

## MAKE MAY DAY UNITED FRONT DAY

### JUST WHAT IS COMMUNISM?

By Michael Quin.

Financial interests, eager to discourage progressive ideas which propose to abolish private ownership of industrial properties, have spent a good many million dollars to create the idea in the public mind that Communists are dangerous extremists. The Hearst press and other spokesmen of America's three per cent which owns 85 per cent of the wealth, are expending hysterical efforts to mislead the populace into believing that Communists are "terrorists" who desire to rule by force and impose a social system that would discourage all initiative, incentive to work, or freedom to live and create.

In their eagerness to build up an artificial bogey of "Communism," they overlook the fact that the very capitalist system which they espouse is daily imposing these very restrictions. Indeed it has created a whole generation of youth which has neither employment nor the prospect of employment. It embraces seventeen million jobless and a degree of mass hunger and suffering comparable to a major famine. Yet there has been no famine, but, to the contrary, an over abundance of necessities.

Rule by force has been apparent in every strike field. It has led humanity through a ghastly World War in which more than twelve million men were murdered and is plunging headlong toward another and greater conflict.

This is certainly an extraordinary agency to be leveling charges of impractical plans and unscrupulous violence.

Communism is not a wild, impractical notion, but the organized effort of sincere, sober men to introduce sanity and order into the world distressed by the chaos of capitalism.

The Communist Party is a disciplined, trained organization advocating and working toward the socialization of all industry and agriculture and the substitution of a government of workers and farmers for the present government of millionaires and Wall Street brokers.

The Communist Party believes that democracy in politics without democracy in industry is really no democracy at all, for the wealthy owners of mine, mill and field easily control the apparatus of the state.

The Communist Party envisions a society in which all men will perform their share of labor and receive in return their just share of the goods and benefits produced. It envisions a society in which all men will be able to find work, and in which improved machinery or over-production will not result in unemployment but in a larger share of leisure for all. It envisions a society in which merit and special ability will be amply rewarded and encouraged. It believes that a man should quite rightfully possess his own home, his own car or any facility that will improve his personal life. It certainly does not believe that men should possess hundreds of thousands of acres, mountains, forests, factories and rule over the lives of others like individual Gods.

The Communist Party does not confine itself to theorizing on an ultimate goal but participates in and supports every struggle for immediate needs, civil rights, unemployed relief and working class organization. For it is out of this struggle for immediate demands that the organized power of the workers develops—the power that will one day express itself as the governing force of the nation.

The Communist Party believes that the present capitalist class will resort to every means of violence to prevent the change from the present chaotic system to an orderly socialized society. This contention has certainly been born out by the history of the past few years. In this light, the



### Through Fifty Years of Fight

Fifty years ago the first May Day was born in America. It was born of the struggle for the eight-hour day and has remained a symbol of working class struggle throughout these fifty years.

On May 4, 1886, at Haymarket Square in Chicago police provocateurs tossed the bomb that killed six workers and led to the framing of Parsons, Spies, Fischer and Engel, and the imprisonment of other militant labor leaders.

Reformists have attempted to stifle militancy on May Day by turning it into a day of rest instead of struggle. This attempt has failed miserably. Millions march on May Day throughout the world.

Millions will March on May First, 1936. The struggle of the working class for a better life is increasing by leaps and bounds. From all parts of the nation come reports that important groups of workers

Communist Party believes that the workers, before they can be victorious, must overcome a desperate and heavily armed foe, and admonishes the workers to lay their plans with this in view.

The outstanding success of the workers' government of the Soviet Union stands as a shining example to the workers of the whole world.

We urge that for more complete understanding you read Earl Browder's book, "What Is Communism," and that you subscribe to the Western Worker.

have voted to down tools on May First. Socialists and Communists are uniting in New York and Chicago and in scores of smaller cities and towns. Working class solidarity, in 1936, overflows and completely drowns the voices of those who seek to stem the mighty flood of protest against a life that speedily is becoming unbearable.

Today we fight for social security. We fight for relief that feeds instead of starves—for jobs and the right to work—for decent working hours—for preservation of our right to protest against conditions that are not of our making.

Today we fight to stop the war into which they are trying to embroil us. We fight for the right of youth to an education and a living free from the specter of hunger and want.

We fight for a real, people's Farmer-Labor Party.

This is May Day, 1936.

Let them rant and rave against us. Let them tremble as we march by. These fifty years have taught us much. May Day is ours!

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—By a vote of 60 to 1, the Central Trades and Labor Council here commended the Committee for Industrial Organization. The Rochester Council said that "new courage and optimism have been breathed into the labor ranks" due to the movement for industrial organization of the unorganized.

### EPICS MUST UNITE TO FIGHT FASCISM

### MAINTAIN CIVIL LIBERTIES

The coming state political conference called by the Epics for May 10 in Los Angeles can become a powerful weapon for welding the unity of all labor, progressive and anti-fascist forces against reaction, and for independent political action. Unfortunately, the Epic leaders do not yet seem to realize that the election platform adopted at the last Epic convention, for social and labor legislation, is meaningless and cannot rally the support of farmer and labor organizations as long as they persist in the illusion of trying to capture the Democratic Party of Roosevelt, Farley and McAdoo.

The Epic leaders have not yet learned the lesson from scores of examples throughout the country of local or state labor parties or labor tickets which have had remarkable success in rallying broad support and even electing some candidates to office. They have not drawn the lesson which the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party has drawn, when it called for the organization of a National Farmer-Labor Party and the organization of local and state Farmer-Labor parties throughout the country.

In this respect a large section of the Epic Clubs and rank and file members are far in advance of their leaders who are holding them back from the united front and from independent political action on a local and state scale.

### MUST WELD UNITY

If the May 10 conference is to mean anything, it cannot be simply a rally to endorse Epic Democratic candidates, or to root for Roosevelt or Sinclair. It must not only work out a unified fighting platform of immediate demands for the workers and farmers, but it must go further to build a united front Farmer-Labor ticket for the coming state and Congressional elections, which would be a great step forward for the building of a Farmer-Labor party in California and in various cities and counties.

Even those people and organizations which are not yet ready to withdraw their support of Roosevelt and completely break with the Democratic Party, can be drawn into a broad united front which will lay the basis for the building of a Farmer-Labor Party, which is the only effective means of defeating reaction in California.

### MUST WIN UNIONS

Only such a policy can win the broad support of trade unions and other labor and farmers' organizations.

If Sinclair and the Epic leaders want to defeat the McAdoo and Olson forces in the Democratic Party, they cannot do it by political maneuvering; if they want to defeat the Republican and Democratic machines which represent the employer-banker forces of reaction in California, they must come out in the open and fearlessly ally themselves with all progressive, anti-fascist forces in the labor movement, including the Communists and Socialists, and support the united front. If they refuse to do this, they will be responsible for their own defeat.

LOS ANGELES, April 22.—Fighting for union recognition, the United Rubber Workers of America yesterday won the first round in its controversy with the Sampson Tire and Rubber Company, when the examiner for the labor board overruled the motion of the company's attorney to dismiss the case.



### Annual Jugo-Slav Picnic at Cupertino

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif.—The Yugoslav Workers' Educational Clubs of San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond, Watsonville and Mountain View will hold their thirteenth annual picnic at Napadek Park, Cupertino, on Sunday, May 3rd.

Among the speakers at the affair will be a representative of the San Jose Building Trades-Central Labor Council, who will address the Yugoslav workers on organization and leadership. Attendance at the annual picnics is usually from 800 to 1,500, all agricultural workers, and the need of organization is a matter they have come to recognize.

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## CONTEMPORARY THEATER NOW CASTING FOR "BURY THE DEAD"

LOS ANGELES, April 23.—Casting on "Bury the Dead," Irwin Shaw's dramatic anti-war play, was under way today under the supervision of John Cromwell, Egon Brecher and the author, Contemporary Theatre, producers of the play, announced today.

The play is to be presented during the latter part of May and is scheduled for production in one of the major down-town legitimate theatres.

"Bury the Dead," winner of a national anti-war play contest, is to be produced as the result of popular demand voiced at a public reading of the play several weeks ago at the Hollywood Woman's club, when Frederic March, Florence Eldridge, and Cromwell read the drama.

Members of the cast are being selected from among the membership of Contemporary Theatre, but

it is expected that guest stars from the Screen Actor's Guild will be seen in several of the major roles.

Co-director Cromwell has long been considered one of Hollywood's leading motion picture directors, his latest released picture being David O. Selznick's "Little Lord Fauntleroy." Brecher was for years co-star, co-director with Eva Le Gallienne in her Repertory Theatre in New York and in her road show production throughout the country of Ibsen and Shakespeare.

Exact date of the opening of the play and naming of the theater in which the production will be seen will be announced shortly, Contemporary Theatre announced.

For the unity of the people against war and fascism! For a Farmer-Labor Party.

### LAUGHTER



Halls of Congress echoed with laughter when conservative Congressman John J. McSwain of South Carolina, army volunteer, head of the House Military Affairs Committee and "big army man," described his being attacked as a Communist by William Randolph Hearst.

SUPPORT THE DEFENSE AND RELIEF FOR LABOR'S PRISONERS!

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### MAY DAY GREETINGS

From the  
International Workers Order  
San Diego Branch

For a United Front May Day

## DEMONSTRATE

May 1st -:- 12 Noon  
at the PLAZA

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Build the Farmer-Labor Party  
Against

HUNGER - REACTION - WAR

Make Los Angeles a Union Town

Auspices: Los Angeles Conference for a United May Day

## MAY DAY CELEBRATION

DINNER 5 P.M. to 7 P.M.

ADMISSION 25 CENTS  
SPEAKERS AT 8 P.M.  
JOE STUDEVANT, County Organizer of the Public Works and Unemployed Union  
L. L. LOUD of the Socialist Party  
GEORGE MAURER of the Communist Party  
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Entertainment and Dance at 9:30 P.M.

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## Townsend Probe Bankers' Attack

The Congressional 'investigation' of the Townsend Old-Age Pensions movement was not motivated by moral considerations. It was instituted by the reactionary money barons of America who saw in the Townsend movement—comprising more than 7,000,000 organized voters—a distinct and very real threat to their power.

The Townsend movement represents a large group of people who are dissatisfied with things as they are today. These people are seeking a way out of the misery and degradation that has been forced upon them.

The Communists disagree with some of the tenets of the Townsend Plan. Communists, for instance, believe the money barons—the men who are seeking destruction of the Townsend movement—should be forced to pay for old-age pensions. They are the ones who can afford to pay.

### PRESERVE UNITY

Townsendites may not subscribe to all the points of the Communist program. But are we to allow this minor disagreement to serve as an entering wedge to split us into dozens and hundreds of small, weak minorities with no political power whatever?

This is what the money barons hope will happen. Divide and rule has been a ruling class tactic since time began.

The Communists call upon the Townsendites to preserve their organization against the attacks of the Wall Street wolves. In unity there is strength. More than this—the Communists call upon the Townsendites to join with all other liberal and progressive forces—the Epics, the trade unions, the churches, the unemployed, the Socialists and Communists, in the struggle to weld a powerful, mass Farmer-Labor Party.

In this direction only lies our salvation.

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## LABOR POWER AS A COMMODITY



## FASCIST TRENDS IN CALIFORNIA; FACTS THAT EVERY PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATION IS FACING

In Los Angeles, Police Chief Davis has openly called for organized terror and vigilantism against the working class organizations, has urged an "economic boycott" on all liberal and progressive individuals and organizations.

The infamous "border patrols" of Chief Davis have terrorized and intimidated transient and unemployed workers on all borders of the state.

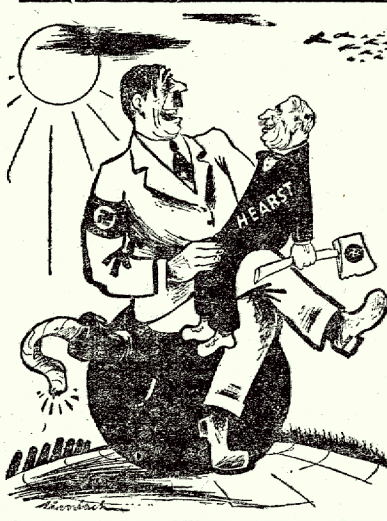
On the waterfront, the employers are carrying on a carefully planned campaign to smash the decisive maritime unions as an entering wedge to crush the entire organized labor movement of California.

### UNION DICTATORSHIP

In San Diego, reactionary leaders of the American Federation of Labor are betraying the labor movement to the industrialists by attempting to disrupt and destroy the democratically elected Central Trades and Labor Council.

On the San Pedro waterfront, workers have been brutally slugged and beaten, at least one fatally, by "beef squads" closely cooperating with the "Red Squad" sadists, Hache and Cole.

Ivan Hunter, international official of the International Seamen's



Union, was recently accused of plotting the murder of three local officials of the I. S. U.

### ATTORNEY GENERAL

State Attorney General U. S. Webb states he is still "investigating" the tarring and feathering of workers in Santa Rosa last year, but with no results, although those responsible for this atrocity are definitely identified.

Throughout the WPA jobs, a system of stool-pigeons is rampant, accompanied by intimidation of workers attempting to organize. In Los Angeles recently a thug

on the WPA administrative payroll slugged a leader of a Public Works and Unemployed Union committee, without provocation, and Administrator Connolly refused to fire the thug.

On the United States Engineering Department projects—many of them War Department projects—the workers are commanded by U. S. Army officers, and terrorized when they attempt to organize. Thirty-nine workers were fired from the Slauson Avenue Storm Drain project of WPA because they led a successful strike of 3000 men.

### IMMEDIATE DANGER

It is impossible to deny that there is an imminent danger of open fascist terrorism throughout California, of the smashing of all workers' organizations carrying on struggles on behalf of the working class.

If California's millions of workers, farmers, and impoverished middle class are not to fall victim to the same horrible fate that befell Germany, they must take action now to forge a fighting united front against reaction.

Let May Day, 1936 be the springboard for a mighty united front against war and fascism, for a Farmer-Labor Party!

## Communist Position on the Elections

The Communist Party is in the forefront of every battle against capitalist oppression. It fights for the daily economic and political needs of the impoverished people—workers, unemployed, farmers, and students. It works to strengthen the organizations of the masses and to bring about the unity of that majority which is victimized by Wall Street and growing fascism. It calls for a People's Front for the preservation of the liberties and life interests of the American people.

"We Communists," said Earl Browder in his national broadcast, "demand the government assume responsibility that every able-bodied worker be given a job at union wages—that the farmers be guaranteed a market at fair prices for their produce—that all people not thus taken care of shall be provided with a federal system of old-age unemployment and social insurance sufficient to maintain the American standard and paid for out of profits of the capitalists."

### VITAL ISSUES

In the elections this year, the

Communist Party of California raises these demands and other vital issues. It asks support in the fight for:

1. A bill for unemployment, old age, and social insurance embodying the same features as the Frazier-Lundeen Bill now before Congress. Repeal of the Unemployed Reserves Act, which taxes the workers and does not insure the unemployed.

2. Defense of labor and civil rights. For the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalist Law and all other anti-labor legislation. For the protection of labor's right to organize, strike, and bargain collectively, and the outlawing of company unions. For the passage of a state law outlawing vigilante gangs, and providing drastic punishment for vigilante terrorism.

### REPEAL SALES TAX

3. For the repeal of the sales tax. For the revision of the state income tax to relieve small incomes and increase the tax on high incomes. For the defeat of the Hearst-inspired campaign to repeal of the income tax law.

4. For the state and federal government to open all idle fac-

ilities, start irrigation and reclamation projects, to supply jobs to the unemployed at the prevailing trade-union wages.

On these and vital local issues the Communist Party and its candidates for Assembly, Congress, supervisor, etc., call for the support of all working-class and progressive groups. Mass support for Communist candidates on such a program will be a blow at reaction.

### FOR FARMER-LABOR PARTY

But the Communist Party knows full well that to defeat reaction it is necessary for the people to break away from Wall Street's machinery of rule—the Republican-Democratic alternating system—and to form an independent Farmer-Labor Party. The Communists raise this as the most important task and will continue to advocate and fight for it in the election campaign. The Communist Party stands ready to unite on a local and state scale for the building of a Farmer-Labor Party or to support a United Labor Ticket in any assembly and Congressional districts.

## Socialist Party And Labor Party

Events each day prove more and more the urgent need of crystallizing a Farmer-Labor Party movement in the State which will put forward and elect local, state and Congressional candidates in the 1936 elections. The ruthless terror against labor, the threat to civil liberties, the growth of profascist tendencies evidenced in the Hearst-Liberty League holy alliance, can be driven back only by the collective action of trade unionists, Communists, Socialists and other progressive forces in the State. Every moment of hesitation or delay helps to strengthen the forces of reaction and make it more difficult to combat and defeat them.

But what is the position of the Socialist Party in California in the light of this situation? At its State Convention in February, the Socialist Party went on record for a Farmer-Labor Party. This decision was welcomed by all progressive groups in the state. It was hoped that the Socialist Party would now rally its members and supporters to energetically work to make its decision a reality. The State Committee, however, although two months have passed, has not lifted a finger to further the growth of the Farmer-Labor Party in the state. Instead, it has frustrated every possible united front action between the Communists and Socialists which would go a long way towards organizing the growing sentiment for independent political action among the trade unionists, Epics and other progressive forces in the State.

The State Committee by its emphatic rejection of the appeal of the Communist Party to "conduct a joint campaign . . . for the building of a Farmer-Labor Party in California; to reach an agreement between our two parties to avoid competing candidates in certain Assembly and Congressional districts in the coming elections" was not acting in the interest of the Farmer-Labor Party movement. A Farmer-Labor Party in California will not come of itself. It has to be built by the united efforts of labor—of trade unionists, Socialists, Communists, and yes, even Epics and Townsendites. The united action of the Communists and Socialists would strengthen the possibilities of winning the trade unions and other groups in the state for joint activity in building a Farmer-Labor Party.

Socialists—the time to act is NOW! The recent Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party convention shows us the way!

Demand that your State Committee immediately take steps to carry out the decisions of your recent Convention! Demand that your State Committee immediately gets together with representatives from the Communist Party to discuss ways and means of building a genuine Farmer-Labor Party movement founded on the trade unions, uniting all progressive forces. Let the unity of the Communist and Socialists blaze the way for the unity of all toilers.

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## State Would Make Slaves of Jobless

### SICKNESS, DEATH ON INCREASE

Reposing quietly in the secret files of many a local and district WPA official is a significant piece of literature. It's a WPA Bulletin detailing down to the last individual, just how many persons are to be cut off state and federal work relief during the next few months.

They are to be cut off to be rehired by wealthy farmers seeking cheap agricultural labor. They are to be "interviewed," the bulletin states, regarding their experience in agricultural work.

In one district more than 1400 were slated for dismissal. They were interviewed and it was found that 300 had had previous experience in the fields and orchards of the state.

### 20 MILLION ON RELIEF

Aside from the fact that it is generally recognized relief rolls and WPA work relief populations must be drastically cut within the next few months—unless mass protest from those threatened brings about a change in federal and state policy—the relief situation today is in more of a mess than ever before.

Government estimates place the relief population of the country at 20,000,000 persons. This is just about the same figure as was arrived at by the statisticians on April 1, 1935, when the \$4,000,000,000 work relief program first began to operate.

### 70,000 FAMILIES

In California during the first weeks of April it was estimated there were 216,000 persons—about 70,000 families—dependent upon relief of one kind or another. Wealthy growers look with longing eyes upon this potential army of slave laborers—hence the WPA bulletin referred to above.

Politics of course are bound to play an increasingly important role in determination of relief policies, both state-wide and nationally.

Up to March 13, 1936, more than 3000 WPA workers had been discharged in California upon orders from federal work relief authorities. At that time—following the cut—approximately 150,000 persons in the state were employed on WPA. But the federal government, on President Roosevelt's say-so, is going to "get out of this relief business."

### FINANCE CRISIS

State and county agencies therefore must devise means of taking care of the thousands who will be thrown out of work and off direct relief. A score or more plans have been devised. None of them seem to fit the situation. And meanwhile, the state relief finances are continually at the "crisis" stage. Latest information is that Merriam "may" call a special meeting of the legislature to find a way to supplement the steadily decreasing federal allotments for relief.

Malnutrition, chronic sickness, and infant mortality are increasing, according to informed health officers and doctors. Decreased relief budgets are mainly responsible.

### ORGANIZE

California's relief situation is typical of that which exists from the Pacific to the Atlantic. Politicians, the Liberty League, Hearst or the Democrats and Roosevelt are loathe to tax the wealthy. They cannot and will not provide adequate relief and unemployment insurance—unless...

Unless the jobless solidify their ranks, build their unions locally, state-wide and nationally. The Public Works and Unemployed Unions of California have accomplished much during the past year. But they are weak in many localities. The biggest unemployed struggles of the century are looming.

## 17,000,000 MEN WITHOUT A COUNTRY



Unemployed workers being stopped at the boundaries of California by the "Foreign Legion" of the Los Angeles police force. These workers are driven back in the same manner that the nation as a whole bars unemployed workers from foreign countries. Legal author-

ities declare this action unconstitutional. But, unlike huge corporations, these unemployed men cannot hire expensive lobbies to represent their interests. There is only one thing they can do; organize and demand their rights.

## UNEMPLOYED ACHIEVE UNITY ON NATION-WIDE SCALE; PREPARE STRUGGLE FOR BETTER LIFE

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Most significant development in the history of the organized unemployed movement was the cementing of unity between the Workers Alliance of America, the National Unemployment Councils, the National Unemployed League and other jobless groups.

This action was taken at the Workers Alliance Unity Convention in session here the later part of last week. Resulting from this merger will be more than a two-fold increase in strength for the organized workers who are without jobs or are on direct work relief.

Official vote for the merger was: for unification, 129, 958; against 21,413. The only delegates opposed were the Oregon, Pittsburg and Milwaukee groups. CALIF INCLUDED

Included in the merger is the California State Federation of Unemployed and Allied Organizations, strongest body of which is the Public Works and Unemployed Union, organized in all key cities of the state.

David Lasser, National Chairman of the Workers Alliance, was elected unanimously to head the merged group. Accepting the report of the National executive Board of the Workers Alliance proposing a 15-7-3 representation on the new executive board by a vote of 130,400 to 21,000. The delegates chose Lasser by acclamation.

### NORAL ON BOARD

W. K. Patrick was elected first vice chairman; Angelo Herndon, of the National Unemployment Councils, second vice-chairman; Charles Rossio, third vice chairman; and Sam Weisman, of the National Unemployment Councils, fourth vice chairman. Herbert Benjamin, long time unemployed leader and head of the Unemployment Councils, was chosen organization secretary.

Alex Noral, state organizer of the Federation of Unemployed and Allied Organizations, was elected a member of the national executive board.

Much to the disappointment of the local Hearst press, the visiting jobless were orderly. Two Negroes were dragged from a private home at 5 a. m. and arrested on a vagrancy charge when one admitted he had been hunting a job since 1927.

Speakers at the congress included Lasser, Benjamin and several progressive Congressmen.

### PROGRESSIVE ACTION

The attack by reactionaries up-

on American civil liberties was roundly scored in one resolution. Lasser and Benjamin both were cheered as they brought forward the necessity of organizing and fighting for a nation-wide Farmer-Labor Party.

The Marcantonio \$6,000,000,000 relief bill was supported as was the Frazier-Lundeen Social and Unemployment Insurance measure, hearings upon which are now in progress at the Capitol. The American Youth Act introduced by Congressman Amlie, progressive from Minnesota, received unanimous backing.

### RAP HEARST

Reference to the Tampa Klan-

police murder of the Socialist, Shoemaker, was made on several occasions as speakers rapped the attempt of Hearst, the Liberty League and other groups to silence free speech.

Approximately 250 delegates were in attendance at the convention, representing hundreds of thousands of organized unemployed workers, Trade unions, professional workers and progressive student organizations, church groups and others were represented.

Speakers from all over the nation detailed the miserable existence that had been forced upon them by WPA and other so-called "relief" measures.

## THE LOS ANGELES UNEMPLOYED

### The Public Works and Unemployed Union

Intimidated when they attempt to organize, disrupted by stool-pigeons and provocateurs, slugged by police when they demand a decent, American standard of living, thousands of WPA and unemployed workers in Los Angeles will rally on May Day to demand their elementary rights as Americans.

Standing for unity against repression and reaction, the Public Works and Unemployed Union is officially supporting a May Day demonstration at the Plaza at noon, in cooperation with trade unions, fraternal organizations, Communist Party and other groups.

Particularly will the unemployed demand the right to organize on WPA projects without intimidation and discrimination of their organizers, will demand the immediate reinstatement of the famous "39" who were fired from the Slauson Avenue Storm Drain project for organizing.

Denied relief from any source whatsoever, totally without support, these militant "39" and their families face starvation because of the strike staged on the Slauson project.

Throughout Los Angeles County, as a result of the case of the "39," unemployed and WPA workers are realizing that only united ranks can stop violation of guarantees of the right to organize. They are seeking complete cooperation with organized labor in all struggles, and also an A. F. of L. charter for the P. W. U. U.

Completely supporting the Frazier-Lundeen Social Insurance

Bill and the Marcantonio Relief Standards Bill, both before Congress, the P. W. U. U. will raise other slogans on May Day in Los Angeles:

### TRADE UNIONS WAGE RATES ON ALL W.P.A. PROJECTS

Elimination of stoolpigeons from all WPA projects.

Twenty-five percent increases on all budgets of the County Charities Department and Los Angeles County Relief Administration—no "garbage baskets."

The right to organize on WPA projects without intimidation from supervisors, foremen, and stoolpigeons.

### HUNGER FACES 10,000 ON WPA

LOS ANGELES, April 21—Ten thousand WPA workers, 1000 each week for the next ten weeks, are to be doomed to slow starvation on the Los Angeles County Relief Administration dole if the present plans of the Federal Works Progress Administration are carried out.

Beginning April 7, WPA officials in Los Angeles County fired their weekly quota. Dismissal slips of the workers read, "interfering with WPA progress."

Among the first dismissed were single men, "undesirables" and other workers whom the WPA bureaucrats "think" can get along without WPA work.

## The Cheap Labor Harvest Scheme

### GROWERS AIDED BY RELIEF

The International Longshoremen's Association, Local 38-79 recently made public a letter from the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce which had been sent to business men throughout the city, soliciting funds for the war on the waterfront unions. The letter also specified that the funds were to be used to combat organization among the agricultural workers, "subversive activities" the letter called it.

The big growers and banks controlling California's leading industry are serving notice that organization will not be tolerated among the homeless army of 200,000 who harvest the crops of their giant farms. The growers have demanded and are receiving 100 per cent cooperation of the State Relief Administration in their plan to beat down the hunger wages of farm workers to a still lower level and stave off organization.

### CHEAP LABOR

The plan is to flood the market with cheap labor by driving tens of thousands off relief and into the harvest fields. The surplus army of workers thus made available is intended as scab reserve in case strikes break out.

For weeks the growers have been raising a howl of "labor shortage," and filling the press with protests against workers being "pampered in idleness" swinging a pick on WPA projects for \$50 per. The truth is, of course, that the only "shortage" is of workers willing to toil at the starvation wages the growers want to pay, and live in the horrible squalor and under the slave driver supervision of the grower's camps.

Relief Administrator M. C. McLaughlin entered into a written agreement, on April 23, to supply whatever labor might be needed. John Stellern, representing the National Reemployment Service in California, and Roy Stockton, representing the State Employment Coordinators, were also parties to the agreement.

### PRESENT REORD

During the month of May alone these agencies are reported to have cut 2,396 persons from the relief rolls, and herded them onto farms to work at 30 cents an hour. On relief construction projects they had been receiving 40 cents and 50 cents. The San Joaquin Valley Council of the State Chamber of Commerce wrote to the State Administrator, McLaughlin, praising the county relief directors for their genuine understanding of the growers problems.

This year similar deals are being put through on a large scale. At the conference of the Agricultural Section of the State Chamber of Commerce held in Los Angeles recently, relief authorities assured the growers that the government "will cooperate in providing farm labor during the spring and summer months."

State workers Progress Administrator, Frank Y. McLaughlin, stated to the conference:—"We will close down the projects if necessary and the workers will not get back on relief as long as there is farm work available."

McLaughlin admitted that this meant forcing men to work for even lower wages than on relief projects.

It is "unfortunately true that farm wages are lower than relief wages," he said. "It is understood that the relief minimum for a family of five is \$48 a month, farm wages should not be lower than this," McLaughlin continued, "but I am not making the demand," he hastened to add.

Relief and strikes were also discussed. John Phillips, a big grower, assured the meeting that "It is no longer necessary to fear relief feeding of strikers as this is a thing of the past."



## Peace Policy of The Soviet Union

### NO CAPITALISTS SEEKING GAIN

By Betty Gannett.

"We are not less but on the contrary more interested than others in the maintenance of peace, both today and in the decades to come, and not only in one area in Europe but all over the world." In these words of Litvinoff to the League of Nations were heard the voices of 170,000,000 people of the U. S. S. R. The Soviet Union stands for peace!

It is the firm peace policy of the Soviet Union—the land where the people are victoriously building a new socialist society—which has thus far spared humanity the unspeakable horrors of another world slaughter. It is the unswerving stand for peace of the Soviet Union which has up to the present prevented the war machinations of the sinister forces in Europe and the Far East from embroiling the nations of the world in another massacre. The Soviet Union today is the rallying center of the world fight for peace—the rallying center of entire toiling humanity who want peace and not war.

#### UNSWERVING POLICY

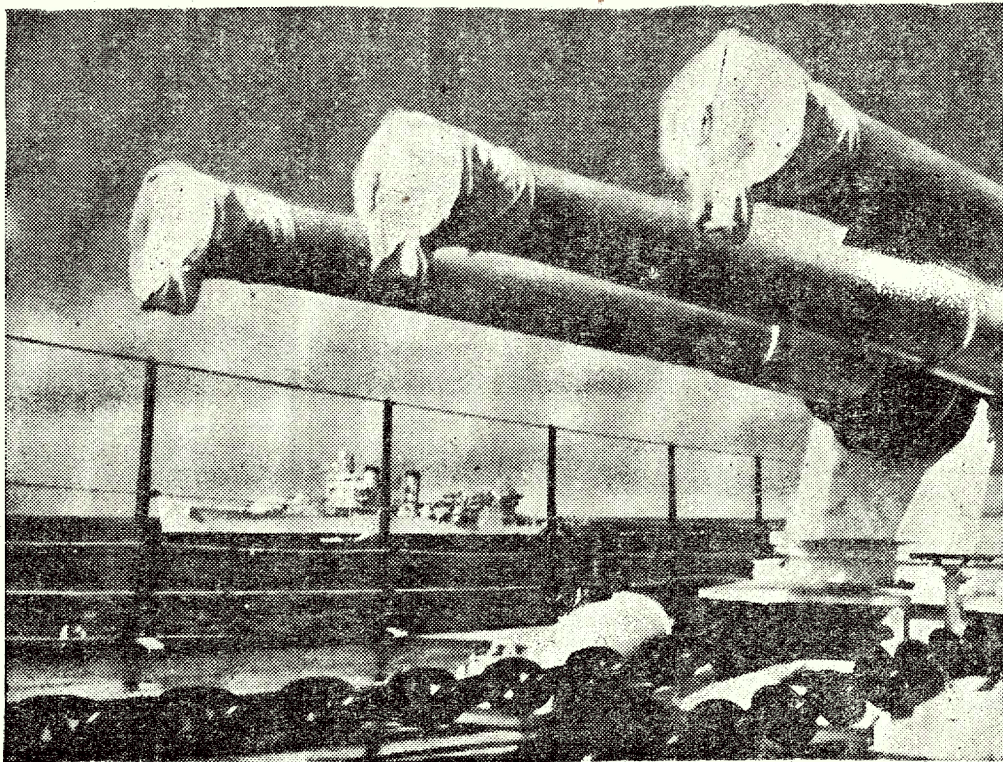
From the very beginning, the Soviet Union has stood for peace. "Peace" was one of the rallying slogans of the October revolution which destroyed the tyrannical oppression of the Czarist-capitalist exploiters. Nearly 19 years ago, while the world was still rent asunder by a war which was murdering and maiming millions of the best sons of the working people, the new Soviet land, through its first Congress of Workers and Peasant Deputies, issued its decree on peace without annexations. Since then the Soviet Union has fought tirelessly for the preservation of peace, for peaceful co-operation with those capitalist states who for one motive or another did not at the moment desire war, for collective security, directing its fire against the aggressors and instigators of war.

The Soviet Union carried out its peace policy in an atmosphere of feverish war preparations, of direct war provocations by Hitler fascism and Japanese militarism, of actual war in Ethiopia and China. And yet it has thus far been able to prevent the outbreak of a world war. Comrade Stalin, the great architect of socialist construction and beloved leader of the world oppressed and exploited, has more than once explained the basis for the success of the Soviet peace policy. The Soviet Union has been able to successfully carry out its policy of peace because of its own constantly increasing economic and political strength. It has become a powerful country to reckon with. The Soviet Union has been able to do so, because it has the moral support of millions all over the world who want peace. It has been able to do so because it has correctly utilized the differences in the camp of capitalism and rallied those states who for the moment stand for the maintenance of peace against the instigators of war (collective sanctions, non-aggression pacts, mutual aid pacts as the Franco-Soviet Pact, etc.) It has been able to do so, because of its glorious Red Army which is well prepared to "keep the pig's snout" of fascism "out of the Soviet Garden."

#### NO COLONIES

The Soviet Union needs no colonies to exploit in order to swell the pockets of imperialist profiteers since it has long ago rid itself of those who live off the sweat of the people. It stands for the freedom and not the oppression of nations. It has transformed the former "prison of nations"—old Russia—into a country where 160 peoples live and work together building the new socialist life of freedom, security and abundance. That

## Take a Good Look at Them—They Cost You Plenty



And when they speak, they speak the language of Wall Street and murder for profit. These are the eight-inch guns of the U.S.S.

Minneapolis. And there will be more like them in the future. Congress has passed the biggest armaments appropriation in peace time history.

## WILL AMERICAN CAPITAL INVOLVE AMERICA IN ANOTHER WAR? THE UNITED FRONT CAN STOP IT

Enough has leaked out concerning the development of super-murderous methods of war through the development of chemical warfare, the use of germs, and modern aircraft to show that such a war, if not prevented by the unity of all sections of the exploited masses, will make the war of 1914-1918 look like a mere skirmish.

The closeness of such a war has been revealed since last May Day by Mussolini's invasion of Ethiopia, the repeated attacks in the past few months by Japan against the Soviet Union and Outer Mongolia, and the scrapping of all peace agreements by Hitler, shown most recently by the sending of a large army of Nazi troops to the Rhineland area.

The existence of a joint military agreement between Japan and the German Nazis for an attack on the Soviet Union has been reported by the British expert on foreign affairs, Augur, who, because of his closeness to the British Foreign Office is considered to be in the know on such matters.

An attack on the only country controlled by the working class has long been a treasured notion of Hitler and the Japanese militarists, who are trying to bring every inducement into play to line up as many of the big powers as possible for such an attack. The fact that the Soviet Union has been the only consistent fighter for peace, proposing even general disarmament of all countries, has only served to enrage Hitler and the Japanese military leaders into going further towards provoking an attack on the Soviet Union.

The average American sees in the war-like actions of Hitler, Mussolini and Japan the close threat of war, but too many American people look upon these actions as something occurring so many thousand miles away that they cannot possibly affect this country.

What has happened in recent months in Europe and in far eastern Asia is far too similar to the situation just a few months before the outbreak of the world war in 1914. And it doesn't take a long memory to recall that the American people never dreamed in 1914 that by the end of 1918 over 120,000 American boys were to be lying dead in the mud and blood-soaked trenches of France. The recent Nye investigations in the U. S. Senate showed pretty clearly why those 120,000 boys were butchered. It was to protect the loans and the money due, for munition sales to the Allied powers, to the house of J. P. Morgan that the United States was dragged into the last world war. It

shouldn't, therefore, be hard to see how easy it will be for the House of Morgan to slaughter off another couple of hundred thousand American boys a short while after a new and more destructive large-scale war breaks out.

The U. S. Government hasn't lagged behind in preparation for war. The War Department appropriations bill, passed by the House on February 14, set a peace time record. The staggering sum of \$559,037,029, including \$14,000,000 for airplanes is to be spent for war preparations during the fiscal year of 1935-1936, beating the last appropriation by \$134,000,000.

A thousand and one signs of such war preparations in the U. S. could be given, but let's see a few close at home. It is reported that the San Clemente Islands off Santa Barbara are being surveyed for fortification. Not so long ago there took place a very significant war maneuver—experimental airplane flights between California and Alaska. Since last May Day

there took place the largest naval peace-time naval maneuvers on the Pacific Coast. In the allegedly freed, but still Wall Street-controlled Philippine Islands a tremendous army is being built up, under U. S. Army supervision.

These few examples of war preparations out of hundreds show that this is no time for the masses of American people to imitate the ostrich with the well-known head burying stunt.

Millions of workers, farmers, members of the middle class, and sincere lovers of peace will be out on the streets this May Day throughout the country to show their determination to prevent war, to prevent fascism which makes for war, in addition to showing their readiness to fight bitterly against attacks on the workers' standard of living, and to build a Farmer-Labor Party as one effective way to stop war. Trade unions will be in the forefront of the united May Day demonstrations.

## The Chinese People's United Front

Events are now shaping in the heart of China which will have a vital effect upon world affairs and which intimately involve American imperialist interests.

Up to now, foreign imperialism in China has worked its will through the Kuomintang (Nationalist) government. This government, a military dictatorship under Chiang Kai-shek, has operated as a puppet of the foreign powers. Carrying out a pretence of serving the interests of the Chinese people, the Kuomintang, in the past, has enjoyed some support from the masses.

Lately, however, its negotiations have become so nakedly corrupt that virtually all support has melted away from it. Its refusal to oppose Japanese invasion has been the last straw.

One of the most powerful forces within China is the Chinese Soviet Republic, comprising about one-fifth of all territory and defended by the Chinese Red Army. It is against this army, rather than the Japanese, that Chiang-Kai-shek has exerted his military strength with the aid of huge munition subsidies from the foreign imperialists.

The Chinese Soviet forces today are ready to enter into a united front with all anti-imperialist elements and to form a People's Government based on opposition to the Japanese invaders, and the

establishment of civil rights.

Great Britain, America and other imperialist interests, would find such a government very inconvenient to their profits. The traditional Chinese cheap labor would be organized in strong unions demanding fair wages. The finances of the country would be devoted to flood control and famine relief rather than to punitive wars against the Communists.

Britain and America certainly fear the competition of Japanese imperialism, but they are equally unwilling to see the rise of such a government. They are covertly encouraging Japan toward an invasion of the Soviet Union. It would please them to see their two greatest enemies engaged in destroying each other.

Meanwhile, the rise of a People's Government in China brings with it the threat of intervention—the age-old practice of "landing which is well prepared to "keep marines to restore order."

Against such an infamous intervention, the American people must be prepared to rally every power of protest. Already munitions are pouring out of California ports to equip the Japanese against the Soviets and the mercenary armies of Chiang Kai-shek against the people. These shipments must stop! The Chinese people must be left free to work out their own destiny.

## Fascist Alliance Against Soviets

### WAR—WHEN WILL IT START?

No assembled body of representatives ever indulged in more language with less results than the League of Nations during the past 12 months. Meanwhile, Japan has been permitted to maraud in China, Italy has seized Ethiopia at the cost of incredible massacres, Hitler has re-armed the Rhineland and violated every treaty resulting from the World War, and other nations are proceeding to defy existing agreements with impunity.

Every capitalist authority, including Wall Street, is now cynically regarding a new war as inevitable and are merely discussing "WHEN WILL IT START?" and "WHERE WILL IT START?"

On these two questions, they all have decided preferences.

#### THE MAD DOGS

Italy, Germany and Japan are regarded as the belligerents. Distressed by acute economic disorder within their borders, and armed to the teeth, they are determined to march in wars of conquest. The chief concern today of the imperialists of Britain, France and America is to see to it that when they march they do not tread on the imperialistic petticoats of their own foreign interests. Already facing active or potential revolts within their colonies, these three nations have their hands full without the military competition of aggressive powers.

The alternative which these powers favor is to see the "mad dog" nations, Italy, Germany, Japan, united in a war of conquest against the Soviet Union.

Diplomats flying feverishly from one European capital to another during the past month have been sewing the final threads of this fascist alliance. Germany is already bound in a war alliance with Poland, which gives her a clear path to the Soviet border. An understanding has been reached with Japan for a simultaneous attack on Siberia and the People's Republic of Outer-Mongolia.

#### FASCIST BARGAINING

Accord between Germany and Italy is reported to have been reached, although whether full details as to the division of loot resultant from the projected re-division of Europe at the expense of smaller nations has been worked out satisfactorily to both powers is somewhat in doubt.

Recently signed pacts between Austria and Italy complete the fascist alliance.

In the negotiations of this murderous avalanche to be launched against the Soviets, the "mad dog" nations have practically bargained with British, French and American imperialists on a basis of "give us a free hand and plenty of munitions for this invasion or else we will tread on your toes."

#### ITALIAN CHALLENGE

By her invasion of Ethiopia, Italy has already menaced British domination in the Mediterranean. It has been a matter with Britain of finding loot for Italy in another direction or else coming to grips with her.

An important factor in the war plans of all imperialist powers is that the capitalist nations, while weaving alliances with an eye to ultimate advantage, are at the same time jealous competitors of each other. It has been this factor that the Soviet Union has utilized to good advantage in its League of Nations negotiations to prevent war.

"... What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that the people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms. The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of tyrants. It is its natural manure."—Thomas Jefferson.



The Communist Party leads the struggle of the revolutionary working class along the road to final freedom. Organization does the trick. You can help quicken the end of the system that is holding us down. Act today. Fill in this blank and mail it to 121 Haight street, San Francisco, or to Room 410, 224 So. Spring st., Los Angeles.

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- To join the C. P. ( )
- To study Communism ( )

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## MICHIGAN MEET DEMANDS LABOR PARTY IN 1936

DETROIT, Mich., April 23—A Farmer-Labor Party in '36—right now—this was the sentiment of the 231 delegates to the conference for a Farmer-Labor Party in Wayne County held here Sunday.

More than 28,000 working men and women were represented at the meeting, nearly 18,000 of whom are in the organized labor movement.

Paul Rumbaugh, secretary of the State Conference of the Brotherhood of Painters, was elected chairman of the Wayne County Farmer-Labor Party; F. B. O'Camb of the Metal Polishers Union was chosen secretary, and James Murdoch, national president of the Mechanics Educational Society of America was named treasurer.

Final tabulations showed 123 organizations represented at the conference. Observers from five important organizations were not counted in this group.

### TO NOMINATE

The session was opened by Maurice Sugar. An observer-delegate from the State Socialist Party took the floor to declare that "possibly the Socialist Party is making a mistake in not getting in on the ground floor of this movement."

A plan was adopted whereby the "People's Press" will serve as official organ of the Party.

The county committee has been instructed to set the date for the calling of another conference at which candidates will be nominated.

### GREETINGS

CENTRAL KEY AND LOCK SHOP  
3814 Central Ave. AD-5806  
Los Angeles, Calif.

### MAY DAY GREETINGS

Unit A 4  
Communist Party

### MAY DAY GREETINGS

Unit A 7  
Communist Party

### MAY DAY GREETINGS

From Unit 1  
Fillmore Sub-Section  
Communist Party

## MOONEY MAKES MAY 1ST APPEAL FOR ALL CLASS WAR PRISONERS

SAN FRANCISCO. — Tom Mooney, who is in the county jail here during the hearing on his appeal for a writ of habeas corpus, has issued a call to the workers who will commemorate their labor day on May 1st, asking that they not forget their comrades in prison. He says in part:

On that day, we hope that you will not forget those who struggled for the solidarity of labor throughout the world. On this day of all days, those class-war prisoners who fell victims in that struggle should be memorialized. They should be exalted to their proper place in the estimation of those for whom they fought, died and suffered imprisonment, and I especially, at this time, appeal to you most earnestly and fervently for your attention.

May I ask you not to forget all class-war prisoners on that day, and in your remembrance of them do not fail to single out the monumental injustice and monstrous wrong that has been done to my

co-sufferer, Warren K. Billings, and myself.

### Raided Pedro Shop Re-Opens

SAN PEDRO, April 19. — Although smashed up by vigilantes early last Wednesday morning, the International Book Shop has been opened again here yesterday and will continue to furnish working class literature, books, and periodicals to the workers of San Pedro.

Approximately \$200 damage was done to the store by the vigilantes, who were believed to have been incited by Hache, infamous "Red Squad" officer.

Police here have launched a drive of intimidation against militant workers, stopping many of them on the streets at all hours and searching them.

### "CHICKEN IN EVERY POT"

Diseased and decomposed poultry was found being sold at the S. K. Produce Co. of Chicago. This company was fined \$10.00 by the Food and Drug Administrator.

### JOBLESS NEGROES

Twenty percent of the people on relief in the U. S. are Negroes. In Los Angeles, Calif., 60 percent of the Negro population is on relief.

## PEOPLE'S BOOK SHOP - NOW OPEN -

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**TOM MOONEY**  
\*\*\* \*\*  
**Greets Labor**  
\*\*\* \*\*  
**ON MAY DAY**

County Jail No. 1  
San Francisco, Calif.  
April 18, 1936

TO ALL LABOR AND FRIENDS OF LABOR:

Fifty years have past since that courageous battle of the American Workers which gave birth to May Day as a day of struggle and unity in all nations. It is, particularly fitting that on this the fiftieth anniversary of the first May Day when the workers marched out into the streets to enforce the eight-hour day, that all sections of the labor movement through a united front participate in powerful demonstrations against unemployment, hunger, insecurity, Fascist-Vigilante terror, and war preparations.

I greet especially the preparations in Chicago—Chicago, which was the center of that great outpouring of workers in 1886, as well as the scene of the frame-up through a brutal, judicial murder of five militant workers.

The attempt today to destroy every semblance of militant leadership of the workers is but a continuation of the fight which brought the first great demonstration — International Labor Day, May 1st.

The attempt to smash the militant organization of the Maritime Workers, the murder of workers on picket lines from Imperial to Eureka, the framing of labor organizers under the Criminal Syndicalism law, is but a continuation of the employers attack on labor.

As a former secretary of the May Day Federation in San Francisco, I call upon all labor in California to unite its ranks, to demonstrate its strength and solidarity. Today, California is a hot-bed of reaction; of a vicious offensive against the organized labor movement. Only a united front of all toilers can defeat the enemies of labor.

On this May 1st, demonstrate your unity!

Defeat the labor-hating employers in their attempts to smash effective and militantly-led unions!

Weld the solidarity of the working people against Fascist reaction and war preparations!

Tom Mooney,  
31921.

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**No. 57590**



Albert Hougardy, No. 57590, one of the eight Criminal Syndicalism prisoners held at San Quentin, Calif. The others are: Pat Chambers, No. 57589; Martin Wilson, No. 57591; Jack Crane, No. 57605; Norman Mini, No. 57606.

The women prisoners, held at the Women's State prison, Tehachapi, Calif., are Caroline Decker, No. 57617, and Nora Conklin, No. 57616.

The eighth prisoner, Lorene Norman, No. 57618, has been released on bail owing to the birth of a child. Bail was supplied by the International Labor Defense.

Write to the prisoners and send them May Day greetings.

For full details of the C. S. railroading, read the 5-cent pamphlet, "The C. S. Case Against Labor," published by the I. L. D.

"Therefore, be it resolved that this convention of 1936 reaffirm its conviction as to the necessity of building State Farmer-Labor Parties and a national Farmer-Labor Party, and that a special committee be elected, with representation from each Congressional District, to all conferences of and to cooperate with other progressive, labor, farmer and political organizations and leaders in calling a national conference to explore the possibilities of a national Farmer-Labor ticket in 1936, and in promoting state Farmer-Labor Parties, a concentrated campaign to elect Farmer-Labor Congressmen in the 1936 campaign, and in building a national Farmer-Labor Party." Adopted by the Convention of the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party.

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**PUSH C.S. REPEAL PETITIONS IN MAY DAY DEMONSTRATIONS!**

Integral part of the May Day struggles for democratic rights and for increased standards of living, is the campaign to free the eight victims of California's hated Criminal Syndicalism Act and to erase this infamous law forever from the statute books of California.

Sweeping across the length and breadth of the State is the signature campaign to place a repeal referendum measure on the ballot in the November elections.

(By a Worker Correspondent.)

Launched by the State Congress for Repeal of the C. S. Act, this campaign for 240,000 signatures by June 10th is being carried forward with irresistible energy and determination by the scores of trade unions, unemployed organizations, fraternal groups, Communist Party, Socialist Party, and many other organizations, which participated in the Congress.

**UNITED FRONT**

Workers, farmers, middle-class people are strenuously urged by the State Congress to rally to this united front against reaction, to smash forever this law which has only been used to crush struggles of workers for better living conditions.

Northern California offices are located at 68 Haight street, San Francisco, and the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, are located at 129 West Second street, room 326, Los Angeles.

Individuals and organizations are urged to contact these offices to secure copies of the C. S. Repeal petitions for circulation among legally registered voters in California, to participate in the actions being developed in all parts of the state, to build up

county organizations in this fight for American constitutional rights and liberties.

The Congress plans to mobilize forces to circulate the repeal petition in every precinct in every county in the State of California.

**REGIONS MEET**

Within a month, by decision of the Congress in Sacramento on April 19th last, Northern California and Southern California conventions will be assembled to further this work, to bring this campaign to the widest masses of people by a broad educational campaign and by the circulation of the petitions.

The Congress urges all pro-labor and anti-fascist forces to contact immediately the Northern and California organizations, to bring new and vital forces into the campaign, to mobilize every trade union in the state behind the repeal petition, as well as every other people's organization.

Meanwhile, the protest campaign to force the immediate freedom of the eight Sacramento victims of the C. S. Campaign, to demand that the District Court of Appeals reverse the decision of the trial court, continues.

**THE AMERICAN YOUTH ACT AND THE FATE OF AMERICAN YOUTH**

Both the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, and the Bay Area Conference of Industrial Y. W. C. A. clubs, have joined the thousands of organizations demanding the enactment of the Benson-Amie American Youth Act.

For one week, the Senate Committee on Education and Labor had heard the vivid testimony of America's youth, all revealing the pitiful aid that the National Youth Administration is giving. Dr. Beard, the Columbia educator, and Francis Gorman, textile trade union leader, added their voices to the support of the American Youth Act.

What was behind the stream of youth who poured into Washington? Why are progressive organizations in San Francisco supporting the bill?

In July, 1935, President Roosevelt created the NYA, as a par-

tial sop to the 5 to 8 million unemployed youth. With only 50 million dollars set aside to provide for 500,000 youth (out of the 5 to 8 million), the NYA was foredoomed to be unable to handle their needs.

**POVERTY—INSECURITY**

Aubrey Williams, chief NYA administrator, stated, "That a vast majority of those born in the last 25 years will never rise above a hand-to-mouth existence; that all their steps from the cradle to the grave will be dogged by poverty, sickness, and insecurity."

The American Youth Congress, speaking in the name of several millions of these youth, refuse to be consigned to this existence. Senator Benson and Representative Amie introduced into Congress the American Youth Act. Providing all the unemployed youth with a minimum of \$15 weekly, \$25 monthly for college students, and \$15 monthly to high school students, the American Youth Act gives the only answer to the stories of hunger and insecurity related at the Senate Hearings. Unlike the NYA the AYA is to be administered by equal representation of youth, labor educational and consumers service organizations. The funds necessary, 3 billion dollars, will be taken from the treasury, added to, if necessary, by inheritance, gift, and corporate income taxes.

**TRADE UNIONS**

The act is vital to trade unions. It will eliminate unfair competitive use of youth in industry, and will give them their chance for education, training, and recreation.

The fight is not over; will not be over until the Senate and the House enact the bill. There are steps we can still take to ensure its passing. Write to Senator Walsh, head of the Senate Committee on Education; write to your senators and representatives, and see that your organizations pass a resolution in favor of the bill. On our activity depends the fate of American youth.

**Negro Peoples Unity Growing**

**Unionists Are In Forefront**

For the first time in American history, a mighty movement has begun to take root, taking in every section of the exploited Negro people. Centering around the struggle for Negro rights, the movement gave its first show of strength at the National Negro Congress, which closed in Chicago on February 16th. The 913 delegates to the Congress, representing 585 organizations, may have represented every political or religious tendency, but they showed that the Negro people, now, as never before are prepared to unite for such simple desires as at least a decent standard of living, for the ordinary rights of human beings, and for an equal and respected standing in public and social life. And, as delegate after delegate said, they intend to conduct that struggle side by side with the exploited sections of the white people.

**BROAD SCOPE OF MOVEMENT**

Civic groups and societies of Negroes, trade unions (which sent 80 delegates), church and religious organizations, political party groups, and women's and young people's organizations, sent delegates to the Congress, and are now carrying on the work laid out at the Congress.

It was a leading American trade unionist, A. Philips Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and chairman of the National Negro Congress, who gave the keynote not only to the proceedings in Chicago, but to the aims of the powerful movement behind the Congress. Randolph said:

"At the top of the list of remedies (for the exploited Negro people), I wish to suggest the struggle of the workers against fascism and for the preservation of democratic institutions. . . Third, the struggle to build powerful Negro civil rights organizations. Fourth, the struggle against war, which wrecks the organizations of the workers. Fifth, to strengthen the forces of the exploited share-croppers and tenant farmers. Sixth, the struggle to build mass consumers' movements to protect the housewives against price manipulation."

**RANDOLPH FOR LABOR PARTY**

Randolph showed that the drawing of Negro workers into the trade unions, and the building of an independent working class party, the Farmer-Labor Party, are indispensable weapons in the carrying through of the tasks which the new united Negro peoples movement has cut out for itself.

The new powerful united movement of the Negro people, with its working-class base, shows a willingness and readiness on the part of the Negro working-class to fight to the utmost against oppression; it also shows that the Negro working-class now realizes its power, force and leadership in the struggle for Negro liberation. The National Negro Congress movement shows too, that the attitude of the Negro middle class has changed deeply, that it has come to realize that its place is beside the Negro and white working class in the fight for the rights of human beings for the Negro people. And upon this basis, the possibilities of a great alliance of all the toilers and oppressed were clearly foreshadowed at the National Negro Congress.

Demonstrate May 1st! For the right of union members to elect their officials! For the right to strike and organize! For the defense of democratic rights!



# Convention to Further Unity

## Federation to Meet May 15th

By a Delegate to the San Francisco District Council

The Convention of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, will convene on May 15th of this year, in San Pedro, California.

Because the Federation represents unity of all crafts in the maritime industry, it has, during the past year, been subjected to bitter attacks from not only the employers, but also, from certain of the reactionary leaders in the maritime unions and the American Federation of Labor.

The Federation has been able to display a coastwise unity on the three following major issues:

Support of the Northwest Lumber strike; support of the Vancouver longshoremen lockout and support of the Gulf coast longshoremen strike.

In this united action, the Federation was able, not only to assist these organizations in winning certain economic demands, but at the same time to weld its ranks more solidly.

### FURTHER STEPS TOWARD UNITY

To proceed toward still further unity, the Federation will, at the coming convention work out at least the three following important problems:

Simultaneous renewal of uniform agreements; a National Maritime Federation; prevention of isolation from the rest of organized labor.

At present the expiration dates for agreements are the I. L. A. on Sept. 30, 1936, and the I. S. U. on Oct. 30, 1936. In 1935, because of the position of these dates, the I. L. A. voted on its renewal of agreements even before the I. S. U. had been granted the right to negotiate their amendments to their awards.

This year the convention must agree on a common expiration date for all agreements of affiliated unions. April 30th would seem preferable, because it is the beginning of the heavy season in the maritime industry.

To further insure that every affiliated organization is granted the right to negotiate their demands with the employers, it should be understood that no affiliated union should vote on the renewal of their agreement, until all other affiliated organizations have been granted their demands, or the right to negotiate them.

In order to arrive at agreement on all demands, the Executive Committee of the Federation should meet at least 50 days prior to the expiration of the first agreement, or Sept. 30th.

### SENTIMENT FOR A NATIONAL FEDERATION

Because of the wide-spread sentiment among the rank and file of the maritime workers on the East Coast and the Gulf Coast, for a National Maritime Federation, even the reactionary leadership of the I. S. U. and the I. L. A. have been forced to support the idea.

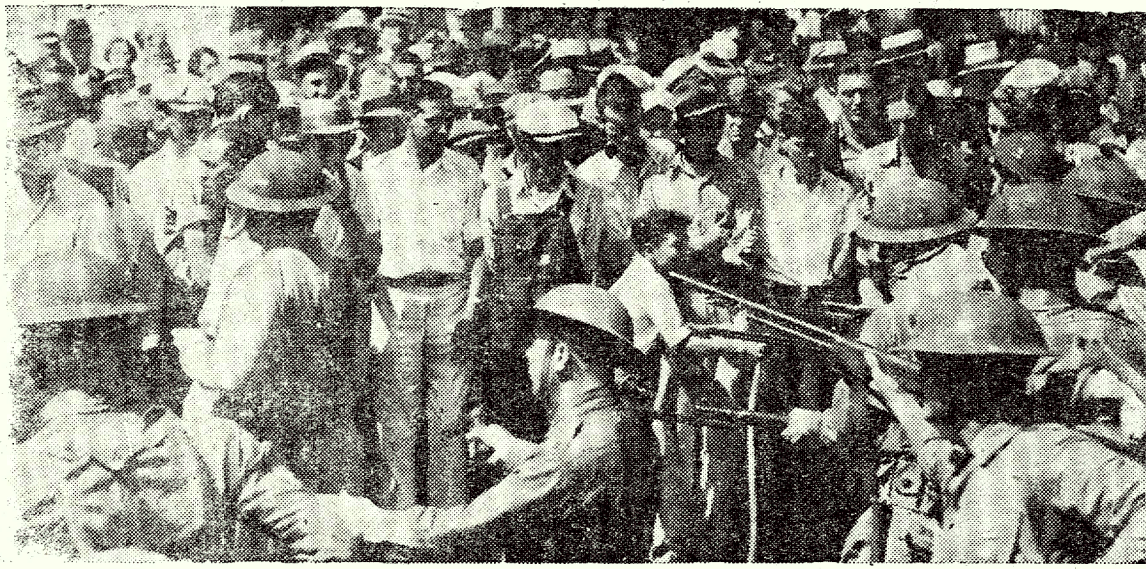
However, if their program for a National Federation is carried out, the leadership of such a federation will consist of the same mis-leaders who are now doing their best to throttle the militant rank and file movement within the I. S. U. and the I. L. A.

To defeat their program and further the program for a rank and file controlled Federation, it is necessary to continue to support the membership of the East Coast and Gulf Coast locals of both the I. S. U. and the I. L. A. in their strikes for better conditions, and their demands for rank and file control of their unions.

### ATTEMPT TO BREAK UNITY

Various attempts have already been made to break the unity on the West Coast. The reactionary officials (serving the in-

## A UNITED FRONT COULD PREVENT THIS



National Guardsmen called out by employers to suppress strikes with as great ease as a monarch calls upon his own hired regiments. A United Front Farmer-Labor Party could pre-

vent the use of armed forces of the government by reactionary powers. During 1935, 73 workers were slain by National guardsmen and company thugs in strike struggles.

# Industrial Union Fight, Labor Party Go Together

The 11,000 votes cast at the 55th convention of the A. F. of L. for Industrial Unionism, and 5,000 for a Farmer-Labor Party, expresses clearly the powerful progressive movement that has developed amongst the rank and file of the unions. While still a minority vote in the convention, there is no question that the reactionary officials who made up the majority, did not represent in many unions the opinion of their membership.

The question was not, shall all industries be organized upon an industrial union basis, but shall the grant mass production industries, such as steel, automobile, rubber, etc., which are now largely unorganized, be organized upon an industrial union basis (the interests of the shipowners, are attempting to create a split in this unity, by provoking the Sailor's Union of the Pacific Coast to move toward becoming an independent union.

Such an independent organization would immediately be branded as "dual" to the regular American Federation of Labor unions, and therefore new locals would be set up by reactionary officials, and would very likely be recognized and seated in most of the Central Labor bodies in the Pacific Coast ports.

The confusion within the ranks following such action would give the shipowners their opportunity to move in with their program for breaking the rank and file controlled unions.

The Federation must remain united, in order to meet the united attack of the shipowners and the Industrial Associations.

We must call upon the entire labor movement to assist us in fighting the "splitting" tactics of the employer-controlled officials within our ranks. Involved in this discussion over the form of organization, is the question of organizing the unorganized in these basic industries.

Wherever the workers in these industries have had an opportunity to express themselves, they want industrial unions. They know that they cannot meet the huge steel corporation on the basis of a dozen warring craft unions. The principle involved is trade union unity and the building of trade unions fit to fight and win the demands of the workers involved.

### FEDERATION AS STEP TOWARD COMPLETE UNITY

It is in the interests of all trade unions, to see that the unorganized workers in steel, etc., are organized. The Maritime Federation is a good example of how united support and action gets results. Federation is a step in the direction of the more complete unity that develops when the workers in a given industry, are guided by one union, with its proper departments with one policy and one program. Every progressive union should give full support to the strengthening of the federations of craft unions now in existence and the organizing of the unorganized, in the mass production industries, such as steel, into industrial unions.

### THE FARMER-LABOR PARTY

Since the 55th convention of the A. F. of L., the organizing

of local and state Farmer-Labor Parties has taken tremendous forward strides. Hundreds of local parties have sprung into being. In a dozen states Farmer Labor Parties have either been organized, or are in the process of being organized, with the trade unions taking a leading role. More and more it is sinking home in the minds of great sections of workers, farmers and liberals, that only a Farmer-Labor Party can defeat fascism, and can struggle against the war program of those fascist groupings headed by Hearst, and the Liberty League. A Farmer-Labor Party on a state and national scale for 1936 can be accomplished.

### FIGHTING UNIONS BACK-ED BY A LABOR PARTY

The struggle for the smallest economic demand by the trade unions, for the right to organize, to strike, to picket, for free speech and assembly, becomes a stronger fight, if the craft unions are united into fighting federations, and into industrial unions in the mass production industries, supported by the broader united peoples front—the Farmer-Labor Party. Why shouldn't we send fighting trade unionists and farmers to the state legislature, and to Congress, carrying forward the struggle and demands for progressive labor legislation, instead of leaving it to people like Scharrenberg to lobby, mis-using the name of labor, while serving his masters, the ship owners.

More than one hundred unions in California have endorsed a Farmer-Labor Party. Many

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Reserve this date! Annual Workers May Day Picnic, May 10, 1936 at Varsity Park Picnic Playgrounds (3 miles west of Menlo Park). Enjoy this picnic, which will last till midnight. Barbecued dinner, Italian, Greek, Chinese, Armenian and Russian dishes. Baseball game, footraces, singing, dancing. Sing around the evening bonfire. Admission 25c, roundtrip transportation 25c. Trucks leave 121 Haight Street from 8:30 a. m. to 12 noon.

DANCE given by Branch 4310, I. W. O., Sunday, April 26, 1936, 8 p. m., at 779 Vallejo st. Good Music. Good Time for All. — Adm. 25c. Ladies Free.

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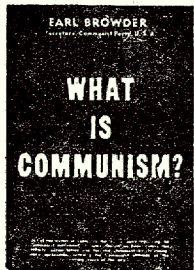
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