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Western Worker

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.
(Section of the Communist International)

Beginning In This Issue:
"CALIFORNIA'S SUN-KISSED HOODLUMS"
A Story of Vigilanteism
By Ronald R. Cooley

VOL. 5, No. 23 (Whole of No. 287)

Entered as Second Class matter April 27th, 1934 at the post office, at San Francisco, Calif. Under the Act of Mar. 3, 1879

SAN FRANCISCO, THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1936

The Western Worker appears twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Fridays

Price Five Cents

CALL MASS PICKET LINES AT L. A. GENERAL MOTORS

S. F. ILA is 'Not Proud' of Internat'l President

Bridges Scores Ryan At Labor Council Meeting

Vandeleur 'Advises' Delegate to Say Little on ISU

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—"We are not proud of our international president," Harry Bridges, president of I. L. A. 38-79 said, speaking on the impeachment of Ryan by the New Orleans District of the I. L. A. at the San Francisco Central Labor Council last Friday night.

Bridges contrasted the small and inconspicuous item which the Labor Clarion, official organ of the Central Labor Council, (and Vandeleur's mouthpiece) carried on Ryan's impeachment, with the front-page spread the Clarion devoted to Ryan's attack on the waterfront rank and file some months ago.

Ryan had taken the charter and the agreements away from the union men and given them over to the scabs, said Bridges, stressing the fact that one of Ryan's principal charges against the Gulf I. L. A. was "cooperating with the sailors."

FIREMEN BACK SAILORS

The Marine Firemen's delegate took up the fight for the Sailors' Union, whose delegates have been barred from the Council since the recent San Francisco visit of Ivan Hunter, appointed secretary-treasurer of the International Seamen's Union last week at the Chicago meeting of the I. S. U. Executive Board.

Attacking the new autocratic constitution railroaded through the I. S. U. convention, in regard to which the Sailors' Union has demanded a nation-wide referendum, the Firemen's delegate declared:

"The seamen do not take kindly to the new constitution. Under this constitution they have no say how their own unions should be run. The only function of a member is to pay his dues and keep his mouth shut."

VANDELEUR STALLS

Vandeleur refused to answer when the delegate demanded to know why no action had been taken by the State Federation of Labor in response to the request by the Central Labor Council to look into the question of the Sailors' Union charter. He threateningly "advised" the Firemen's delegate "To say just as little as you can say" on the fight for the Sailors' Union charter.

GREEN'S SABOTAGE

That William Green is attempting to sabotage the nation-wide campaign for the freedom of Mooney and Billings recently launched by the Central Labor Council, is seen in the reply he sent to the request of the Council for A. F. of L. action on the campaign. Green's communication stated that "only the A. F. of L. Executive Board possesses the authority to act on matters of this kind," and therefore no action can be taken until the executive meeting next May.

A resolution passed by the Alameda County Central Labor Council pledges full cooperation to the San Francisco body in the Mooney-Billings campaign.

The report of the Executive Committee on the demands for action on the attacks on San Francisco labor unions carried by the vigilante sheet, The American Citizen, indicated that unless the

SUFFERS



Herbert Hoover, who recently complained to a Texas audience that he hates to go to bed at night because he has to get up the next morning and take his exercises. It is doubtful if even a socialist state could solve the problems of a man so heavily beset with difficulties.

MACKAY RADIO IGNORING NLRB

Discrimination for Union Members is Continued

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—Mackay Radio, an affiliate of the Postal Telegraph and Cable Corporation, recently found guilty of unfair labor practices by the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D. C., is openly violating the orders of that board.

On October, 8, 1933, Mackay Radio fired five employees because of their union activities. On February 20, 1936, the National Labor Relations Board, on behalf of these five workers, ordered Mackay Radio to:

- 1. Offer reinstatement, with back pay to October 8, 1935.
2. Cease and desist discharging or threatening to discharge any of its employees for having joined or assisted the American Radio Telegraphists' Association.
3. Immediately post notices in conspicuous places informing employees that the company will not discharge or discriminate in any manner against members, or those desiring to become members, of the American Radio Telegraphists' Association.

Charges are on file with the Regional Labor Boards in Portland, Ore., and New York City against Mackay Radio for similar unfair labor practices against eighteen other employees.

Friends of organized labor are asked to assist in forcing this firm to comply with the N. L. R. B. order by refusing to patronize Mackay Radio or Postal Telegraph.

JIM GARRISON SURRENDERS ON "REFUSAL TO MOVE ON" CHARGE

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—James Garrison, convicted last July on a framed charge of violating the "refusal to move on" ordinance, today surrendered to the sheriff.

Already appealed once, the case will be appealed a second time. Meanwhile the International Labor Defense will seek to free Garrison on a writ. Money to defray expenses of the appeal is needed and should be sent to the I. L. D. here, 1005 Market street, Room 410. It should be marked for this particular case.

EPIC NEWS IS WELL GAGGED BY SINCLAIR

AIRTIGHT CONTRACT HAS CONSIDERATION FOR HIM AND FRIENDS

Criticism Forbidden

PAPER TURNED OVER TO END POVERTY LEAGUE; NAME CHANGED

LOS ANGELES, March 12.—Upton Sinclair, founder of the Epic movement, has gagged members of the End Poverty League and the EPIC News, by a legal contract forbidding criticism of himself, his wife, and Almon A. Heath, it was charged here yesterday by Stitt Wilson, former Socialist mayor of Berkeley and Sinclair campaign manager.

Wilson recently bolted the Epic slate for the Democratic presidential primaries to support the Roosevelt - McAdoo - Creel - Ham Cotton slate.

"Directors of the End Poverty League, those guardians of democracy and liberalism in California, cannot circulate one single word of criticism of Upton Sinclair, author of 'The Brass Check,' in that mighty voice of the people, the EPIC News," stated Wilson.

"Sinclair exposed the viciousness of the capitalist newspapers in 'The Brass Check,' a number of years ago, detailing the 'sacred cows' the newspapers protected for the sake of profits and defrauding the working class.

Wilson referred to a clause in the contract handing over the EPIC News to the End Poverty League from the EPIC Publishing Company:

"There shall not be printed or published in said paper or otherwise circulated at any time by the End Poverty League, or by any of its employees, any matter, article, cartoon, sentence or word concerning the EPIC Publishing Company, or any of the three natural persons to wit: Mary Craig Sinclair, Upton Sinclair, Almon Heath, in nature or character uncomplimentary, derogatory, deprecatory, recriminatory, or in criticism, disparagement or disapprobation of said publishing company or any or all of said persons."

Heath has been business manager of the EPIC News.

In turning the newspaper over to the End Poverty League, Sinclair removed the use of his name on the masthead of the paper, so that the former Upton Sinclair's National EPIC News is now simply The EPIC News.

Labor Council Asks Repeal of C. S. Act

OAKLAND, March 16.—The Alameda County Central Labor Council, at its meeting last week, passed a resolution calling for the freedom of the California Criminal Syndicalism prisoners and repeal of the C. S. law.

Fascists Run Riot In Spain SMALL NATIONS BACK SOVIET RUSSIA

U. S. Big Business In Support of Italy War Machine

"Put Up Or Shut Up" Is Germany's Ultimatum

Monarchists and rightists, seeking to disrupt and demoralize the newly elected people's government of Spain, have run amuck in rampages of violence and disorder, precipitating street fights and turmoil throughout the country. Though the clashes are numerous and sharp, it is reported the new government is secure in its saddle and the disorders are rapidly being combated out. They are described as the ugly rages of poor losers, violent and vindictive, but too scattered and disorganized to accomplish their purpose.

The most serious threat comes from the reported intention of the monarchists to use the deliberately provoked disturbances as an excuse to seize power through the army and establish a military-fascist dictatorship under the pretense of restoring order.

MOSCOW

The newspaper Izvestia has announced that a united front between France, the Soviet Union and five smaller nations has been formed to oppose German aggression. Smaller nations of Europe stand to suffer from the German plan of expansion inasmuch as they are marked for dissolution and absorption into the fascist empires.

The united front draws in the Little Entente, consisting of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and Rumania; and the Balkan Entente, consisting of Yugoslavia, Rumania, Greece and Turkey.

New border provocations by Japanese militarists occurred when motorized Japanese-Manchukuan troops fired on Soviet workmen who were dredging the Amur river.

Frantically striving for some kind of "victory" with which to bargain for a profitable peace arrangement before the League of Nations, Mussolini has ordered an intense bombing campaign more terrible than anything engaged in to date.

Despite all talk of embargo against Italy under the present Neutrality Bill, U. S. imports from Italy in the last three months of 1935 were greatly increased. Compared with the same months in 1934, imports rose in October from \$2,942,910 to \$4,400,508; in November from \$6,225,917 to \$6,529,365; and in December from \$3,206,800 to \$4,737,339.

The League of Nations is perplexed by the age-old problem of how to eat its cake and have it too. Germany has announced that if sanctions are imposed against her, she will repudiate all foreign debts. France threatens to withdraw from the League unless some decisive action is taken against Germany. The matter boils down to the fact that Germany has made bold demands and threatens to upset the European apple cart unless they are granted. It is a flat "put up or shut up" proposition.

To accept such a "point of a gun" ultimatum would seriously damage the prestige of all responsible nations in the eyes of their populations. To oppose it means trouble. The effort so far is to find some "compromise" which will enable the League to save its face and, at the same time, grant all things to all men. (See War editorial Page 6.)

THE UNITED PEOPLE'S FRONT IN SPAIN



The people and not the capitalists shall decide the policies of the country. That is the determination of Spanish Communists, Socialists and Anarchists who united their forces on above was photographed at a Madrid pre-election rally. The Farmer-Labor Party will be the People's United Front of the U. S. A.

STRIKE ON HEARST MILWAUKEE PAPER GAINING; LOCAL NEWS GUILD URGES REPEAL OF C. S. LAW

Picket Lines Growing In Eastern News Guild Strike

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Mar. 16.—Mass picket lines are growing by leaps and bounds in the strike of the American Newspaper Guild against Hearst's Wisconsin News here.

The Milwaukee Guild has appealed for support in the form of local Citizens' Committees, set up to carry on the campaign against Hearst by means of protest letters and telegrams and cancellation of subscriptions to all Hearst papers throughout the country.

SUPPORT URGED

All Guild chapters are asked, meanwhile, to contact trade unions in their cities and to call meetings of liberal-minded citizens.

Circulation of the Wisconsin News has dropped 20 per cent since the strike, it is reported. An injunction granted the newspaper is not as sweeping as was first intimated. It forbids picketing only where boycott of the advertisers is called for. Signs carried in front of department stores urging only a boycott of the newspaper are still being carried.

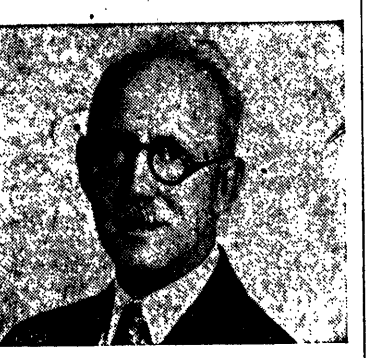
ADS DROP

Despite a municipal election in Milwaukee last week, not a line of political advertising appeared in the Hearst sheet. One exception was an ad by the local electric company which is fighting a proposal for municipal ownership of public utilities.

UNHEARD RADIO TALK GETS RESULTS

LOS ANGELES, March 6.—Defrauded of their right to hear Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party, speak from New York over the Columbia Broadcasting System, 250 workers gathered in the Cultural Center here last night and instead heard Harold Ashe, organizer of the Downtown Sub-section, outline the political necessity and tasks of building a Farmer-Labor Party.

DELEGATE



Redfern Mason, one of the two delegates elected by the Northern California Newspaper Guild to attend the State Conference for Repeal of the C. S. Act.

Delegates to Attend C. S. Conference in Sacramento

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—Joining the host of labor unions and progressive organizations opposing the California Criminal Syndicalism Act, the Northern California Newspaper Guild, in membership session yesterday, passed a resolution by unanimous vote calling upon the members of the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles to fix a minimum sentence for the eight C. S. prisoners.

The resolution passed was an exact duplicate of the one recently passed by the San Francisco Labor Council.

DELEGATES VOTED

A second unanimous vote decided on the election of two delegates, Redfern Mason and Bill Grattan, to attend the State Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, which will convene in Sacramento on April 19th.

In response to information that the subscribers of the Pacific Weekly, a West Coast magazine, were taking over the publication and are going to run it as a subscriber controlled, united front, free speech journal for the common benefit of all unions and progressive organizations, the Guild unanimously voted to endorse the publication.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Two guest speakers were enthusiastically received by the meeting. General Fang Chen Wu, famous Chinese patriot spoke on the true situation in China and the fascist censorship which blocks reliable information from the Orient.

Anna Louise Strong, noted Moscow journalist, described and answered questions on the status of newspaper workers in the Soviet Union.

The progress of the Milwaukee strike was reviewed and steps voted for practical support.

AFL COUNCIL VOTES ACTION ON SCAB JOB

CARPENTERS AND STEEL WORKERS ALREADY ON STRIKE

Victory Foreseen

2-WEEKS STOPPAGE OF CONSTRUCTION WILL BREAK CONTRACT

LOS ANGELES, March 15.—Mass picket lines will be the answer of organized labor to the paying of scab wages on construction of the huge General Motors plant being built in South Gate, it was voted here yesterday morning by an emergency three-hour session of the Building Trades Council.

Picket lines will be established at 6 a. m. tomorrow at the plant, located at Tweedy Boulevard and Stanford street, South Gate.

Meeting at the Labor Temple, the Building Trades Council immediately made preparation for getting placards and signs for the pickets.

The vote on the motion, which calls for a boycott of all General Motors products as well as picketing the construction job, was 17 to 8. Sixteen unions were represented at the meeting, with eight absent.

The steel workers were reported on strike last Monday, and it was also reported that carpenters on the job for the contractors had walked off last week in protest against the 40 cents per hour wage rate.

At the Building Trades Council meeting it was stated that if the job is delayed two weeks, the contractor will lose his contract. The consensus of the meeting was that job preference will be given to workers participating in the mass picket line.

"I thought the Building Trades Council was too reactionary to call strikes," said one delegate, "but now I'll have to go back to my local and report that things are changed."

Support of all organized labor is asked in this struggle. Opposition to the picket line was based on the idea that "General Motors is too powerful, and has too much money behind it."

WPA STRIKERS HOLD WISCONSIN CAPITOL BLDG.

MADISON, Wis., March 16.—Leader of the WPA strike here charges the Federal Government is employing "hot-headed vigilantes" as strikebreakers on several WPA projects here.

He warned the government against creating a situation that may mean serious loss of life. Approximately 200 strikers have taken over the marble Capitol building here, declaring:

"We would rather starve in the luxury of this Capitol than in the misery of the homes we have been trying to maintain on starvation wages at \$48 a month."

Strikers cleaned the Capitol rugs of cigarette stubs, swept the floors and prepared to stay until their demands are met. University of Wisconsin students entertained the group with songs and skits through the long hours of the night—skits satirizing legislators in action.

Some of the food prepared by strikers' wives at Salvation Army headquarters was purchased through a donation from Governor Philip F. La Follette.

Have you donated to the \$7,500 Western Worker Sustaining Fund? Do it today.

Cotton slate.

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#### MOSCOW

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The people and not the capitalists shall decide the policies of the country. That is the determination of Spanish Communists, Socialists and Anarchists who united their forces on a common program of civil rights and won the elections in Spain. The sea of upraised fists above was photographed at a Madrid pre-election rally.

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## STRIKE ON HEARST MILWAUKEE PAPER GAINING;

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# SAN JOSE LABOR DEMANDS INVESTIGATION OF STATE C. OF C.

## ATTORNEY'S CHARGE FRAME-UPS ARE USED AGAINST LABOR LEADERS IS PRESSED

SAN JOSE, Calif., March 13.—At last night's regular session of the San Jose Building Trades—Central Labor Council, a strong resolution calling for an investigation of the State Chamber of Commerce's legal machinations against labor leaders was unanimously adopted. Copies of the resolution, urging action by the Attorney General's office, were ordered sent to Attorney General U. S. Webb, Governor F. Merriam, and the press.

(Full text of the resolution will be found elsewhere on this page.)

Attorney Alfred Aram, who participated in the whole matter, described to the Council the meeting of the San Jose "Hi-Twelve Club" of Feb. 7th, at which Mr. Charles Mariner, a field representative of the California State Chamber of Commerce, had bragged of the activities of the C. of C. in framing labor leaders and even eliminating them with physical violence.

After reading a letter he had written to State Attorney General U. S. Webb, demanding a thorough investigation of the Chamber's activities, Attorney Aram described other activities of the C. of C. and of recent developments in the case.

### ANTI-LABOR FUND

He also read a letter from a local committee of the state chamber which called upon local merchants to contribute "from \$30 and up" to a fund to suppress the activities of labor. The letter, widely circulated among San Jose merchants, was signed by eighteen local "big shots," including Mr. Richmond of the Richmond-Chase Packing Corporation, Almon E. Roth, comptroller of Stanford University, and many local bankers.

It was also revealed that Mr. Mariner, in his rash bragging of the activities of his organization, stated that many local "move on" ordinances had been written by the Chamber of Commerce, and that in some cases where councilmen had been reluctant to pass such ordinances "pressure" was used.

### U. S. WEBB PEEVED

It was revealed that the attorney general was quite displeased that these facts about the Chamber of Commerce had been made public. The silence of the San Jose press about this whole affair was explained by the fact that Mr. Mariner had begged local papers to hush it all up.

Among the many precious statements of the rash Mr. Mariner was one that "San Jose State College is a hot bed of communists" and that he had withdrawn his child from this college for this reason. Mr. Mariner has been "suspended" by the Chamber in an effort to pass the buck.

### VOLKERS' MISUNDERSTOOD MOTION ON SAN DIEGO

A letter from the San Diego Progressive Caucus, informing the San Jose Council that they had not received any invitation to present their case to the Council evoked a heated debate. The delegates had previously passed a motion that invitations be sent to Joe Casey and to representatives of the Prog. Caucus in San Diego to explain their case. The letter clearly exposed the treachery of Secretary Fred Volkert of the San Jose Council, who had sent the invitation to Casey but not to the progressives. Volkert tried to crawl out of it by saying he had understood the motion to be that Casey was to set the date at which he would appear and then the invitation would be sent to President Steinmetz, leader of the San Diego progressives.

Volkert displayed the panic typical of labor fakers on the run when he said, "I'm telling you, you better be careful how far you go with this. We got our orders from the American Federation of Labor (meaning Wm. Green) and we know what they are." Green's "orders" are, of course, to have nothing whatever to do with the San Diego progressives.

A motion was finally adopted to send invitations to both Casey and Steinmetz, with arrangements to be made for both to appear before the same meeting of the council.

### PRISON OVERCROWDED

SAN DIEGO, March 4.—A hint of the inadequacy of the San Diego County jail was given yesterday when Jailer Bert Strand revealed that there were nearly twice as many inmates as beds. Because of this over 100 prisoners have to bunk on the floors at night.

## "The Paradise of The Pacific"

### Filth and Squalor in America's Island Possession

By Sonya Smith.

HONOLULU, T. H., March 5.—Ont at Leahi, Honolulu's home for tuberculars there's a huge map of the city that's dotted with tiny pins—the kind of map you see in the office of some big business executive.

Funny thing about that map. About 90 per cent of the pins are stuck into one small section of it. Business must be good in that part of town.

Johnny . . . . . age 12, comes from that part of town. But he's on a bed at Leahi now one of the pins on the big map stands for Johnny.

Johnny's mother and Dad are Portuguese. They live with his three younger sisters in one of the courtyards off River street. Mr. . . . works on a FERA project and earns \$9.00 a week. The family lives in two rooms for which they pay \$9.00 a month.

"What do you feed your family, we asked Mrs. . . . after she told us about Johnny.

"We eat rice. Stew. Sometimes a little pork. Times are bad now. I hear the FERA is going to stop. Is that true?"

### ONE SMALL POT

As she spoke, she stirred the family dinner of rice and cheap stew meat with a wooden ladle. There was only one pot on the kerosene cook-stove. Strangely enough, the tiny kitchen was spotlessly clean.

"Where are the other kids," I asked, changing the subject.

"They're out in the alley. They play there."

### KIDS OF THE POOR

We walked out together to the children's playground. A score of barefooted kids, Hawaiian, Portuguese, Chinese and Japanese were playing games in the narrow courtyard. Perched on the roof of an outdoor toilet, a youngster was playing catch with another boy who stood on the ground below. A group of girls were jumping rope. Boys were playing marbles on the broken asphalt.

There are five toilets in the court and they serve the needs of about fifty people. One of them was boarded up. A stream of water trickled from it.

This is the part of town Johnny lived in before he occupied a bed at Leahi Home.

### TOO PROUD FOR RELIEF

LOS ANGELES, March 10.—Emerson Paynter, ex-contractor "too proud to go on relief," was dangerously ill today of bronchial pneumonia and malnutrition in the General Hospital. He has been living on vegetables and fruit thrown away by stores, and living in a tiny shack in a gully near Venice and Cahueno boulevards.

The mother was not at home when the first prospective adopter appeared. But the neighbor lady told the visitor to take the infant baby girl. "The mother won't mind," she said. "If you decide not to keep it, give it to somebody else."

Edna, 3-year-old daughter was taken by another couple.

## 20 Seattle Dock Gangs Dismissed In Load Dispute

### EAST COAST SEAMEN WIN IN STRIKE FOR WAGE RAISE, OVERTIME

SEATTLE, Wash., March 13.—Twenty gangs of the International Longshoremen's Association were fired here for refusing to unload slings containing thirty bags. Twenty-four bags is the slingload.

According to plans revealed by a professional scab-herder who was a captain of the armed guards at Point Wells during the 1934 strike and a Seattle ex-con, the shipowners intend to strike at the unions up and down the coast. The Seattle papers have been advertising for seamen for the last month. As all seamen are shipped through the union hall, this can only be an attempt to recruit scabs.

These primary manifestations of the shipowners plot confirm the plans exposed recently by the San Francisco District Council of the Maritime Federation.

NEW YORK, March 13.—Rank and file seamen on the liner Odette, sister-ship of the ill-fated Morrow Castle, and the freighter American Eagle struck today rather than sail under the newly signed East Coast agreement. The officials signed the agreement without submitting it to a referendum vote. The ships were released after their demands for overtime and a five-dollar raise for stewards were granted.

Officials have already signed contracts with fourteen steamship companies. Overtime will be left to a Board of Mediation and Conciliation" composed of three union officials and three representatives of the shipowners.

## Gives Away Babies FATHER IS GONE Mother in Poverty

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—Mrs. Linda Jones, 22-year-old mother, has given away two of her three children. Separated from her husband, poverty-stricken and unable to give the children proper care, she declared she thought that was the best thing to do.

A neighbor aided in securing adoption of the two children by strolling through Jefferson Park here last week asking, "Anybody want a baby? My neighbor wants to give her babies away."

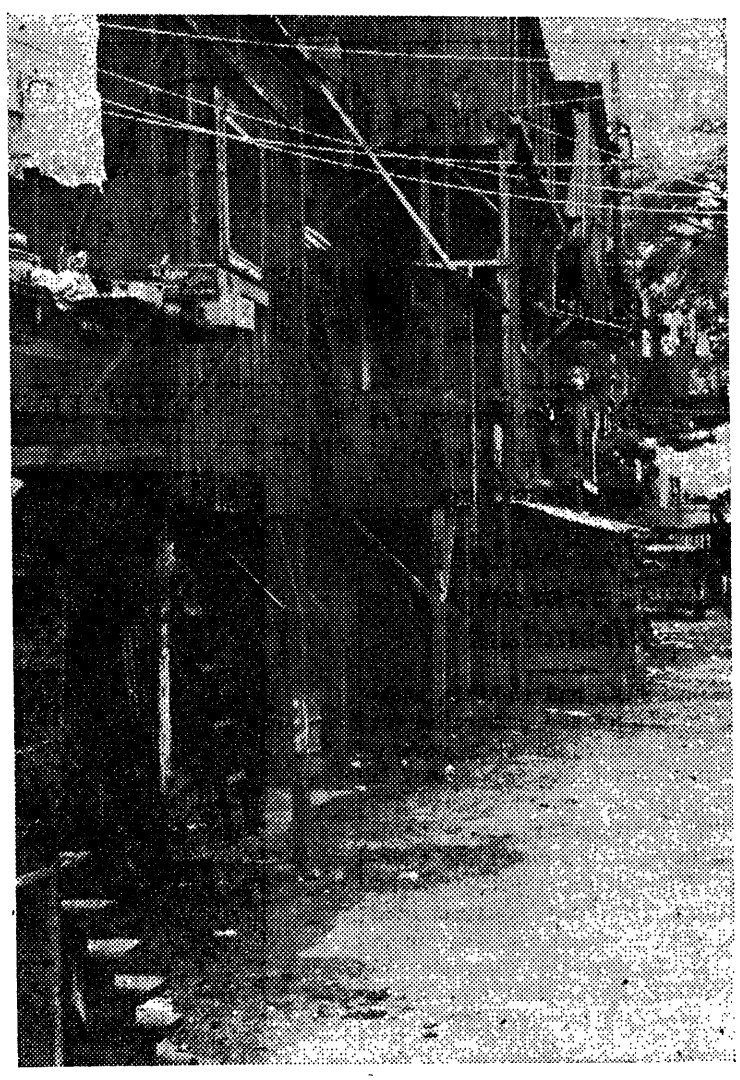
## SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS TO SEEK ADMISSION TO A.F. OF L.

CLEVELAND (FP)—Application for admission into the American Federation of Labor will be made immediately by members of the National Coordinating Committee of Social Service Employees, representatives of 12,000 social workers in 15 cities decided at their convention in Cleveland.

The coordinating committee was set up more than a year ago to bind social workers' organizations in many cities throughout the country into a more cohesive force.

The woeful inadequacy of the Roosevelt social security legislation and the reactionary influences in public relief administration make joint action with the nation's labor movement an absolute necessity, the convention declared. Faced with further relief curtailments in June, it called upon social workers, together with the jobless, industrial workers, farmers and professional people,

## SLUM DISTRICT OF HONOLULU



Filth, poverty, slums, booze and disease. These are the gifts which American "civilization" has bestowed upon the once happy island of Hawaii. There are elegant beach hotels where the wealthy tourists lounge in splendor, and there are palatial estates for the plantation owners and executives. But the men who do the work in Hawaii get the same deal as the men who do the work in America—"the dirty end of the stick."

## Forty Thousand N. Y. Strikers Return to Work

NEW YORK, N. Y., Mar. 16.—Forty thousand building service workers are back at work today, marking the end of the tempestuous strike which began March 1.

Officers of the Realty Advisory Board, representative of 8000 buildings, were forced to grant major organizers had broken with the organization and had offered to arbitrate demands with the strikers.

The strikers won preferential union firing under which all union members discharged or resigned during the life of a three-year contract will be replaced by union members. In addition, the Realty Board has agreed to arbitrate wage demands and to accept an arbitrator's ruling on all wage increases and hour reductions.

Wholesale dry goods workers struck here Saturday. The strikers, members of the Wholesale Dry Goods Employees' Union, affiliated to the A. F. of L., demand a \$17 minimum wage and the 40-hour week.

## San Diego Union Loses Charter in Fight With Casey

### OFFICE WORKERS' LOCAL ATTACKED ON CHARGES OF INSUBORDINATION

SAN DIEGO, Calif., March 11.—The seventh progressive caucus of the Central Labor Council, which represents 35 of the 40 local unions, heard reports here tonight on the latest developments in the progressives' court fight against Joseph Casey. Seventy-six delegates were present.

A. C. Rogers, deposed secretary of the Central Council, reported that the court had overruled a demurrer aimed to block the progressives' injunction complaint. At the same time the court denied a temporary restraining order against Casey, which had been granted, would have temporarily prevented him from interfering with the functioning of the Central Council pending a final court ruling.

Rogers reported the receipt of a letter from Casey by the secretary of the Office Workers' Union stating that the Office Workers' charter had been revoked on the grounds of "insubordination." In the letter Casey quoted a telegram of authorization from Green under date of Friday. Oddly enough under the same date a letter had been received by the office workers from Secretary Frank Morrison of the A. F. of L. congratulating the local on its splendid work in building its membership!

### LOCAL DAMAGED

Harry Steinmetz and Walter Barnes of the Carpenters spoke on the damage that Casey had done—in blocking the recruiting campaigns and in the loss of union contracts which a number of employers, taking advantage of the disruption caused by Casey, had scrapped. Attorney Baird expressed his view that such damage to the locals offered definite grounds for damage suits against Casey. Baird stated that charters cannot be jerked without trial and that such actions will not be recognized. "The Office Workers," he said, "have a clear case against Casey and against Green for their arbitrary and ungrounded action in revoking the charter."

The visit here of the vice president of the American Federation of Teachers and his findings after an investigation of the fight, was covered by Steinmetz. The vice president decided that the actions taken by the Teachers' Union were correct. He recommended to the president of the American Federation of Teachers that the San Diego Teachers' local be commended for its excellent work. He proposed that a full investigation of the San Diego situation be conducted by the A. F. of L.

## FULL TEXT OF LABOR BODY RESOLUTION ON C. OF C.

Aroused by the recent public exposure of capital's free use of violence and legal treachery against militant labor, the San Jose Building Trades—Central Labor Council unanimously adopted this resolution at its last session.

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Attorney Alfred Aram of San Jose has definitely proven himself a friend of labor by his exposure of certain statements of Mr. Charles Mariner, a representative of the California State Chamber of Commerce, to the effect that this organization is engaged in illegal and un-American practices for the purpose of suppressing labor, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mariner is quoted as having said that where the evidence was insufficient to convict the persons involved they were "framed," and in other instances dealt with by physical violence, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aram has called upon the Attorney General of this state for an investigation of "these bold and criminal usurpations of the functions of government,"

### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT we the members of the San Jose Building Trades—Central Labor Council do hereby endorse Mr. Aram's demand for an investigation by the Attorney General of the State of California and do urge that such investigation be instituted without delay;

### AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED

THAT we urge that all hearing, facts, figures and other proceedings pertaining to this investigation and the interest of the public be open to the public of the State of California;

### AND FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED

THAT copies of this resolution be sent to: Attorney General U. S. Webb, Governor Frank F. Merriam, and the Public Press.

## BRIDGES RAPS RYAN; LABOR COUNCIL OFFICIAL "FORGETS"

(Continued From Page 1)

rank and file takes the matter in hand, the Vandeleur machine in the Council will suppress the whole question. The report of the Executive Committee on the American Citizen took the line that "other scandalous publications . . . have to be tolerated," obviously to turn the incident into an occasion for attacking the militant labor press, while going easy on fascist publications.

### THE MISSING MOTION

George Kidwell, president of the Bakery Wagon Drivers' Union, who has openly declared his break with the Vandeleur machine, and his alignment with Bridges and the rank and file, pointed out that

the minutes of the previous Council session, printed in the Labor Clarion, omitted the resolution which he had introduced asking Attorney Aram of San Jose to appear before the Council to tell them the details of the expose of the State Chamber of Commerce anti-labor activities which Aram made in his protest filed at the office of Attorney General Webb.

Although Kidwell's motion had been passed unanimously, Secretary-Treasurer John O'Connell at first stated that he had no recollection of the passage of such a resolution. An interesting sidelight on what can happen to resolutions not meeting the approval of the Vandeleur machine.

## Six Organizations Prepare a United Front in South Gate, California, to Enter Ticket in Municipal Elections

SOUTH GATE, Calif., March 14.—Enthusiastically planning their campaign to elect people's representatives to office in the municipal elections here next month, 22 representatives of organizations met last night at the Women's Club, 3343 Tweedy Boulevard, as the South Gate Committee for a Labor Party.

Organizations represented included the South Gate Townsend Club, Roosevelt Democratic Club, three Epic clubs, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Happy-Go-Lucky Club, and the Communist Party.

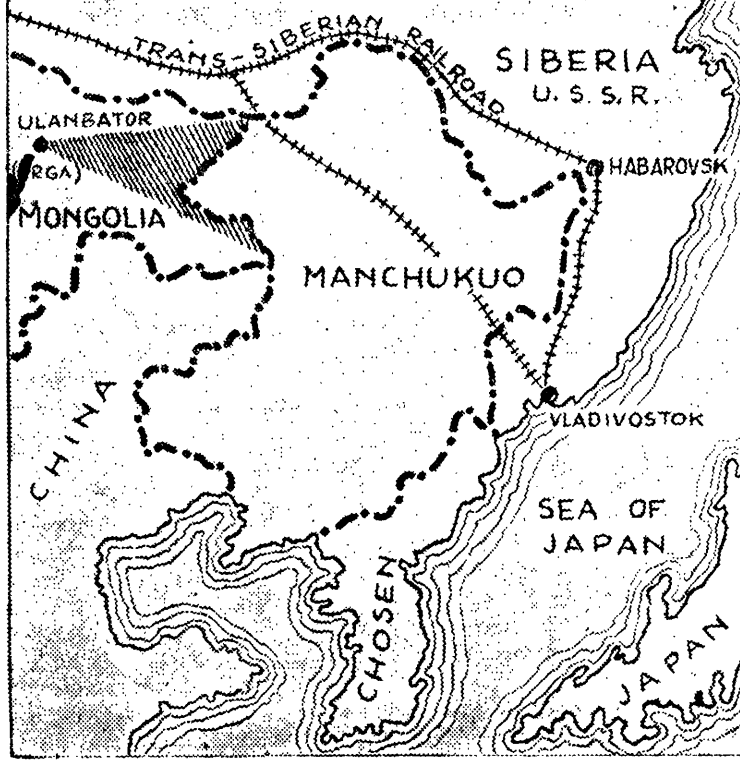
Candidates will be chosen in the near future for city treasurer, city clerk, and two councilmanic offices. The mayor is chosen by the City Council of four members.

A militant platform was adopted last night, including the following main planks:

- All South Gate people to be given the same consideration as General Motors Corporation, in lifting the Mattoon Act from property.
- Establishment of a free health clinic.
- Endorsing the Townsend Act, as recently revised, to provide for pay for the old-age pensions.
- Production for use, instead of for profit.
- Demanding improvement of bus service, to include 15-minute service in the day time, and hourly all night.
- Municipal ownership of public utilities.
- For the right of labor to organize, strike and picket.
- Demanding trade union wages be paid on all WPA and city projects.
- Plank demanding that any ordinance requiring two-thirds vote to repeal, shall not be passed by the City Council but shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the people.
- Although the Socialist Party is not represented in the Committee, the delegates plan to contact the 35 registered Socialists in South Gate in order to draw them into the campaign. Several Socialists in South Gate are already working in the campaign.
- Bernhart, former well-known Epic leader in South Gate and now a leading member of the Communist Party, has filed as a candidate for the City Council, but as yet the Committee has selected no candidates.

## THE INFLAMED NERVE SYSTEM OF A SHELL-SHOCKED WORLD

Modern Boundary Lines Are Bloody Threads Strained By Greed, Fear and Crisis



Behind all the smoke screen diplomacy which veils the present war crisis, lies the glaring failure of capitalism, and the rising demand of populations for a Socialist society. The capitalist powers of Great Britain and the U. S., at the present time, want peace. The capitalist powers of Germany, Italy and Japan, driven to desperation by internal unrest and crisis, want war. Those three nations are the belligerents—the mad dogs of the world.

The prime desire of leading imperialists in Great Britain U. S. A. is to direct the belligerence of the three mad dogs toward the borders of the Soviet Union and away from the skirts of their own imperialist holdings. The growing strength of the United People's Front in France, which forced ratification of the Franco-Soviet pact, has alarmed world capitalists. Realizing that they cannot now suppress the people's movement of France by fascism,

they are singling her out as a second target for the impending rampage of the three mad dogs.

In estimating the role that each nation will play in coming strategies, there are two sides to consider: (1) What do the rulers want? (2) What do the people of that country want and how well organized are they to force their will?

It is no longer possible for capitalist rulers to exercise a free hand in their maneuvers. The growth of United People's movements has enabled populations to enforce their collective will. Only in nations like Germany and Italy, where fascism has been imposed, can the rulers defy popular opinion. And here too, they are haunted by insecurity, realizing that the mass of people are obeying their dictates at the point of a gun and will overthrow them on the first opportunity.



# Life of A Communist

## The Life Story of Hougardy, As Told By Himself

**INTRODUCTION**  
On Monday, March 23rd, Albert Hougardy will spend his 36th birthday in one of the cold, grey cells of San Quentin penitentiary. He never stole anything. He never killed or harmed anyone. He never committed any crime.

He was sent to prison for a term of one to fourteen years for organizing the working class and advocating socialization of the means of production.

He was one of the eight young people railroaded to the penitentiary last year in the Sacramento Criminal Syndicalism trial.

In a recent letter to the International Labor Defense, Hougardy sketched this brief outline of his life.

**HOUGARDY'S STORY**  
I was born in Pittsburg, Kansas, March 23, 1900. My father was a marble cutter by trade. However, he operated an 80 acre farm and worked in the coal mines. Four older brothers and two sisters worked the farm.

In 1909, father sold out and we moved to Leighe, Belgium. While there I attended the French Catholic school. In 1911 we returned to America, living in New York where I continued in the Catholic school.

In 1912 we moved to Saginaw, Michigan. A year later, we again moved to Renton, Washington.

**WORKED IN MINES**  
Father still followed mining. In 1916, I quit school and went to work in the mines as my father and all of my brothers had done, with the exception of my youngest brother.

As soon as I started work in the mines I joined the United Mine Workers of America.

Two years later, in May 1918, I joined the U. S. Navy as a regular for the duration of the war. In 1919, after the Armistice, I was honorably discharged.

I again returned to the coal mines, but only for a short while. In the fall of 1919 I went back to work in the Coeur D'Alenes, Idaho, as a powder monkey. My U. M. W. of A. was accepted as a transfer into the Western Federation of Mine Mill and Smelter Workers.

**JOINED I. W. W.**  
Like many other miners, I was not satisfied with the way the union leaders were carrying on negotiations for a strike, so I dropped my card and joined the I. W. W. Later I dropped this card also because I didn't like their tactics during the strike.

From there I went to Montana, obtaining work as a truck driver for the Equity Market, owned by the unions of Great Falls. Here I joined the Retail Clerks' Pro-Active Association.

In 1920 I returned to Renton,



Albert Hougardy, one of the eight Criminal Syndicalism prisoners.

Washington, and went to work again in the coal mines. A short time later I obtained work building houses in Seattle, Portland and Los Angeles.

Returning to Seattle, I went to work for the City Light company and joined still another union, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local No. 77. After working there for two years, I again returned to the carpenter's trade, contracting and working on various construction jobs in Seattle, Renton, Portland,

Los Angeles, Texas and Kansas. In 1931 I came to San Francisco where I joined the Communist Party.

**COMMUNIST ORGANIZER**  
I was secretary of the Unemployed Council in the Fillmore district for 18 months. In 1932 I was sent to Nevada as Communist Party organizer. Later in that same year I was made organizer of the Sacramento Section of the Communist Party in California, and I remained at this post until I was arrested and accused of Criminal Syndicalism in 1934.

While the Criminal Syndicalism trial was in progress, I was elected chairman of the State Central Committee of the Communist Party which held its convention in the State Capitol at Sacramento. I was running for U. S. Congressman, Third District, and was held in the County jail all during the campaign and elections.

I was married in 1921 and have a daughter 11 years old. I have been divorced for the past eight years.

Albert Hougardy, No. 57590, San Quentin, Cal.

**HARD LIFE**  
SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—Former President Hoover, addressing a meeting early this week declared he "hates to go to bed at night because he must get up every morning to take his exercises."

Hoover is a chief mouthpiece for the Republican Party and the American Liberty League.

Communist Party Units!  
Arrange house parties to raise funds for the Western Worker!

### Los Angeles City Councilmen Urge Repeal Criminal Syndicalism Act

LOS ANGELES, March 14.—Two Los Angeles City Councilmen have lent their voices to the demand for repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act. In a letter to the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, Councilman Will H. Kindig of the Seventh District stated:

"Regarding the Criminal Syndicalism Act, I wish to express my feeling that it is un-American in that it not only throttles free speech, but tends to prevent the electorate from getting information on all sides of a question. And, bad as it is, the opportunity it offers for frame-ups makes it infinitely worse."

Councilman Parley Parker Christensen of the Ninth District declared in a similar letter: "You are

doing a fine work. Keep at it. We are losing our constitutional rights rapidly and such "fellow slaves" as you can do much in conserving them."

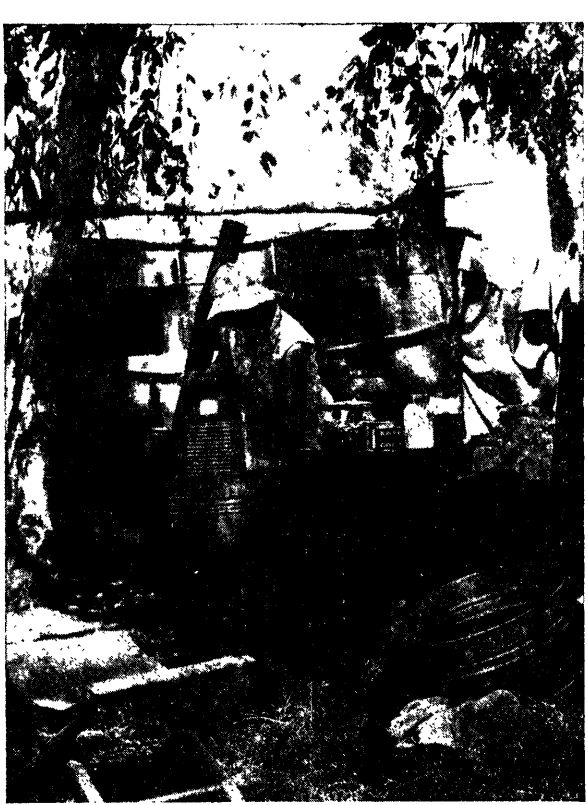
The Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, 129 W. 2nd street, Los Angeles, are a part of the united front to repeal the C. S. Act and release the C. S. prisoners. They are supporting the state-wide conference to be held in Sacramento, April 19th.

In Northern California, arrangements for the Sacramento meeting are being conducted by the California Conference for Repeal of the C. S. Act, 68 Haight street, San Francisco.

All organizations and unions are urged to elect delegates.

## NOT RED RUSSIA—HOME LIFE IN THE CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL FIELDS

Instead of Inventing Lies About Soviet Famines, Hearst Should Take a Look at American Farm Laborers



The Criminal Syndicalism prisoners were sent to the penitentiary for organizing a union to combat living conditions like these. Not the "Reds" who organize, but the industrial Czars who exploit are the menace in California farm districts.



### NATION-WIDE CAMPAIGN ON C.S. VICTIMS

#### ILD NATIONAL COMMITTEE ISSUES STATEMENT

"The issue of the struggle for the release of the Sacramento defendants, and the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Law in California is a matter of vital importance to every trade-unionist, anti-fascist, and progressive person in the United States," the National Executive Committee of the I.L.D. said in its statement announcing the launching of this new phase of the Sacramento campaign.

"The criminal syndicalism laws hang like the sword of Damocles over the heads of all these people, in every part of the country. Criminal syndicalism or similar laws under other names exist in 37 states. They have been introduced into the legislatures of still other states. Several bills have been introduced in Congress which would put such statutes on the federal law-books.

"The issue is urgent and pressing. The I.L.D. calls on all trade-unions, all working class and progressive organizations to take a stand through action on the Sacramento cases. We stand ready to join forces with every one and any one honestly interested in securing repeal of the criminal syndicalism laws and the freedom of the Sacramento prisoners."

The demand for the freedom of the Sacramento defendants should

## Toads Under the Harrow

### THE PLIGHT OF THE NIPOMO PEA PICKERS

Caught helplessly beneath the harrow points of brutal and purposeful greed, two thousand migratory workers are starving in a pea fields camp at Nipomo, San Luis Obispo County. Drawn from all over the south-west by advertisements of the opening of the pea harvest, these worker families arrived to find that the rains had ruined the first crop. There will be no work until the next crop ripens, six week or so ahead.

Callous employing interests who summoned these workers assume no responsibility for feeding them during their enforced idleness. The county authorities say their own resident relief load requires all the money they can scrape together, so they refuse to advance aid to the migrants. Federal and state officials and public charities find their own reasons for not contributing—and amidst the general buck-passing, two thousand citizens starve. Literally starve. It



is not a case of restricted or insufficient diets. It is a case of nothing at all to eat.

be sent to the California Board of Prison Terms and Paroles, Ferry Building, San Francisco, California, and to the individual members of the Board: Mark E. Noon, secretary, San Quentin, Calif.; Frank E. Sykes, chairman, Kohl Building, San Francisco; Joseph H. Stephens, Merchants Nat'l Bank, Sacramento, Calif.; David Bush, Oakdale, Calif.

defooled and their sovereignty befouled by the Fascist chicanery, then what? If they can be blinded to this playing fast and loose with law and morale—on the one hand, for instance, the lawlessness of the Los Angeles border blockade to keep persons they arbitrarily rate as undesirable out, and on the other hand the brutal disclaimer of responsibility for the lives and welfare of the Nipomo starvation victims whom they invited in; where do the implications and the application of such a course of conduct end?

#### FASCISM

The implications of high-handed fascism are clear enough to be perceptible to any one who can be roused from slumber long enough to look at them. But we doze and dream and refuse to wake and look on such unpleasant things. Well, how about the application? The will of the masters is now being imposed on the weakest of the working class. And where do these self-appointed dictators propose to go from here?

"The toad beneath the harrow knows, Exactly where each tooth point goes. The butterfly beside the road Preaches contentment to the toad."

Not that the butterfly majority in California are vocal evangelists

### ILD BAIL FUND LIKE DEPOSITS MADE IN BANK

SAN FRANCISCO, March 14.—The Northern California District of the International Labor Defense reports that although funds are coming in to swell the proposed \$17,000 bail fund, they are still far from the goal. They urge all organizations to popularize the drive.

The fund, which will be available to all workers arrested for union or political activity in Northern California, is to be composed on small loans as follows:

- 1000 loans of \$5.00 each.
- 500 loans of \$10.00 each.
- 100 loans of \$50.00 each.
- 20 loans of \$100.00 each.

Loaning money to the fund is the same as putting money in the bank, excepting that no interest is paid. Loans may be drawn out again at any time on reasonable notice.

All loans are guaranteed by the I. L. D.

of Fascism. But, busy in their butterfly pursuits, they support it by their apathy, by letting pass unchallenged its arrogant assumptions and brutal acts: Thus encouraged the cult of terror resorts to bolder and still bolder usurpations. Probably not until their own wings are crushed by the system will the butterflies have any real appreciation of, or sympathy with, the pitiable plight of the toads. And then, for the butterflies, it will be too late.

# --- BEHIND THE WALLS OF SAN QUENTIN PENITENTIARY ---

## An Escape Attempt That Ended in Death—How a Young Carpenter Turned Thief—The Straight-Kristy-McKay Caper

**INTRODUCTION**  
This is the fourth of a series of articles written exclusively for the Western Worker by a man just released from San Quentin penitentiary.

The purpose of these articles is to unjustly or unduly criticize any of the guards or officials of San Quentin. Nor to retail scandal and gossip such as the capitalist press delights in. My purpose is to show how all these various "capers" (as they are called) reach clear into the roots of the political and economic system of the present day; that is, into capitalism.

Many of the outstanding thieves of the last decade have told this writer that: were they given a job at a decent, livable wage, they would not think of going back into thievery again. But—they say: "I know I can't get a good job, and I know that if I did a job, I'd have to work like hell every minute of the day, or else get fired. Sure, I know I'll get thrown in jail or prison if I get caught stealing—but I'm damned if I'm going to starve when I can see so many of those larger Wall Street thieves sitting on top of the world, passing laws to protect their stealing while I

### RUDOLPH STRAIGHT

must stay a long jolt in a dump like this just because I was a little bit crude—I used a gun."

This statement was given to this writer many years ago by no less a person than Rudolph Straight. Many knew that he was all that his name implied. Which was true. He laid down his life, fighting for a freedom to which he thought he was rightfully entitled.

He planned, staged and carried through one of the most daring escapes ever to be recorded in the annals of a career that had started when he was very young.

In his youth he had served a regular apprenticeship as a carpenter. Around in the Middle West he had worked on many buildings, but always he had augmented his earnings with stealing. He was, when he entered San Quentin, an excellent craftsman, which was recognized upon his entry. Since men do not become craftsmen without working a long time, it certainly proved that Straight had been a worker before entering prison.

### TOOK WRONG PATH

He had been arrested many

times, but had only served short terms. He became disgusted and discouraged when he saw gangsters obtain control of his building trades unit, and, although he was a thief at the time, he did not like the idea of gangsters ordering around the officials whom he had helped to elect. Buffeted about by the loss of many jobs, worn out by the terrific pace he was forced to keep when working, and disillusioned when he found out the true state of affairs of his union, he sold his tools, bought firearms and ammunition and went out "on the heavy."

If you were in San Quentin when Straight was there and he owed you a lone sack of tobacco, he would hunt that prison over until he found you and paid his debt. If you only knew him slightly and asked for tobacco, matches, candy or any of the articles inmates can purchase, he would give it up at once. Besides, he would never come to you to ask for any return. He knew the ones that could, and should, pay their debts. He also knew the ones who had no money on the prison accounts; these he did not bother.

He spoke quietly, seldom laughed, worked steadily and efficiently and had a host of friends who were convinced he was "an A No. 1 right guy."

### A READER

He was intelligent, read good books, subscribed to the better class of newspapers, and when he

entered into arguments with other convicts his opinions were straightforward, honest, and gave evidence of some clear thinking and deep study. That he had a nobleness of character far beyond the average person (criminal or "honest") was known to the few who composed his circle of friends.

That he had brains is shown by the amazing plot he devised to escape, and that he had guts to carry it through is already established by his carrying off nearly the entire prison when he attempted to escape. Chased by land, sea and air he found it impossible to get away. Knowing he would be caught and tortured into insanity, he preferred to shoot it out to the end.

### BLOODY END

They carried the senseless (but not dead) body back to the prison. In the prison hospital he was laid on a slab. Three buckshots had pierced his throat allowing blood to flow into his lungs. A convict nurse asked one of the prison doctors what he intended doing with Straight as he was not dead yet and an operation might have saved him. "Let the son-of-a-bitch die!" the doctor is reported to have said. He had been carried into the prison at 6:00 p. m. It was not until 11:15, five hours later, that death finally stilled his bullet-racked frame.

Even in death he was reviled. Up and down the State, by newspaper, magazine, radio, stories

why did it not make use of him instead of allowing him to drift were put out calling him every name which the "genius" of newspaperdom could invent. None of these agencies had ever given him a thought until he staged the escape. They knew he was a convict, a brainy leader and a resourceful individual, but they also knew that he was dead. So they turned the flood gates of abuse loose, knowing there would be no come-back. How little they know about Straight!

### CAUSES OF CRIME

First of all why is it necessary for a person such as Straight to be forced into thievery? A young man, able-bodied and a good craftsman. Yet capitalism appeared not to have any use for Straight, else into crime.

We find the answer to this when we examine the methods by which thousands of workers are thrown onto the scrap-heap year after year, while those remaining in industry are speeded up to produce the amounts which the cast-off workers formerly produced.

The present economic crisis has produced more criminals than any other social force known to history. Some workers take their own life, others remain unemployed, still others slowly die off by starvation, while those who prefer individual action take up thievery. The ones who see the light

realize that the only way out is by working class organization.

### PRISON REFORM

Many workers are of the opinion that a prison should be "cleaned up" at least twice a year. The fallacy of such a program was shown by the previous article. The entire guard and official force of both San Quentin and Folsom, and both prison boards could be removed; and an improvement—if any—would hardly be noticeable. It might be worse instead of better, insofar as the well-being of the convicts was concerned. For while all the present employees of both prisons are under the Civil Service, they are also part of the forces of oppression and DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO THEIR CAPITALIST MASTERS. Thus, if they were all removed, another set (selected by the State's ruling class) would be installed in their place and conditions would not improve—may even get worse!

No argument, however sound, can be brought forward to condone thievery. But when a nation, due to its economic structure, becomes so decayed that it must force its citizens and workers into thievery in order to sustain life, then the nation has given evidence (in the million persons continually locked up) that it must keep up its pretence in order to make the nation safe for the larger plunderers—the capitalists.

### NEW WARDEN

As this is written the politicians of the State have decided to appoint a new warden to San Quentin. Let us not be led to believe that such a move as a change of wardens will materially change conditions. Possibly San Quentin and Folsom are cesspools of corruption and rottenness, but then so is the State of California, and, we might add, the entire nation as long as capitalism has charge.

But what, you might ask, is the position of the thief in the Soviet Union? A person caught stealing is brought before the People's Court, examined and then held for investigation. But this investigation does not concern itself with the thief as much as it does with the community in which the thief lived. For the People's Court wants to know, NOT why this citizen and worker stole something, but WHY THE COMMUNITY COULD NOT GIVE

### THIS WORKER A CHANCE TO EARN AN HONEST LIVING? The thief matters little to them, the community, much. If it is necessary for a citizen to steal in order to live in the Soviet Union, then the People's Court wants to know why such a condition exists, and if it exists what can be done to remove it? Thus, the community gets the blame, NOT the thief.

Wonder what would happen if a city or town in this nation was "given the rap" when one thief sneaked into a bakery and stole an armful of pies? What, Put the whole town on trial for the actions of one man? Yet that is precisely what is being done in the Soviet Union and those who were thieves are now finding it far better to start working. Of course, we are not living in the Soviet Union, but capitalist America can be made into SOVIET America whenever the workers get ready to make the change.

Crime and capitalism are inseparable

**San Francisco Workers' School**  
— PRESENTS —  
**A GALAXY OF ARTISTS**  
Saturday, March 28th, at 8:30 P.M.  
REDFERN MASON, SPEAKER  
UNION MUSIC by a Negro Dance Orchestra  
— AT —  
**121 HAIGHT STREET**



# Party Life

## DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Control Tasks for the District, Adopted and approved by Enlarged District Committee Meeting held March 8, 1936.

1. District will prepare mass

### ELECTIONS:

distribution of 100,000 edition of Western Worker to come out Friday, April 24th. This issue will deal with the Farmer-Labor Party, May 5th primaries, May 10th Epic Conference, etc. Paper should be distributed Sunday, April 26th.

2. District will print Browder radio broadcast in leaflet form to be distributed in all sections.

### CONTROL TASKS

1. To reach 3100 dues-paying members by May 15th and bring back at least 25 per cent of the members dropped out during 1935 and since. Registration to be completed in full by April 15th.

2. To complete Western Worker financial drive quotas in full by April 1st. To start a circulation drive for the Western Worker, April 1st for an increase of 2000 by June 1st—500 new subs and 1500 in bundles.

3. To organize three section training schools followed by a district school.

### WESTERN WORKER

1. By April 1st the drive must be completed; all funds, collection lists and other material in the sections must be collected and sent in without fail. Every section must make a strict check-up on this. All sections must pay up their back bills to the Western Worker.

2. All sections should have a special Western Worker week the last week in March, to complete the financial drive quotas, and make final preparations for the opening of the circulation drive. Sections which have fulfilled their quotas should be urged to continue raising funds till April 1st.

3. On circulation, to raise the slogan of "Double the Circulation by the End of the Year," and the immediate objective of an increase of 2000 by June 1st.

4. All sections and sub-sections to elect functioning Western Worker agents, and also take steps to improve the sending of news, articles, workers correspondence from their sections to link up with circulation drive.

### FUNCTIONARIES CONFERENCES

In order to complete the above objectives adopted at the District Committee meeting, and also to carry out the tasks adopted by the Section Conventions, functionaries conferences should be held in all sections and sub-sections before April 1st to discuss these control tasks and organize the whole Party for carrying them out to fulfillment.

What have you done to make the discussion at the coming Party convention reflect your problems?

## — LOS ANGELES —

**Paris Commune Commemoration**  
Saturday, March 21st, 8:15 p.m.  
**EPIC AUDITORIUM**  
123 N. Lake St., near 2200 Beverly Blvd.  
Prominent speakers of the Epics, Socialists, and International Labor Defense, will speak on the subject:  
"WHAT DOES THE PARIS COMMUNE MEAN TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE?"  
EXCELLENT MUSICAL PROGRAM ADMISSON 15 Cts.  
Auspices: International Labor Defense

**FOURTH ANNUAL CONCERT**  
Western Worker  
— AND —  
**Farewell to Winner of Grand Prize—A Trip to the Soviet Union—in the \$7500 Western Worker Drive**  
**MASON OPERA HOUSE**  
127 So. Broadway  
SAT., MARCH 28TH, 8 P.M. Sharp  
Presenting: Uzia Bermani, pianist, director, and his trio R. Menbelevitch, violinist of San Francisco Symphony Orchestra I. Markoff, cellist, Freiheit Mandolin Orchestra, F. Destabelle, conductor, Leon E. Malamut, concertina.  
PROMINENT SPEAKER  
ADMISSON 25 CENTS . . . . . DOOR PRIZE

# The Paris Commune of 1871, Forerunner of Soviet Union

## 72-DAY RULE OF PROLETARIAT CALLED "HARBINGER OF NEW SOCIETY" BY KARL MARX

By B. G.

On March 18th the workers the world over will commemorate the glorious traditions of the Paris Commune, that heroic struggle of the French proletariat for a new social order without masters, for a free and unhampered life for labor.

Sixty-five years have passed since the proletariat of Paris, "storming heaven," took power into its hands and established the Commune. For 72 days the Commune lasted. For 72 days the working people of Paris held the reins of government and showed to the world what the future society would be like. But this first experiment in proletarian rule was drowned in an ocean of blood—in the blood of tens of thousands of its best fighters—who fell martyrs to the cause for the complete political and economic emancipation of labor.

### SOVIET UNION

Today on one-sixth of the earth's surface, that new world for which they strived already lives and flourishes—in the land of Socialist Soviet Republics. Today, that new world, surrounded by the wolves of capitalism, stands out as the one place in the world where insecurity of existence, the horror of mass unemployment and impoverishment, the darkness and ignorance of capitalist oppression, the vicious slave-driving exploitation has been wiped out—wiped out for all time. The cause for which the martyrs of Paris gave their lives 65 years ago is being carried forward today, a million-fold more powerful, by the victorious socialist advance of the Soviet Union and by the world working class under the leadership of the Communist International.

The immortality of the heroic struggle of the French proletariat was hailed by Marx, the founder of Communism. In his brilliant address known to the working class as "The Civil War in France" which he delivered to the General Council of the First International only two days after the Commune was defeated, he carefully analyzes the lessons of that courageous battle for freedom, and closes with these memorable words:

"Working men's Paris, with its Commune, will be forever celebrated as the glorious harbinger of a new society. Its martyrs are enshrined in the great heart of the working class. Its exterminators history has already nailed to that eternal pillory from which all the prayers of their priests will not avail to redeem them."

As the founder of scientific socialism, Marx had already thoroughly analyzed the essence of modern capitalist exploitation and showed the conditions under which the working class can secure its emancipation. In the Communist Manifesto, that historical document written almost 90 years ago,

filled with wholesome terror at the words: Dictatorship of the Proletariat. Well and good, gentlemen, do you want to know what this dictatorship looks like? Look at the Paris Commune. That was the Dictatorship of the Proletariat."

But these conclusions of Marx and Engels did not become the starting point for the strategy and tactics of the Second International. Organized during the epoch of the rapid development of capitalism, during the 'peaceful' epoch of conquests, it readily submitted to the parliamentarism and legalism of that period and moved further and further away from revolutionary methods of struggle and from the revolutionary goal. The experience of the Paris Commune was easily forgotten and where it was remembered was completely underestimated.

### STUPIDITY

For Kautsky the Commune was only a "short local episode." For others, it was a tragedy as stated in the words of Vollmar, one of the founders of reformism in 1898 at the Stuttgart Party meeting: "The French workers would not have served their cause worse if they had slept during this time." For other leaders of the Second International the conclusions of Marx from the Commune that it was "the political form at last discovered" for proletarian rule and his many references to the proletarian dictatorship as the transition period from capitalism to communism, became mere chance expressions to which they attached no significance. Thus they destroyed and distorted the very "soul of Marxism."

But Marx, right in the midst of that great struggle, in a letter to his friend Kugelmann on April 17th, stressed the importance of the Commune as a starting point for a new historical epoch:

### "NEW DEPARTURE"

"The struggle of the working class against the capitalist class and its state has entered upon a new phase with the struggle in Paris. Whatever the immediate results may be, a new point of departure of world-historical importance has been gained."

What was this new point of departure? In a letter written on April 12th to the same Kugelmann he states:

"If you look at the last chapter of my Eighteenth Brumaire you will find that I say that the next attempt of the French revolution will be no longer, as before, to transfer the bureaucratic military machine from one hand to another, but to smash it, and that is essential for every real people's revolution on the Continent. And this is what our heroic Party comrades in Paris are attempting . . . History has no like example of a like greatness . . ."

And so to Marx the Commune, its various decrees (the abolition of the standing army, the arm-

## A WORKING CLASS ARMY—65 YEARS AGO



Soldiers of the Paris Commune, pictured behind a street barricade, prepared to defend their own class government against the onslaughts of the bourgeoisie. It took the combined force and cunning of the French and German masters to put an end to the Commune. (From an old daguerreotype.)

recall of the people, the election and recall of officers, the payment to every member of the administration the average wage of the workers, the taking over of the closed factories, etc.), the establishment of a working body which would combine the executive and legislative functions of the state at the same time—was the first attempt to smash the bureaucratic machine of bourgeois state oppression and replace it by a fundamentally new type of state. It was this lesson from the Paris Commune that Marx considered was the only "correction" necessary to include in the Communist Manifesto written 23 years earlier. The task fell to the Bolshevik Party of Russia, under the leadership of Lenin, to revive the traditions of the Paris Commune and to apply the lessons to the victorious October Revolution.

### THEY DIDN'T STRIKE

AKRON, O.—President P. W. Litchfield of the Goodyear Rubber Company against which 14,000 workers are striking for decent pay and living conditions, received a salary of \$81,000 in 1934. Vice-President Slausser got \$38,643. Chief counsel for the Goodyear Company is Newton D. Baker, secretary of war under President Wilson.

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SIXTH ANNUAL I. L. D. BAZAAR, Redman's Hall, 3053, 16th st., March 20, 21, 22. Keep these dates open. Watch for further announcements.

WESTERN WORKER VICTORY BANQUET, Sunday, March 29, 7 p. m., 121 Haight street. Excellent program. Good Food. Auspices: S. F. Western Worker Drive Committee. Dinner 50 cents.

THE "MISSION CULTURAL SOCIETY" is giving a Banquet in Bohemian Garden, 1600 Market, at Page, Sunday, March 22, 7 p. m. Good Food, snappy Entertainment and Music, speakers. Attendance limited to 100. Two door prizes. Buy your tickets at 170 Golden Gate Ave. 75 cents per plate.

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COMMEMORATE THE PARIS COMMUNE OF 1871, Epic Auditorium, 123 North Lake st., Los Angeles, March 21st, 8 p. m. Auspices: I.L.D. KEEP DATE OPEN.

CELEBRATE VICTORY of Western Worker Drive at Gala Concert at Mason Opera House, Saturday Nite, March 21st, followed by Cabaret at Cultural Center, 230 So. Spring st., Los Angeles.

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Jobless Jottings

Nowadays at WPA headquarters it has come to such a pass that Connolly hesitates to answer the telephone, for voices on the other end of the wire have formed an annoying habit of saying...

"REINSTATE THE 39" The Colonel is daily becoming more vexed at his associates who are forced to whisper into his ear the unwelcome message, "A committee is here who demands that you REINSTATE THE 39."

On WPA projects in Public Works and Unemployed Union locals, in Epic Clubs, in the Utopia Society, in A. F. of L. unions and mass organizations the demand of "reinstate the 39" is being raised.

Plans are under way to have a committee carry the reinstatement demand direct to Harry Hopkins' office in Washington, D. C., if necessary.

A Los Angeles minister praying aloud before his congregation asked the Lord to make Col. Connolly change his mind and "REINSTATE THE 39."

So join the "39 Club." You can become a member by writing a letter or picking up the telephone and dialing RI-1281, asking for Col. Connolly and demanding that he "REINSTATE THE 39" WPA workers who were discharged off the Slauson Ave. Storm Drain Project as "INSTIGATORS OF A STRIKE."

Louis Goolsby, chairman of the WPA strike committee on the day that 3000 workers struck on the Slauson project, and now acting spokesman for the "doubly dismissed 39"—they having been sent a second dismissal slip by special delivery—has this to say:

"Our strike demands were fair and just, otherwise they would not have been granted, and three of our six demands were granted on the day of the strike. Charges of discrimination and terrorism as were stated in our other three demands are proven to be true by the very fact of the discrimination and terror shown toward the '39' men who were dismissed."

Papa Roosevelt boasted on the day that WPA was born what a lusty infant he was and predicted that he would grow up to be a big strong fellow capable of supplying millions of unemployed with "socially useful work at their own trades and professions."

But like others of the 'new deal' children, WPA at an early age started showing signs of an arrested development. In most places he stopped growing entirely. In California he has turned into a stunted dwarf and now is losing weight. As the weather gets warmer he is expected to shrink still farther and may even go the way of his deceased brothers, CWA and FERA.

That is, unless Doctor Worker comes to his aid and keeps him alive by continued shots of Organized Militant Mass Pressure.

In case you were planning to compliment Col. Connolly for kicking Harry L. Boyett, County commander of the American Legion, out of the soft berth he has occupied as chief paymaster of the L. A. Works Progress Administration, just save your congratulations.

For the vacant chair did not get cold until it was backed into by Norman Lyon of "Millionaire Town." Seventeenth District commander of the American Legion.

Chief Davis reports that since 136 L. A. police have been sent out of the city on "border patrol" duty, crime has decreased.

It has been suggested that the remaining members of the police force be sent out of the city in the hope that crime will cease entirely.

Up to Jan. 1st of this year the Matanuska Valley Colony in Alaska has cost the government \$2,000,000, or for each of the 167 families approximately \$12,000. "Oh give me a home where the glaciers roam, And the mosquitoes are hungry all day."

California's Sun Kissed Hoodlums

A Story of the Whys and Wherefores of Vigilante Activity By Ronald R. Cooley

CHAPTER I. "WITH FORCE AND VIOLENCE"

The mill workers' strike was six weeks old before the raids began. The vigilantes wanted Sockie Boyd the worst way. His was the first home they raided after smashing the union hall and putting the caretaker in the hospital. Some two dozen of them parked their cars on a dark side street a block away and stealthily approached Boyd's front door.

The moon was bright, but the maple trees in the yard threw a deep shadow over the house. The gate creaked a bit. Four of the soberest led a tiptoe parade up the front walk to the porch, while three of the drunkest remained at the curb as look-outs. Boyd's second-hand car was parked there, and the intention was to smash it as soon as the need for quiet was done.

There was a moment's pause. Somebody scraped a pick handle on the walk; someone else hissed "shh!" and got a silencing hand clamped on his mouth. The one nearest the door took a deep breath and rang the bell.

A man's voice called, "come in,"—and in they came, smashing the glass out of the door in their collective eagerness to enter all at once.

The four leaders found themselves face to face with the intended victim. Sockie had been sitting at a table, reading. As the raiders came crashing through the shower of glass, he grabbed a straight chair and swung it at their heads. He was squat and powerful, like a tractor, and twenty years of heavy labor had accumulated the strength that went into his blows. Two men went down, a third spat a mouthful of bloody teeth, and the fourth took a sickening kick in the belly.

Sockie was into the kitchen in a moment. Silently his white-faced missus pointed at the broom closet, a cubby-hole for odds and ends. He sprang into it. The door opened inward, so he braced his feet against it and his back against the wall and wondered how long he could hold it against two dozen drunken hoodlums.

They followed him into the kitchen very carefully. "Where's he?"

The missus hovered her two children under her apron and said nothing.

"He's gone out the back!" cried the one who had been kicked. "Why didn't some of you fools watch the back door?"

They stormed out, smashing the screen from its hinges. The three look-outs, who had deserted their post on the curb to see the fun, came through the house in a tipsy single file. One tried the broom closet door, muttered drunkenly that it must be locked, and the trio followed the stampeede into the shadows of the back yard.

Boyd came from his stuffy hide-out, pale faced and desperate. "Where's the shot gun?" he demanded. "They'll be back in a minute."

"You can't fight them!" the missus moaned frantically. "Go away until they're gone. They won't hurt me or the children. It's you they're after."

"Have they smashed the car?" "No! No! I don't think so! Don't stand here talking!" She began pounding him hysterically on the chest with both hands. "Run! While there's time yet."

She fairly drove him through the house and out the front door. "The car's alright. Take it and go!" she commanded.

When he stopped to argue she gave him a shove over the edge of the porch and he turned and went to the curb. When he had driven off she returned to the house.

Having beaten down all the shrubs in a radius of three blocks



"Oh, she wants to play." He teetered about, maneuvering for a chance to disarm her.

in their search for Boyd, the vigilantes came back. They found the missus and the children standing where they had left them.

"We'll get him," swore the one who had been kicked. "The only way he can save his skin is to leave town for good. Tell him that, will you?" He grinned at her. "That is, if you ever see him again."

"He'll be back," she retorted. "And he'll run you out of town with a can tied to your tail, Jim Skaggs."

"Yeh? Search the place, boys, and see what you can find." They wallowed through the house, emptying drawers and closets and shelves. Sockie's Marxian library of paper bound books made a bonfire in the yard for half a dozen drunks to whoop at. They found both his and the missus' membership books in the Communist Party and passed them curiously from hand to hand, as if they had found a piece of dangerous black magic. The missus watched silently as they scattered and trampled her household goods under foot. The children cowered behind her, too numb with terror to even cry.

When they tipped over the installment plan radio she cried out, involuntarily, "Oh! We just finished paying for it!" She clamped a hand over her mouth and wondered if it really had sounded

foolish. Two or three laughed at her. "Just paid for it, uh?" and the speaker crushed out the tubes with his heel, "How d'yuh like this program?" She turned her back that they might not see her cry.

One of them, as he passed by on a wrecking mission, stopped and noticed her more particularly. "How's it goin', baby?" He threw down the chair he was carrying and took an admiring look at her. "These Reds must know how to pick 'em. You're not a bit hard to look at. How old are yuh, blonde? About thirty?" He looked her up and down, blinking solemnly. "You're a mite thin; don't weigh more'n a hundred and twenty. But you got class, blonde, you got class. C'mere a minute." He made a move to slip an arm about her.

She snatched up a butcher knife and backed into a corner.

"Oh, she wants to play," he teased. "Ain't you afraid you'll hurt yourself?" He teetered about, maneuvering for a chance to disarm her.

One of his fellows jerked him back by the shoulders. "Lay off her, you blame fool!"

"Who you shovin' around?" "Lay off her. What do you want to act like a hoodlum for?"

"Who's a hoodlum!" They both led with their lefts, clinched and went cursing to the floor. Skaggs came up and furiously ordered them pulled apart.

"What the hell is this?" he roared as loud as his wounded stomach would let him. "Can't you do this without a lot of damn rowdyism? How d'you idiots think we'll clean out these Reds if we waste time fighting amongst ourselves! Now you —"

"Hey, Jim!" called someone from outside, "Boyd's car is gone. He must have left in it." "What!" Skaggs paused. "That car was outside when we drove up. Why didn't somebody tend to it? Get busy and finish this. We got places to go yet." And he added, "And quit hollering my name around!"

They kicked the chairs to pieces, threw the dishes and kitchenware out the windows and finished off the piano and radio. Then they left.

The only thing they didn't damage was the telephone.

It belonged to the telephone company. Old Mrs. Boswell, who doesn't like Communism, comes to the rescue with "DOUBLE-BARRELED REINFORCEMENTS" in the next issue.

Health and the Class Struggle

By FRANKLIN E. BISSELL, M. D.

FOR THE MEDICINE CHEST

Often I have pointed out in this column that even for slight illnesses a doctor should be consulted, or at least someone such as a nurse who knows the difference between something serious and a minor ailment. Of course, for a large percentage of the population, this is not possible, but we must continue an organized struggle for socialized, state medicine, which will afford everyone the opportunity for such scientific medical care. Meanwhile, naturally, many people are going to be forced to continue the old treatment with whatever happens to be in the family medicine chest.

What goes into the medicine chest depends largely upon how much ballhoo is being made by individual medicine manufacturers for their products. At present the rage is to rub strong-smelling "Vaporub" on the chest for colds or gargle "Listerine" for sore throat, or take "Ex-Lax" (how it does rhyme!) for constipation, etc.

Many of such patent-medicines are useless or even harmful and most of those that have the action that is claimed for them sell for many, many times their real value. Workers are cheated out of millions of dollars yearly by patent-medicine firms.

In order to help Western Worker readers to avoid being cheated

out of their hard-earned dollars, I have drawn up a list of simple drugs which may be used to combat symptoms instead of the expensive patent-medicines. I would like to again point out that a person is playing with fire in practicing self-treatment and he may seriously endanger his health for life through neglecting the cause, which only a doctor can determine. Self-treatment should be practiced only if it is not at all possible to see a doctor.

The dosages listed may be taken with or without water every four hours if necessary. Every drug store stocks these medicines and they should sell for approximately the price listed.

Symptom, acidity of stomach; medicine, Baking soda; dose, 1 teaspoonful in water. Symptom, Alcoholism; medicine, mustard in warm water; dose, 1 tablespoonful in a pint.

Symptom, Anemia; medicine, Brand's pills; dose, 1 pill; price, 70c per 100.

Symptom, Anger pectoris; medicine, Amyl nitrite ampoules; dose, 1 ampoule.

Loss of appetite; Medicine, Elixir of iron, quinine and strychnine; dose, 1 teaspoonful; price, \$1.60 per 1/2 pint.

Arthritis; Sodium salicylate tablets; dose, 5 grains; price 85c per 100.

Symptom; Asthma; Belladonna leaves; burn and breath smoke. (Continued next issue)

Can You Name This Column?

CONDUCTED BY MARJORIE CRANE

A FREE SUBSCRIPTION, for one year, to the new women's magazine, The Woman Today, goes to the reader who sends in the best name for this column. Remember, in making your entries in this contest, that this is a woman's column.

You may submit as many names as you like. But be sure to put your name and address on each one. Contest closes April 18th, and the winner will be announced in the issue of Thursday, April 23rd.

FOOD

The San Francisco Conference for Women's Rights, held on March 8th, International Women's Day, decided that food — the high cost of meat, bread, etc. — is the most pressing problem facing San Francisco women today.

The problems of the unemployed, the campaign for free adequate medical care, the difficulties of young women who are trying to find a place for themselves in this world of contradictions, the

Since 1908, when March 8th was first set aside by the women of America as belonging to them, International Women's Day has grown to be celebrated in many nations. The provisional committee for this conference felt it was appropriate to call it on this historic date.

Although the first of its kind in San Francisco, many women's organizations responded and the call at the Good Samaritan Community Center was filled with 30 social delegates and 70 unofficial observers. Members of P.T.A. groups, auxiliaries, trade unions, the Communist Party, the American League Against War and Fascism, the Federation of Negro Women's Clubs, etc., were present.

Beatrice Kinkead, chairman of the first session, introduced Tanna Alex who sounded the keynote for the conference. "We are no longer living in an age of scarcity," Miss Alex pointed out, "We are living in an age of abundance. And yet we find that malnutrition is ever increasing. We destroy food while millions starve."

This condition is the vital concern of every woman, declared Miss Alex, because "the last great fight against poverty is over the cooking stove. It is the woman who tries to make one dollar's worth of food serve the needs of ten dollar's worth of food who really bears the brunt of all the efforts to lower the standard of living of the American people."

She further pointed out that because the problem of food is the concern of every woman, so it is within the power of women to stop these attempts to lower the American people to peasant standards. The organization of women can force Congress to pass such bills as the Frazier-Lundeen Bill, which would provide for insurance for the aged, for children, maternity, for the unemployed, the sick and infirm.

The organization of women as consumers, on a neighborhood basis, can be — and in many cities of the United States already has been — the basis for lowering the price of food, particularly meat.

Many delegates took the floor to describe their individual problems, and spoke of the work in which they felt women must become ac-

Tanna Alex



"The fight against poverty is over the cooking stove."

relationship of war to the lowering of the standard of living, — all of these and many more topics were discussed.

ACTION

However, the conference felt that it must concentrate upon one activity at first, so as to avoid dissipating its forces during the formative stage of its movement.

The following steps were unanimously agreed upon:

1. The election of a committee of 27.

2. Concentration upon lowering the price of meat, with particular emphasis upon the formation of consumer's groups in the Fillmore District of San Francisco.

3. Two sub-committees to a) Study the cost of food, b) Study the needs in the way of medical care.

4. Resolution to our senators and congressmen, stating that we oppose war, that are going to take all the steps we can against it, and call upon them to do the same.

5. Endorsement of the new women's magazine The Woman Today.

6. Issuance of a bulletin of facts by the continuation committee when desirable.

7. The calling of another, larger conference on the question of a strike against the high cost of meat. This to be done when the basis for such action has been developed.

Is your organization affiliated with the Conference for Women's Rights? Every woman's group should be. Visit 68 Haight Street San Francisco, or phone HEMlock 0050 for more information.

Have you donated to the \$7,500 Western Worker Sustaining Fund? Do it today.

Books and Pamphlets

The Modesto Frame-Up. Issued by the Joint Marine Modesto Defense Committee, P. O. Box 3065, San Francisco. Thirty-five pages; price 5 cents.

Beyond a shadow of a doubt the Modesto frame-up was one of the most rotten deals ever put over on the California working class. And California is no slouch in the little matter of cleverly executed frame-ups.

In March, 1935, there was a strike on the oil tankers of the Pacific Coast. Oil practically is synonymous with Standard Oil in California. The Standard Oil was hard hit by the strike—and saw in the struggle the eventual collapse of its pretty little company union.

So eight marine workers were framed by hired provocateurs. They were taken into custody at Patterson, some 17 miles from Modesto, the county seat of Stanislaus County. Modesto is an agricultural center. Most of the land surrounding this city of some 15,000 inhabitants is owned by, or is under mortgage to the Bank of America. What is not owned by this Giannini firm is held by wealthy families. It was a good city in which to put over a frame-up.

Stool pigeons testified for the prosecution. They were proven to be stool pigeons. It was known they had been hired and paid by the Standard Oil. Yet, eight maritime workers from San Francisco, all members of bona fide A. F. of L. unions, were sent to San Quentin and to Folsom. This pamphlet tells the story of the frame-up. It is not a nice story—but it is the true story, and it should be known by every worker and working class sympathizer in the country.

The pamphlet can be had by writing the Modesto Defense Committee or at your nearest workers' Bookshop.

What Is Communism? By Earl Browder; the Vanguard Press, New York, 1936. 254 pages; price 50 cents.

Coast areas. But Browder's talk was heard by millions and the Daily Worker recently published half a page of excerpts from letters received praising the radio speech.

The Communists have something to say to millions upon millions of people in the United States. And millions are listening. That's what aroused the Hearsts, the American Liberty League and San Rafael's little red-baiting editor, Mr. Sanborn of the American Citizen.

Browder's book, as he notes in the preface, "is the first sustained popular explanation of Communism in the light of current problems and events..." Communism long has needed such a popular, simply written explanation.

From the table of contents: "Who are the Americans?—Big trouble ahead—Fascism: American brand—Can the workers lead a people's movement?—The fight for peace—What about religion? How the Communist Party works—A glimpse of Soviet America."

All the things the people of America are talking about today and have talked about during the past few years, are discussed in this book in the light of the Communist approach. Do you want to know how the Communists view the assassination of Huey Long? The answer is here. Do you doubt the sincerity of the Communist struggle for the United Front and the Farmer-Labor Party? The Communist objective here is set forth, simply, sincerely and logically.

Father Coughlin is here too, and the American Liberty League. The Townsend movement is analyzed. The Communist position regarding Roosevelt and the New Deal and the Communist approach to trade unionists—reactionary and progressive—is explained.

No discussion of Communism, whether in the United States or on the Island of Jamaica, is complete without a short reference to the Soviet Union where already Socialism exists and Communism is on the way. Browder includes a short chapter on the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics—the "Red Russia" of Hearst's night-marish editorials.

VICTORY OF THE WESTERN WORKER DRIVE IS ASSURED IF—

Table with columns for location, date, and financial details. Includes sections for 'Snappy Entertainment' and 'Saturday March 28th' with various locations like San Mateo, San Bernardino, San Diego, etc., and their respective contributions.



# EDITORIALS

## The War Danger Must Be Fought NOW!

The customary lather of diplomatic confusion has been worked up by the "kept press" of America to create the illusion that capitalist governments are striving desperately to prevent war but are working against unseen and uncontrollable forces. War, they contend, is an inexplicable explosion of circumstances—nobody's fault—a grim mystery—perhaps the fruit of human nature.

The facts of the matter are so simple as to defy any confusion. There are three nations rotten to the core with economic instability, holding their populations in submission by tottering fascist dictatorships or military terrorism. These are Germany, Italy and Japan. They are the belligerents which hope to solve their inner chaos by foreign conquest.

There are two nations which are under partial control of the people through strong United Fronts. These are France and Spain. They are opposed to all war and, by their example to other countries, are viewed by the capitalists as a dangerous inspiration to other nations where United Fronts are in the process of formation. Excepting for the strength of the United People's Front, France would be classified with Great Britain and America.

There is one nation, the Soviet Union, which is entirely in control of the people, enjoys a Socialist economy, is unaffected by internal crisis or depression, and by its shining example is an inspiration to the people of all countries to overthrow capitalism and establish similar societies.

The desired aim of the capitalists of Britain and America is to unite all of the belligerent nations in a war of destruction against the Soviet Union and against all countries like France where the rise of Socialism is gaining power. Toward this end a re-division of Europe at the expense of the Soviet Union and the smaller nations has been mapped out as promised loot for the belligerent powers.

A clear accord has been worked out between Germany, Poland, Italy and Japan to facilitate this murderous program. Confusing reports are constantly published in the capitalist press to conceal this accord. The report that Italy was ready to unite with France against Hitler was an example of such confusion.

We need only point out that Italy has been receiving enormous armament and coal shipments from Germany ever since the Ethiopian war broke out. Germany's march into the Rhine was a necessary step to save Italy from further sanctions and to give the League of Nations an out for not imposing further sanctions.

The tentative date for the "WAR-AGAINST COMMUNISM" has been roughly set for 1939. However, the situation is so tense that hostilities may break out sooner. The danger, in fact, is immediate.

The supposition that America, once such a world conflict burst, could keep out of it is plainly ridiculous. When German or Japanese cannons boom, American financial interests are involved.

That, very briefly is the present situation. The task of preventing war is the task of doing so may be enumerated as follows:

Rally wide support for the peace policy of the Soviet Union.

Support the Franco-Soviet Pact of Mutual Assistance, which must be extended to include friendly relations with every country.

Fight against the American Liberty League, Hearst, the bankers and industrialists and all fascist and pro-Nazi groups in this country.

Defend the Soviet Union against the imperialist united front.

These measures must be brought into the trade unions and all mass organizations and concretized in resolutions.

Mass meetings must be organized immediately to develop a wide united front against war.

Open forums should discuss these questions, which are of immediate concern to all workers, liberals, and fighters for peace and freedom.

We call upon Communist Party members and sympathizers to energetically carry out a program of action in the neighborhoods, through leaflets, open air meetings, debates and discussion circles.

Stand by the Soviet Union. Demand curbing of the fascist bandits—tools of imperialism!

## A Few Conclusions Drawn From A.F. of L. Statistics

The increasing spread between industrial production and the purchasing power of the workers threatens the country with a new depression onslaught, the American Federation of Labor warns.

The A. F. of L. in its monthly business survey reports production increased by 14 per cent last year while purchasing power of the workers increased a bare 3 per cent. In January, 1936, the A. F. of L. finds only 1,024,000 more men and women were at work than in January, 1935. The Federation reports 12,626,000 persons still unemployed and 16,500,000 persons dependent on relief or emergency work.

While wages increased in 1935 the "real" income was no higher than in 1934 because living costs rose 5 1/2 per cent, exactly balancing pay increases. Average work hours increased 11-4 hours per week after the NRA had been tossed out by the Supreme Court.

A militant and progressive program by the American Federation of Labor as a whole could do much to force higher wages from employers, whose profits as everyone knows, increased three fold during 1935. Part of such a program must necessarily include organizing the unorganized into industrial unions. More reason why all progressive and sincere trade unionists should back the Committee for Industrial Organization.

The formation of a mass Farmer-Labor Party, based on the trade unions, also is a necessary step in the fight to raise the present low standard of living. Such a party would see to it that workers and farmers have the right to organize for a better way of living.

## The Reverberations of the Alameda School Strike

Alameda has just experienced the throes of a minor political explosion that is still reverberating. Filthy with machine politics, its "ruling class" found serious splits developing. Thousands of school children all unwittingly were involved in what was a battle for the spoils, enjoying the exercise of power that surprised them.

Regardless of the cause and the outcome, the school strike was significant, and indicates a course of procedure for pupils to follow to gain more serious and more constructive ends. That it was fruitful beyond the imaginations of its organizing sponsors is evident in the fact that two more school strikes followed almost immediately, as far apart as Oregon and Fresno, Calif. In each case confusion and petty limitations marked the demands. But all those school children have popularized a weapon that may some day be effectively used against war preparation and war itself, to say nothing of gaining "hot lunches, adequate heat in school buildings, defense of the economic and academic needs of teachers . . ."

It is significant that the "ins" who are in danger of being put "out" by a recall measure are now making much demagogic play for support of the labor unions. "Labor's friends" indeed, but not in need.

It is with the aid of such "friends of labor" that "Disaster Plans" and "fingerprinting drives" are put over. Behind weak liberal phrases they conceal the schemes of the chambers of commerce and industrial associations. They must be faced with all the issues of immediate concern to workers and progressives—trade union rates of pay on all relief projects, municipal reform in the interests of the workers and lower middle class, relief from taxes at the expense of the wealthy, improved care of school children, cheaper car fares—all the live issues concerning the majority of the people.

Recent events clearly demonstrate the need for a Labor Party backed by the labor unions, the unemployed and progressive organizations. Once launched with determination, such a party will grow rapidly. Only such a party will carry into effect those demands that today get merely lip-service from the "ins" and "outs."

"Unquestionably this matter (House investigation of Townsend movement) raises the question of the necessity for the people's taking independent political action through their own new political party. I consider such a party, uniting liberal and labor forces for progressive action, inevitable."—Representative John McGroarty, sponsor of the Townsend Bill, in interview with Marguerite Young, of Daily Worker Washington Bureau.

# The Red Army Soldiers of Socialism

Hitherto, the voice of the people has been a voice that spoke in words only, and the rulers have ever replied to them in the language of 16-inch guns.

The voice of the people is the voice of peace and the common good. The voice of capitalism is the voice of war and profit.

Eighteen and a half years ago the people of Russia spoke for peace and Socialism, and the rulers replied to them with bullets. And for the first time in history the people answered them in their own language. They met the murderous force of capitalism with the mighty force of the masses. They defeated and disarmed capitalism in a long and bitter conflict in which the Red Army of the Soviet Union came into being. The army of peace—the army of socialism—the army of the people.

**THE ACHIEVEMENT**  
In those days, the Red Army consisted of ragged, undernourished legions of volunteers, held together by the discipline of a common cause. They were fighting for possession of a wilderness, an undeveloped, war-torn, desolate area of land that comprised a sixth of the world. And they won.

Today the Red Army is the most powerful, best equipped, most resolute army of the world and stands guard over the realization and triumph of a socialist state.

The Red Army soldier is no browbeaten mercenary recruited out of the ranks of poverty, such as comprise the capitalist armies of the world. He does not occupy a disfavored position in society, such as the soldiers of capitalist nations. He is an honored and equal member of the society he protects. He enjoys the oppor-

tunity of studying and engaging in useful work—of full participation in life.

**WAR DANGER**  
Today the capitalist nations are again massing for war. It is a war of imperialist greed, just as the last one was. But more than this, it is a war of classes. It is the bloody, final, desperate effort of world capitalism to preserve itself against the demand of the

people for Socialism. It is the war of floundering, crisis-racked capitalism against the orderly rise of Socialism.

The Soviet Union shines forth as a beacon of order and progress amidst decaying capitalist countries. By its magnificent example it inspires the demand for Socialism everywhere. And it is for this reason that the capitalist powers are directing their war toward its borders.

### THE UNITED FRONT

In France, a powerful People's United Front has grown up and is exerting a decisive influence over the government. The United Front is the rise of Socialism in France and prevents the institution of fascist suppression. It is for this reason that the enmity of world capitalism is likewise directed toward the borders of France. The Franco-Soviet pact was a part of the people. Its ratification in the Chamber of Deputies was forced by the United Front delegates against all opposition of the reactionaries.

Socialism means peace. At the same time, he who speaks of Socialism today encurs the enmity of a brutal armed force. And unless he is ready to defend himself against that force, he is merely the muzzle of a cannon, and when that cannon replies it will be the end of him and his words and his Socialism.

### COMING STRUGGLE

The showdown is coming. Capitalism will not pass from the world until it has taken one last bloody fling at preserving itself by armed force. If the people are organized, if the people are ready they can prevent war. If not, they will pay for their indifference in blood and suffering.

The Red Army soldier is the soldier of Socialism. He is the brother in arms of all the workers of the world. He will march in no war of conquest against any people. But if capitalism speak to him with cannons, he will reply with cannons. He is the army of the people—not just the people of Russia, but the people of the entire world.

# Seeing RED

By Michael Quin

This thing of teaching modern kids a lot of hickory-dickory-dock just won't work. The other day a little fellow approached me confidentially and said, "What's all this stuff about cows jumping over the moon and Mary's little lamb. My old man's been reading to me out of a book called Mother Goose. Does he believe all that junk?"

And that's just it. We've got to command the respect of our children. They're growing up in an angry, turbulent world and have not much patience with such "patty cake, patty cake" stuff.

It may have been all right for my old man to read that stuff to him but he didn't have to sell newspapers and buy shoes in the park. If we lead such stuff to modern kids they'll think we're either uneducated or freaks. But we've got to read them something, so we re-written Mother Goose to fit the depression and given it a new name. Here's the first installment:

### THE BOOK OF OLD MAN GANDER

**JACK SPRATT—AAA**  
Jack Spratt can eat no fat,  
His wife can eat no beef,  
So that both don't like the taste,  
And they are on relief,  
So that that cows and pigs are scarce,

They moo and grunt like thunder;  
And pigs are learning birth control  
And cows have been plowed under.

**JACK AND JILL**  
Jack and Jill ran up a hill  
When good times were predicted,  
But prices rose  
And wages froze  
And now they've been evicted.

**OLD MOTHER HUBBARD**  
Old Mother Hubbard  
Went to the cupboard;  
'Twas bare as a windswept plain  
There was only an old  
Tearst paper that told  
Of famines far off in Ukraine.

**OLD KING HEARST**  
Old King Hearst was a dirty old soul,  
A scabby old rodent was he,  
He hated the jobless and the dole,  
But he loved his fiddlers three:  
(Trotzky and Brisbane and Annie  
Laur-ee)

**WALL STREET HAD A LITTLE LAMB**  
Wall Street had a little lamb,  
His name was Roosevelt.  
He never signed his name until  
He knew how Morgan felt.

**HUMPTY DUMPTY**  
Scharrenberg sat on the shipow-  
ers' wall  
So they booted him out of the  
union hall,  
And all of Green's fakers and con-  
fidence men  
Couldn't get Scharrenberg in it  
again.

**PETER, PETER**  
Peter, Peter, finxy cheater  
Had a wife and used to beat her.  
Now she's joined the YCL  
and told the fink to go to hell.

**HOW DOES THE NEW DEAL GARDEN GROW?**  
Wallace, Wallace,  
Kindly tell us,  
How does your garden grow?  
"Dust storms of blunder  
"And groceries plowed under,  
"And skeletons all in a row."

**MOTHER, MAY I GO OUT?**  
"Mother, may I go out for a ride?  
"I won't be going far."  
"You may, if it's not the police  
patrol  
"Or a finxy one-man car."

### APPEALS TO VETS

**SAN FRANCISCO, March 11.**  
—Alvin Gerlach, Republican County Committee member here has appealed to his fellow war-veterans to "Follow the road to the right with the Republican Party." He spoke at length on the "menace" of the Roosevelt administration and declared the "Republican Party has always been the party of the veteran." He did not mention the time Republican President Hoover turned the army loose on the Bonus marchers at Washington, D. C.

**SAN FRANCISCO.—(UNS)—**Industrial organization has the endorsement of Miscellaneous Employers' Local 110 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance.



## Anti-Communist "Document" Gets Copied in San Diego

Several weeks ago the Labor Clarion, official organ of the top, reactionary officialdom of the San Francisco Central Labor Council got out an anniversary edition. The front page of this issue was given over entirely to an attack upon the Communists. This particular attack took the form of a clumsy forgery of a supposed "secret" document sent out by the Communist Party Trade Union Commission detailing, in general, steps to be taken in fighting for trade union democracy, for organizing the unorganized and for building the American Federation of Labor into a stronger and more class conscious weapon of the workers of the United States. The forgery was exposed in all its details in the Western Worker for Thursday, February 20, 1936. Credit for the forgery later was claimed by Colonel Henry Sanborn, editor of the red-baiting tabloid, The American Citizen. It had been copied by the Labor Leader, organ of the reactionary clique within the San Diego Central Trades and Labor Council, from the American Citizen. From there it was picked up by the able editor of the Labor Clarion.

**ENTER THE IND. ASS'N**  
Thus far the trail is clear, Mr. Sanborn, a noted red-baiter, forges a Communist Party document. Two Central Labor Council organs, both under control of reactionary A. F. of L. officials, copy the

## Red-Baiting Papers Prefer Forgeries

forgeries, giving it unqualified credence. In a letter dated February 13, 1936 and sent to thousands of business men throughout the state, the Industrial Association of San Francisco carries on the struggle, where the A. F. of L. "leaders" left off. The letter, in full, is reprinted below:  
**TO THE PARTY ADDRESSED:**  
The accompanying lithostatic reproduction of Page 1 of the 1936 anniversary edition of the Labor Clarion, official journal of the San Francisco Labor Council, is sent to you by the Industrial Association of San Francisco as part of our effort to clarify the public mind on the issue of Communism in American labor and industry. We trust that you will give it the close study and consideration it deserves as an official statement by the organized American Federation of Labor movement in San Francisco and that it will be of service in aiding you and other citizens to form a judgment of the issues involved in much of our present labor unrest and difficulties. Very sincerely yours, (Signed) Albert E. Boynton, Managing Director. **LIBERTY LEAGUE TIE-UP** Colonel Sanborn, original perpetrator of the forgery, has been interviewed by Republican Party

## Labor Council Delegates Ired By Whole Campaign

representatives as a possible Congressional candidate from the First Congressional District. The Republican Party has become the open organ of the Liberty League in its attempted climb to fascist power. The Industrial Association, already hated by liberals and trade unionists alike for its murderous strikebreaking activities over a period of nearly 20 years, is heart and soul with the Liberty League. The Communists are fighting now—and always have fought—for strong trade unions, controlled by the membership. The Communists are fighting, alongside thousands and millions of sincere trade unionists for industrial union organization and organization of the unorganized in all industries of the country. Ed. Vandeleur, president of the San Francisco Central Labor Council and also of the State Federation of Labor always has been an enemy of militant labor—particularly that kind represented by the San Francisco maritime unions. Vandeleur is a Green man—he stands for bureaucracy and dictatorship in the trade union movement. He is against everything that progressive and sincere trade unionists are fighting to win.

**DELEGATES ANGERED**  
Vandeleur's hatred is but thinly disguised as he presides at Friday night meetings of the San Francisco Labor Council. There is but one final ironic touch to record, and the smelly history of Mr. Sanborn's forgery is complete. At the meeting of the San Francisco Central Labor Council one week ago, delegates angered beyond endurance at the lies and slander printed in Sanborn's American Citizen, demanded drastic action be taken to expose the entire anti-labor plot perpetrated by the Industrial Association, the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and various unknown vigilante groups, and given support in Mr. Sanborn's American Citizen.

### FINGERPRINTING!

**SAN FRANCISCO, March 12.**  
—Following widespread fingerprinting in Berkeley, the statewide campaign of the local Junior Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with G-Men, is gaining ground. The local Junior College is to have "Fingerprint Week."

An outright fascist measure despite disguises, fingerprinting must be fought by all pro-labor groups in their localities.

### NOTE

Friends and sympathizers are urged to send messages of solidarity to Hougardy greeting him on his birthday.