

"The idea becomes power when it penetrates the masses."  
—Karl Marx.

# SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SUPPLEMENT THE DAILY WORKER

SECOND SECTION  
This magazine supplement will appear every Saturday in The Daily Worker.

MARCH 14, 1925.

## Party Construction in the C. I. Sections

By OSSIP PIATNITZKY.

**P**ARTY construction and the building up of party organizations in Europe and America have differed greatly from the structure of our Russian party organizations which came into being with the very commencement of a labor movement in Russia.

In other countries at the dawn of the labor movement, there were, comparatively speaking, suitable political conditions which gave the workers an opportunity to organize legal political parties of the working class, as well as to establish local and provincial branches. The latter had the right to convene party meetings and workers mass meetings. They could also have their own party press. Therefore party organizations led from the beginning an existence apart from factories and workshops. This was perfectly comprehensible, for why should the German social democratic party organize workers' public meetings and party meetings in the workshops and factories (besides, the German capitalists would not have allowed them) when they could easily convene them after working hours, and in any locality where the workers lived, meetings which were actually very well attended by the workers.

It should also be said that in New York, Paris, London, Berlin and other large towns the residential quarters of the workers are not in the vicinity of workshops and factories and that in some places there are few late trains. The latter circumstance is even now a great obstacle to making the workshops and factories the main center of Communist work.

There were also two other features in which the party construction and party work of the social democratic parties of other countries differed from the construction of our Russian party organizations. Side by side with the political proletarian parties of Germany, Austria, France and Italy there existed trade unions. Between these two forms of labor movement there was so to speak a division of labor: the trade unions had to make a stand for all the economic demands of the working class, while the social democratic parties stood for their political interests. The social democratic parties cultivated "high" politics and left it to the trade unions to settle all conflicts between the workers and the manufacturers. (In some countries the trade unions, altho connected with the factories and workshops thru their treasurers, did not hold their trade union meetings in the factories and workshops.)

**T**HE other differentiating feature was that all the political parties of the proletariat (social democratic) in Europe aimed at conducting "the struggle" with capitalism within the framework of the existing order, chiefly by means of the vote (at present it has become an established fact that all social democratic parties are no longer "opponents" but defenders of the capitalist order). Therefore the constituency was the basis of working class organization.

In Russia conditions were utterly different. The Russian working class even before it made its appearance on the political arena, was deprived of the right of having its own press and its own party and trade unions. Neither did it enjoy the right of meeting. Therefore, the only places where workers could discuss their needs, the political situation of Russia and the tasks of the working class were the factories and workshops where class conscious workers had an opportunity to agitate, to carry on propaganda,

and to form their small factory and workshop political organizations.

**A**S trade unions in the European sense did not exist in Russia (except during the short period 1905-1907) until 1917, the political social democratic organizations in the factories and workshops and the local committees of the party, which co-ordinated the later, entered into all the details of the employers' exploitation of men, women and young workers, formulated the demands of the workers and took the lead in their economic strikes. Moreover, the social democratic organizations of Russia connected the economic demands of the workers with the political struggle of the working class against the feudal-bourgeois czarist regime of Russia.

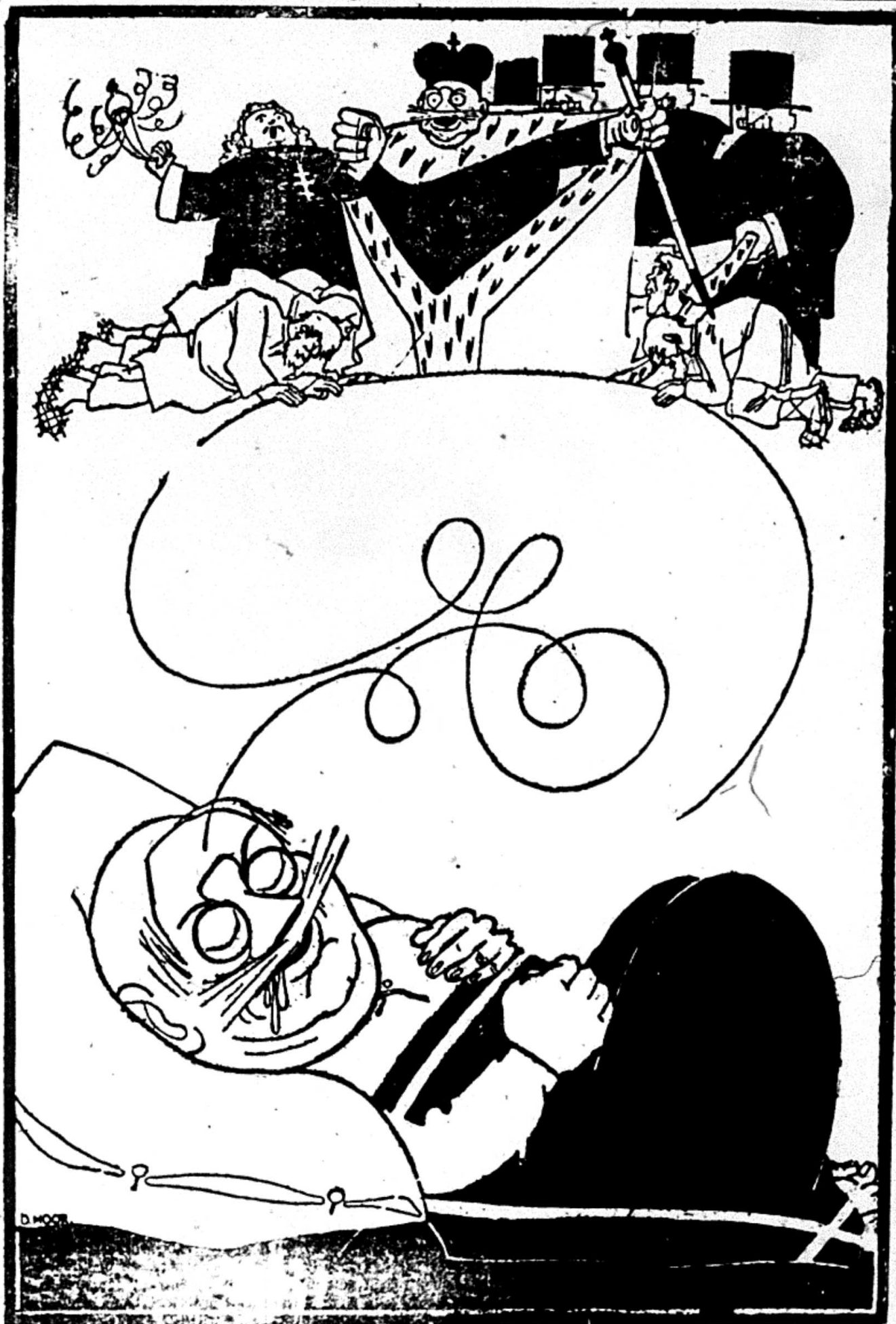
Owing to the above-mentioned facts union was established between the political organizations in Russia before the February revolution, and also after the revolution of 1917 this union was maintained when trade unions were organized which brot nearly all the workers of Soviet Russia into their ranks.

**U**NTIL 1905, there were no parliamentary (duma) elections in Russia, and even after 1905 workers elected their duma representatives thru factory and workshop electoral colleges. Moreover, Russian revolutionary social democrats used the duma election not as an aim in itself, but only as one of the means for the overthrow of the czarist regime thru

armed rising and thru the establishment of proletarian and peasant dictatorship. Therefore, party organizations were built up territorially in accordance with the workers and party members place of employment, and not on a residential qualification.

**R**EVOLUTIONARY social democrats (now Communists) in Russia built up their party organizations on the basis of factories and workshops, offices, shops, barracks and schools situated in the respective ward, district or small township. But in other countries, working class organizations were based on the constituency in which voters resided. This difference must be taken into consideration when studying the party (Continued on page 8)

### The Dream of the Counter-Revolutionist





# "The Tin Lizzie Peasantry"

By H. M. Bartholomew

**CAPITALISM** places a premium on dishonesty. Its progress is land-marked by milestones of fraud and deceit. Hypocrisy is its hall-mark of success.

Now, here is this so true as in Western Canada. The history of the North West is a sordid tale of thievery and corruption. Land grabbers and railroad promoters; banking barons and corrupt politicians—it is an unbroken record of the most sickening hypocrisy and of the rankest thievery.

The blackest pages in this black history relate the story of luring the new settlers to "the golden west".

Railroad corporations and land companies, aided by corrupt governments, vied with other in the game of "land-lung suckers". They out-barnumed dear old Barnum! Western Canada was painted in the most glowing colors; as a land "flowing with milk and with honey"; as the new El Dorado of fabulous wealth and a new-found freedom. Wondrous tales of great riches were told with bated breath. Even the silver sheen of countless lakes seem to tell tales of treasures concealed beneath.

**THERE** was coal, and gold, and silver, and copper, and pulpwood, and iron. And above all the wide-sung prairies beckoning to millions of plowmen—and to be secured for the mere asking! Such wealth and such opportunities!

There grew up, as a result, the myth of "the golden west." The destitute of many lands regarded Western Canada as a haven of refuge; as the New Jerusalem of the lost tribes of the workless and landless.

Feverishly they would pace some drab city square in an endeavor to visualize a quarter-section of land—and in a trice, as if by the touch of a magician's wand, the ugliness of the city gave place to oceans of grain touched by a western sun into gold.

**I**n tens of thousands they packed their grips and "hiked" west to the land where "dreams come true." They came west—only to find capitalism as firmly entrenched as in the lands they left behind. They came west—only to find their dreams turn into a veritable nightmare of grim reality. They came west—the hapless victims of a colossal fraud.

## The Impoverished Farmers.

**T**HE new settlers toiled early and late. They cleared the forests and broke the virgin soil; built houses and constructed railroads. They performed prodigies of toil—but the dice were loaded against them in the struggle for existence.

Toil they ever so hard they sank further into the morass of destitution. Mortgages mounted, and overdue bills increased—driving the vast majority to the very brink of utter bankruptcy and poverty.

Today, ninety four per cent of the western farms are heavily mortgaged, and the total indebtedness is far in excess of one billion dollars. The load of mortgages and debts has become so heavy that tens of thousands of farmers have given up the struggle in despair; tens of thousands more face the future with ill-concealed anxiety and fear.

**T**HE province of Saskatchewan is famed the world over for its wheat fields. It is known as "the bread basket of the British empire." It is the greatest wheat-producing area in the whole world. But the tillers of the soil find no abiding grace and saving virtue in these facts—the great mass of them are confronted with destitution and menaced by the shadow of the sheriff.

In this single province the average indebtedness of a half section of land (320 acres) is in excess of five thousand dollars. The per capita indebtedness of the whole province is estimated at \$480! In three rural municipalities alone no less than 180,000 acres of land were seized for arrears of taxes—a fairly good indication of the deplorable condition of affairs.

Manitoba farmers are in as bad a plight. Recent reports indicate that

the bonded indebtedness of the average half section of land is more than \$4,700. Nearly two hundred rural schools have been forced to close because the farmers could not afford to pay the required taxes.

**I**n "sunny Alberta," the impoverished farmers are in desperate conditions. Last year, in a single month, six and a half million acres of farm lands were for sale because of arrears of taxes alone—a greater area of land than was seeded to wheat in the province! The indebtedness of the province is in excess of \$715,000,000—a colossal burden which threatens the farmers and the workers alike with lowered living standards.

Nor are the fruit farmers and "stump ranchers" of British Columbia in better plight. Despite the most terrible toll, they are finding it increasingly difficult to eke out a bare existence. Last year the berry-farmers were compelled to leave one-third of their crops upon the trees—for want of a profitable market!

From the Great Lakes to the Pacific slope the farmers are sinking further and further into the morass of destitution. The burden of mortgages and debts is making life one continuous round of heart-breaking toil and mind-wrecking poverty.

**E**VEN returned soldiers are not exempt! The last report of the Soldier Settlement Board reveals the astounding fact that eighteen per cent of "the heroes of yesterday," have been forced to abandon their farms—and that the percentage of civilian failures is even higher. So that once again capitalism stands condemned as the greatest impostor in history. Think of the fascinating stories of politicians about "we cannot do too much for our heroes in the trenches"—and then remember the fact that eighteen per cent of them have been forced to abandon their farms in five-years.

So terrible is the destitution that the farmers, in a frantic effort to make ends meet, have enslaved their wives and children. Unable to meet their obligations and pay wages for hired help, the farmers have enlisted their children—thus depriving them of the scanty educational opportunities afforded by the average rural school. On the soil as well as in the factory, capitalism demands the slavery of the youth.

**I**n addition to the dull drudgery of domestic toil, the farm-women do countless "chores." Many a farmstead is kept going by the "cream-cheque"—a significant proof of the wretched struggle for existence imposed upon the mass of the farmers. And it must be added that tens of thousands of farmers only continue in the struggle because of the enforced labor of their wives and children.

Thousands of farmers have abandoned their farms in despair—and have "hiked" for the cities, there to swell the ranks of the unemployed. Their deserted farms stand as silent sentinels of warning—growing rank with noxious weeds, and the buildings crumbling from disuse. Yes! And thousands more of the tillers of the soil await the future with misgivings and fear; hanging on in the vain hope that Dame Prosperity will "turn the corner" once again.

**I**t is small wonder that the disillusioned farmers are cursing those who dangled fair promises and extravagant hopes before their bewildered eyes in "the old country." They have been the hapless victims of a colossal fraud. The promised prosperity and freedom has crumbled in their hands—and they find themselves slaves of the soil.

## A Great Illusion.

But capitalism is responsible for a fraud much more subtle than the one exposed in the preceding paragraphs.

Visit the wretched "shacks" of these farmers of the Nor'West. You will find the whole family busy as bees; the father worried with mounting mortgages and overdue bills and the mother haggard with terrific toil. But you will find, too, that the whole fam-

ily is filled with the pride of possession. They actually believe that the farm is "theirs." Property concepts will color their viewpoint.

No matter how heavy the load of debt or how large the mortgage, the average farmer will speak with pride of "his" farm and "his" crop. It is one of the strangest illusions of present-day life.

**S**PEAK to an average farmer of the need for better conditions and he will agree. But tell him of the sins of private property and of the necessity of social ownership and control, and he will let loose a string of western invective which would turn a Billingsgate porter green with envy. "Dogonit, none of yer damned socialism for me. Do you want to take this farm from me? No, sir! I broke this land in '97 and it is mine. And I'll be darned if any highfaulatin' scoundrel is going to take it away from me." And this, be it remembered, from an individual who is one remove from the sheriff at any time.

Ninety-four per cent of the farms mortgaged—and the mortgaged farmers still talking of "their farms"! If there was not grim tragedy back of it, the situation would be a farce worthy of the satirical pen of a Shaw.

**W**ORSE yet! Even honest and militant members of the labor union movement are obsessed with this property concept! They regard the farmers as propertied employers of labor, who, with faces of flint will "dicker" for lower wages and longer hours of labor. "The darned old Shylock," they will cry indignantly, "wants me to work twenty-five hours a day for my board—and wants me to eat nothing but pork ad skilly at that." And this very attitude raises the ire of the farmers, who regard the city workers with ill-concealed suspicion and contempt; and labor unions as agencies of the devil!

Yet the facts are plain for those who will see! The farmers, far from being the possessors of the land they till, are the hired foremen of finance capital. Tear the mask of proprietorship from off the face of the farmer and you will find—a landless peasant who masquerades in the role of a propertied employer of labor. He is the hapless slave of finance capital; a mere cog in a profit-grinding machine; a landless peasant wearing a mask.

**N**EVER was there a greater illusion than this; never a more imposing fraud! Millions of farmers and workers firmly believe that the tillers of the soil are independent proprietors—only to find, beneath the mask, the utmost servility.

And it is one of the greatest tasks confronting the youthful Communist Party to dispel this illusion and to tear the mask of proprietorship from off the faces of the slaves of the soil. Only struggle against capitalism in all its manifold manifestations will serve in this respect.

It is because of this great illusion that the farmers think in terms of "next year." No matter how desperate their plight they firmly believe that "next year" conditions will improve and they will come into their own. Moreover, this terrific illusion serves to keep the workers and farmers at logger-heads and snarling at each other. For these and for other reasons, it is imperative that the illusion be dispelled by the bitter experience of struggle.

## Towards a Farmer-Labor Alliance.

**I**t is imperative that the revolutionary artillery be trained upon this colossal illusion. The national economy of Canada is predominantly agricultural. One half of the people of the dominion gain their living directly from the soil, whilst a very large section of the industrial workers are indirectly dependent upon agriculture for their livelihood.

It will be readily seen, therefore, that the attitude of the farmers is a matter of great concern to the industrial proletariat of Canada. On which side will the farmers fight? Will they fight on the side of the banking barons

and against the workers? Or will they struggle side by side with workers against capitalist dictatorship? These are questions of paramount importance to the Communist movement of Canada, because it is in their answer that the success or failure of the revolutionary movement is largely determined.

A proletarian revolution with the mass of the farmers in active and organized opposition is wholly impossible. 'Tis true that the industrial proletariat must provide the most active elements in such a struggle; but it must also be backed by the support of (at any rate) a considerable section of "the tin lizzie peasantry."

**T**HE Communist Party of Canada correctly raised aloft (in company with all other parties of the Communist International) the banner inscribed with the slogan: "Towards a Farmers' and Workers' Government." Realizing that the "tin lizzie peasantry" constituted an important factor in the revolutionary struggle for power, the Communists took steps to wean the farmers away from the leadership of capitalism.

Every opportunity was seized to encourage joint action of the workers and of the farmers. The joint struggles were localized; of short duration and upon no spectacular issues—nevertheless a small beginning was made in the direction of a farmer-labor alliance. The farmers' struggles for a wheat pool brought support (at the behest of the Communists) from some of the Trades Council and unions; whilst one of the farmers organizations reciprocated, in kind, by passing strong resolutions demanding the withdrawal of the soldiery from Nova Scotia during the steel strike.

In another part of the country a joint executive meeting between a labor and farmer organization was held, and an attempt made to arrive at an understanding regarding elections. Nothing spectacular to be sure—but nevertheless steps leading to a future alliance of all who toil.

**E**VERY opportunity, of such a character, must be seized by the Communists. And out of the joint struggles, thus developing, an honest endeavor must be made to broaden the struggles so as to embrace larger and larger sections of the farmers and the workers; thus making possible an organic alliance between the slaves of the city and the country with the end in view of booting the fraud of capitalism from off the stage of society, and replacing it with a virile workers' and farmers' republic.

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# INTERNATIONAL NOTES



## GERMANY

BERLIN—The German Communist Party has published a manifesto vigorously denouncing the yellow trade union leaders and the social democrats who have been doing a lot of talking about the preservation of the eight-hour day and the ratification of the Washington agreement, but have taken absolutely no action in the matter.

It calls attention to the fact that the social-democratic fraction in the reichstag has not even as yet put forward a measure in regard to this ratification, and declares that only the united struggle of the workers in the shops can force the reintroduction of the eight-hour day in Germany where the 12 and even 14 hour day is now in force in many industries.

Instead of working to protect the workers from the terrible assaults being made upon them under the Dawes plan, the social-democratic party is devoting all its energies to violent warfare upon the revolutionary workers and the Communists seeking thus to conceal their own corruption and treachery to the working class which is being so startlingly brot to light in the trial of the international swindler, Barbat, in which all the leading lights of the social-democratic party are involved.

In an article appearing in the Rote Fahne, Ruth Fischer, leader of the Communist reichstag fraction, declares that the time has come to transfer the question of the eight-hour day from parliament to the shops.

All over Germany the workers are taking the fight for the eight-hour day into their hands. Harbor workers in a number of ports are carrying on a determined fight for this principle, as well as for wage increases proportionate to the steadily rising cost of living.

Apart from the question of the terrible overexertion to which the underfed workers are being subjected to by the excessive hours of work, the eight-hour day is an imperative necessity owing to the fact that several thousand harbor workers are now unemployed.

In this connection it is interesting to note that the dock-yard bosses recently received a subsidy of 50,000,000 gold marks from the state treasury, ostensibly for the prevention of unemployment and the protection of the unemployed. Despite this fact unemployment is steadily on the increase and it is hardly necessary to add that the bosses are not wasting any of the money on the unemployed.

Harbor Workers' Agreement.

HAMBURG—The harbor workers of the ports of Hamburg, Bremen and Emden are carrying on an energetic fight for a new working agreement the fishers of the whole north-east coast of Germany joining them in the struggle. The chief point at issue is the re-establishment of the eight-hour day. At a conference of harbor and dockyard workers the following demands were made: the re-establishment of the eight-hour day, and rejection of all overtime work; a 50 per cent wage increase; bringing the wages of non-skilled closer to those of skilled workers; abolition of the present regulations in regard to sailors. In addition, the conference sent out an order to workers to quit work after the eighth hour.

The men have unanimously rejected the wage increase of 6 marks to 6.50 marks an hour fixed by the arbitrator, in favor of their demand of a 50 per cent increase.

Negotiations between the Stettin harbor workers and employers have been broken off because of the latter's refusal to comply with the men's demands in regard to working hours.

Communists' Trial.  
HAMBURG—The trial of eight Communist leaders of the Hamburg insurrection of October, 1923, has just come to an end. In a speech, that will remain a Communist classic, the principal defendant, Comrade Uhrbans, gave a remarkable survey of the

conditions leading up to the insurrection, proving conclusively that it was not a "putsch" engineered by the Communists, but a spontaneous revolt on the part of the workers against their intolerable exploitation at the hands of German capitalism in which the workers naturally turned to the Communists for leadership. For having "prepared a conspiracy involving high treason," Uhrbans was condemned to 10 years imprisonment and a fine of a 1,000 marks; and the other comrades to sentences ranging from two and a half to six years.

## CHINA

SHANGHAI—In the Shanghai district 30,000 cotton-mill workers are on strike against their merciless exploitation by the Japanese capitalists who

"Friday" in 1921, when the labor bureaucrats of the transport unions refused to call a strike in support of the miners.

Lanarkshire Miners' Strike.

GLASGOW—The Lanarkshire miners are making an organized fight for the resumption of the 5-day working week. About 30 collieries have already stopped work, and union pickets are on duty at all those remaining open.

The union secretary declared that the miners would continue striking work after the fifth day until the five-day week became the general practice. Another official said that there were over 4,000 miners unemployed in the county of Lanarkshire, and he believed that the adoption of the five-day week would lead to these men finding occupation.

The mine-owners are replying to

subsistence wage be established for adult piece-workers, to be not less than 2 shillings a day over that provided for day-wage men; that all departments at present excluded, such as by-product works, etc. (which are highly profitable) shall be included when ascertaining the working results with a view to fixing wage rates; and that owners' costs in compensation cases and the cost of health and unemployment insurance shall be excluded from "other costs" and not charged against the industry for wage purposes.

In regard to shut-downs the miners demand that before any colliery owner closes down temporarily any pit, he must receive the consent of a committee representing owners and workers, and this consent shall be given only after that committee has investigated the financial position of the mine, and has found that such closing is an economic necessity.

## AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE—After a struggle which has lasted for many weeks the Australian Dockers' Federation has won a complete victory, forcing the ship-owners to cease from employing any but union labor. The victory of these dockers and longshoremen is due to the remarkable solidarity displayed by the workers, during the strike. The 49 unions affiliated with the federation all obeyed the strike order, and in a number of ports shipping was completely paralyzed.

The strike was called because of the attempt of the ship-owners to establish overseas bureaus to recruit scabs in order to break up the federation. The strike became a leading question in the Australian parliament, and Prime Minister Bruce did everything in his power to aid the ship-owners in breaking the resistance of the men.

The capitalist press of Australia New Zealand and Tasmania, which carried on violent propaganda against the strikers, is commenting bitterly on the fact that the upholders of direct action have been strong enough to break the combined resistance of the ship-owners and the state.

Get a sub—make another Communist!

## Britannia and Her Poodles



The Anti-Soviet Block.

(From Gudock.)

own the mills. The strike is daily assuming a more serious character, and there have already been a number of clashes between the workers and the police in which many workers were wounded.

Yada, the Japanese consul, is trying to whitewash his bosses by accusing the Kuomintang (Sun Yat Sen's party), and the Communists of having provoked the strike.

## GREAT BRITAIN

LONDON—The pressure of the Minority (left wing) Movement in the English trade unions and its wide propaganda for a united wage struggle of miners, metal workers and railwaymen is showing very definite results. The Miners' Federation of Great Britain has sent a proposal to the National Union of Railwaymen, the Transport Workers' Federation and the Amalgamated Union of Engineers asking for a new alliance between these organizations, the most powerful unions in Great Britain. The former alliance existing between miners, railworkers and other transport workers was practically dissolved after the great betrayal of "Black

Friday" in 1921, when the labor bureaucrats of the transport unions refused to call a strike in support of the miners.

Northumberland Miners.

LONDON — The Northumberland miners have formulated a number of demands to form a basis for the new national agreement between the Miners' Federation of Great Britain and the mine-owners that will take the place of the present one when it expires next July.

Special attention is paid to the question of giving the workers a voice in the mine management, and to the exclusive employment of union labor. In the former connection, the miners demand that the new national agreement shall provide for the constitution of joint pit committees, district committees and national board, "so as to give the workers thru their representatives a voice in the direction of the mine, the sale and delivery of coal and other mine products, and in questions affecting the coal industry as a whole."

The following are the principal wage demands: That the 1914 rate of wages be increased from time to time by the percentage increase in the cost of living over 1914; that a

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# The Boss Gives a Lesson on "Civilization"

By ROSA LUX.

NEVER before was I tempted to analyze the meaning of civilization, until lately when I had the opportunity to meet a certain boss who called my attention to it. When a group of workers, including myself, entered his place of business without having asked his permission first, he delivered a lecture on civilization to us. Had we been buyers he surely would have said, "How do you do, gentlemen? What can I do for you?" etc., but surely would not have lectured them on "Civilization," as he did to us.

BUT it happened that we were salesmen, not of the kind who come to sell manufactured goods, but who were compelled to sell their labor power as a commodity. We came there to speak to our fellow salesmen about the market price of labor power and advised them not to sell the only commodity they possessed at a lower than the standard price established by the union.

THE "civilized" boss who understood immediately that we came to organize his workers, became furious when he realized that his lecture

fell upon deaf ears. He ordered us to get out and at the same time he summoned the police to have us arrested. The police station as a resting place for tired workers did not terrify us. To the order of the boss we paid but little attention, but the order of police meant "law" and as "law-abiding citizens" we permitted ourselves to be escorted by the police without protest. We knew it was no use arguing with them. The boss paid them, and paid them well.

AFTER receiving that instructive lesson by the "civilized" boss I was led to analyze the meaning of civilization. I also learned thru experience that those who rob on a large scale legally are considered respectable and "civilized." But we, the workers who try to organize in order to obtain fairly decent living conditions are looked upon as though we were savages. The bosses and the police actually called us "gorillas."

SAVAGES, we are indeed. For were we truly civilized, we would not demand fairly decent living conditions but the full product of our labor. Ours is the earth and its natural resources. Ours should be the control of industry. But as we are savages, that two-

legged beast of a boss who thrives on the blood of human beings, who enslaves people, who is a Russian immigrant himself, had a right to tell us that if we acted as respectable people we would be treated accordingly. If not we should go back to Russia, for America is a "civilized" country.

THE bosses' civilization means that one of a group of people shall have the right and privilege to decide for the vast majority how to live when and how long to work and above all else, to receive for their toil as much as the bosses deem sufficient. Such an arrangement is not only "civilization," but democracy as well. They say, "This is a free country and everyone has the same opportunity to work himself up." But as a matter of fact, those who say so never work themselves, but make others work for them.

THIS so-called civilization in the U. S. reminds me of a scene in Austria. Often I observed several cows on a field of pasture fighting each other for the same plot of grass, although there was sufficient pasture space for all. The field was large, and yet all stood on one place pulling the grass from each other's mouths and

at the same time getting sick from over-feeding. Why did they fight with each other? Because they had no brains, did not know the fields were large enough and that nature provides for all living creatures.

BUT neither do the so-called "civilized" people act any better than those cows. Cold storage plants burst with food; great quantities of food is dumped in order to maintain the high prices while thousands of people starve. Warehouses are filled up with clothing while millions go about raggedly, especially those who weave the cloth and sew the garments. New York City alone has thousands of vacant apartments because of too exorbitant rents. While thousands of people are compelled to live and sleep, four to six in a room. The hospitals and insane asylums are overcrowded and the jails are filled with convicts. On the streets we meet many cripples, some without legs, others with one arm, and still others who had been "gassed on the battlefield."

AND we call this "civilization"! I wonder whether my "civilized" boss ever had a taste of real "civilization"?

## Letters From Our Readers

### Turning Toward Communism.

Dear Comrade:—It is you who are kind to write to me. I shall feel ever grateful to you for influencing me to subscribe to the DAILY WORKER. When I become affluent enough to do so (which I hope will be next week) I shall also subscribe to the Workers' Monthly, and to the Communist International.

I am trying to persuade my friends to do likewise. The attitude in this immediate vicinity is very hostile toward anything that smacks of radicalism, but perhaps such editorials as, "Wheat, Flour, and Bread go Up in Price as the Thieves Take Earnings," (in the Jan. 31, D. W.) will be effective among some of the farmers here. At least in trying to broadcast it, as it were.

I, too, wish we could talk, for writing is very unsatisfactory. I shall read the A. B. C. of Communism by Bucharin just as soon as I can secure it.

Until only a few years ago, I was very gullible, swallowing the editorials in the Saturday Evening Post, and in numerous metropolitan dailies with implicit faith. I shall not burden you with the story of the evolution of my attitude. Sufficient to say that speeches by Roger Baldwin, Mrs. Elizabeth Flint, Upton Sinclair, Scott Nearing, and Ruthenberg started me doubting.

A course under Prof. Ferdinand Schevill, the friendship of Ruth Pearson (former secretary of the Federated Press League) and the reading of the Federated Press Bulletin are a few of the things which influenced me. The biggest single factor was attending "Youth and the War Makers; a Next-Step Conference," under the auspices of the university of Chicago Liberal Club, the Northwestern university Liberal League and the Northwestern university Student Forum. It was a three-day conference, held at Waukegan a year ago last June. Martin Abern and another comrade from the Y. W. L., together with such speakers as Arne Swabeck, Moritz Loeb and Carl Haessler opened my eyes to a new world.

I was not the only one so benefited. An earnest serious girl from Rockford college, who had had far less radical influence than I, was completely changed. And the Northwestern "38," who were so ridiculously misrepresented in the press last spring, were, I think, a direct outcome of the conference. It was there that Alice Hanson and Wesley Cooker, who were, I believe, the leavening influence of the "38," first realized that international warfare is concomitant upon our present economic system.

Another conference was held last June. It was attended by a larger number of people, and the program was a wee bit more ambitious than the preceding one, but I doubt if the

results were as far-reaching. The group was a little too congenial and took matters too lightly, so little enthusiasm was worked up, and little earnest thought was contributed.

One of the girls active in the Liberal club at the university this year writes that she hopes they can have a conference this year, but that they all feel rather green at it. They are very eager for help and suggestions. If I am in Chicago this spring, I shall be very glad to aid them in any way that I can as regards clerical work, etc., realizing what a burden such work is upon anyone who is at the same time closing college work. I also wish that I could give them some valuable suggestions.

About this time last year we began preparing for the conference. We sent out form letters to a large number of college students, asking for suggestions as to topics, speakers, etc., and the replies that we received, tho often interesting, were seldom helpful. Some suggested that we cover a wide range of topics in order to attract a wide range of students; others that we limit the conference to some very specific problem.

We think that our problem this year is first, how to attract a large number of students, and second, how to jolt them into thinking about fundamentals when we get them there. Have you any suggestions? I should like to know how to attract as many conservative students as possible. I feel certain that we can muster enough able young radicals out there so that we can have some really sincere discussion, so that many of the conservatives will undergo a change of attitude.

If you have any suggestions as to how to reach the students, speakers, topics, etc., I should much appreciate them.

This year the Liberal Club has affiliated with the L. I. D. Of course, their help will mean much to us.

Sincerely yours,

M. A. W.

### The Army Blesses the Kluxers.

To the DAILY WORKER: This evening I stopped on the corner to hear the Salvation army pray and preach, and tell me of the reward I will get in heaven. The collection was started and everything was coming along nicely when all at once a loud voice sounded from the third story window. "Take the money but bring the sack back. It is from the ku klux klan. Be sure and take the bills out there are some in there. God bless you for your wonderful work." The men threw down a sack, and the army captain, thankful at this windfall, called back asking that god also shower blessings on the kluxers.

The crowd in the street stopped giv-

## Wherein Lies the Strength of the Pravda?

By ALEXANDER BITTELMAN.

PRAVDA in Russian means truth. It is the name of the official organ of the Russian Communist Party. It is being read by hundreds of thousands of Russian workers and peasants. It is the pride of the international revolutionary working class movement.

Wherein lies its strength?

It is a good paper. Undoubtedly one of the best and most brilliant political papers of any in the world. But this does not explain the real strength, the secret of the power and influence of Pravda. There are other Communist dailies in the world that are good, interesting political papers and yet they seem to be lacking something which is of the very essence of the greatness of Pravda.

What is that secret? It is the fact that the Pravda is the collective product of the efforts and intelligence of the entire revolutionary working class of Russia. The Pravda is not made alone by capable Communist journalists. The Pravda is made by hundreds of working class correspondents and of peasant correspondents. The strength of the Pravda rests on two institutions which are known under the names of Rabcor and Selcor.

Rabcor stands for the institution of worker correspondents to the Pravda. Selcor stands for the institution of peasant correspondents to the Pravda. There are hundreds of workers and peasants in all parts of Russia regularly corresponding to the Pravda on the life and struggles of the masses in their respective localities. These correspondents are not merely journalists. They are much more than merely correspondents to a newspaper. They are militant, uncompromising fighters in the cause of Commun-

ism. They expose corruption. They propagate the ideas and policies of the Communist Party. They bring education to the masses. They build the newspaper. It is no exaggeration to say that the most significant phases of the class struggle now in Russia, the struggle between the class conscious workers and peasants on the one hand against the petty bourgeoisie and rich peasantry on the other hand, revolves around the activity of the Rabcors and Selcors.

Thru these two institutions the Pravda has rooted itself in the everyday life of millions upon millions of toilers in Soviet Russia. This is the reason why the Pravda is so dearly loved and appreciated by the workers and peasants of Russia.

Another secret of the strength of the Pravda is the fact that every party member is an active builder of the Pravda. To get subscriptions for the Pravda, to spread the paper among the workers, is considered one of the supreme tasks of every member of the party. One of the methods by which the Pravda is built is the following: Every working class and peasant club—and there are thousands of such clubs in every nook and corner of Russia—organizes periodical collective readings of the Pravda. They read and study the news, special articles and editorials. They discuss these, pass resolutions expressing their opinions, transmitting them to the Pravda. Thus an intimate bond is established between the toiling masses and their fighting organ.

Let us remember these things when we think of our DAILY WORKER. Let us decide once for all that we shall try to make the DAILY WORKER mean for the American toiling masses what the Pravda means to the toiling masses of Soviet Russia.

ing immediately, and the old saying that I heard long ago when they used to stuff religion into me whether I wanted, it or not, came true. "All will be changed in the twinkling of an eye."

The klan gift was about twelve dollars, and if this gift were taken from workers it would have been very good, as wages are none too high here. Twenty people asked for aid last month here on account of "insufficient wages." Which shows that the klan creed, "I believe in a closer relationship between capital and labor," doesn't take root here in South Bend.

But if the gift was from capitalists it was very small. The captain said it seemed to excite the crowd, but it did not excite him. He had a man die on his hands, and it did not excite him, he said.

After several urgent appeals, he

was able to collect a little more "to carry on the wonderful work." I have been giving a little each week to the salvation army as I realize under this system it gives some of the workers at least a place to go to and get a feed now and then, after they have been cleaned, not by Christ, but by capitalists. However, I have stopped donating money to an organization that fights and dopes the workers.

As the klan believes in free speech I want to say this: That I was in the army all thru the war not an "honor boy," as I enlisted in 1916. I am a native born American.

When the workers of the world wake up and see that their interests are alike the world over, regardless of color or nationality, there will be no more wars. And we will be able to sing, "I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier." A Worker, South Bend, Ind.



# Letters From Soviet Russia

To the Workers of Western Countries.  
(From a worker of the "Dynamo" engineering works, Moscow.)

**DEAR COMRADES:** Having just returned from a visit to the villages of the volost, I should like to tell you about the present conditions in the villages and the social work accomplished there.

I must remark that we workers of the "Dynamo" works have become the "ideological-cultural patrons" over the peasants of one of the volosts of the Mozhaisk uyezd of the Moscow gubernia. During our six months' patronage, we can place on record the following achievements: ten villages reading rooms (3 of which have been opened by the workers themselves as a model, while the others owe their existence to the peasants); 14 village schools; 5 dressmaking schools (with the necessary equipment); 3 bootmaking workshops, one carpentry workshop, 15 Young Communist League nuclei, 16 Pioneer corps and one traveling cinema.

**WHEN** we took over the above-mentioned patronage, a "patronage commission" was formed in the works comprising all the factory workers and the clerical staff (1,500 people). A bureau of eight was appointed which is in charge of the entire patronage work. Our contact with the village is kept up by having a permanent patronage representative in the village, while the peasants send a representative to our bureau. Through these plenipotentiary representatives constant and animated relations between us and the peasants are maintained. Recently the peasants of the Chentsovo village invited a delegation of workers to their "festive session" held to inaugurate yet another village reading-room which has been opened, thanks to the initiative and efforts of the villagers themselves.

**ENCLOSE** a characteristic document—a decision made at the general meeting of the peasants of the Chentsovo village. Progress is coming into its own. At the well-attended meeting of, what would be called by people some "village louts," a peasant made a report on the history of the initiative and opening of the village reading-room—the pride of the village.

It is significant that the opening of this reading-room was due entirely to the initiative and activity of all the inhabitants of the village who had the assistance of the local Young Communist League nuclei (consisting of 10 young fellows and 12 "wenches") as well as of the Young Pioneer Corps.

**THE** necessary means were obtained by organizing "Voskresniki" (Sunday labor) unloading goods wagons at the railway junction. The peasants who have horses came with their carts to the station. I am sending a photograph of the peasants, men and women, at the "Voskresnik." When a collection was made even the poor peasants contributed a quarter of a measure of oats each.

We must say that the uyezd authorities, for instance, the Mozhaisk executive committee also responded to our appeal and contributed 150 bricks and 25 boards, etc. The workers of the patron—the "Dynamo" works also made considerable contributions and thanks to all these efforts, the villagers have an A. 1 reading-room. A youth of the Russian Young Communist League spoke, and proudly spoke of his league's satisfaction that "at last they will be able to meet all of them under a roof instead of meeting in ravines." After addresses of welcome from the works' delegation and speeches by a number of peasants, men and women, there was a cinema performance.

**THIS** is a sample of a Soviet village festival, and such festivals are of frequent occurrence in the villages of the volost under our patronage.

Frequently a group of peasants pays a visit to its patron in Moscow. They take a keen interest in the work of our factory and in the life and conditions of the workers. I also enclose a photograph of the peasant delega-

tion taken under the memorial tablet of the works which bears the signature of our dear Ilyitch and of other leaders of the revolution who have visited our works. By the way, would not the honorable Mr. Chamberlain like to study the right facsimile of the signatures of our leaders and compare it with the signature of the "Zinoviev letter." It is a pity that the sleuth hounds of the "intelligence department" of "his majesty's government" do not know the exact titles of the comrades who have signed their names.

**WELL,** to come back to the peasants' visit to our works, the latter's festival was made to coincide with the celebration of the anniversary of the October revolution.

A workers' delegation went to the station to meet our visitors and brought them to the Lenin village (comprising from 7 to 8 factories) and where a Lenin memorial was at that time being erected. After that the peasants joined in with the ranks of the workers and marched to Comrade Lenin's



Lenin and Krupskaya Among the Children.

mausoleum. On their return a concert-meeting was held on the premises of the works where the big motors are manufactured. A number of comrades arrived from the center and spoke on the International Situation, etc.

**IN** addition to the general secretary of the central committee of our Communist Party and to the brother of Comrade Lenin—Dmitri Ilyitch—a 60 years old peasant delegate, Comrade Blinov was elected to the presidium (on the photo he is the second on the left). He was greeted with loud applause and spoke enthusiastically on behalf of the villagers of the volost under our patronage.

**AT** the time of their last visit the peasants spent two days with us (they were holidays). Our workers gave them hospitality and showed them the sights of Moscow.

With proletarian greetings,  
I. GUINNESSIN, Metal Turner.  
Moscow, Jan. 15, 1925.

**Agricultural Commune "Seyatel"**

**TO** the DAILY WORKER:—In 1922 some ten small farmers and a few industrial workers at Kirkland, Wash., decided to go to Soviet Russia so they organized an agricultural commune by putting together their small savings. They sent delegates to Russia to locate a favorable place to practice grain raising with modern machinery. After finding a place a group was formed consisting of about eighty members (children included). They choose the name Seattle after the city from which they left; altho afterward the name was slightly changed to a Russian word "Seyatel" meaning "Sower." Thus our home Commune Seyatel started to exist.

Our place is located 100 miles southeast of Rostov on the Don on the Vladicaucasian railroad. We have secured a track of fertile land containing about 12,000 acres. At present there are 135 people in all, 67 men, 27 women, and the rest children, (six members are on a furlough.) All these people are gathered together from

different parts of America between New York and Nome, of five different nationalities. 50 per cent are western loggers, 10 per cent small farmers, 10 per cent miners and the balance is composed of people who have different trades.

## Grain Raising Takes Lead

Before the war this place was the home of well-known cossack horses. Cattle and sheep raising was carried on quite extensively also. Grain raising was only a side line then but now it takes the lead. We came to Russia with the latest American agricultural machinery amounting to \$120,000.

So far our attainments have been: the first year's crop area about 950 acres; the second years crop area 3,540 acres and our plan for next year is 5,400 acres. Our largest and only income so far has been grain, principally wheat. Even if we were in last summers drought area we were able to supply the surrounding peasants with twenty carloads of seed wheat. Our live stock consists of 115 hogs, 15 horses, 800 fowls, 390 sheep

the peasants, not only in the political line but also agricultural. It is a great task so each and every member's time is taken up in completing the work leaving no time for nonsense and cheap kind of fun that was so common in America. For instance we have different circles: A dramatic circle; educational committee; political circle; wall paper bureau; and lectures on scientific agriculture, home economics and all other important subjects. Also we have "smitchkas" with the peasants. These "smitchkas" are parties where comsomols and non-party youth get together.

We work and learn. We see the great future for such a vast majority have dictatorship over the "nepmen" and "kulack." Naturally terrorism is not practised altho the capitalist press seems to find so much of it here.

Last summer Comrade John Williamson was here at the Y. C. L. congress in Moscow so we waited for him to come here and visit our commune, but he did not come. When some one comes from there next time we ask you to come and visit us.

With comradely greetings,  
Rose Leino.  
Correspondent Commune "Seattle"  
Y. C. L.

**DEAR** Comrades!

It is 8 a. m. The factory sirens call the workers to their jobs. At the electrical power station the second shift comes on duty (the station works the whole 24 hours).

The stokers and mechanics who have come off duty take off their overalls, wash and disperse to their hostels. The screenfitter Akimov puts on rubber shoes, examines the apparatuses very carefully and takes down in a notebook their indications. He is at his post. He is entrusted with important work—keeping account of the expenditure of energy. Every half hour he takes down the indications of the apparatuses, going from one to the other, like a sentry he walks up and down in front of the screen until 4 p. m. At 4 o'clock another shift comes on.

The working hours are over, but not Akinov's working day. He goes home to a hurried dinner, for at half past five he must be at the courses for electrical fitters. At 7 p. m. he has to attend a class of political training and after 9 p. m. must prepare a report for the next day on the work of the International Red Aid Nucleus (he is the secretary of this nucleus).

Akimov's working day is not over until late at night when he goes to sleep on his bed with a book in his hands.

Dear Comrades, do write and tell us how you live and spend the day.  
KORSAKOV.

Give your shopmate this copy of the DAILY WORKER—but be sure to see him the next day to get his subscription.

## Chicago, Notice!

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# Social-Democracy Strips Itself Naked

## WELS AS WITNESS.

"Stop Such Things at any Price!"

**WITNESS** Otto Wels (chairman of the German socialist party): The first meeting which I attended, took place on Jan. 30 at Friedrichstrasse station. I was alone there, as there was a meeting of the party committee on the same morning, and Ebert was there holding an address on the strike. I also took part in a second meeting in the Lothringer Strasse, at which Ebert and Schiedmann were present.

We had not had the intention of attending any more strike committee meetings, but we had received information that certain elements were endeavoring to aggravate the strike. We did not believe this, but were determined to stop such things at any price. At the meeting on Feb. 2, efforts were made to persuade me to take sharper measures, but we representatives of the S. D. party declined to do this. We occupied ourselves with the strike solely for the purpose of securing the national defense.

Our attitude towards the strike during the war was not adopted for the special occasion, but was traditional.

In reply to a question from Dr. Landsberg, as to why Wels published the newspaper Die Fackel, the witness declared that the party had to have a mouthpiece, and the official organ, the Vorwarts, had been closed to them by the Independent editors.—(Vorwarts, Dec. 17.)

## Landsberg's Speech for the Defense of Social Treachery.

**WHEN** the war broke out on Aug. 4, 1914, the social democrats made a declaration in the reichstag: "We shall not desert our country in the hour of danger." At that time it was hoped that the division of the parties into national and anti-national, into friends and foes of the reich, would be put an end to once for all, and that a German would never again doubt the honorable patriotic feeling of another German. This hope was frustrated, tho the party of the co-plaintiff (Ebert's party) was not to blame for this, for this party never forgot its duty to the fatherland during the whole frightful war. One man belonging to this party (Karl Liebknecht) endeavored to thwart its aims, and tho he bore a name highly honored in this party, he was expelled from it. There were internal struggles in the party; the reichstag fraction and the organization dwindled; but in spite of all, Ebert as leader of the party, tho he had to calculate with the possibility of losing mighty troops of followers to the radicals, never vacillated for a moment but held to his conviction that his place was in Germany's camp, and that his party stood for an honorable peace.

## Ebert—"The German Man."

Ebert remained the tower of that wing of the social democratic party standing for national defense. For him this was the pivot of the disagreements with the other socialist party. Under his leadership the social democrats voted for the auxiliary service law in the interests of the defense of the country. The characterization of Ebert as given by General Field Marshal von Hindenburg is perfectly justified. During the war Ebert proved himself to be the German man whom Hindenburg designates, and this letter honors both writer and recipient. When the admission of the social democrats into the cabinet was demanded later on by Prince Max of Baden, it was again Ebert who succeeded in attaining this object, altho the other leaders in the party committee were first opposed to it.

He did not gain any specially high honors by his conduct, he merely did his duty as a German, and therefore it is a very deep insult to him if he

is reproached with having acted unpatriotically and contrary to duty. Ebert did not do his duty in war merely for tactical reasons, as one witness has maintained here, as little as Ludwig Frank went voluntarily to the front, from which he never returned, merely for tactical reasons. (Vorwarts, Dec. 20.)

## S. D. Leaders Sabotage Strike.

**LANDSBERG** (for the defense): It was the subject of relentless condemnation that our brothers at the front might be exposed defenceless to the fire of the enemy by a strike on the part of the munition workers. In 1917 the party committee, co-operating with the trade union commission, had been able to prevent a threatened strike of armament workers.

Ebert has announced that he joined the strike committee with the firm determination to put an end to the movement as quickly as possible. It has been ascertained that the action had been secretly prepared by the revolutionary leaders. The social democratic workers were told nothing before hand, for it was the object of these wirepullers to put the revolutionary leaders in the place of the trade unions. This is the final and the actual reason of the strike.

At that time the danger for the state did not lie in the strike itself, but in the possible realization of the aims of the revolutionaries. The seeds of revolution had already germinated to such an extent, that Captain Miersmann was right in saying that a few days' abstention from work during the war was not the worst evil, but the fact that embers still glowed among the ashes, and the workers had lost all desire to work. The social democratic leaders were taken by surprise by the outbreak of the strike. (Vorwarts, Dec. 20.)

## "No Allies" of the Strikers.

**LANDSBERG** (barrister). How could they (the social democratic leaders) know of it, when not even the minister of police, Drews, with every auxiliary of news service at his disposal, believed in the strike on Jan. 26. Ebert, as the credible witnesses here

have testified, declined to lie on the bed which others had made. Or do you really believe that the social democratic leaders were pleased to co-operate with people who were their bitterest enemies, who abused the social democrats? They would not have done it, had they not been pressed to do so by their own party comrades. And was not the radical wing of the strike committee perfectly aware of the fact that when Ebert, Scheidemann and Bauer joined the committee, the latter were no allies but men endeavoring to settle the conflict as fast as possible? It is not possible to speak of high treason because men who had recognized the enormous immediate danger to the country now approached the elements who were ready to throw a spark into the powder cask at any moment. It is not necessary to be a social democrat to recognize the purposefulness of this line of conduct, as it was for instance recognized by the Bavarian minister who openly expressed his thanks to the social democrats, in the Bavarian diet, for their efforts towards the speedy settlement of the strike. (Vorwarts, Dec. 20.)

## "The Restoration of Peace."

**LANDSBERG** (barrister): Richard Muller wished the strike to culminate in a revolution. Amongst other demands, the leading one was for the amnesty of all political offenders, so that a pistol could be held to the head of the government, and all negotiations rendered impossible and hopeless from the commencement. The social democrats at once required the alteration of the seven known demands of the radical strike committee, but this was refused. Mr. Wallraf would have done better to receive the deputation of striking workmen.

He would have helped the men in the strike committee who were exerting their utmost endeavors for the restoration of the so necessary economic peace.

He refused to receive the deputation, and now the cart was stuck fast in the mud. It was necessary for the social democrats to join the strike committee, for it was necessary to watch over and slow down this rash set of people, if the worst was to be avoided. But the men who, under took this thankless task do not de-

serve that an effort is now being made to twist their conduct at that time into a rope for their destruction. (Vorwarts, Dec. 20.)

## Ebert, Savior of the Fatherland.

**LANDSBERG** (barrister): Now as to the meeting in the Treptow Park. The dignity of the witness, Ebert, prohibits my inquiring whether he is a more credible witness than a Syrig or a Gobert. It would be perfect madness to assert or assume that Ebert, who lost two sons in the war, should have publicly called upon ten thousand people to refuse to obey when called up for military service. The best defender of the president of the reich is the witness Lenhoff, the sole witness able to repeat Ebert's speech in detail. At that time Ebert employed the whole of his authority for the purpose of making it clear to the strikers that the strike was dangerous and detrimental, both for the front and for home. This speech was a deed in the truest sense of the word. It showed a strength of character of which the man, whom I have the honor to defend, may be proud. It was his endeavor not only to end the munition strike, but to remove the ground from under the whole strike movement during the war.

**BUT** Ebert would have been lost for all time had he not added to this deed—that of disapproving of the strike—some few sentences sounding pleasant to the workers. I have had the honor, during the most difficult period of Germany's history, of standing by the side of the man who has to fight for his honor before this court today, a man whose life would not have been insured by any insurance company, so great were the risks and dangers threatening him.

If this man, who has to defend himself today against the most serious reproach which can be made against a German, the accusation of high treason against his country—if this man is a traitor to his country, then I wish that we had some tens of thousands of such traitors in Germany. In ancient Athens the men who had served their country were banished.

I hope that in Germany there is no place for ostracism.—(Vorwarts, Dec. 20.)

## CELEBRATE THE 18th OF MARCH!

By LUDWIG LORE.

**I**n spite of the comparatively short history of the revolutionary working class movement, its calendar presents a surprising number of days upon which the class conscious worker feels impelled to meet his comrades to commemorate its great events.

Of these none is more fitted to be the occasion for a huge celebration than the 18th of March, the anniversary of the Paris Commune, the day on which the starving, desperate proletariat of Paris dreamed their short, but glorious dream of industrial and political liberation, the great and glorious attempt that represents the climax of the First International, that first epoch in the history of the revolutionary, international working class.

The organizers of the Madison Square Garden demonstration have, in their program, caught the romantic spirit that characterizes our conception of the Paris Commune. There was a time, when the 18th of March was a day of sorrow and mourning, when the international working class came to their meetings with heads bowed in sorrow and speakers choked back their tears when they spoke of the men, women and children that were mowed down by the guns of a terror-stricken bourgeoisie. That time is passed. To us, today, the Paris Commune, in spite of the precious lives that were sacrificed at the altar of its failure, has become a day of pride and rejoicing, pride in the courage and the fervor of those who

dared in the face of invincible odds, rejoicing at the thought that today, while hundreds still live who remember the Paris Commune, the working class of the largest nation in the world has succeeded in creating where the French working class was doomed to failure, because we have been strong enough, great enough to learn

by the mistakes that they had made, that the working class of the world is strong enough, virile enough to grow and to conquer in spite of the terrible defeat of that 18th of March.

**Dr. A. Moskalik**  
DENTIST

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# How Much Longer Will They Stand It?

By **SINBAD.**

(This is a second article received from a 15-year-old Chinese Comrade. In this article he describes the persecution and humiliation inflicted upon Chinese coolies by wealthy foreigners, especially Americans.—Ed. Note.)

An incident which aroused some comment in the correspondence section of the Shanghai newspapers has various aspects which make it necessarily of interest to these chronicles.

A foreign woman was crossing Honan Road at the wrong time, i. e., when traffic was not proceeding along the same road. A cyclist (Chinese) was propelling himself along the thoroughfare when he collided with the lady and they were all precipitated to the pavement. A tall heavy foreigner seeing the accident came running over and not taking into consideration the fact that the entire blame rested on the woman used what is known in ring colloquialism as an up-percut and felled the poor Chinese to the ground after he had gotten up from his first fall and was offering his most ardent apologies to the lady. The foreigner was dressed in the uniform of a member of the S. V. C. (Shanghai Volunteer Corps.) The lady threw a smile to her chivalrous (?) knight, halted a ricksha and rode

away. The Chinese was picked up by some of the sympathizing onlookers (Chinese) a bleeding mess and wended his way rather dizzily home (some hovel most probably which he knew as home).

It resembles the Middle Ages when some gallant knight ran an unoffending peasant thru the heart with his rapier because the wheel of his lady's carriage had brushed against him and received a gracious smile from her as a reward.

A brief glimpse into the conditions or rather into the details of domineering foreign oppressions of the ricksha coolies is necessary to the person who is interested in the condition of the coolie classes in China. He (a ricksha coolie) resembles a horse or is treated like a dog by the foreigner in China.

It is a widely known fact that the duration of the life of one of these slaves is comparatively short after the commencement of the slow killing occupation, ricksha pulling. The reason can be stated in a few words. The strain on the heart, lungs, in fact the entire body is so great as to cause death anywhere from 2 months to 3 years after the beginning of the pulling.

When I was living on Rue de l'Observatoire in the French concession there was a French woman living in the adjoining house. She would make a habit to go from Bubbling Well

Road near the Olympic Theater up to her home, a distance of about 2½ miles. She would get off the ricksha and give the coolie about seven or eight coppers and between two of the coppers she would leave a piece of white paper. Then she would go inside and lock the gate. The coolie by this time having noticed the mistake (?) began to holler and shake the gate, all to no avail. In time he would go away. We witnessed the same thing quite often.

The following was related to me by a friend who came into the house one day well wrought up with furious indignation:

A big heavy Englishman had gotten off a ricksha and an argument had ensued between the coolie and himself as to the payment for the services rendered. The Englishman had cheated the coolie. That was evident because the coolie would not have dared risk the probable blow if he had had no grounds for his claims. The inevitable happened. The bleeding coolie raised himself rather groggily from the ground and received another blow. He again fell and once more rose. The former cossack now hired by the French authorities to keep law and order in the French concession came running over and gave the coolie a kick and a not over gentle prod with his baton and then took him away from the immediate vicinity and as a farewell administer-

ed another kick. This transpired on Route Vayron, a street adjoining Koukaza Gardens.

Events such as these are occurring every day. A German friend of mine declared quite proudly that he was in court almost every other day as the result of fighting with ricksha coolies which brings us to the attitude of the court towards happenings of this nature.

I was a witness once in a case when an American school boy, an acquaintance of mine, had beaten one of these poor slaves until he had smashed the coolie's nose and had knocked three of his teeth out of his head. The sergeant after hearing the case laughed sardonically and made the following statement. "Well since you yourself have already administered corporal punishment I will fine the coolie fifty cents and take away his license and dismiss him." So it was done and nobody heard anything more of the matter. The attitude of the court in such matters is clearly defined by the above example.

And in closing this brief glimpse into the situation I have one more remark to offer. In almost all the cases the coolie takes the beating or cheating as it was in the first case, as if the foreigner had the divine right to beat the coolie without retaliation. The fire is only smoldering but when it suddenly flares forth into the darkness . . . Foreigner beware!!

## Help Wanted!

By **ASSAD.**

It is well known that in New York most of the workers looking for a job have to look for it in the columns of The World, and anybody who, like me, has been unfortunate enough to be on the search for a long time, or for periods of time running through the most prosperous years of the war, and the industrial depressions that followed it, will readily understand, only by looking in the help wanted columns.

In order to find out how the industrial situation is, and my chances to find a master, I have only to look in the help wanted pages, not columns, nor ads, mind you. There was a time when you needed every bit of an hour or more to look thru the ads in this department. There were even times when two sections had to be reserved in many papers for this particular matter.

What is the situation for the last three or four years?

1. There is hardly a page or two of "help wanted" in any morning or evening paper.
2. Most of the ads in this one or two pages mean nothing to the workers. (a) Fake schools, ads calling for help to learn a trade, (mind you, help for the school), (b) Agencies help, extorting enormous prices after discrimination for jobs that most of the time you'll lose as soon as you got thru paying your fee. (c) Stock or other kind of selling, that even very well trained salesmen are unable to perform, sometimes losing your time besides so many carfares taken out of your lunch or dinner money. (d)

Of the remaining ads to the great majority you have to write telling them your whole history and 99 times out of a 100 you don't hear from them, there also you have to stand some expense, stationery, postage, etc.

3. Now come the jobs that you can apply for personally. They are so very few that you have to look for them with a microscope. And conditions, wages and hours are enough to let anybody with any common sense understand where we are. Here is a typical one taken from The World: Young men, 18 and over, factory work; department; \$14.00 to start, advancement; references, etc. And this one is not the worst; taken at random. Here is another one from the same paper: young men, 18 and over, factory work; 34c an hour; 53 hour week, etc.

SOME people might think that nobody would apply for this job. You'll be surprised how many people of all ages apply for every one of these jobs. I have seen as many as 100 to 150 answer where one was needed.

Since the election, it seems to me things have gone from bad to worse we got Coolidge and "prosperity," Dawes and the open shop.

Let us join the unions, and let us try to make them powerful industrial unions.

LET us unite under the banner of the only organization that fights only for the workers; the Workers (Communist) Party.

Let us unite to hasten the day, when all this misery of job hunting, unemployment and poverty will be a thing of the past.

## How We Live and Work

Editor's Note:—This paper is printed for the workers, poor farmers and those who work and sweat under the present system of society. It is a paper of the workers, by the workers and for the workers. We want to reach every corner of this country where labor is being exploited for private gains, for profit. We want the workers and farmers all over the country to read the DAILY WORKER. In order to make it more interesting and be able better to reflect the life of the wide laboring masses, WE WANT OUR READERS TO WRITE TO US. This new department "HOW WE LIVE AND WORK" will appear as often as there will be sufficient letters from our readers about the life and working conditions under which our masses struggle. Try to make the letters interesting bringing out facts which may not be known to workers in other sections of the country. Try to make them short and to the point.

### Communist Killed in San Pedro.

To the DAILY WORKER: It has been well said that a period of "peaceful" capitalist production will kill and maim as many workers as a capitalist war. Every day we read of violent deaths of workingmen in the mines, on the railroads, and on the wharves. The greed of the ruling class for profits, the feverish speed up system, the repression of organization, are responsible for the majority of these casualties.

San Pedro is notorious for industrial accidents and San Pedro is also notorious as a town where organization of the waterfront workers into unions is severely stamped out. As a result of lack of organization, the bosses can practically do as they please with the men who work on the wharves. In this port no known union man can get a job.

All applicants for work on the docks have to undergo the scouting and the survey of the slave market docks, or "funk hall," as it is called locally—a bosses' institution which looks into a man's past history.

Victim of Bosses' Greed.

These fact are strongly brot out by

the death of our comrade, Ulrich Grill, who, while working on the steamship, Steel Trader, discharging steel beams, fell into the hold, a depth of forty feet, fracturing his skull. He was taken to the hospital in Los Angeles and died four days later, never regaining consciousness.

Comrade Grill was for many years connected with the working class movement, having been a former member of the socialist party. Six months ago he joined the San Pedro branch of the Workers (Communist) Party.

Comrade Grill's loss is much regretted by all the comrades here, knowing as they do that the responsibility for his death must be laid to the present economic system.—J. Stevenson, secretary, San Pedro branch, Workers Party.

### Second-Hand Books

Used Communist, Labor and Economic books, pamphlets, magazines and maps in all languages, bought, sold and exchanged at cut prices.

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at the

HARLEM CASINO, 116th St. and Lenox Ave. (S. W. Corner)

Admission 50 Cents, including wardrobe.



# The Workers Monthly—A Review

By WALT CARMON.

THE great success of the Workers Monthly from its very beginning five months ago is a measure as to how well it has served as the expression of the militants in the Workers (Communist) Party and the Trade Union Educational League whose official organ it is.

The March issue is sure to gain further favor. A striking cover by a new revolutionary artist well expresses the struggle pictured in the contents of the magazine that reflect the American and world advance of labor. Led by a report of Wm. Z.

ing each battle, the Workers Monthly supplies the theoretical expression so necessary to the conduct of every step of the militant. The serial publication of the Communist classic "The History of the Russian Communist Party" by Gregory Zinoviev, president of the Communist International, has attracted well merited interest and attention. The installment in this issue of the Workers Monthly, on the struggle between Populism and Marxism in the Russian Communist Party, is of particular historical and theoretical interest.

The contribution of Lenin to Marx-



Charlie Had a Very Comfortable and Dignified Seat.

Foster on the recently held Unity Conference in England, at which the author was present and giving a picture of the forces playing in the wave of support for the minority movement that threatens the old leadership of British labor, the issue contains articles on the American struggles of the miners, clothing workers and carpenters, illustrated with photographs of the militants the battles have thrown to the forefront. There is inspira-

ism in the article "Lenin and the New Wave of Marxism" by Manuel Gomez, adds weight to a splendidly balanced issue which includes also on this side of the ledger, the article of keen political analysis by Alexander Bittelman and one of thoro analysis by Ear R. Browder—all crammed full of facts and each one enuf to make the issue outstanding.

The article by Wm. F. Dunne "Negroes in American Industry," is not



But He Got Up to Show His Authority.

tion for every worker in these well-pictured struggles.

In the article "The Communists Take the Lead in Minnesota" by C. A. Hathaway, you will find a characteristic picture of the struggle that is assuming shape in every unit of organized labor in this country.

As the organ of the militants lead-

only a splendidly written one but contributes in great measure to an understanding of the problem of one-twelfth of the total population of this country. Harrison George's article on "The Prison Story of the Wobblies" has both color and pertinent observation on a once great militant organization. A pleasant addition is



And When He Sat Down!  
(Cartoons from March issue of Workers Monthly.)

the greater number of photographs and cartoons that brighten up every one of the 48 interesting pages; a double-page centerpiece picturing with drawing and photographs "March the Month of Revolution" and including a proclamation of the Paris Commune and a historical summary of the famous events of this month, is a credit to the editing of the issue.

To everyone who reads this number, the reviewer hastens to bring to their attention a few things of real beauty that are such modest space users, that they escape your attention. These are four poems by Robert L. Wolf, Jacqueline Perrault and two by Langston Hughes, whose work has appeared in previous issues. Each poem is "a thing of beauty" to such measure that they deserve repetition

and reprint—and preservation by all means.

Whether you agree with this review of what in our mind is truly "the best yet" issue of the Workers Monthly or not, we prophecy that you will read to all your friends (and memorize perhaps) that splendid bit by Jim Waters, "An Administration Delegate Reports," on page 205, and "wax enthusiastic" as the reviewer has done. We are going to pester the editors of the DAILY WORKER until they reprint this gem by Jim Waters.

This, in brief is the March issue of the Workers Monthly—an issue of facts and theory, photographs and cartoons, poetry and humor—and the stuff that will send a thrill of pride down your spine and make you a more informed and better fighter for your class.

## Party Construction in the C. I. Sections

(Continued from page 1)

construction of the Communist parties of other countries.

It would be as well to point out yet another difference between the Russian Communist Party (formerly the Russian Social-Democratic Labor Party—Bolshevik) and the Communist parties of Europe and America, altho this difference has perhaps no direct relation with party construction.

BECAUSE of its 20 years illegal existence the Russian Communist Party produced a type of professional revolutionaries—"The Lenin Guard," which has gone thru "the ordeal of fire, etc." The members of this Lenin Guard have gained great experience in the building up of party organizations dependent on political conditions.

This experience was lacking in the former members of the social-democratic parties of Europe. It is for this reason that our brother Communist parties find it so difficult to adapt their party organizations to the illegal conditions which have been forced on them by their bourgeoisie.

Nearly all the Communist parties thruout the world were formed between 1918 and 1920 from the left elements of the social democratic parties (and the French and Czech Communist parties formed from the majority of the French and Czech socialist parties). Altho the Communist parties aim at the conquest of power by the working class and at the organization of production on a Communist basis, they have taken over, by social-demi-

cratic force of habit, the old social democratic organizational forms of building up party organizations. This being so, they have been unable to form strong party organizations of the right type and to get into contact with the factories and workshops.

THE ideological influence exercised by the Communist parties of Western Europe over the working class was enormous; at the time of the Hungarian Soviet Republic, Austrian workers organized in Vienna enormous demonstrations before the premises of the central committee of the Austrian Communist Party, suggesting to the latter to become the leader of the mass movement.

The seizure of factories in Italy in the year 1920 would have taken a different turn if the Italian Communist Party had had a proper and adequate leadership, and finally, if the Communist Party of Germany had had for its basis the factories and workshops, the German October events in 1923 would have had better results, not only for the German but also for the international proletariat.

THE old social-democratic organizational methods in building up party organization did not give our brother Communist parties an opportunity to consolidate organizationally their ideological influence over the masses. The above statements are not mere theorizing, but are based on numerous facts of which the organization department of the E. C. C. I. has the documentary proof.

(Concluded next Week)

### WORKERS CO-OP OF GARY HOLDS MASS MEETING TOMORROW

GARY, Ind., March 13.—The Gary Workers' Co-operative Society is holding a mass meeting on Sunday, March 15, at 2 p. m., at 215 West 18th avenue.

Speakers in both Russian and English will tell of the history and aims of the co-operative.

Talk it up—your shopmate will subscribe!

CLEVELAND, OHIO.

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