

DEC 3 '36

Socialist Call

Entered as Second-Class Matter March 21, 1935, at the Post Office at New York under the Act of March 3, 1879

VOL. II—No. 90

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1936

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Begin
"FERMENT
IN STEEL"
This Week

SEE PAGE 6

CITY, FARM WPA CUT

1914 Bloc Renewed In Europe

Powers Move To Bring U.S. Into Alliance

By GUS TYLER

Japan, Germany and Italy were formally organized into a solid military bloc this week. The "revisionist" states of Europe and Asia, those state anxious to "revise" the post-war settlement, have now joined their causes. This move, conceived almost the day the Treaty of Versailles was signed, developed in the dark womb of capitalist diplomacy during the last decade, has now sprung nakedly into the light of day.

Belgium, Great Britain and France, within the week, announce through their "unofficial" spokesmen that they will move for an alliance to protect themselves. Thus do the "status quo" states of Europe, those states which are quite satisfied with the way in which they carved up the earth after the last war, answer the "revisionists" and prepare to hold their imperialist booty.

THE WORLD WAR RENEWED

Thus after a pause of less than two decades the capitalist nations of the world, after a little re-juggling of allies and a little time out for rearming and a little lapse of memory on the part of the masses about the horrors of the last war, take up the same old quarrel. Out of the treaties that placed the official approval upon the war to end wars comes a new war.

The wall of Belgium, France and Britain about the defensive alliance into which they are being driven is diplomatic, tommyrot. Almost a year ago the military

(Continued on Page Twelve)

Officers Picket Too



These pickets are members of the Masters, Mates and Pilots Association and the Marine Engineers. They have joined the sailor boys on strike.

Sea Strikers Get Contracts; French, Mexicans Give Aid

By JOHN NEWTON THURBER

First break in the solid front of the American ship owners faced by striking workers on three maritime fronts came with the signing of contracts covering wages and working conditions of officers and seamen on two lines operating in the coastwise trade, by representatives of the lines and of four of the maritime unions, three of which are involved in the East coast strike.

While the officials of the Steamship Owners Association were quick to point out that the two companies which have capitulated

are but small concerns which are not members of their association, it is recognized as being of great significance as the first break in the united opposition which the owners have presented to the striking seamen for the past four weeks.

At the same time that the ranks of the employers were breaking, world solidarity of workers involved in the maritime strike which has spread rapidly from the West coast, has been dramatically demonstrated. Despite opposition from governments and from reactionary labor offi-

cial of two continents, the strike is rapidly acquiring international scope.

French Solidarity

French longshoremen at Havre complicated efforts of the United States line to operate the S. S. Washington with scab labor by refusing to unload 500 tons of freight from its holds, after it had managed to slip out of strike bound New York harbor. Line officials are hoping that they will be able to unload their cargo in Hamburg, Germany.

In retaliation, Joseph P. Ryan, (Continued on Page Six)

Re-elected, Roosevelt Hits Relief

Safely reelected by the votes of American workers and farmers, Roosevelt has turned upon his friends, threatening to demolish the WPA and drastically curtail relief.

The attack upon the WPA is hitting both city workers and farmers, victims of the pre-election drought.

The administration's post-election attack upon relief to the drought victims is described in an article appearing on page three.

By BRENDON SEXTON

Chairman, Workers Alliance of New York

The Roosevelt Administration is determined substantially to curtail, if not completely demolish, the present works relief program.

In his first speech following election, President Roosevelt called on private charity agencies to assume some of the relief burden. Jim Farley, sojourning in Ireland, issues a statement to the press stating that WPA is to be abandoned and relief placed in the hands of the localities, while Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Ickes and other New Deal satellites spout about the necessity for retrenchment in view of the alleged fact "that thousands of workers are being reabsorbed into private industry."

White Collars Go First

Because the Administration supposes that it is following the line of least resistance, it is, as always, hitting the white collar worker first. On November 23, it announced that 3,000 of these workers had been dropped in New York City and that an undisclosed number would be fired

(Continued on Page Nine)

Every Socialist Headquarters A Depot For Supplies To The Spanish Workers

The Socialist Party of the United States has moved to turn every Socialist headquarters into a depot of supplies for the embattled workers and peasants of Spain.

Clothes! Canned foods! Money! Anything and everything, that will strengthen the hand of the Spanish masses who are fighting the battle for the international working class on the Iberian peninsula, should be pouring into Socialist headquarters.

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party has issued a call to make Socialist headquarters a clearing house and a center of activity for all those who wish to aid the Spanish workers and peasants.

Young girls, members of the Young People's Socialist League, are busying their hands with knitting sweaters for their comrades in Spain

Another group of youngsters have set a real example for friends of the Spanish workers throughout the country. They are canvassing aid from house to house. First leaflets—announcing their coming and appealing for aid. Then—the visit. With a big sack flung over their shoulders and collection cans in their hands. From house to house and from door to door.

A house party, run in Sunnyside, Long Island, fetched \$120 in cold cash for the fight against Fascism.

Those who wish to give aid to Spain and do not know the location of their local Socialist headquarters should communicate with the National Office of the Socialist Party at 5-49 Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois, or with the Socialist Call, 21 East 17th Street, New York City.

Organize Your Aid!

Cold winter is creeping over Spain. Women with babies in their arms are being driven from their homes. They must flee in the middle of the night as a Fascist bombardment shatters their one time home. Families without food and clothing must make long treks to a new place of safety across war torn country.

ORGANIZE YOUR AID!

Men, unaccustomed to the rigors of war, are digging into trenches for a long fight. Youngsters, unclothed for combat, often unarmed for long battles, are facing the Fascist cannon. They need clothes, and food, and ammunition.

ORGANIZE AID!
FIGHT FASCISM ON THE SPANISH FRONT!

Fascists Murdered Them



Only the supreme need that the world shall know the full horror and ruthlessness of International Fascism justifies the publication of these photographs. They show a few of the victims of November 6, when the Fascist air forces, flying low over Madrid in full daylight, deliberately dropped bombs over a square where many children were playing. Note also the unexploded bomb, which bore the trade mark of a Fascist country, and the year of manufacture: 1936. The Catalonian government sent these pictures throughout the world to "let all lovers of freedom and democracy judge."

Craftists Ran AFL Convention But Gained A Pyrrhic Victory

By SAM BARON

Tampa, a city of reaction, was the setting for the 58th Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor. And a proper setting it was—for the fall of the AFL to its present low estate. For at this convention it was reaction that rode the saddle with Carpenter Hutcheson cracking the whip.

Here was a convention that was subjected to the vapid mouthings of an American Legion head, but was not permitted to hear a plea from the brave Spanish workers who are fighting Fascism with gun in hand. Although the Spanish Ambassador to America, De Los Rios, and Spain's feminine ambassador to Sweden, Isabelle Palencia, were in town, Green would not invite them.

A petition signed by hundreds of delegates asking that these representatives of Spain's workers be heard was spurned by Green, because in the presence of some conservative Catholic elements it embarrassed him.

MAKE ANTI-SEMITISM CONVENTION ISSUE

Here was a convention dominated by men so bitter in their fight against the industrial unions as to use the weapon of anti-Semitism. The resolutions committee, in formal writ, was ready to propose to the Jews (why not industrial union minded Catholics and Protestants?) that they go home and think over their rash act of support to the CIO.

Here was a convention which, at a time of advancing Fascism around the world, used the mention of Fascism to lump it with Communism and, perfunctorily, damned both. This little trick has become so habitual at AFL con-

ventions that practically nobody objected, including some of the "left" who might be expected to do so.

AUTOCRATIC POWERS STRENGTHENED

Here was a convention which legalized an illegal action of its Executive Council in suspending over 1,000,000 members of the federation. And by that very act, the convention so strengthened the already autocratic craft union heads as to make peace almost impossible in the future.

This convention hit a sharp blow at labor's ability to organize broad support, especially for local strikes. Central Labor Unions were deprived of the right to declare a boycott against unfair employers.

HEARST IS GIVEN CLEAN SLATE

No wonder, in the face of all this, that the convention did not have the heart to damn Hearst as he properly should be damned. In Hearst, the craft-ridden convention of conservatives saw only a labor loving employer who deals in a gentlemanly manner with the unions. To denounce Hearst for his viewpoint, some craftist leaders discovered, would be interfering with the freedom of the press.

And finally, almost as if it were a calculated attempt to show the world that there was no bottom to the pit into which the AFL leaders were trying to hurl their principles, the convention leaders stabbed viciously at the strike of the seamen. Just to protect the "good name" of the ill-smelling bureaucracy of the International Seamen's Union!

POTENTIAL STRENGTH FOR FUTURE SHOWN

Although the hold of the habitual leadership of the Federation

upon the convention delegates shamefully distorted the ideals of a working class organization, signs were aplenty that once this stranglehold can be weakened there are elements in the Federation, even present at the convention, who are ready to lift again the drooping banner of working class struggle.

Zaritsky's challenging attack upon the resolution's committee for its show of anti-Semitism revealed the fact that, even in this bureaucratically ridden body, the men at the top had to reckon with the workers whom they professed to represent. Hastily the anti-Jewish reference was withdrawn.

RANDOLPH AND YAGODA STIR DELEGATES

Thanks to the Socialist idealism and dramatic presentation of A. Philip Randolph of the Pullman Porters Union the convention was compelled to pay attention to the Negro question in America. Once more he underscored the lingering prejudice against the Negro still plaguing some of the AFL unions.

The Tampa floggings, the murder of sharecroppers in Arkansas, peonage in the turpentine camps of Florida were brought vividly before the convention. No convention could blind itself to these crimes against the men who work. Resolutions were passed: condemning the Klan, condemning the Tampa officials for their refusal to conduct a vigorous prosecution against the floggers of Poulnot and Rogers and the murderers of Shoemaker. William Green visited the States Attorney Rex Farior to press for action and wired Governor Scholtz demanding an investigation of peonage. The long campaign of the Socialist Party of America

Spain's Workers Launch Attacks Upon Foe's Rear

While Spain's workers' armies launched strong attacks on all fronts this week, it became clear that victory or defeat in Spain will be won in the international arena.

Madrid's defenders more than held their own, as workers' offensives throughout the Peninsula effectively prevented General Franco from diverting additional troops to the siege of Madrid.

But the capital continued to be limited to the single motor highway for all supplies and evacuation of civilians, the Fascists remaining in possession of points dominating the Valencia railroad.

Air raids on Madrid, Santander and Alicante during the few hours that weather permitted indicated that the Fascists still hold superiority in this important weapon.

Fascists Get Free Hand

Further French and British diplomatic reactions to Hitler and Mussolini's recognition of Franco and to the Jap-German military pact demonstrated completely that the "democratic" countries are giving Germany and Italy a free hand in Spain. Strong pressure from French and British officialdom was exerted to prevent the Spanish Government from airing its charges of armed intervention by Germany and Italy before the League of Nations.

While Hitler and Mussolini concentrated on driving home to all Europe the significance of the Jap-German pact, numerous reports indicated no abatement in their arms shipments to Franco via Portugal. With their fate irrevocably tied to Franco's by recognition of his "regime," Italian and German capitalism are expected to send whole armies into Spain if necessary.

Industrial Workers' Aid

Meanwhile, aid to Spain from the international working class took on huge proportions. Madrid's mainstay continues to be

the international brigades, formed by highly-trained revolutionary workers from abroad, with every train to the border bringing in new contingents of worker-artillerymen, pilots and other skilled technicians.

The French Government's seizure of six trucks in Marseilles carrying machine guns and field pieces destined for the workers was the first public intimation of smuggling, known from confidential sources to be widespread, carried on by the revolutionary workers in French arsenal munitions plants and airports.

The French Government has suppressed news of these wholesale raids, fearing that publicity would develop it into an irrepressible mass campaign. After careful search by American customs officials, the Spanish Steamer "Sil" nevertheless arrived off Vera Cruz loaded with airplane crates.

Thus international working class action is developing to offset international capitalist action.

Rift Appears

An unfortunate rift may develop within the solid ranks of the workers in Catalonia, arising from the attempt of the communists to suppress the press of the Party of Marxist Unity, which the Communists attack as a Trotskyite organization. The Daily Worker of November 26 states that the Communist attack is based upon the fact that the POUM paper criticized the People's Front Government and proposed an All-Workers Regime, defended Trotsky and criticized the Moscow.

The United States Party of Catalonia, which has charges against the Socialist Party but a Communist dominated "unity" organization.

Trager



Frank Trager, recently elected as Labor and Organization Secretary of the Socialist Party of the United States, has a long record of work with labor and unemployed groups. He was state secretary of New York.

Socialist colors throughout the convention, by playing a leading role in the fight on behalf of the CIO and the much abused Central Labor bodies.

Unfortunately, the matters of a Labor Party and the Workers' Rights Amendment received only perfunctory mention. They were obscured by the issue of the split in the American Labor movement. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEN OF YESTERDAY

Just to sort of keep their drooping spirits from dragging the ground, the Executive Council most valiantly reiterated, in the closing minutes and for the hundredth time, that the AFL must march on to a thirty hour week, etc., etc., as per expected.

The AFL Convention exposed the tragedy of yesterday's men trying to control the fate of today, shrinking from full sized men to tiny little souls before the threat of a militant future. Time has been harsh to them. But time, too, will bring an army of militant workers not only out of the present industrial unions but also out of the unions now under the unfortunate control of these more unfortunate relics, called "leaders."

WATCH THE WRAPPER

on your copy of the Socialist Call. If the number on the lower left of this notice, or any number less than this number appears on your wrapper it means that your subscription has expired. Renew immediately.

90 EXPIRED! RENEW NOW!

against virtual slavery in the South has not been without meaning—even in this AFL convention.

It was another Socialist, Lou Yagoda, representing the Pottsville Central Labor Union, who would not permit this convention to close without recording its sympathy with the Spanish workers in their fight against Fascism, even if the only manner of recording such solidarity should be a thunderous burst of applause from the assembled delegates.

Joe Frederick of the Milwaukee Central Trades showed his

Southern Tenant Farmers Hail Peacher Conviction As Victory For The Union

JONESBORO, Ark.—Paul D. Peacher, whose word is law in Earle, Arkansas, was sentenced here to a 2-year jail term and a \$3,500 fine last week after he was convicted on the charge of aiding and abetting in slavery. He was charged with arresting striking share-croppers on fake charges of

vagrancy and, after a trial which allowed the strikers no opportunity of defense, forcing them to work for his private profit.

But Peacher will not serve a day in jail, despite the sentence. Judge John E. Martineau of the Federal Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, who pronounced sentence, promised him to suspend the jail term if the fine were paid.

Sympathetic planters are reported to have raised a \$4,000 defense fund to pay the fine. Peacher is now free on \$4,000 bail, awaiting the appeal of his conviction to a higher court.

SHARECROPPER VICTORY

Peacher's conviction was considered a signal victory for the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, the fighting organization of more than 25,000 Negro and white sharecroppers and day laborers. The union, along with the Workers' Defense League, has taken the lead in fighting terrorism exercised against its members, and has frequently charged that widespread peonage existed in the cotton plantations. It was only through union agitation that the Peacher case came to trial.

"I thought when the election was over, this lawsuit would be allowed to die out," N. S. Lamb, chief of Peacher's counsel, told the jury. "There had to be an investigation with the tenant union sending messages to the President and to Governor Futrell and the election coming on."

But the case went to trial after the election, despite Lamb's wish. Even the surprising turn-about of U. S. Attorney Fred A. Isgrig, himself a wealthy Little Rock planter, failed to stop the trial. Isgrig, nominally in charge of the prosecution, a week before the trial attacked charges of "peonage" made by the Workers' Defense League as "propaganda."

In a statement to the Associated Press, the Federal attorney bluntly declared that "there is no peonage in Arkansas" and assailed H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the union, as "conducting a racket."

But Isgrig's denial of peonage in Arkansas did not come before the jury. Instead there were presented the following facts:

"VAGRANCY"

When Peacher, who was city marshal of Earle, a cotton town of 2,000 population, desired to have workers on his land, he merely went around the town and arrested anybody he wanted. He even arrested one person in his home. Charging them with vagrancy, he brought them before Mayor T. S. Mitchell of Earle and, without allowing them any opportunity for defense, induced Mitchell to sentence them to 30 days in jail. The "vagrants," all of them residents of the city, were then herded into a stockade until they could be transferred to Peacher's farm.

Although the law in Arkansas, as in many Southern states, allows for the use of county prisoners by private contractors, it was established that no legal provision had been made by Peacher for this transfer.

Substantiating union charges that such practices were widespread, Judge Martineau commented:

"This is not a lone case in Arkansas. It occurs frequently

Sharecroppers



Here is a typical camp of evicted sharecroppers. Arrested for vagrancy, sheriffs, such as Peacher, sought to turn them into slaves.

and it ought to be stopped."

Peacher was charged with forcing involuntary servitude upon seven sharecroppers and was convicted upon each count. He was sentenced to two years jail on each count, but the sentences were imposed to run concurrently, thus allowing only a maximum of two years.

While Peacher may escape without serving a day, sharecroppers, framed on fake charges of assault, have not been allowed

Peacher



Here is the man who forgot that slavery was abolished as far back as 1866. The good work of the Workers' Defense League saved Sheriff Peacher's prisoners from slavery. Peacher was found guilty!

the privilege of suspended sentences and are today behind bars.

Attention was first called to the Peacher case when a delegation consisting of Aron S. Gilmartin, executive secretary of the Workers' Defense League, Sherwood Eddy, noted Socialist, and a union representative went to Earle last May to investigate stories of the stockade. Gilmartin then was arrested by Peacher, charged with inciting labor.

The case received nation-wide publicity through the efforts of the Workers' Defense League which is sponsoring a campaign to "End Peonage in Arkansas." Civil damage suits have been filed in the Memphis, Tennessee, Federal Court by the league on behalf of Willie Sue Blagden,

Florida Negroes Held In Virtual Peonage

TAMPA, Fla.—The brutal murder of Joseph Shoemaker last year by vigilante gangs is only part of the vicious medieval system in the State of Florida, extending to peonage and forced labor.

This sensational revelation was made on the floor of the AFL convention by A. Phillips Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, based upon information supplied by Frank McCallister, southern representative of the Workers' Defense League.

Hardly fifty miles from the spot where the convention of the AFL was in session for the avowed purpose of initiating enlightened legislation is the town of Macclenny where the "entire Negro population working in the turpentine factory are held in a condition of virtual peonage and slavery."

Constant Terror

Living in constant terror of stool pigeons and other company informers, the turpentine workers were highly reluctant to offer any information to the investigation committee. While the committee was on the spot, they learned that one of the company flunks, Cobb, ran to his superiors to inform them that "strange men were prying around."

The princely sum of \$1.25 per day is the top wage received by the turpentine workers who are

forced, according to the committee report, to "toil from daylight until they can no longer see at night." To this thievery on the job is added the pilfering device of the company store owned by a certain Knabb.

Prices are at least twice as high in the company store of Macclenny as they are in Tampa. Nevertheless, turpentine workers are forced to trade only at Knabb's. One man who had spent \$2 outside the commissary was told that his pay of \$10 would be withheld until he purchased all his goods at the store.

No Escape

Unless there is some revival of the "underground railroad" system of pre-civil war days there is no possibility of escape for the Negroes from their Macclenny prison. Any attempt to leave is met with by beatings by company guards and threats on their lives. Innumerable such beatings have occurred, the investigation committee revealed.

Randolph disclosed in his report to the AFL convention that conditions in Macclenny were only one degree better than in the rest of Florida.

Told To Leave

A strike of 600 girls in a cannery establishment against what the Civil Liberties Union termed "incredibly low wages and bad working conditions" found itself in the midst of a wave of police intimidation, arrests, the banning of picketing and the beating of the organizer, Louis Boisclair, who was given a suspended fine of \$50 and told to leave town.

During the speech of William Green, president of the AFL, at the municipal auditorium, three women distributing circulars calling attention to the violation of civil liberties, were taken into custody. They were released later without any charges, being filed against them

Where Is the Eighth Witness?

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—When Paul D. Peacher was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury and charged with peonage, the jury heard eight witnesses.

When Paul D. Peacher was found guilty in Jonesboro, on the slavery charge, he was convicted on the testimony of only seven witnesses.

What happened to the eighth witness?

The U. S. District Attorney here charged that the eighth witness had been kidnaped in defiance of a Government ultimatum against intimidation of Federal witnesses.

Kidnapings are widespread through this area. Frank Weems, a striking sharecropper, vanished early in June and despite repeated promises by both Governor Futrell and Sheriff Howard Curlin of Crittenden County to "produce him shortly," is still either missing or dead five months after the incident.

Farm Relief Slashes Set By New Deal

By ARTHUR HOPKINS

MINNEAPOLIS.—Farmers are receiving the same kind of treatment from the Roosevelt administration as their city brothers. Having received farm votes on the basis of vague promises to maintain relief for needy farmers, the New Deal has issued orders for sweeping cuts in relief to farmers which will take effect December 15.

Farmers on WPA farm projects, who are now receiving from \$40 to \$50 a month, will be placed on Resettlement Administration projects where their pay will be cut to \$20 a month.

Because the Resettlement Administration has less funds to operate with, it is expected that no more than 60,000 of the "neediest" can be cared for, as compared with the peak WPA farm relief load of 324,295 in seven Northwestern states.

The states involved include Minnesota, Iowa, North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Nebraska, with the probability that other states will be included.

The order will especially effect the poorest farmers and farm laborers. The Federal Section of Local 544 of the Teamsters Union, composed of WPA workers in the Twin Cities and in Minnesota, the Workers Alliance and the Farm-Holiday Association are protesting the order. Mass demonstrations are being planned throughout the affected area to force the government to withdraw the relief cut order.

Workers Slugged In Celanese War

CUMBERLAND, Md.—(FP) —

Negotiations for settlement of the strike of 9,000 Celanese Corporation employes continued, with state officials, federal conciliators, union leaders and the management taking a hand, while pickets nursed wounds inflicted by thugs and the governor's threat of calling out the militia hung over the community.

The United Textile Workers of America has placed a settlement proposal before the textile labor relations board at Washington, calling for union recognition in collective bargaining, as previously agreed to by the British-owned Celanese concern. The strikers also seek a 15 per cent wage increase, a demand likely to spread to other rayon plants.

THE SOCIALIST CALL

Published every Saturday by The Call Press, Inc. Address all communications to The Socialist Call, 21 East 17th St., New York City. Telephone: GRamercy 5-8779.

By subscription: \$1.50 a year; \$1 for six months. Foreign, \$2 a year. Special rates for bundle orders and club subscriptions.

Editor: August Tyler Managing Editor: Bruno Fischer
Business Manager: John Newton Thurber

Vol. II Saturday, December 5, 1936 No. 90

WELCOME, 'LABOR ACTION'

Greetings to our comrades on the West Coast for the birth of a new Socialist paper—*Labor Action*.

The great wave of militancy which has hit the Pacific Coast—maritime strikes, agricultural strikes—has shaken the staid pillars of capital with a new "San Francisco Earthquake."

We are proud of our Socialist comrades who have been on the firing line, fighting militantly and with political insight, shoulder to shoulder with their class brothers.

We know that their new-born paper can be a keen weapon in the battle of the Western workers against their hitherto too complacent overlords, the jailers of Mooney.

The SOCIALIST CALL, which seeks to knit together the separate local sinews of the Socialist and labor struggles into a coordinated labor movement, welcomes the appearance of a paper like *Labor Action*, which by its concentration on Western events, will give new vitality to our growing movement on the Pacific Coast.

More power to you, comrades!

A MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY

Norman Thomas and Devere Allen, international figures in the Socialist Party of America, have lent their names to a committee for the defense of Leon Trotsky. This committee, supported by prominent Americans, includes men and women of many different parties with political points of view generally different from that of Trotsky. The case of Trotsky stands above narrow party lines!

At a time when the Soviet Union has unleashed an international campaign against Trotsky, and against the Secretary of the Labor and Socialist International for defending Trotsky against the charge of terrorism, and against the American Socialist Party for associating with "Trotskyites," Leon Trotsky himself has been gagged. He is not even given a trial, where in open court he may answer the charges against him. He may not speak or write.

Gagged, he may on December 18 be handed over by the Norwegian authorities to the Soviet government. For on December 18, 1936, Trotsky will be a man without a country, welcome only in the Soviet Union where the hangman holds a rope in readiness for him.

Against this international man-hunt, the working class raises its voice. Walter Schevenels and Walter Citrine, speaking in the name of the International Federation of Trade Unions, have protested. Every Socialist Party in Europe, has protested. We join with them. The working class demands asylum for Trotsky. And an international working class commission to investigate the circumstances surrounding the Moscow trials!

We are compelled to disagree sharply with some of the criticisms against the Soviet trials, such as that of Ignazio Silone, author of "Fontenara," and internationally known anti-Fascist. So embittered is he by the trials that he turns against "all Fascism, whether black or red."

The Soviet regime is not a form of Fascism, of any color. It is a workers' state, to be defended by the international working class whenever it clashes with the powers of capitalism. We criticize the bureaucratic excesses of the Soviet regime just because we do not wish to see its farcical trials turn such valiant anti-Fascist fighters as Silone so bitterly against it.

If Stalin wishes to win friends for the Soviet Union in the capitalist lands, let him halt his persecution of Trotsky, or let him meet Trotsky face to face in open court before an international workers' jury—so that we may hear and judge the truth!

HOW TO CLEAN UNION HOUSE

The "house cleaning" in Local 16, Waiters' Union of New York, by the Progressives' decisive defeat of the Administration has far reaching import.

It indicates that the mass of the trade union members, with some leadership and half an opportunity, can save their union from racketeers within and investigations from without. The membership thumpingly expressed their disgust with their tainted officials; and with that same stone hit the bird of capitalist investigation through the government into the internal affairs of the unions.

Local 16 points the way.

Clear out the racketeers!

No protection to union officials tainted with racketeering!

Do not weaken union ranks before the enemy from without by relaxing the struggle against the pernicious enemy within!

They Shall Not Pass



A Soviet Ship Arrives In Spain

To The Editor:

I was in Barcelona, in October, when a notice suddenly reached us: A Soviet ship, the Ziryani, with a rich cargo of foodstuffs was on its way to Spain, heading for the capital of Catalonia.

Every day we ran down to the harbor, constantly on the lookout, but the ship didn't come. Wild rumors flew around the city: the ship had been sunk by a German battleship, the ship was being held by an Italian destroyer, the ship had secretly, under cover of night, deposited its load of arms somewhere along the Catalonian coast and was therefore delayed.

On October 14, I went down to the harbor to attend the trial of three Rebel officers who had taken part in the July 19 putsch and had revolted against the authorized government. They were now being held on the Spanish ship "Uruguay," which lay at anchor in the inner port of Barcelona.

The proceedings began, stormy proceedings, with the officers denying everything and being defended by several lawyers who fought vigorously against a sentence of "guilty."

Suddenly, in the midst of the trial, sirens began to scream, louder and louder. Immediately it was on everyone's lips: the long awaited Soviet ship is here!

The president of the court martial arose and shouted excitedly: "Now we have to attend to something more important. We must welcome our friends who are bringing us help. Court is adjourned. Long live the Constitutional Republic!"

Everybody hurried to the upper deck, (except of course the three arrested officers and their guard).

We beheld a thrilling sight. There in the bay, immediately before the port of Barcelona, were German and Italian battleships, which had been lying at anchor there for a long time, their cannons pointing into the skies. (Parenthetically I would like to remark to Germans and to people

who followed the closest the political development under the Weimar Republic, that one of these German battleships was the infamous *Pauser Kreuzer B*, the appropriation for the building of which had caused such a rumpus among the Leftist Parties before Hitler came into power!)

And there, steaming on calmly between these enemy ships, was the Soviet ship, flying its red flag with hammer and sickle. We all asked ourselves what would happen now?

But nothing happened. The Soviet ship passed. It was being greeted by the stern Montjuich fort which dominates the harbor. That same fort, where so many fighters for liberty had spent many years of their lives in dungeons, which I visited before, and where only too many of them had been murdered.

It was a very stirring spectacle. No sooner had the ship passed safely between the hostile watchdogs, than it was surrounded by hundreds of small boats, all anxious to greet the Russians. The whole shore was packed with tens of thousands of men, women and children wildly cheering the incoming ship.

It was a happy day for the Spaniards, a real holiday! The Russians had brought 3,000 tons of foodstuffs and other necessities to strengthen a nation in its struggle for liberty.

This summer I was also in Russia, where the initiative of women of a factory had begun

the collection which made possible the purchase of foodstuffs for the brave Spanish Loyalists. With what enthusiasm the people responded to the call for help! An entire... (partially obscured text) ...Solidar...

DR. KURT ROSENFELD
New York

Ax for Teacher, Not the Turkey

To The Editor:

We send greeting for a joyous Thanksgiving to Mr. Harry Hopkins, but our Thanksgiving has been spoiled by the announcement of his New York subordinate, Colonel Somervell, that 3,000 of us have been laid off and more are due to follow. We thought the Thanksgiving ax was meant for the turkey.

New York City WPA teachers of J. Benjamin Franklin High School
New York City

PA. GRANTS TWO CHARTERS

New charters were granted by the Pennsylvania State Committee of the Socialist Party to Sharon and Houtzdale. Five new charters have been granted in this state since the recent Reading convention.

Does Your Neighbor Read The Call?

Are You a Subscriber?

CALL Press, Inc.
21 East 17th Street,
New York, N. Y.

I wish to subscribe to the SOCIALIST CALL for one year at the special rate of \$1.00.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE

Roosevelt Hits WPA Workers Drastically Assails Relief

(Continued from Page One)
 in conformity with orders from Washington. Two days later, the administration made good its threat with the announcement that 1,900 workers would be dropped from the Art Projects. In accordance with the announced plans of the local Administrator, Colonel Brehon Somervell, it is expected that the lay-offs will probably reach the 40,000 mark by the middle of this month.

Nation-wide Drive Against WPA
 Information received here this week, indicates the drive is going forward with equal intensity all over the country. From California comes word that 20,000 are to be dropped. Even some of the \$21 per month laborers in southern states must come under the axe if the Administration's attempt to cut the rolls by 25 per cent is to be carried forward throughout the nation.

In New York, and in other sections of the country, an investigation of need has been instituted. That it will be used as a smoke screen behind which thousands of lay-offs will be made there can be no doubt. WPA workers are to be forced once more to go through the ordeal of home investigations in order to establish "current need," even though 90 percent of them have already demonstrated their need by qualifying for relief or by submitting to another investigation.

Project supervisors have been directed to turn in lists of workers who are "non-essential." The lists are to be used, of course, for the purpose of firing. In many cases, notably on the writers and theatre projects, the supervisors have refused to comply with this order since further lay-offs would mean their already understaffed projects would be unable to do the work assigned and would, therefore collapse.

Project supervisors have been directed to turn in lists of workers who are "non-essential." The lists are to be used, of course, for the purpose of firing. In many cases, notably on the writers and theatre projects, the supervisors have refused to comply with this order since further lay-offs would mean their already understaffed projects would be unable to do the work assigned and would, therefore collapse.

Project supervisors have been directed to turn in lists of workers who are "non-essential." The lists are to be used, of course, for the purpose of firing. In many cases, notably on the writers and theatre projects, the supervisors have refused to comply with this order since further lay-offs would mean their already understaffed projects would be unable to do the work assigned and would, therefore collapse.

Project supervisors have been directed to turn in lists of workers who are "non-essential." The lists are to be used, of course, for the purpose of firing. In many cases, notably on the writers and theatre projects, the supervisors have refused to comply with this order since further lay-offs would mean their already understaffed projects would be unable to do the work assigned and would, therefore collapse.

new Congress with a balanced budget.

In the holy name of economy the "liberal" Roosevelt Administration carries on the drive against the unemployed despite the fact that all evidence available points to the need for the continuation and expansion of WPA, not pay-cutting and possible destruction.

Unemployed To Be Organized
 In the same speech in which he called for retrenchment, Harry Hopkins, stated that even if prosperity should return, "there will still be some six and half or seven million unemployed." And on the same day the National Industrial Conference Board made public a statement in which it placed the number of unemployed in the nation at 8,975,000.

Daily, and with increasing emphasis, the Socialist Party's campaign contention that Roosevelt held out no hope for the unemployed is being demonstrated. Our job has just begun, however. In the weeks to come militant workers must play an important role in giving leadership to the unemployed in the fight against these cuts.

Money For Forts, None For Hospitals
 NEW YORK—WPA workers, fired from the Hospital Project, found themselves shifted to the

improvement of Fort Jay, and Fort Hamilton.

When a number of workers who received their pink slips on the Hospital Project came to their supervisors and pleaded need, they were informed that the only hope for them was to transfer to the work on the forts, where, they were told, the WPA had a lasting job.

"Strike to Live"
 READING, Pa. — "Strike to live" is the slogan raised by the project workers here, on WPA, as they made plans to stop all work Thursday.

With the administration preparing to shut down the whole WPA setup, the project workers are striking for the continuance of the relief work at trade union rates and wages.

The strike call effects over 4,000 workers in the county.

TYLER TO SPEAK
 Gus Tyler, editor of the CALL, will speak at the Brighton Beach Branch Friday, December 4, at 8:30 p. m. The address is 3070 Beach 3rd Street, and the topic, "The Next War."

FALL DANCE and SOCIAL
 Celebrating the Official Opening of Our New Headquarters
 Saturday, Dec. 5, 8:30 P. M.
 And having with us, in their own inimitable style "Dr. Hoodwink" and his stooge "The Professor" in a farce "Current Events of Today." Also the remarkable dance virtuoso "Little Eva" in her interpretation of the "Silhouette Dancers."
 Tickets at Party Office
 15c in Advance, 25c at Door
 Auspices: 7th A. D. S. F.
 742 East 180th Street, N.Y.C.
 Near Crotona Ave.

St. Louis, Chicago To Hold Regional Party Conferences

The first of the organization conferences decided upon by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party will take place this week-end in St. Louis. The conference will be held at local headquarters, 3108 N. 21st Street.

A report on the NEC meeting will be given by Douglas Anderson. Discussion will be led by Ed Adams, Illinois state organizer; Doris Preisler, Missouri state educational director, and others. Norman Thomas will participate in the conference.

The following week-end Chicago will hold a similar conference. Norman Thomas, Roy E. Burt, Vincent R. Dunn, Paul Porter, Clarence Senior will be among those to participate. Sessions will be held in national headquarters.

RICHARD ROIDERER
 Teacher on Philosophy and History
 WILL SPEAK ON
 "I Was a Prisoner of the Nazis"
 Hear the personal experiences of one who was held incommunicado for 10 months in a Nazi prison.
 SUNDAY, DEC. 6, 8:45 P.M.
 SOCIAL DANCE GROUP
 94 Fifth Ave.
 Near 14th St., above 5th Ave. Cafeteria
 Ping-Pong, Checkers, Chess, Fun
 Beautiful Environment
 Dancing after 11:2 A.M. Subs. 25c

Yorkville Printery
 Rhineland 4-9761
 706 EAST 85th ST.

UNION PRINTERS
 SPECIAL RATES TO ORGANIZATIONS
 PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

SCHOOL

DEBS LABOR SCHOOL

LOWER MANHATTAN BRANCH
 31 Second Ave., New York City

REGISTER NOW!

1. MARXIAN ECONOMICS
 John J. Wright, Author
 Translator
 WEDNESDAY, 7-8 P. M.
2. PRINCIPLES OF REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISM
 Robert Nelson, Socialist writer and Lecturer
 MONDAY, 7-8 P. M.
3. PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM
 Herbert Zam, Journalist, Lecturer
 MONDAY, 8-9 P. M.
4. SOCIAL FORCES IN AMERICAN HISTORY
 George Novack, Author, Lecturer
 TUESDAY, 7-8 P. M.

REGISTER NOW

31 Second Avenue, New York City
 21 East 17th Street, New York City

Indispensable!

WHAT's what hundreds of Socialists, Trade Unionists, Students, Teachers and Progressive Institutions have to say about the timely analytical Bulletin of the Labor Research Front.

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT THIS SERVICE!

Just Out—

LABOR BULLETIN, No. 3 (Oct.-Nov.) 5c

SPEAKERS' NOTES, No. 3 (Social Security) 5c

LABOR BULLETIN—1 yr. 50c

LABOR BULLETIN and ALL Speakers' Notes for 1 yr. \$1

FREE!

1st and 2nd Issues FREE to New Subscribers

Labor Research Front
 21 E. 17th St., N.Y.C.

Please Patronize Our Advertisers

THOMAS J. ATKINS & SONS
 Official Florist of Socialist Party
 1371 EASTERN PARKWAY
 Cor. RALPH AVE., BROOKLYN
 PResident 4-1030

75 SUTTER AVENUE
 ennsylvania Ave., Brooklyn
 DIckens 6-6003

FLORISTS
 BASKETS OF FRESH FRUITS FOR ALL OCCASIONS
 WEDDING BOUQUETS, HALL and CANOPY DECORATIONS
 Greenhouse
 MAYWOOD, N. J.
 Member:
 Florists Telegraph Delivery

SPECIAL RATES TO CALL READERS

MANHATTAN ODD FELLOWS TEMPLE

Facilities for All Occasions

RESTAURANT AND BAR ON PREMISES
BOWLING ALLEYS

Weddings	Dances	Meetings	Complete
Parties	Lectures	Banquets	Theatrical
			Equipment

Accommodations for 50 to 2,500

105-111 East 106th Street
 Between Lexington and Park Avenues

LEhigh 4-1110 FRANK MARGULIES, Mgr.

SPECIAL RATES FOR CALL READERS

CAMP NITGEDAIGET

On the Hudson . . . Beacon, N. Y.

ALL SPORTS — EXCELLENT FOOD
 HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

\$16 PER WEEK Tel. Beacon 731
\$2.75 PER DAY City Office EStabrook 8-1400
 CARS LEAVE DAILY FROM 2700 BRONX PK. E.


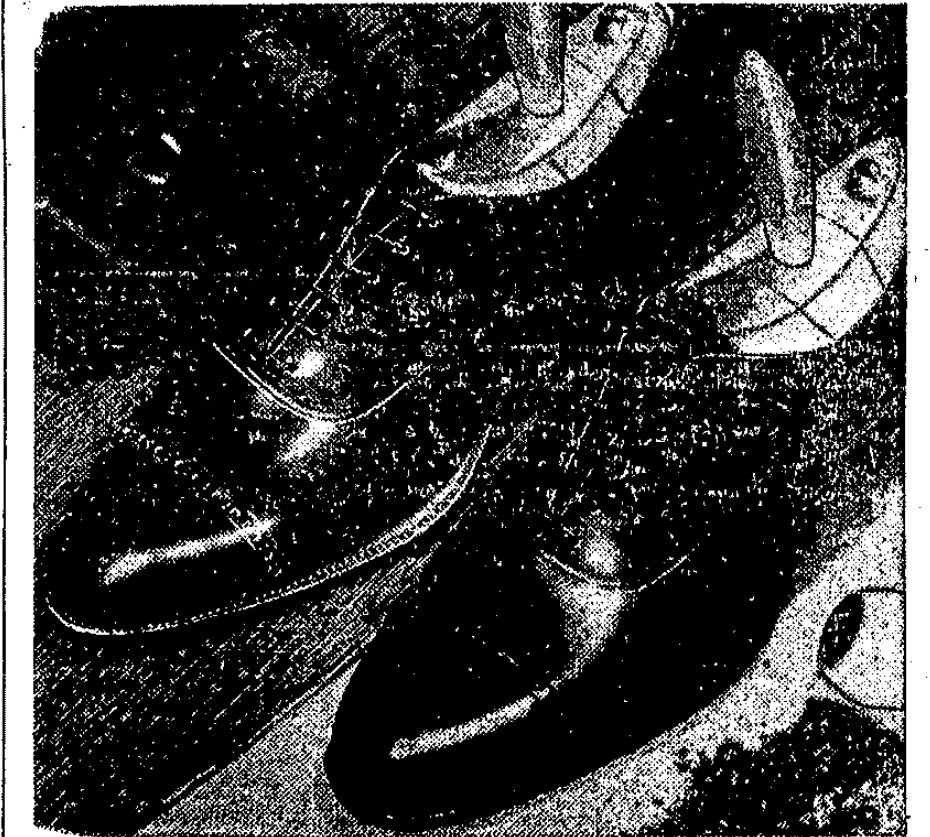
BEGINNERS!

LEARN the Waltz, Fox Trot, Lindy, Etc.

Social Dance Group

94 5th Ave. Near 14th St.
 GR. 5-9264

The Only School Affording Workers An Opportunity To Learn Ballroom Dancing AT WORKERS' PRICES
 Registration Daily From 2-10 P.M.

Street Oxfords

Frank Jarman Custom Shoe

Listen for Jarman "PORTRAITS IN HARMONY" at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday night and come in and let us tell you about the Packard automobile contest.

\$6.50 most styles

. . . The shoes you wear to business need to be well styled. We recommend either the Longwood or the Stanford shown above . . . for trim appearance and good taste. Stop in and see our complete showing.



MELLIN Friendly SHOES
 1666 PITKIN AVE.—Union Stores—1554 PITKIN AVE.
 (Cor. Chester St.) Brooklyn (Near Douglass St.)

Frank Jarman Custom Shoe

"In The Village"
 (Headquarters of Village S. P.)
 AVAILABLE FOR AFFAIRS at REASONABLE RATES
 107 MacDougal St. N. Y. C.
 Accommodations For 40 to 250
 Inquire EDWIN KOPPEL
 15 Charlton St. N. Y. C.
 Phone: Walker 5-6323

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

BROOKLYN

TRADE SCHOOL
 LOW cost. Practical Trade Courses—expert instruction. Call, write or phone Nevins Trade School, 83 Nevins Street, Brooklyn. TRiangle 5-4467.

TYPEWRITERS
 Aberdeen Typewriter Co.
 1829 St. John's Pl. opp Loew's Palace

UPHOLSTERR
 JOHN F. CARSTENS, 617 Coney Island Ave. Brooklyn. Upholstery slip covers, furniture repaired, reupholstered. IN 2-6345

RESTAURANTS
 SOKAL'S CAFETERIA
 1660 Pitkin Ave. 1781 Pitkin Ave. 457 Sutter Ave.

MANHATTAN

SODA FOUNTAIN

DEBEST DRINKS—27 Union Sq. (next to the Ritz) Soda fountain—Orange & Pineapple drinks. Clears cigarettes, candy

HELP WANTED

DO you want to help The CALL increase its advertising? If you are interested, please write or visit Advertising Dept., Socialist Call, 21 East 17th St., N. Y.

VOLUNTEERS wanted for Research work on interesting current issues. For information, write or phone

LABOR RESEARCH FRONT
 21 East 17th St., N.Y.C. GRamercy 5-9511

Young Socialists Plan Drive To Strengthen Organization

Important organizational steps were taken by the National Executive Committee of the Young People's Socialist League at a four day meeting which took place here this week-end.

Ernest Erber, national chairman of the YPSL who has just returned from Europe, was made editor of the official YPSL newspaper, the *Challenge of Youth*, succeeding Melos Most in this capacity. He takes over his duties after the first lap of his nationwide trip at the beginning of the new year.

\$500 For Challenge

A drive for five hundred dollars for the Challenge was decided on and will be launched late in December and be carried on through the month of January. This was one of the projects decided upon in an eight-month calendar of work drawn up by the national committee.

Final arrangements were made for the second annual National Organization Conference of the League, to take place in Chicago, December 31, January 1 and 2, at which leaders of the young Socialist organization from all sections of the country will gather to discuss the problems facing the League in the coming year.

To Meet in Akron

At this same meeting, Akron was chosen for the bi-annual national convention of the YPSL and the dates chosen were September 2-6. This five-day convention will be the most thorough in the history of the League and preceding there will be seven months of pre-convention discussion of the problems which the convention will deal with.

The vacancy in the NEC left by the recent resignation of Aaron Levenstein who is now active in Party work was filled by the election of Milt Friedman, one of the leaders of the Newark YPSL, to the committee.

Inner Paper Compulsory

Provision was made for the issuance of the Young Socialist Review as the compulsory inner-League membership organ and a tax is to be levied on the membership to insure the success of this effort. This organ is edited under the direction of the Na-

tional Organization Committee in Chicago.

The student office of the League was moved from New York to Chicago and the first task of the new student committee, under the direction of Alvaine Hollister, national student director, will be the preparation of the Socialist forces for the second annual convention of the American Student Union in Chicago late in December.

A drive for cooperation with the Socialist Party campaign for funds for the Spanish workers was provided for the committee and will find its rallying point in the national tour of Ernest Erber through the sections of the League.

NOTICE

The Board of Directors has announced that a meeting of the Revolutionary Socialist Educational Society will be held Sunday, December 6, at 8 p. m. sharp in Germania Hall, 3d Avenue at 16th Street, New York.

The order of business calls for a report on the perspective of the RSES and a report and discussion on Socialism and the People's Front. Admission, limited to members of the Socialist Party and the YPSL, is 15c.

Don't Forget!
Order Now the
MODERN LABOR CALENDAR FOR 1937

35c Per Copy
10 for \$2.50

CALL BOOK STORE
21 East 17th Street, N. Y. C.

Subs And Bundles! These Make The Call

Three words to remember:

Subs! Bundles! Donations!

Subs, brief for subscriptions! There's dynamite in the hands of the American people. Intellectual dynamite, we mean. Every sub you get us means a new man, a new woman, a new worker or farmer who can face life tomorrow with dynamite.

Bundles, brief for bundle orders of the CALL for distribution. Here are the Big Berthas. Look at the front page of this CALL, and next week's CALL and the week after. CALL's distributed in great number mean more power to the workers: money for Spain, truth to the unemployed, aid to strikers.

Donations, brief for everything.

Donations for our army, which like Napoleon's army and everybody else's army marches on its stomach.

Everything from one hundred dollars to one hundred pennies. Your donations make it alone possible for the paper to come out.

Try this, just before you go to bed: subs, bundles, donations. Try it again when you get up.

And then just watch the CALL grow and grow, from a weekly to a semi-weekly to a daily CALL.

ARE YOU LISTED?

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The following are among the CALL agents who sent in subs this week:

Lawrence Van Camp, Royal Oak, Mich.	9
New York State S. F.	2
S. F. Cleveland, Ohio	2
Gus Tyler, New York City	2
C. E. Figg, Burlington, Iowa	2
S. F. Kentucky	2
Hilda Siff, New York City	1
Sam Steinsalz, Bronx, N. Y.	1
Mary Widlers	1
S. F. Calif.	1
Libbie V. Glass, Charleston, W. Va.	1
Henry Finski, New York City	1

DONATIONS

Local Kenosha, Wis.	\$9.07
Spencer Brown, Windsor, Conn.	5.00
Local Erie, Pa.	5.00
Lou Hay, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5.00
Clara Gring, So. Langhorne, Pa.	2.00
11th A. D. S. P., New York City	1.60
Circle 16 Kgs. YPSL New York City	1.00
E. Francisco	.75
J. B. Pittston, Pa.	1.00
Hyman Fromowitz, Bklyn.	5.00

\$85.47

SPORTS FOR WORKERS

All who are interested in basketball teams, male and female, swimming groups, and a soccer team are urged to get in touch with Charles Salzman, care of the Call Book Store, 21 East 17th Street, New York.

Labor and the International Crisis

LUDWIG LORE

Author "Behind the Cables," N.Y. Post

HERBERT ZAM

Foreign Editor "Socialist Call"

IN

"Can the People's Front Stop Fascism?"

AT

Young Circle League Auditorium
22 East Fifteenth St.

ON

Friday Eve. Dec. 4, 8:30 P.M.

Admission 35c

The Debs Labor School
21 East 17th St.

Books for a Worker's Christmas

The Nationalizing of Business

IDA M. TARBELL

An unparalleled picture of the events (and persons) involved in development of industrial capitalism in America. By the author of "The History of Standard Oil Company." . . . \$4.00

The Future of Liberty

GEORGE SOULE

The author of "The Coming American Revolution" here analyzes the new social order and shows the extent and type of liberty to be maintained . . . \$2.00

And Fear Came

JOHN T. WHITAKER

Behind the scenes in Europe with a fearless correspondent. He not only gives the real facts behind the head lines, but their true significance to the people . . . \$2.50

Vital Peace

H. WICKHAM STEED

A life-time of study into the question of War is comprised in this important book which points the way to a revolutionary permanent peace . . . \$2.75

at YOUR bookdealer's

The Macmillan Company, N. Y.

"What Socialism Will Really Mean To You"

16 pages—120 pictures
Brilliant pictorial review of capitalism in bankruptcy—and the promise of abundance under Socialism—special sections for the farmer, industrial and white-collar worker.

Edited by the author of the British Labor Party's pamphlet

Order NOW

10c a Copy 6 for 50c
15 for \$1.00 100 for \$5.00
1000 for \$35.00

Just Off the Press

MEMORIAL PAMPHLET

Problems of Revolutionary Socialism

By Haim Kantorovitch

36 Pages 10 Cents

Special Rates for Bundle Orders
Branches and Locals are urged to place orders, prepaid, at once

Special Publication of the

American Socialist Monthly

E. 17th Street NEW YORK

Writers' Clearing House

JAMES CASEY, Director

Novels, short stories, articles on labor and politics edited, criticized, revised. Expert research. Translation of manuscripts from all languages. New writers invited. Commission on marketing.

Tel. Murray Hill 4-6499

1265 BROADWAY (near 32nd St.)
NEW YORK

american socialist

Monthly November-December Combination
Number Off the Press December 8

CONTENTS:

The Elections of 1936 and the Prospects of a Farmer-Labor Party	Norman Thomas
Blind Alley in Tampa—A review of the A. F. of L. Convention	Sam Baron
Some Notes on an All-Inclusive Party	Haim Kantorovitch
The Moscow Trial	David P. Berenberg
An Eye Witness in Spain	Ernest Erber
The Labor Party and Socialism	Herbert Zam
The Farmer and Collectivization	Justus Ebert
Haim Kantorovitch: A Tribute	David P. Berenberg
Socialism and Pacifism	Caroline Urie
For a Socialist Palestine	Frank N. Trager
Who Are the Socialists?	Sol Perrin
Readers Forum	Notes of the Month
	Book Reviews

Price for Double Issue, 64 Pages, 25c

Subscription \$1.50 a Year - Special Rates for Bundle Orders

american socialist monthly

21 E. 17th Street, New York

LET THE TRUTH BE KNOWN!

THE FIRST NEW YORK

MASS MEETING

ON THE

MOSCOW TRIALS

Come and Hear

NORMAN THOMAS
JOSEPH SCHLOSSBERG
MAX SCHACHTMAN
JAMES T. FARRELL
SUZANNE LAFOLLETTE,
Chairman

At the
CENTER HOTEL

(Formerly Delano)
108 WEST 43rd ST.
N. Y. C.

ADMISSION

25c

FRIDAY, 8 p. m.
DEC. 18th

For Full Rights of Asylum for Leon Trotsky!

For a Complete, Impartial Investigation of the Moscow Trials!

Auspices . . . American Committee for Defense of Leon Trotsky,
Room 921, 22 East 17th Street, New York City

LOBBY AND AISLE

By McALISTER COLEMAN

Those two plays of ideas that I spoke about last week, "Johnny Johnson" at the Forty-fourth Street Theatre and "Two Hundred Were Chosen" at the Forty-eighth Street Theatre lived up to all their pre-view publicity. Both are welcome additions to a none too auspicious theatre season. Both give you mental chow and emotional pabulum. Their themes, of course, are poles apart. They are mentioned together because they arrived together at a time we figured we were going to be winterset with mediocrity.

"Johnny Johnson" is a fantasy, "a legend" Paul Green, its author calls it, with humor and tragedy and music and some fine writing. Now and then this story of one of the million Johnny Johnsons (Socialists would call them Jimm, Higgenes) who rank-and-filed into the last war, falters a bit. But on the whole, it is a stirring plea for peace and common-sense and plain decency. The Group Theatre gives its best, which is no small praise. Russell Collins is the ideal Johnny, well-meaning, kindly, sentimental. And when the war is over and he is disillusioned, he becomes the tragic symbol of all those youngsters who "went forth to battle and who always fell."

Of course, confronted with a normal man, with sympathy and kindness and a hatred for bunkum, the jingoes decide that Johnny is crazy. They put him in an asylum after a magnificent scene with a really cuckoo psychiatrist. Needless to say, af-

This Week on the Screen



Margo and Burgess Meredith in the new RKO-Radio production of Maxwell Anderson's prize play "Winterset," which will have its premiere at the Radio City Music Hall Thursday, December 3.



Tseven Rabdan and Ir-Kan in "Son of Mongolia" the first motion picture ever to have been produced in the Republic of Outer Mongolia with a native Mongolian cast. At the Cameo Theatre.

ter your reviewer's recent experiences with the psychic peddlers, he vastly enjoyed this scene.

Social Ideas

Just as many of our younger playwrights of the Left might take a leaf from Paul Green's script, so they might well ponder E. P. Conkle's handling of social ideas in "Two Hundred Were Chosen." Conkle, an Iowa professor saw in the now famous government re-settlement project in the Matanuska Valley of Alaska, material for drama. He gives us his latter-day pioneers in the very flesh and blood of pioneers since the first long treks out of Mesopotamia. For once, we have what we instinctively recognize as the truth about pioneers, namely that the majority of them were and are those who break under crowd pressures, escapists seeking remote sanctuary.

Conkle's pioneers are a pretty sorry lot. The men are shiftless and shifty, the women, with one or two exceptions, bickersome and petty. But then the Government officials are no better. Under the cold gaze of Alaska's mountains, these pitiful beings well-nigh destroy themselves through their inability to cooperate. Red tape under these circumstances becomes a strangling and sinister force. Driven to desperation by official stupidity, the men declare a stupid sit-down strike.

And by the way, this is the first time to my knowledge that an obvious sympathizer with the under-dog has ever dared to show some underdog in a de-

spicable role. My hat is off to Professor Conkle for his courage. But don't get the impression that this is any anti-organization screed. It is only when the pioneers really get together that they can stand up against the challenge of the strange country into which they have been catapulted. Towards the end of the play there are some scenes that stir you profoundly with their tenderness and understanding.

Please, E. P. Conkle, let's have more of this sort of honest-to-God playwrighting.

DANCE

Keep This Date Open!

THE TORCH CLUB

Presents at

THE BELLAMY

107 McDougal Street, New York

A Program of

DANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT

Cocktails Refreshments
SAT., DEC. 12, 1936, 8:30 P.M.
Sub. 65c 75c at door

SCREEN

3rd and LAST WEEK!
1st Soviet Film Made in Mongolia
SON OF MONGOLIA
with Native Mongolian Cast
"Some of the freshest and most engaging characterization of the season!" —World-Telegram
CAMEO, 42 St. East of B'way
25c to 1 p.m.

ON THE SCREEN

By ALLAN GEORGE

A little belated, but nonetheless still of current interest, is the new Soviet film which will have its American premiere at the Cameo on Tuesday, December 8. The picture, taken in Ethiopia by Soviet cameramen, is titled "Abyssinia" and exposes the inhuman rape of a free nation by the Italian black-shirts. The authentic scenes of the Italian bombardment of the Red Cross Hospital at Addis Ababa, and the burning of the natives by mustard gas are portrayed here for the first time.

Included on the program will be a Soviet newsreel showing the musing of the Russian workers in Moscow in a giant demonstration for the defense of Spanish Loyalists and the collection of monies in the factories for food supplies to be shipped to Barcelona, and Madrid.

Word just reached us from Matty Radin, of the Cameo, that

SAM H. HARRIS presents

"An expert show—loud and frequent laughter." —Atkinson, Times

"STAGE DOOR"

By George S. Kaufman and Edna Ferber

with

Margaret Sullivan

STAGE

Laurence Rivers Inc., presents
WILLIAM KITTY
GAXTON CARLISLE
in ERIK CHARELL'S

WHITE HORSE INN

International Musical Comedy Success

CENTER THEATRE, 49th St. & 6th Ave.
Eves. 8:30, 55c to 53.50
Mats. Weds., 55c to 52.00 & Sat. 55c-52.75

MUSIC BOX THEATRE

45 St. W. of B'way

Matinees 2:30
Thurs. & Sat.
Eves. 8:30

"THE BEST PLAY OF THE SEASON"

—ARTHUR POLLOCK, Eagle

JOHNNY JOHNSON

A Group Theatre Production. Play by Paul Green. Music by Kurt Walli.

"A delectable score." —Watts, Herald Tribune

44th ST. THEATRE WEST 44th ST. EVENINGS at 8:40
Matinees Wed. and Sat. L.A.C. 4-4337

"FOR THE LIST OF SELECTIVE PLAYGOERS." —N. Y. Times

NIGHTLY FOR THOSE WHO REMEMBER "RECRUITS" A R T E F
(exc. Mon.) MATINEES THEATRE
SAT. & SUN. "200,000" 247 WEST
\$1.50, \$1. 48th ST.
75c, 50c SHOLEM ALEICHEM'S Immortal Comedy CH. 4-7090

"One of the Most Delightful of Fantasies." —World-Telegram

"3 ★ ★ ★ STARS" —Mantle, Daily News

"Decidedly worth seeing. An excellent performance of a moving play given by the Actors Repertory Company."

—John Mason Brown, N. Y. Evening Post

200 WERE CHOSEN

48th STREET TH. E. of B'way. BRYant 9-0178—EVGS at 8:40
MATINEES WED. and SAT., 50c to 52

where to dine

HARTFORD

DRUG CO AND LUNCHEONETTE
Cor. 17th and Union Sq W
Complete Luncheon. 35c Fountain Snacks
Prompt Delivery AL. 4-8320

JOHN'S

ITALIAN RESTAURANT
Lunch and Dinner Wines and Beer served.
Favorite rendezvous of Eugene Victor Debs.
"1st" prices
302 E. 12th ST. NEAR 2nd AVE.

• PRIVATE DINING ROOMS FOR PARTIES •

RHODA'S

LUNCHEONETTE, Inc., 557 Broadway, cor. 17th Street.
Candy Cigars, Cigarettes We Deliver Orders Snappy
Service GR. 7-9272-9285-9440 I. PEIRSTEIN Prop.

RITZ

27 UNION SQ. (cor. 16th St.) We deliver phone orders.
Tel. STuyvesant 9-8616. OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.

DINER

Private Dining Room for Ladies and Gentlemen.

5th Ave. Cafeteria and Bar

34 FIFTH AVENUE. The very best food—Most reasonable prices. Large Beer Co

BROOKLYN

GREENSTEIN'S

LUNCHEONETTE & CIGAR STORE
From a Bite to a Meal
Meet Your Friends at Our Fountain
PITKIN & STONE AVENUES
BUSSCA to Mountains . . . Lakewood . . . Atlantic City . . . Carbondale . . . leave every hour

GRAND HOTEL
formerly Hotel Delano

REFURNISHED REDECORATED

Now Open For Bookings

• WEDDINGS - BANQUETS
• LECTURES - MEETINGS
• DANCES

• Rates Reasonable
• Service Supreme

J. E. SALTZMAN

Banquet Director
108 W. 43rd St., N. Y. C.
BRyant 9-2488

Going To The Theatre?

Why not consult the Call's special THEATRE BUREAU for expert advice on matters pertaining to the theatre. Choice seats obtained.

Our BUREAU also arranges parties for current attractions. This service is FREE to Call readers.

Get in Touch With
The Theatre Bureau
c/o SOCIALIST CALL
21 East 17th St. New York City
or phone
GRamercy 5-8770

First American Lecture by
ERNEST ERBER
National Chairman, Y. P. S. L.; Contributor American Socialist Monthly,
Who Just Returned From Spain

Spain: Key to Europe's Future
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, at 8:30 P.M.
ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARKS PLACE (Near Second Avenue)
Chairman: GUS TYLER

Auspices of
YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUE
AMERICAN SOCIALIST MONTHLY

Adm.
25c

Midnight Benefit Showing
for
STRIKING SEAMEN
at the
CAMEO THEATRE
42nd Street, East of Broadway

"SON OF MONGOLIA"
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 1936
12 Midnight

Auspices of CITIZENS' COMMITTEE for STRIKING SEAMEN
Distinguished Soloists
Subscription 65c

Tickets: CALL BOOK STORE
21 East 17th Street, N. Y. C.

AT THE FRONT



By **NORMAN THOMAS**

EVENTS since the election raise the question, who or what won? The answer today is decidedly mixed.

In foreign affairs American policy may be somewhat clarified by the speech the President is to make after his triumphal reception in Buenos Aires, a speech which will be delivered too late for me to comment on it in this column. The very papers which carried the news of his great reception in Buenos Aires reported that he had authorized the building of two immense new battleships. How they will serve peace or what relation they have to a proper program of defense is by no means plain.

Moreover, one of the President's great receptions was in Rio de Janeiro where he and President Vargas fraternized. I wonder whether Roosevelt said anything to Vargas concerning the latter's ruthless repression of all his political enemies and of all freedom of speech in Brazil, and I wonder whether the President when he speaks about good neighbors will remember what his own policy has meant to the workers in Cuba.

WORKERS' RIGHTS AMENDMENT NEEDED

At home, as several commentators have been at pains to point out, the clever but rather cowardly action of the Supreme Court in sustaining the New York unemployment insurance law by a four to four vote without written opinion goes a good way toward justifying the famous opinion of the late lamented "Mr. Dooley" that "the Supreme Court follows the election returns."

The New York unemployment insurance law is far from being what it ought to be, but it would have been a crime if it had been declared unconstitutional. Nevertheless, the fact that that law has been sustained in this fashion by no means clears up the constitutional issue.

It will take affirmative action to give us a halfway decent Constitution. Hence the case for the Farmers' and Workers' Rights Amendment and also for an amendment providing for direct election of the President and Vice President and Federal control of elections for Federal officials. Unless this is done a Farmer-Labor party will be terribly handicapped practically and psychologically, and easily we may get a minority President.

These are only some of the constitutional issues that will have to be considered and it is not good medicine for America if four to four decisions of the Supreme Court postpone the facing of these issues.

THE GUILD VICTORY AND HEARST

One result of the election here at home may have been the fact that Hearst made a settlement in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer controversy fairly satisfactory to the American Newspaper Guild and gave a job as publisher to the President's son-in-law with a declaration that he would have a free hand.

But Hearst remains Hearst and will be more, not less, dangerous if he temporarily allays unpopularity by gestures like this and by getting the President's family to work for him.

ADMINISTRATION SLASHES WPA

The worst aftermath of the election and of the present wave of business prosperity is the arbitrary way in which WPA rolls have been cut without adequate reference to human needs in order to facilitate a program

of balancing the budget and avoiding new taxes. According to one statement, which I have not had opportunity to check up, the rolls are being reduced on an average by 7,000 a week.

The Administration seems to be undertaking a policy of reducing the number of workers on the Federal Arts Project to an extent that amounts to extinction. On the whole that was one of the best features of the W. P. A. program. Who won the election anyhow?

AFL UNITY MUST BE WON

Faced with the greatest crisis and the greatest opportunity in its history the AFL has just closed probably its worst Convention in Tampa.

It refused to hear the Spanish Ambassador; it did not vigorously push the fight against terrorism and peonage in the South, where it was meeting; it had no definite opinion concerning the vital issue of constitutional amendment; it ordered its members to boycott the one union label on men's clothes which means decent conditions, and it backed up the die-hards in reference to the CIO quarrel.

The nominal road to peace which the AFL left open is a road beset with traps and pitfalls. Unity and peace in the American labor movement are immensely desirable. They must be won back again. But not at the price of surrender of aggressive, democratic industrial unionism.

PEACHER CONVICTED SEEN AS VICTORY

The conviction of planter and town marshal Peacher in Arkansas was an immense victory for justice, and in particular for the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union which had been pushing the case.

In this connection it is a source of great satisfaction to know that Aaron Levenstein is going down to serve the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union by heading its defense work and its publicity.

ENCOURAGING NEWS FROM SPAIN

The best news in our present world is news of the gains being made by the Spanish workers and other Loyalist forces in the defense of Madrid and in re-

winning parts of the country occupied by the rebels. A victory by the Loyalists will be an immense hindrance to the Fascist bloc in Europe and will greatly increase the chance of world peace. Hence the necessity of aid to the workers and of absolute opposition to recognition of Franco.

It is also cause for a little satisfaction that the Japanese-German anti-Communist agreement is meeting some rough water even within those two countries as well as in the general field of foreign relations.

TRAGER SENT TO NATIONAL OFFICE

The Party is to be congratulated on the election of Frank Trager to a post in the National Office which I think is not yet officially named. He will be Office and Organization Secretary and until money is raised to put a regular Labor Secretary in the field he and Roy Burt will handle the particular work of that office with the competent and generous volunteer aid of Alice Dodge as a kind of Office Secretary.

Trager will be sorely missed, especially in upstate New York, where under his brief administration great progress has been made. I think that work can be carried on and Trager released for this national service, to the benefit of the Party.

MONEY NEEDED FOR PARTY WORK

As nearly as I can figure it, even to begin to do the work which the NEC approved as necessary to the proper development of the Party, we ought to raise \$10,000 above our anticipated income up to the conclusion of the special Convention; that is, up to April 1.

We need to raise about \$42,000 in order to carry on minimum work. The larger figure includes such matters as beginning the important plans of the Educational and Labor Committee, a modest subsidy to the splendid work done by the Labor Research Front under the general direction of Jimmie Lipsig, aid to the loyal Jewish branches, the maintenance of the important Washington News Bureau, etc.

Some money is still coming in to swell the Fund so generously raised at my birthday dinner. This was meant to be an Educational Fund and it will be applied in the broadest sense of the word to Party and allied activities, including, if possible, some of the work of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union and the Workers' Defense League.

But this fund is not large enough nor was it intended to take the place of the budget of which I have spoken. It is not yet in hand so that I can make an allotment of it in proper form, and I have to ask organizations requesting help to consider that the Fund is modest in amount and must be distributed after a general view has been taken of the whole situation.

Again I want to thank publicly individuals and groups who made possible this fund and the dinner and who sent me much appreciated telegrams and letters. I hope to get around to personal acknowledgements but the very magnitude of the task and pressure of work makes that physically impossible for the present. Hence these collective thanks.

1914 Bloc Renewed In Europe; Powers Move To Include U.S.

(Continued from Page One)

staffs of Belgium, France and Britain met to map out a campaign of collective "defense." This can not be done without an exchange of military "secrets." And these secrets are told only to people who are certain friends.

The new move for "defense" is good showmanship. The British, French and Belgian workers must be convinced that their master class would never even have thought of military alliances had not the enemy powers put it into their heads. It is good showmanship by the capitalists and bad medicine for the workers.

UNITE AGAINST SOVIET UNION

The German-Japanese-Italian chain was officially forged out of two links: a German-Japanese agreement against the Communist International, and an Italo-Japanese agreement to give mutual recognition to their recent acts of imperialist banditry in Ethiopia and Manchukuo respectively.

Just to keep the formality of "defense," Germany and Japan, after denying any alliance, finally announced an alliance, not against the Soviet Union, but against the Communist International. Hitler slyly comments that inasmuch as the Soviet Union itself disclaims responsibility for the Comintern, why should anybody imagine that his alliance with Nippon is against the Russian state. Thus, if the world is to take Hitler at his word, the agreement is merely a way of getting Japan to send troops to Germany in the event of a workers' revolution in Nazidom, and vice versa.

BRITAIN IS WORRIED

Not only does the Soviet Union refuse to so interpret the alliance, but so do other powers. The correspondent "Augur," of the New York Times, who unofficially echoes the British Foreign office, states that responsible British officials consider the German-Japanese alliance to be based upon a previous understanding as to a redivision of the East Indies. This alliance, Augur (read Britain) states, "brings the German-Japanese alliance into direct opposition to British imperial interests." Although these islands would have to be taken from the Netherlands, in the hands of Germany and Japan they would threaten British control of Singapore and of the Far East.

THE UNITED STATES INVOLVED

This comment made by Augur on Thursday had world wide repercussions by the next Monday,

involving France and the United States. The Herald Tribune, basing an editorial on this news dispatch, hastened to point out that Japanese control of the northern section of the East Indies would place America's far eastern empire in immediate jeopardy. Suddenly, the Tribune, supporter of Landon, took a "pro-communist" turn, denouncing Germany and Japan for their red-baiting treaty. The prostitute pen of Walter Lippman was quickly enlisted in this cause.

Overnight, this editorial found its place in the high places of France. Yvon Delbos, French foreign minister and stooge of Britain's foreign officer, hastened to begin "conferences" with the United States. While the Tribune editorials, advising America's abandonment of "isolation" are suddenly picked up by the French press, Delbos talks with Bullitt, U. S. ambassador to France. The Tribune reports: "The two men are believed to have discussed the war debt question, as well as the possible effects of the German-Japanese alliance on interests of both France and the United States."

Thus is the United States groomed for a new war by Great Britain, through Augur, the Tribune and Delbos. Britain carefully makes its alliance should it be compelled to go to battle. And in deciding whether it will fight or not, it is motivated by only one question: British imperial interests.

BRITAIN'S IMPERIAL GAME

And just because Britain is moved by imperial interests alone, it will continue to maneuver to buy off its possible war enemies: Germany and Japan.

While Hitler sharpens his swords for an attack upon

Czechoslovakia and Soviet Ukraine, Britain's Foreign Minister Eden carefully avoids committing Britain to war in the event that Hitler starts his drive to the East. Britain is only obliged to fight, he says, for defense of the Empire, to aid France or Belgium in the case of aggression by Germany, and to keep its treaty with Iraq and Egypt. Defense of any other regions, such as Czechoslovakia or the Soviet Union, which might be the victims of "unprovoked aggression" as provided in the League of Nations Covenant, is conspicuous by its absence.

FRANCE IN ENGLISH TOW

Likewise France! Delbos in specifying what France would definitely fight for mentioned, in detail, not an attack upon the Soviet Union, but an attack upon her position in the Mediterranean. Her treaty obligations to the Soviet Union, if this scrap of paper means anything, only require aid in the event of aggression across European boundaries. Thus no aid is necessary in the event of a Japanese attack, assisted by German arms and men, upon the Asiatic border!

An unhappy foreboding was contained in the scolding that France dished out to the Soviet Union for violating "non-intervention" agreements in Spain, without even mentioning the flagrant violations of Germany and Italy. To save face, France also spanked — little Portugal. That was supposed to make France "neutral."

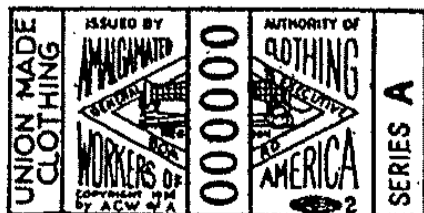
BRITAIN PULLS THE STRINGS

Britain, moving levers in France and the United States with one hand, and pulling strings in Germany and Japan with the other, prepares once more to hold the balance of power. She bargains, Democracy, peace, treaties, leagues, sanctions are just phrases in the mouth of Britain and her "democratic" capitalist neighbors. They spout one word as easily as another when it fits their imperialist mood.

Late News Confirms Early Trends

As we go to press, it is reported that France and the United States have agreed, "in principle, to liquidate the war debt due the U. S. from France." This confirms the opinion that Paris is moving to bring Washington into line with the new alliance.

Patronize



This is the Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union which was banned by the AFL Executive Council. Most good union men will continue to patronize it, however. Otherwise, they must go naked or wear scab goods.