinioned down so that they could be kicked in the groin and stomach.

A mass protest meeting will be held, and an investigation both locally and by the LaFollette Committee is being demanded by the UAWA.

Phillip Murray, leading the organization drive, has publicly charged Republic Steel with being a "veritable arsenal, loaded with guns and ammunition." One person involved in the strike has already been shot by one of the company police.

Both Republic Steel and Youngstown have issued statements declaring that no signed statement is needed since the Wagner Act guarantees collective bargaining and the law of the land needs no additional props in the form of union-employers written agreements, and, furthermore, the SWOC is really aiming at a closed shop, to which they declare themselves in unalterable opposition.

Murray replied to this latter as follows: "I say to you nothing could be further from the truth, and you know it. The strike which is now going on at your properties was precipitated by you and your associates through your refusal to do what 140 other steel companies have done-sign an agreement to pay certain wage rates, recognize certain established hours of work and conditions of employment for a stipulated period."

The argument of Republic and Youngstown that now written agreement is unnecessary because of the Wagner Act is, of course, negated by the very fact that the conditions the CIO and the SWOC are fighting for can and have been won and maintained only through union agreements. Why was there a union movement in the first place if any law granted conditions? Socalled "labor laws" have followed the strengthening of organized labor, not cleared the road for it.

CIO TRANSIT UNION WINS CONTRACT WITH IRT LINE

affiliated to the CIO, which had received about 95% of the votes in Union, with a membership of a recent NLRB election, signed a 14,000 in the New York area, voted contract with the Interborough to leave the American Federation Rapid Transit Company of New of Labor and affiliate with the York. This is the first time in the CIO. Seven locals participated in history of the IRT that it has been the voting. The strides forward forced to deal with a bona fide trade union. The agreement came after the Transport Workers Union had affiliated with the CIO, having been given the runaround by the AFL thru the Machinists Union. The agreement also is the death warrant of the twenty year old company union on the line, the Brotherhood of Interborough Em-

The significance of this agreement was symbolized by the counter-signature of John L. Lewis. It is expected that with this victory a real basis has been laid for the creation of a nation-wide transport union under the aegis of the CIO.

The contract provides for a 10% wage increase, a basic 48 hour week, a minimum wage of \$25. vacations with pay, and the closed

Further gains in winning more workers to the banner of the CIO Workers Organizing Committee.

The Transport Workers Union, marked the week's developments. made by the United Shoe Workers, the CIO union in New England have aided in extending the new militant union of shoe workers.

At the same time, more white collar and professional workers are flocking into the ranks of the CIO. The National Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists, and Technicians, received its charter from the CIO this week, as "the first white collar union to affiliate with the CIO."

The Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants union, which voted last week to affiliate with the CIO. will hold a national convention in Philadelphia, May 30 and 31 for the setting up of an international union of office and professional workers. The call asks all groups affiliated with AFL or CIO or independent to participate in the convention in order to go forward under the CIO. A request will be made to the CIO to form an Office

ALP BACKS BILL BANNING PAY ENVELOPE PROPAGANDA

The Public Affairs Committee of | sion to study the economic and sothe American Labor Party has appealed to Governor Lehman for favorable action on thirteen bills, asked for a veto on two and requested an investigation on two election law amendments.

The bill in which the committee took the greatest interest was the measure sponsored by Assemblyman Suitor to outlaw pay envelope communications designed to influence the votes of employees.

This measure clearly restrains the use of "threats, express or implied," on the part of employers or the posting of any political placards in plants or plant grounds within 90 days of election day.

Other bills which the committee favored are creation of a commis-signer.

cial condition of colored people, salary increases for junior clerical assistants in high schools, the State Wagner Act and three maximum working day and week acts.

The committee also opposed the limitation of educational requirements in Civil Service examination and the exemption of unincorporated associations from the Social Security Act.

In the case of the two amendments to the election law still before the Governor, the committee requested a ruling from the Attorney General. The question at issue is whether the information required under these bills must be filled in by the individual petition

1500 Hear

Wolfe Speak On Spain

the Center Hotel, New York.

The audience listened attentively

o Comrade Wolfe's descriptions of

unyielding spirit of the Spanish

keep up agricultural and industrial

role of Italian and German Fas-

capitalist democracy in attempting

"People's Front France, with its

Socialist Prime Minister, supported

Wolfe stated, "because from it

Dealing with the recent armed

protest of the revolutionary work-

ers of Catalonia against the at-

While the Valencia government

troops from the front in order to

once attempted to bring their own

troops from this front to aid their

justified uprising in Catalonia, be-

gap for Franco on the all impor-

tant Aragon front.

cause this might mean opening a

been shamefully betrayed."

by the Communist Party, is deeply

THE VATICAN AND DARK REACTION

By D. SWIFT

SIX-PAGE leaflet was recent-A ly issued by the New York State Committee of the Communist Party, which reaches a new low of political opportunism. One would have thought that the Communists who have been so badly burned in their philandering with Father Divine and Dr. Townsend, would henceforth be wary of such dubious characters. But apparently Earl Browder and his colleagues have a very high resistance to enlightenment. They are now making eyes Church, founded by God Himself, aforementioned leaflet indicates. It is an out and out bid for a united front with the church of Cardinal Hayes, O'Connell, Dougherty, and Mundelein, the four horsemen of reaction in America. The first two cardinal archbishops are so opposed such conservative papers as the Herald Tribune cannot stomach

But the Communists choose to be more "tolerant" of such enemies of the people. Learning a lesson from Father Coughlin, they quote from and that it is repugnant to reason the encyclicals of Popes Leo XIII to allow free scope for sedition. and Pius XI in the attempt to show that the church has always been for the workers and for progress. What are the facts? It is true that religious duties or to hold in equal Leo XIII said that "A small number of very rich men have been able that the unrestrained freedom of Townsend. There is no pleasure or to lay upon the masses of the poor thinking and of openly making peace in going to bed with a hyena. a yoke little better than slavery." It is true that Pius XI graciously approved "the inalienable right of the workman to a salary which is a Liston Oak Challenges CP the workman to a salary which is a sufficient for himself and family." But it is also true that these re marks were only hooey, on the same order as the similar remarks of Governor Landon during the last presidential campaign. The Catholic Church has always been antilabor and anti-progress in every

Fortress of Darkness

The historians Lecky, Gibbon and Hallam proved long ago that the Catholic Church has always sponsored forgery, slavery, and superstition. Ernst Haeckel, in "The Riddle of the Universe," has said: "It is the despotism of the papacy that lent its darkest character to the Middle Ages; it meant death to all freedom of mental life, decay to all science, corruption to all morality. From the noble height to which the life of the human mind had attained in classical antiquity, in the centuries before Christ and the first century after Christ. it soon sank, under the rule of the papacy, to a level which, in respect of the knowledge of the truth, can only be termed barbarism." Andrew only be termed barbarism. Andrew only be termed barbarism. Andrew only be termed barbarism. fare of Science With Theology in Christendom," shows that with the beginning of the With Theology in Selves imprographic in the Selves in Christendom," shows that with the selves impregnably in positions of beginning of the Eighteenth Cenpower in the Government, in the by recurrent crises. Malaga, like an acceptance by the Anarchists of letarian elements of the country. tury the church has fought every advance in science. It waged a bitter battle against inoculation, vaccination, and the use of anesthetics, just as Pius XI is now fighting

relativity and psychoanalysis. Leo XIII is sometimes referred to as a liberal Pope by both Catholics and liberals. He was no- months in Spain, three of which Catholics and liberals. He was no- months in Spain, three of which Catholics and liberals. He was no- months in Spain, three of which Catholics and liberals. as any good politician does, but in his heart he was a reactionary. The late Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore cannot agree with the official verwas in favor of more subtle opposi- hooligan is as far from the reality thy with the Fascists. They de- and Moors, between monarchists dear American Catholic workers, of shevik common some years ago. In proletarian officials. They demand Franco's military efficiency is also must be the champion of the uncourse. Pope Leo XIII blessed fact the Anarchist is, strangely, a thoroughly proletarian revolu- crippled by internal conflict, and washed, the unregenerate, the every form of political despotism and cursed every form of political vik to be found in Spain to-day, ex-

1, 1885, he said: "To despise legivested, is unlawful, as a rebellion against the divine will, and whosoever resists that, rushes wilfully to destruction. . . . To cast aside obedience, and by popular violence to incite to revolt, is therefore treason, not against man only, but of Errors, issued on December 8. against God."

Catholic Theocracy In the same encyclical Leo XIII

came out against the separation of

Church and State: "To exclude the at the Catholic Church, as the from the business of life, from the power of making laws, from the training of youth, from domestic society, is a grave and fatal error." As for the Bill of Rights, he said, "The liberty of thinking, and of and even to rebel against them. publishing, whatsoever each one to all forms of progress that even in itself an advantage over which society can wisely rejoice. On the Boston Herald and the New York contrary, it is the fountain-head of many evils." The good liberal Pope | Church's position is kindergarten Leo XIII went even further: "It is evident that the origin of public knowledge of every mature man power is to be sought for in God and woman — including Stalin, Himself, and not in the multitude, Browder, Hathaway, Charles Again, that it is not lawful for the state, any more than for the individual, either to disregard all favor different kinds of religion;

it is by no means to be reckoned worthy of favor and support." In other words, the Pope was against democracy and free speech, and in favor of Catholic theocracy. He repeated these views time and time again, especially in the encyclicals "Sapientiae Christianae" and "Longinque Oceani." Pope Leo XIII couldn't believe

policy of the Catholic Church for centuries, as it still is today. Pope Pius IX, in his celebrated Syllabus 1864, codified the Church's reaction for the first time, in the form of 80 errors, which "in every respect are . . . reprobated, proscribed, and condemned." Three of these "condemned errors" are the follow-

ing:
"55. The Church ought to be separated from the State, and the State from the Church. "63. It is allowable to refuse

obedience to legitimate Princes, "80. The Roman Pontiff can and likes, without any hindrance, is not ought to reconcile and harmonize himself with liberalism and with

modern civilization." This rapid analysis of the stuff, and should be part of the Krumbein, and even Moissaye Olgin, the super-Marxist of the Freiheit. By flirting with the Catholic Church the Communist Party is making itself even more ridiculous than by its former flirting with Father Divine and Dr.

Catalonian Anarchists Not The Villains of Plot But mood of the popes; its piece-de-Nearest Approach To Bolsheviks, Says Former Communist Party Writer

We reprint below excerpts from an article in the May 15, 1937 issue of The New Statesman and Nation" published in London. The article is written "Militant struggle for basic human hated by America almost as much by Liston M. Oak, well known to all readers of the American Communist rights is part of Catholic tradi- as Communism by Catholics. With

Liston M. Oak states that he worked for several months for the Valencia government. His estimate of the Barcelona events is therefore all the more surprising since it in no way follows the official Communist version.

In a number of essentials his statements are borne out by our own conributor Comrade Bertram D. Wolfe who has just returned from Spain. Com- maintain, and hence the Comintern ade Wolfe will discuss all phases of the Spanish situation in a series of articles under the Stalinist dictatorship, to begin soon.—Editor.

If they had struck nine months; ago, or even three months ago, they would have been able to capture power. After the Fascist repower in the Government. in the

has grown too strong for them.

thing of the sort. Occasionally he were spent working for the Valen- eral Asencio and Colonel Villalba weaken them in a struggle for in this country, no social pressure, would spout some liberal phrases, cia Government. I profoundly re- were removed from the War Min- power against a party which is as no benisons, boons, arguments, once had a historic battle with him sion of events which makes the charge that there are still many It is indeed fortunate that there can be no new social order. Comwith regard to the Knights of Anarchists the villains of the plot. Generals and others accupying is even greater friction among the munists who fail to foresee this in-Labor. The Pope came out openly The common conception of an An- high positions who are counter- forces under Franco—between dubitable truth are babbling idiots. against it, while Cardinal Gibbons archist as a wild irresponsible revolutionists, secretly in sympa- Spaniards and Germans and Italians Sheer common sense shouts that tion—all for the sake of the dear, as the same conception of a Bol- mand the removal of all such anti- and Fascists and right republicans. take up the Catholic challenge. It

the calibre of Trotsky or Stalin.

The Barcelona and Valencia Governments have been partially parabellion was defeated in Catalonia lyzed from their beginnings by of the constituent organizations of to Russia against German-Italianthe People's Front Government. Their effectiveness on the military POUM leader, told me last week. field as well as on the economic war, because the Government ism and Leninism.

known one's thoughts is not inherent in the rights of citizens, and it is by no mans to be realized. THE CP BOGGED IN THE PAPAL MIRE

By EDWARD SMITH

differently. What he said was the Yea, the Catholics, with papal enships, bang and bust the Communist buttocks but the little brothers and sisters of Moscow turn the other cheeks. New prayers exorcising Communists are in the Catholic Raccolta; Catholic Action is whipping the faithful into a frenzy for a new crusade against anti-Christ; Tammany (the secular arm of holy mother church) through Ozanam is cleaning out Communists from the W.P.A. and Home Relief; the B.I. of the local gendarmes is listing every radical from pink to red for boycott; the inquisition is on in trade unions for the purpose of busting out Communists; yea, the four horsemen of the Catholic apocalypse ride herd on the Reds but they, like early Christians, shrink into their catacombs and incant their litanies to a United Front. In the face of vituperation, mayhem and inquisition, they issue pietistic tracts bleating the message that, after all, Jesus Christ and Karl Marx are brothers under the skin-and Catholics with perfect propriety can sleep in the same bed with

A Sorry Spectacle In point of unctuous phrasing no encyclical of any pope can match that of the Stalinites handed out that of the Stalinites handed out on May Day last. This dodger or blurb or pamphlet has on its surface a legend from Pope Leo XIII -"A small number of very rich On Catalan Events Version men have been able to lay upon the masses of the poor a valed little the masses of the poor a yoke little better than slavery." The rest of the pamphlet maintain this dulcet the certainty that Catholicism canresistance is the ringing battlecry; an uncanny genius in picking dying -"We Communists defend your right to YOUR religion!" Franco stand that the United States was the Spanish butcher will enjoy also this Communist testimonial; ism' and that today Catholicism is tion." Dozens of thousands of Spanish corpses also will be edified; look at the record—of American "beautus qui tenebit et allidet par-

tories and farms. The Soviet Government, they want no revolution in Spain or anywhere else at present for fear The Anarchists waited too long. have no Lenin—nor even a leader of it would weaken the chances of a military alliance with England as with France. Soviet Russia seeks security and will sacrifice the Spanish Revolution because Anglo-French imperialism demands it as these conflicts and by the rivalries the price of possible military aid Japanese aggression, Andres Nin. He said that the only hope of sav- | million are the cannaille and dis-

| vulos tuos ad petram-blessed shall THE humility and sweet reasonable the man who bashes his babies' ableness of the Stalinite brains out on a rock." The reading brethern passeth understanding. of this Communist pamphlet will inspire piety in Convents and cyclicals and rubber hose and leaky risibilities in chanceries—sorrow among real revolutionists. The yellow flag of the Petrine See side by side with the hammer and sickle of the Moscow See! O Lenin-Pax

Kissing the pope's toe is not a very sensible procedure for people who pit, theoretically at least, economic determinism against supernatural determinism. Only fools try to reconcile the two. If Marx is right, the pope is wrong and the united-fronters a pack of cuckoos. It's not a question of pleasant disoutation but one of grim realism. The bone and marrow and blood and flesh of Catholicism has fought for two thousand vears to establish cumenical sovereignty over mankind. It scorns Democracy. It says that God categorically gave it (the church) dominion over all secular powers and Catholics must fight to the death any person or any philosophy that sets secular government over that of the church. The pages of history reek with human blood spent in this struggle for mastery. Germany under Martin Luther, France, Mexico, England under Henry the Eighth, Spain under the Inquisition, Spain today under its new Inquisition against heretics. States. In the face of this sure prophecy the Stalinites, like fatuous fools, yelp for love and kisses and fraternity in a struggle for bread.

Catholicism Cannot Win

The bitterness of the jest lies in not win. Official Communists have horses. They seem unable to underconceived in definite anti-Catholicno apologies to Al Smith, let us church strengths: Catholic

Baptist

10.191.697

Methodist 9.067.561 Jewish 4.081.242 Lutheran 4.568.300 Presbyterian 2.681,265 Episcopal 1,897,136 Disciples of Ch. 1,012,953 Eastern Ortho. These figures are the 1935 ptimistic estimates of the churches themselves. They total 47,636,884 Americans leaving about 80,000,000 with no church affiliations whatsoever. These eighty

army and in the police force. But Toledo and other cities, was prac- a Bolshevik line of action. That They have no God inhibiting their now the coalition of Communists, tically handed over to Franco's hope seems dim; however fine their understanding of Kark Marx. They Socialists, and Left Republicans forces. All has been quiet on the revolutionary spirit the Anarchists have no church holding them to Aragon front, key to winning the have an implacable hatred of Marx- social conformity. In the long run they will write the history of capdared not give the Anarchists and Their lack of political clarity, italism in the United States and I left Barcelona the day before the POUM militiamen too many the absence of any consistent political that history will be in one word— Communism in the United States emancipation. In his encyclical, "Immortale Dei," issued November munists. But unfortunately they army and police, and of fac- the anti-Fascist forces. Europe Today

by Lambda

THE CATALONIAN UPRISING

NOT the bourgeois press alone but also the socialist and the communist press of the entire world have sent forth a socialist and the outlaw those organizations as well tween CNT-FAI and the POUM for as disarm especially those members class-warfare); b) the creation of dense smoke screen of lies, slanders and misinterpretations in who took part in the events at Barconnection with the recent events in Catalonia. Small wonder, celona. In such a job as this, detersince it was necessary to befog the bold assault on the forces guarantees for success." (reported of the proletarian revolution, to justify this assault and to sup- in L'Humanite, 5-10-37) port it. And the counter-revolutionary front, on this occasion, fraternally embraced the liberal bourgeoisie, the socialists and

CNT-FAI, the armed forces of the

volt. A large part of the PSUC

police-force was disarmed by the

workers. The PSUC, however, suc-

Colon, is situated. Following Bar-

workers of the rest of Catalonia

A Temporary Truce

3. President Companys turned

for help to the Valencia Govern-

ment and even tried-in vain to be

sure—to summon troops from the

4. Hostilities were terminated

with a provisional compromise.

The revolutionaries are to retain

Aragon front to his aid!

also rose up in arms.

the official communist parties.
Lined up on the opposite side were only the Anarcho-Syndicalists, the POUM and sections of the assault- shoulder were the workers of the guards and civil guards. From the revolutionary side, news has been POUM and sections of the assaultcoming through scantily and be- and civil-guards, the same sections latedly. Thus, although a number which had been fighting on the of details are still obscure, the general nature of the recent events in to suppress the fascist-military re-Catalonia is clear enough.

Reaction Prepares Its Forces The following are the significant

1. For months preparations were made by the united bourgeois and reformist forces (the latter embodied in Catalonia by the PSUC, affiliated with the Comintern) in league with corresponding forces in the Valencia Government, inspired, encouraged and supported by the Comintern and the Communist Party of the Soviet Unions, finally to disarm the revolutionary Catalonian workers—who are the main obstacle to a complete capitalist restoration, to a liquidation of revolutionary gains of the July days of 1936, the main obstacle also to a rotten compromise between the "democratic" and the fascist-militarist bourgeoisie of Spain. On Monday, May the 3rd, 1937,

at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the Generalidad staged a provocative, counter-revolutionary assault on its party grouping but made up of the telephone exchange building, Barcelona, which was then occupied jointly by the troops of the CNT and UGT, the CNT being predominant. This was the hour at which a considerable number of the occupants were out for lunch. The attack was led by the representative of the Ministry of the Interior, Salas, at the head of police-squads, assault - and national-guards. The purpose of the raid was to begin to This is revealed in a decree by the disarm the revolutionary working Valencia Government which declass of Catalonia and to place be- mands the surrender of weapons yond dispute the setting up of a by all "civilians" and threatens police-force loyal to the bourgeois- those who do not yield them up reformist coalition. Despite the with severe penalties. Naturally shock of surprise, the raid on the the Catalonian workers won't pertelephone exchange building failed, due to the heroic defense put up scraps of paper. According to a by the occupants. The raiders had news item in the "Batalla" the Vaby the occupants. The raiders had to withdraw, but the occupants withdrew likewise. A mutual agreement was reached according to which neither of the contending sides was to occupy the building. 2. Presently the revolutionary workers of Barcelona rose up in Valencia the General Secretary of arms and went into the street. In the CP of Spain, Jose Diaz, de-

Spanish Revolution.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

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months) for my subscription to Workers Age.

encia Government. 5. It is clear, furthermore, that the bourgeois-reformist block in Catalonia and in Valencia is not dropping its scheme to disarm the revolutionary workers but is continuing to work towards this goal. mit themselves to be disarmed by lencia Government has sent, by sea-route, 5000 well-armed policetroops to Barcelona. An additional proof of what is to be expected are the mad ravings of the CP of Spain against the POUM. In a meeting in every quarter of the city barri- manded among other things: "The cades sprang out of the ground. It Government, now that it has rewas again as in the July days stored order, must go the limit and

BERTRAM D. WOLFE

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mination and speed are the safest stricts, factories and shops. As to The dissolution of the POUM and

the arrest of its leaders was explicitly demanded by Diaz. The driving force of the PSUC and of the CP of Spain in counter-revolutionary activities, and their determination to continue these, are thus openly revealed.

CP Counter-Revolutionary

6. The official communist press casts cowardly defamation and suspicion on the workers of Catalonia, calling them "the tools of ceeded in holding the northern sec- Hitler and Mussolini." Leading the tor of the Catalonian Square where procession is the honorable Peri, its party headquarters, the Hotel foreign correspondent of the Paris "Humanite." It is sufficient to quote celona's lead, the revolutionary the headline of his article: "Attempted Hitler Putsch in Barcelona Victoriously Suppressed."

for Barcelona, "Solidaridad Obrera," at the outbreak of the hostilities, exhorted the workers not to surrender their weapons under any conditions and to consider anyone who attempts to disarm them as fighting on the wrong side of the barricade. The rank and file of the CNT and the FAI furnished most side with the revolutionary forces the POUM, together controlling their weapons. Neither the manner of the militant fighters in the in which this compromise was ac- streets. As to the steps taken by solidarity with them. Profound dis- militia on the Aragon front, never complished nor its specific and the leadership of the CNT-FAI in trust of all reports issued by their complete nature is as yet known. the course of the conflict, and as Of further measures only this to the circumstances under which much is known: a) a new provi- the compromise was transacted, it

8. The armed forces of the the telephone exchange building, different personalities; b) the posituated at Catalonian Square in lice functions of Catalonia, as well side of the CNT.FAI The main the caustomary role as s the command over the Catalonian troops will be taken over by izations who fight for a victory lutionary crime, must be held to (this means a practical alliance be- deeds of counter-revolution.

COMBINATION OFFER NO. 1

committees for the defense of the Spain," at a mass meeting held in revolution in all residential disdemands, the POUM formulated the following: Deposition of Rodri- the heroic defense of Madrid; the guez Salas, Barcelona's Chief of Police, and directly responsible for masses which enabled them to the provocation; annulment of the decree concerning public order, production at a furious pace; the that is concerning the setting up of a counter-revolutionary police- cism, and English and American corps. Public order must lie in the hands of the workers! No addi- to strangle the Spanish Revolution. tional compromise! Fransition from defensive tactics to a counter-at-

The slogan of the "committees hated by the Spanish masses, for the defence of the revolution" means actual formation of soviets, they expected more and by it have suitable to cope with the situation.

Revolution Will Go Forward

The role and the methods of the bourgeois - reformist coalition in tempts to disarm them and supthis counter-revolutionary stroke press the Workers' Patrols, Wolfe are wholly analogous to those of put an end to the slanders of "irthe Ebert - Scheidemann - Noske responsible" and "uncontrollable" 7. The syndicalist central organ clique of 1918-19 in Germany. How- directed at the Anarchist workers ever, the forces of resistance by their reformist enemies. the proved infinitely stronger than Communist and Socialist Parties of had been the case in Germany at Spain. that time. The revolutionary workers are still neither vanquished nor toyed with the idea of withdrawing disarmed. The revolutionary workers of all suppress the revolutionary work-

other countries must energetically ers, the Anarcho-Syndicalists and of Catalonia and express their about 80% of the working-class adversaries should be maintained. The ICO, in a resolution, has affirmed its unqualified solidarity sional government will be formed, is impossible to gain complete with the militant resistance of the identical with the outgoing one in clarity from the available reports. Catalonian workers and especially with the line taken by the POUM;

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Despite the counter-revolutionary side of the CNT-FAI. The main the counter-revolutionary role as- ment, "the Catalonian workers slogans issued by the POUM dur- sumed by the organizations of the have not been disarmed and will ing the conflict were: a) a revolu- CI, and has demanded that those not be disarmed," Wolfe stated General Pozas, by order of the Va- tionary workers' front of all organ- responsible for this counter-revo- amid great applause. The internal policies of the Spanagainst fascism at the front and a account for it. This is no longer a ish Communist Party have placed

victory for the revolution at home. question of "deviations" but bloody it in the position of outright class becrayal and treason. While the Anarcho-Syndicalists have broken with traditional apolitical anarchism and are moving to a revolutionary Marxist position, the Comnunist Party moves further right. n Spain, Wolfe showed, the most ommunist organization, with a real Leninist line is the POUM. which is rapidly ridding itself of Trotskyist remnants, and, on the Spanish revolution, has a complete-Leninist line.

The trade unions, including the UGT, except in Catalonia where it is a post-revolutionary growth controlled by the Communist Party, and actually bourgeois in character, do not support the new rightwing government at Valencia. Wolfe emphasized...

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TRUE TO FORM

THE Cincinnati conference of the A. F. of L. ran true to form. It was expected to be a lynching bee against the CIO and it turned out to be nothing else. Its accomplishments are: to raise per capita taxes from one to two cents to fill the war chest against the CIO; to deepen the split by ordering the mandatory expulsion of all CIO affiliates from central labor bodies; to build dual organizations in industries organized or controlled by the CIO.

The employers of labor should be happy for the American Federation of Labor has thus written upon its banner the slogan "DISORGANIZE THE OR-GANIZED"!

A number of organizations openly declared their intention not to pay the tax. The executive council will soon also feel the widespread resentment and indignation from their own local unions to these shameful acts.

The decisions of the Cincinnati conference will go a long way to speed the American Federation of Labor to its doom.

THE CONNERY BILL

THE Black Connery Bill proposing to regulate wages and hours in industry, constitutes recognition by the present administration in Washington, that the tides for social legislation are still running high in the ranks of labor.

To the extent that the bill provides for outlawing from interstate commerce commodities produced in factories employing persons under 16, strike breakers or spies, or subjecting labor to inhumanly long hours and starvation wages, to that extent it is a great step in the direction of recognizing the evils under which labor has been forced to work; to that extent it tends to bolster some of the positive features of the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

But what about rectifying the ills that labor is suffering in industry? Regulation of minimum hours and wages presupposes stipulated minimums below which industry cannot go on pain of governmental action. But these minimums, understood to be 40 hours per week and 40 cents per hour, are not provided for in the Bill. Whatever minimums Administration leaders have in mind will not be known until such time as the Bill is passed and the Labor Standards Board of five, provided for in the Bill. render some decision. In effect therefore the Bill merely recognizes the value of such minimums but passes on to some new agency the task of ascertaining what these minimums are to be.

For labor, especially that section which has not yet been involved in the whirlwind organization campaigns unleashed by the CIO, guaranteed minimums in hours and wages are of incalculable significance. But the stipulated minimums are woefully inadequate. Without federal regulation of hours, the most important inter-state industries show a workweek of slightly more than 41 hours, according to the National Industrial Conference Board. A minimum of 40 hours with elastic provisions for overtime therefore represents no significant improvement over present standards. For several years labor has been fighting for the 30-hour week. The same applies to the minimum hourly rate of 40 cents. A recent study of the Department of Labor covering over 100 industries shows that practically all pay an average of 40 cents.

Where these minimums would actually constitute an improvement of conditions—the South and other rural communities-the Presidential message stipulates that the Board will have the power to adjust the rates downward because "there are geographical and industrial diversities which practical statesmanship cannot wholly ignore." In other words the white worker in the South is to continue to work under the hated "differential"—a curse for trade unionism -and the Negro worker on a scale still lower because "practical statesmanship" demands that the competitive position of Southern industry be maintained as against Northern industry. What then becomes of the President's argument for federal action because "they see the problem from the point of

view of their own locality or region"? There is always the danger that the 40-40 minimums may tend to become the maximum. This occurred during the NRA days. It can be obviated only through the strength of trade union organization. (Continued next column)

MINE UNION SHOWS WAY TO END HARLAN TERROR

By EUGENE COEBURN

Harlan County terror campaign, written by a Negro miner who has spent many years working in that region.

TARLAN COUNTY is the largest coal producing county in Kentucky, the total tonnage output being almost as great as the next three coal producing counties. The principle mining towns are Lynch, Benham and Cumberland. These three are the source of approximately 60% of the captive coal production of U.S. Steel. (Another captive coal resource of U.S. Steel is located in the Gary, W. Va. area). Other outside companies

controlling captive coal mines in Harlan are the Ford Motor Co. and the International Harvester Co., Kentucky has 58,295 workers employed by coal companies and approximately 16,000 of these are in Harlan county. Competition be-tween the independents and the captive coal corporations is extinct, pecause all coal mined by the independents finds a ready market with the captive corporations. Thus results the broad united front of the coal independents and the captive coal trust in the Harlan County Coal Operators Association.

Focal Point of Probe

The focal point of the investigaabuses of the privately paid deputy n long use throughout the entire coal fields of eastern Kentucky. It ty Tax Commission. grew up with the industry. Being a town, it discards all the subterfuges of upholding so-called law ted the allocation of large sums to and order and openly declares its the sheriff's office, which in turn real purposes of serving the best has provided the personal fortune interest of the company or ope- of the Sheriff through speculation rator. Concretely, espionage and with these funds under the guiding tucky areas fully organized by the Thus public money serves a double UMWA the viciousness of the sys- purpose. First, it finds its way tem has been reduced to a mini- through the usual channels of taxnum. The union forces the operator to incorporate the company town a private "war chest" against the and set up some form of constitutional government. As a result the Although the operators have emorganized miners are able to coniring of law officers. These officers has proven to be the most lucrative are drafted from the union mem- of county jobs, because of the bership rolls. In one of these towns | dominant role it plays in union the local union president serves as suppression and consequently the chief of police with an entire corps | speculative privileges granted to it of union members as officers. But to the regret of the labor movement of America no such condition exists in Harlan county.

Prior to the hearings, committee

Governmental guarantees, even were they adequate, can never take "Lord High Executioner" for the the place of trade unions as class | Harlan County Coal Operators Asorgans for defense of the conditions sociation and Middleton's chief

of federal regulation of hours and fore the investigation to the wages but cannot accept the pro- delight of the coal operators. This posed minimums. Increases in hour- mountain gangster has figured in ly minimums are never a certain more murders in Harlan County indication of an improved living than any other single individual. standard. It is the total annual | He even went so far as to dynamite wage that tells the story. Therefore to shreds a brother of Middleton organized labor could best answer who had union sympathies. the present Bill by proposing one guaranteeing minimum hours and Harlan County Coal Operators, told a minimum annual wage.

| unionism, deputy sheriffs on the This is the second article on the pay-roll of the HCCOA, various petty officials of coal companies. the sheriff and commonwealth attorney of Harlan county. The committee took great pains to "local-

ize" the investigation, for at no point was the investigation extended to those who actually formed the Harlan county labor policy They felt that Lewis, Murray and Kennedy should be satisfied with this concession and any extension of the probe would disturb the present "good-will" existing be tween the Roosevelt administration and the masters of Big Steel.

It was revealed through Sherif Middleton's own admission that h had amassed \$102,722 during the four years he has served as Sheriff. This former Harlan bootlegger disclosed that he had close business connections with several coal companies which employ his deputies as mine guards. He also testified that he owned about \$1,500 worth of stock in one of the coal company commissaries, which paid him 170% dividends annually. When asked to reveal further the source of his income. Middleton suffered a loss of memory and repeated his reliance on constitutional immunities to further questions of this nature. But cutting through the maze of legal red tape that led the committee up many blind alleys, the source of this booty could be established easily -not by searching for the noning committee centered upon the existent records of the Harlan County Coal Operators Association system. The system itself has been but by examining closely the records of the thriving Harlan Coun-

Controlling both county political vicious by-product of the company machines, the Harlan County Coal Operators Association has permiterrorism directed against miners and protective hands of the Harnclined towards unionism. In Ken- lan bankers and coal operators. ation money. Secondly, it serves as threat of unionism in the county ployed over 400 deputy sheriffs paid rol the local government and sub- directly from their private funds equently control the hiring and the public office of county sheriff

Links to Political Control

Another interesting aspect of the nvestigation was seen in the indications of revolt in Middleton's nvestigators had been working private "army of deputies." Not quietly in Harlan, interviewing against the "Murder Regime" but prospective witnesses and acquain- against Middleton's unusual "kickting themselves with the general back" system of paying off. The structure of the county govern- official salary for the average ment. Most of this work had been deputy ranged between \$150 and ably covered by the UMWA, who \$200 a month, with a bonus for actually pushed and laid the special work. It was revealed that ground-work for the investigation. Middleton required all deputies to Called to the witness stand were "kick-back" to him all in excess of organizers who had worked in Har- \$75 of their salary. This racket lan, union sympathizers who had has been the source of much paid a price for their loyalty to grumbling within the ranks of the leputies.

Deputy Sheriff Ben Unthank competitor for the more lucrative Labor should accept the principle office of sheriff, "disappeared" be-

George S. Ward, secretary (Continued on Page 6)

George F. Miles

TRADE UNION **NOTES**

THE convention of the International Union of Fur Workers is now over and altho CP spokesmen had foretold dire consequences should the union affiliate with the CIO, precisely that has occured and by a majority of 94 to 4.

The leaders of the New York organization, among them Ben Gold, now international president, opposed a motion to affiliate with the CIO on the very eve of the convention. Since the convention voted in exactly the opposite manner, it became necessary for them to explain the complete change of face in a matter of some ten days. Surely the argument of "change of conditions," usually given for such political somersaults, is somewhat too thin. The resourceful Ben Gold therefore thought up another one. The Daily Worker, speaking of course for Ben Gold, says in its issue of May 24:

"The Lovestoneite delegates had likewise been exposed on their irresponsible claim that their proposal in New York to instruct delegates to vote for affiliation with the CIO was rejected at a membership meeting because 'it came from them.' The convention demonstrated that leaving the issue to the convention is what made possible the almost unanimous decision.

In this quotation even the factional bias of Gold is forced to admit that the Lovestoneites were in the forefront of the fight for CIO affiliation and that the CP was against it. But we quite agree with the Daily Worker on the reason for Gold's and Potash's opposition. No, they did not oppose the proposal because the Lovestoneite's favored it, they opposed it because the Communist Party opposed it, because the Communist Party still talked about peace and unity and how important it was for the unions to remain in the A. F. of L. in order to fight for industrial unionism. This is precisely the line followed by the leadership of the furriers until the CP staged a sudden about-face which was frantically executed by a number of CP led unions among them the furriers.

In other words, the statement that they opposed affiliation to the CIO because of a desire to get a unanimous decision is throwing sand in the workers' eyes. They opposed it because the CP opposed it, they later favored it because the CP had changed its mind and favored affiliation.

CEVERAL times we remarked in this column on the strange case of the fur union delegates to the last A. F. of L. convention casting their ballots for suspension of the CIO unions. On one occasion we expressed our doubt about Ben Gold's declaration that he had not the slightest intimation of the manner in which the delegation intended to vote, and said that it was difficult to swallow such a statement in the light of the fact that one of the delegates-Begoon—is an official of the New York Joint Council which Ben Gold manages. It is difficult to believe, we said, that Gold, knowing that Begoon was leaving for the convention, where he would speak also for the New York furriers, "forgot" or did not think it necessary to ask Begoon's opinion on a question which was on the tip of the tongue of every trade unionist in this country.

These remarks rankled in the breast of Ben Gold for he called time out during this convention in Chicago to take issue with Workers Age. Mindell, one of the three delegates to the Tampa convention arose and "declared as just a 'plan lie' a report circulated by the Lovestoneites through their paper that Gold had anything to do or advised the three to vote as they did."

This Gold-inspired declaration for the record explains nothing and clears up even less. It still does not answer the question we posed even tho every word of it were the gospel truth—which it isn't. The day before the above statement was made, the same Mindell said in the course of a meeting of the Resolutions Committee that he did not see why he should be criticised for his vote at the Tampa convention, that he understood from Lucchi and Begoon that Gold had agreed to give them a free hand in the convention on the CIO question. Just what happened in the twenty-four hours following to change Mr. Mindell's mind so thoroly?

It seems to us that Gold had better have let matters rest where they were. His explanations have not helped him in the least. Nor will a new denial by Mr. Mindel be of any great assistance.

(Continued on Page 6)

BOOKS of the AGE

INTERRACIAL JUSTICE. John LaFarge. America Press, New York, 1937. \$2.00. Reviewed by George Streator

There seems to be no end to four hundred years has undertaken | EDITOR.) the task of recruiting the Negro for salvation. Heretofore, only those colored people born in dominant Catholic regions chanced to ers, white collar workers and bossbe blessed with proper holy waters. es. Jews are excluded. It is made The rest were left to Protestant sin. But among those blessed by Trade Unions that the Nazi Party the proper choice of locale (a thing seized on May 2nd, 1933, by throwworked out by close agreement ing out the old leaders and replacwith Heaven), few of them worked up higher than the level reserved for Indians, Chinese, Greek and Coptic faithful. That is to say, the obligatory. Workers are forbid-American Church had its little system of race exclusion just like the Protestant non-believers.

Father John LaFarge, S.J., on of the outstanding liberals in the ranks of scholarly Jesuits (many the Labor Front. Any worker who leading Catholics are where they are by a combination of Tammany politics and blarney), has given us his treatment on "Interracial Justice." But like most of the heathen works on the varied subjects of human cruelty to its fellowman, Father LaFarge's study misses rank and file of the faithful seldom and its SA men and the state powmost of the points. After all, the know what the cultured few are er, the problem of incorporating

dreaming. The upper crust of the Church is dreaming world empire, political power, capitalist investments. stocks and bonds. The lower part of the great organization is occupied with confessionals and small But even now, the employers' or political favors. The Negro membership in America gets neither. The Southern Church is as Jim- ganization and leadership, in con-Crow as the great university of trast to the workers who have Notre Dame, the outstanding tem- been wholly absorbed into the Laple of big-time football for the bor Front. It is interesting to note holy white. And to watch a Knights that, in the authoritarian state, of Columbus parade looking for a only the employers are allowed a Negro, is one of the best tests de- certain amount of autonomy. vised for patient, unrewarded watching. (Try it, when restless.) But there are few other ways to arouse such patient interest.

not make me laugh. Father. If I kick a poodle in its belly and the Justice Van Devanter. pup yelps at me, how would it

The appearance of a scattering of black men as conductors on the The Ku Klux Klan talks race puri- that exists to organize the leisure concept of socialism. National so-City-owned 8th Ave. subway system ty, and the Communist Party digs time and social life of the work- cialism does not aim at the reorseems not to have decreased travel. up a hoary piece of Negro nation- ers, along the lines of the Italian ganization of society and the naths type. But if some filthy New York daily alism, trying to construct a minorlaunches a pogrom against these ity nation in a young, heterogemen, there will be enough half- neous country. Dark people from wits to fire shots at them from the the Levant and light-skinned peostation platforms. When Lenin out- ple from Ethiopia are a fitting anlawed anti-Jewish pogroms, and swer to all such intellectual strainsupported his common sense by proper force, the Cossacks began It is impossible to do much thru to lose their bloodthirtyness, and the Catholic Church. With money they did it without recourse to deep in real estate, it will not reading sessions in Dostoevsky!

friends, voted against Herndon like Church.

| The Labor Front--School For National Socialism

on the Worker In The Third Fuehrer of the Front. He is ap-REICH. Last week the author dealt pointed by Hitler. The Vice-Chair-Christian miracles. The American with the Nazi set-up in the factory, men and Secretaries are not electsection of the Roman Catholic the employer as Fuhrer, and the re- ed as in the old Trade Union; they Church, after a "brief" lapse of vival of the serf-like WORK BOOK are appointed by the Leader of the

By G. S.

The Labor Front includes workup chiefly of members of the old ing them by devoted national socialists. In theory, joining the Labor Front is optional; in fact, it is den to form any other trade or professional union. The regime has given the Labor Front all rights within the social domain". Many factories employ only members of does not join is considered hostile to the regime and the consequen ces of this, during these times of depression, is the loss of his job. While the seizure of the old trade unions was accomplished

vithout any great resistance, due to the pressure of the Nazi Party the employers in the Labor Front was much harder to accomplish For a long time many employers' associations continued to exist in dependently. The employers were not actually in until March 1935. ganizations keep their former cadres, and separate sectional or-

The Labor Front—School of National Socialism The internal structure of the La

bor Front is based on regional and "The historical causes of race professional divisions. The workprejudice among Catholics have ers of a certain branch, for examnot yet been satisfactorily and ple the miners, the metal workers completely analyzed," says Father and the food workers, are organ-LaFarge (page 134). But, in keep- ized in large units. As to regioning with all majority groups in- al organization, this is determined volved in this sort of clumsy reas- according to the jurisdiction of oning, Father LaFarge proceeds to Treuhander. Each local and dispoint out that "Every social ten- trict is organized and administered dency produces a reaction, and it along the lines of the Nazi Party. would be strange if white preju- The Labor Front is really a subdice against the Negro were not section of the Nazi Party and is met by a certain degree of Negro controlled by the Party. The head prejudice against the white." Do of the political organization of the

Father LaFarge has devoted sound if I ran about whining that Chapter XII to the typical, hedging the pup did not smile when I kicked reasoning on social equality, intermarriage, and social justice. Is it impossible to do anything about it?

open up a desirable low rent re-Father LaFarge is dependent up- gion to Negro tenants any more on Protestant studies of education than it will open it up to Jews, if to reach conclusions even of the it is likely to loose a few pennies Catholic, segregated membership. in the transaction. (As a rule, no-"Oh yes," the holy one might have body loses money renting to Nesaid, "We have some Negro work groes). The Catholic Church is going on in the South, but bless buried in bonds, stocks, oil wells, me, I have never heard of it." A railroads, and steamship lines. The few segregated mission schools, best place for Father LaFarge to frequently inferior in quality to concentrate is on Catholic capital. anything the Baptists and Meth- The exclusion of Negroes from the odists have produced, is the Catho- upper levels of employment is the lic contribution. And do not forget great sin. Father. But a glance at it, the Catholic Supreme Court Spain and Tammany Hall convinces Judge who grew up with Negro nobody of the righteousness of the

(This is the second of two articles | Party, Ley, is at the same time Labor Front. Often enough in this "Workers' State" a leading manufacturer is named Fuehrer of the workers in his branch!

Though the Labor Front is replacing the workers' Trade Unions its characteristics are entirely different. The unions were free and independent organizations, recognized as the representatives of the workers and as the spokesmen of the working masses. They bargained collectively with the employers' associations, and determined the wages and conditions of the worker. They gave benefits to their members for strike or sick relief, and represented them in the courts during fights with the

In contrast, the Labor Front has no say in fixing the wages and working conditions. This has been leader of the enterprise. However without having the powers and readministration of the treasuries dream of paying the debts left by some of the old unions, or of liquidating their estates to do so. mined by civil law, but by political the aim of confiscation." The resomething to gain, but no recogni-

that its members pay dues, simi- rying out the legal philosophy of ing their domination over the great lar to those of the old unions. To the courts. Any criticism of or mass." Or else: "The participation make sure of payment the employers make the deduction from the the SA or the SS, or even a re- that is, in the administration of inpay check, and hand it over to the fusal to give the Hitler salute, is dustry, is nothing but Marxism. Labor Front. It seems that the ample justification for loss of a Labor Front, what with regular job. dues and the confiscated treasuries of the old unions has an exnto millions. How is it used?

No Benefits For Workers

relief and benefits for old age, sickness and invalidity. However the benefits are no longer given as right, but according to need. In the majority of cases the workers do not even get back the value of their dues, generally paid regular- is the field of battle, and the comly over a number of years. The munity barracks of "real social-Labor Front also patronizes the ism". This real socialism differs organization "Joy Through Work", remarkably from the traditional 'Dopolavoro". But most of the tional economy. "National social expenses are financed by direct ism recognizes private property contributions from the workers. and places it under the protection



CLASS PEACE IN FRANCE

has to keep the "Peace of Labor", is a heroic and masculine socialthat is the reconciliation of intereree of the Third Reich, to the ests between workers and employed by compromises that are in keeping with national-socialist whole people; it was this type of unions the Labor Front has the principles. This is the use allocated to funds once spent on strike Prussian kings to build our army relief. Actually any attempt to and our civil service, this socialcated from the old unions. Though they took all estates they did not code has a series of strict punishof one's job, while the new penal ments for such a "crime"

The main object of the Labor The rights and duties concerned Front is the permeation of the and circuses. They can never with these estates are not deter- working masses with the National understand an ideal. We can never Socialist doctrines. That is the reaconsiderations, and especially by son why such a vast and expensive number of workers. No! We only bureaucratic structure was built. want to make a class of masters sult is confiscation where there is | Large sums of money are spent on | who will not allow themselves to the newspapers published by the be moved by a moral system based tion of the old obligations. Here's Front: "The highest aim of the La- on pity, but who will understand a good legal argument to justify bor Front is the education of all that their superiority of race gives Germans." The worker who will them the right to dominate, and Also the Labor Front insists not give in is pitilessly fired, carhostility to the government, or of of the worker in the ownership,

To carry out its "education" the Labor Front must organize meettremely well stocked coffer running ings of workers and employers. The worker is forced to attend and listen to a speech by a representative of the Front. No discussions bor Front is the providing of or voting are allowed. Sometimes Marxism who caused us to forget the worker may ask questions, but it." "Work is not for making the pressure is such that loss of money or to bring in wages, it is job or some time in a concentration camp is the reward for any open show of opinion.

In spite of this the Labor Front The greatest expenditures of the of the state." Goebbels has said Labor Front are made for the pro- of his brand of socialism that "It paganda of the regime. The Front is not for old ladies or bigots. It

Challenge"

by Will Herberg

ism, a soldiers' socialism, strong and brutal, socialism based on action and not on theory, socialism socialism that stimulated our

Hitler's "socialism" is even more clearly defined. "The great mass of the workers want only bread hope to win over a considerable who will be capable of maintain-I can only allow this control to the State, under the hegemony of a superior class."

Now take the leader of the Labor Front. "Work is not a trial. it is a blessing. We had forgotten that word, or rather, it was the Jew with his diabolic method of

a good in itself, and its just remuneration is the necessary recognition of work well done." The German worker, according to his fatherly leader, wants first and foremost "honor and consideration." He fights for principles and not for the insignificant question of wages. You can easily imagine the enthusiasm of the German worker for a "socialism" of

These quotations show how clearly the Nazi leaders have taken their stand for the bosses, how National Socialism is nothing more than the social demagogy that makes the regime. A demagogy that cannot be shown up too often for the "community of interest" that it preaches between workers and bosses, while hiding the fact that these two categories are not placed on the same plane. The latter are Leaders, and the former are Followers; the Leader commands and orders, while the Followers have no choice but to obey. The fact of the belonging to the same organization, the Labor Front, is not enough to hide inequality before the law and real physical inequality. Thus the Labor Front far from being any "community," is in reality a vast machine for the domination of the masses by the ruling employer

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TWOCTackles Woolen Mills

Drive In Lawrence Aided By Lewis' Speech To Many Thousands

A further step in the organization of the 200,000 textile workers in New England was taken last week, when John L. Lewis came up to Lawrence to address a mass meeting of these workers, and, for the first time, participated in the textile drive of the CIO. The meeting was called in Lawrence for two reasons. As a result of the bitter strikes of 1912 and of 1931 the Lawrence workers have been slower to respond to the CIO than most textile workers. The drive there is directed by August Bellanca of the ACW and Anthony Valenti, secretary of the woolen and worsted federation of the UTW. Out of the 100 organizers in the New England area 22 are in Lawrence, and they have been working there for two and a half months already. Secondly, the next aim of the TWOC in New England is to crack the big woolen interests, namely the American Woolen Co. and its subsidiaries, most of which are centered round Lawrence. Their difficulties are accentuated by the fact that wages in the woolen industry in Lawrence are higher than in the rest of the country. The CIO has already broken into Worcester with contracts in three or four woolen corporations and into New Jersey with Princeton Worsted, but nothing has yet been gained in Lawrence.

20,000 people attended the meeting. Crowds of workers poured in from all the New England textile centres. From Lowell and Worcester, Holyoke, Fall River and New Bedford in Mass., Manchester and Nashua in New Hampshire; and a large auto parade from textile towns in Rhode Island. At the same time a meeting of 4000 shoe workers was called in Lewiston, Maine to listen to the broadcast from Lawrence, and Lewis started right off by complimenting the shoe strikers for their magnificent fight and by hitting at the judge responsible and the state for "atrocious miscarriage iustice.

Lewis stressed two important points for the textile workers: the strength of the CIO movement and organization as the only protection for workers:

"There's not an employer who doesn't know what the CIO stands for. They are going to know more about it in the textile industry. Millions of workers are now alive to what organization means. Already leading bankers and economic leaders are putting a date to the next depression. If that is the best our industrial leaders can do, it is time for labor to organize and express its voice. . . . The CIO is

TRADE UNION NOTES

(Continued from Page 4)

N closing we wish to express the hope that President Gold will drop some of the petty factional methods which characterized Ben Gold. Among such methods we would include the inspired statespeaks of the four Lovestoneite delegates "whom the majority placed on its slate in the election in New York so as demonstrate completely united ranks."

Thanks for practically nothing, Mr. Gold. These four delegates were placed upon the ticket not out of the kindness of your heart but because the Progressives or Lovestoneites represent a force with which you have to reckon, and stand for policies which for many years past have proven constructive and far-seeing. The CIO issue is not the least of these

ALLAN HAYWOOD



Recently appointed CIO director for organizing activities in New York area.

spreading organization over the land.

"If labor had been organized and in power in 1929 it could have made no more profound and tragic mistakes than were made by the leaders of finance and industry and the Republican Administration in failing to provide for the wellbeing of million of citizens. What is the answer now? It is for the workers to organize in unions and to provide forums for the expression of their ideas. The answer is to let more Americans into the business of running this country and expressing their opinion through the organization of labor. . . Only by organization can labor hope to obtain the advantages guaranteed by the new legislation and protect itself against the next

depression. . . . "I come here that workers here may understand they have a right to organize and bargain for themselves. I come here because other workers in other industries have authorized me to come with a message to transmit to you: join us, join us, in this march for better things. In the textile industry is the basis for the largest union in the world. Figure out its strength. Think what it can do for you. The CIO is rolling on. Your throat has been gripped long enough. Brush away that grasping hand. Join these millions marching with us. We'll make in America the greatest labor movement ever seen.'

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO WORKERS AGE

MINE UNION SHOWS WAY Radio Men TO END HARLAN TERROR

(Continued from Page 4) the committee that the Association had doubled its assessments on member coal companies three times during the last four years during periods of union organization drives. When asked whether the association took part in county

politics, he answered in the negative but revealed that he was the Chairman of the Harlan County Republican Committee and S. J. Dickerson, the Association's president also held the office of county Chairman of the Democratic Com-

Impartial Justice

Another connecting link in the chain that has shackled the Harlan miners is the office of County Attorney. Daniel Boone Smith, the attorney, testified that he had accepted retainers from three coal companies since he took office in 1934. Smith who handles all prosecutions admitted there were "occasional conflicts of interest" between his employers and the "pubic interest" but naively insisted: "I made it very plain to the coal companies that I was a prosecutor first and represented them second' (Smith was the promising "white hope" of Harlan and served as defense attorney for the non-con-victed miners in the "Battle of Evares" case in 1931.)

As to the County Courts numer ous witnesses testified that they were under the complete domination of the coal companies and it was impossible for a union member to get protection against the deputy thugs and killers. The Harlan County Coal Operators Associ ation left no stone unturned, for this domination was even extended to the jury panels. The Harlan County Jury Commissioner testified that there was "no chance" of any one but a property owner being on a grand jury in Harlan. As the mine operators and a few farmers owned most of the property the miners living in company towns had little chance of being placed on a jury panel.

Thus the legal chain completes the circle of the "murder regime." Space will not permit recounding the many sacrifices organizers and sympathizers have made to bring unionism to a section where all the cards are stacked against them. The procession of witnesses from Harlan was almost endless. Each one told his gruesome story at a great price. For each knew that to return to Harlan was to sign his own death warrant.

For years these conditions have

Baltimore "Society" Gets Domestic Help from Asylum

Association comes a story horrible and sordid enough to make anyone's blood boil. Dr. Leo Kanner, reporting at the annual meeting of the Association, told how Baltimore lawyers and society matrons connived to get cheap domestic labor by obtaining habeas corpus writs which released 168 imbeciles from the Baltimore Training School for ment in the Daily Worker which the Feeble-Minded into their custody. Neither the victims nor their relatives knew about the writs; in every instance the writ was filed against the advice of the superintendent of the institution; the wages of these virtually helpless slaves (mostly girls) was always far below the average, and often amounted to nothing; some were so underfed and overworked that they died soon after their a parasitic leisure class can we release; 29 became prostitutes; 51 married, producing 165 children of whom 108 were feeble-minded and timate cultural level of capitalist 33 illegitimate. Keep in mind that "democracy." this slave-trade had legal back-

From the American Psychiatric; ing from a court of justice; and even where been refused, the court obligingly gave way to a slave-syndicate run by lawyers and society matrons.

This nightmare has more than a class-angle. "Ordinary" capitalist exploitation is familiar to all of us in our day to day living. But this is exploitation with barbaric vengeance. We are not concerned here with some abstruse mathematical calculation of surplus value involving the complex factors of wages, capital, rent, market price, profit, etc., etc. This little tale is a pure classic of bourgeois decadence. Only the most socially degenerate human being can treat another human being, especially a helpless imbecile, with such vicious cruelty; only in the psychology of find the last vestiges of human decency wiped out. Such is the ul-

Strike Philco existed in Harlan—so long, until Harlan County has become legend-

United Radio Workers In Joint Strike Action With Teamsters

The Philco Locals No. 101, No. 102, and No. 108 of the United Electrical and Radio Workers of America and Local No. 470 of the Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, are now going into their fourth week of strike.

For the past three years Philco has signed a closed shop agreement with the Philco locals providing for a thirty-six (36) hour week with time and half-time for all work over thirty-six (36) hours. The Company, during the past three (3) years, has also agreed to hire and rehire all Union members according to seniority and has further agreed not to purchase any parts from the outside when such part or parts could be made in

The strike was caused by the company's flagrant violation of this agreement. For three (3) months previous to the strike, while negotiations for a new agreement were being carried on, the Company had ignored the seniority clause and had broken the agreement by purchasing parts from non-union sweat shops, while thousands of Philco Union members were laid off due to lack of work. The Company further insisted that the work week be increased from 36 to 40 hours with no overtime until after forty (40) hours.

Eight thousand five hundred (8,500) Union men and women voted unanimously after three (3) weeks of strike to maintain their demands for a thirty-six (36) hour week. They felt that to do otherwise would betray millions of unemployed in the Labor Movement. They voted further, to maintain their rights in regard to seniority and repeated their demands for a substantial increase in wage rates.

Great gamblers, these captive coal operators. They thrive on a chaotic industry. Not being directly affected by the keen competition as in other sections of the coal industry, they have been the most bitter opponents of any form of regulation in the coal industry. While operators in the competitive sections were howling the virtues of the Guffey Coal Bill, the captive coal interests upset the cart, by carrying the bill to court for a few rounds with the fourteen amendment and its "due processing" clause. Today as new labor developments take rapid form, more and more significance is added to the now historic convention of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers and its much discussed decision to align itself with the Committee for Industrial Organization. Not only can we mark the closing hours of that convention as the legal birth of a new movement of American labor, but we hear the first notes of the swan-song of corporate feudalism in the coal industry.

ary in the American labor move-

ment. These conditions have existed

only because we have had a move-

ment dominated by cliques whose

self-interest precludes a real under-

standing of the movement they

were privileged to lead and pre-

vented a move in the direction of

destroying the cess-pools around

them. But with the new and virile

blood now surging through the

veins of American labor, Harlan

County and other diseased spots

will be healed by the very rush of

The United Mine Workers, ar

organization in which realism has

played a major role in its current

organization activities, employed a

master stroke in initiating the steel

workers campaign. This stroke

undermined the main source of

strength of the die-hards (captive

coal operators) in the coal indus-

this new and abundant blood.



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