

AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE SATURDAY

Seamens' Fight Balks the Fink Book

Sitdown Strikes Surging From Coast To Coast

Workers Rush Into Industrial Unions By Thousands As Significant Aftermath Of General Motors Defeat

Stimulated and encouraged by the victory of the Auto Workers' Union over the powerful General Motors Corporation, a great wave of strikes spread over the United States as the CIO drive gained real momentum this week. From the aircraft industry in Southern California to the shoe industry in the New England states workers occupied plants or stood on picket lines in firm resolution to better their conditions of life.

In autos, in steel, in rubber—in all the basic industries being organized by the C.I.O. the sit-down fever spread and workers flocked to join the unions. In a single day after the strike settlement in Flint, more than 3,000 Detroit auto workers joined the U.A.W. and similar gains throughout the country are reported by union leaders.

A battle raged in Waukegan, Ill., as 150 armed deputies attempted to oust sit-down strikers from the Fansteel Metallurgical Co. plant and were met by determined resistance and a hail of missiles, including acid. The strikers were attacked for two hours and a barrage of tear gas was laid down by the forces of "law and order."

DEPUTIES BREAK DOORS
The deputies broke open the doors to the plant with steel battering rams and shot into the plant until the air was filled with choking gas. The steel workers were at hand—bolts, nuts and wrenches. Only when the complete supply of "industrial munitions" furnished to the sheriff by corporation agents was exhausted did the attack cease.

Anderson, Ind., remained in a state of siege after a gun battle that wounded John Rose, member of the U.A.W. and Heaton Vorse, labor reporter. Eighteen men are under arrest and martial law was declared because a group of auto-workers demonstrated their solidarity and went to the aid of fellow-union members.

In California, sit-down strikers closed the big Douglas Aircraft plant in Santa Monica and stopped work on Army bombing planes, delaying work on contracts totaling \$19,000,000. They jeered at threats of violence from Donald Douglas, president of the company, and successfully held the 3-block plant.

ARREST STRIKERS
Armament building for the Navy proceeded behind picket lines after strikers at the Electric Boat Co. were arrested by police. The plant, building submarines for the Navy, continued work with scabs while union leaders established picket lines around the gates.

Picketing of 85 shoe factories began as the newest union under the leadership of the C.I.O. demonstrated its strength to overlords of the leather industry in the New England states. The United Shoe and Leather Workers' Union, recently formed by the amalgamation of three unions already in the field, demanded recognition and negotiations with the manufacturers.

Rubber workers in widely separated sections of the country acted in small plants to gain demands and recognition. Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin plants were affected, while in Chicago, retail workers closed up six service stores of the Goodyear Rubber Co.

The struggle for unionization in the auto industry has only begun in the numerous reports of sit-downs and strikes in (Continued on page 4)

SHIP WITHOUT DOG COLLAR IN EVERY PORT

Militant Stand Plus Legal Action Puts Book On Ice

Militant seamen of the United States have succeeded in forcing the government to postpone cracking down upon them with the Copeland Fink book.

Through their uncompromising refusal to accept the books—supplemented by appropriate legal action—seamen succeeded in securing injunctions in various ports on both coasts temporarily restraining the Shipping Commissioners from refusing to clear those men who refused the books.

Faced with the uncompromising refusal of the militant seamen to ship with the Copeland Dog Collar around their necks, the shipowners offered no objection to the injunctions.

From coast to coast the success of the seamen in stopping the issuance of the blacklist books clearly demonstrated that the Copeland Fink Act can be nullified by unyielding refusal to take them. The simple strategy of a united refusal to touch the continuous discharge books has already temporarily stopped the operation of this odious regulation.

INJUNCTION GRANTED

In San Francisco, Federal Judge Michael J. Roche put over until March 8 the handing down of a decision on the temporary restraining order which he granted against the U. S. Shipping Commissioner some three weeks ago. Attorney Aaron Sapiro, representing the Sailors, Cooks and Stewards, and Marine Firemen, argued in favor of a permanent injunction, pointing out that the book is intended only as a blacklisting measure. He ridiculed the phoney claim that the bill is intended to aid American seamen obtain jobs. He presented photostatic copies of fink books issued to non-citizens incapable of writing more than a cross for a signature.

Harry Lundeberg, Secretary of the Sailors' Union, presented an affidavit showing that the I. S. U. fakers, Scharenberg, Hunter, Carlson, etc., did not represent the American seamen and that therefore they had no authority to speak for them. He showed also that the experience of seamen the world over proved that the fink book, if clamped on the maritime workers, would be used by the owners as a blacklist system.

FAKERS' LINE

Arguing against the injunction, U. S. Attorney H. H. McPike contended that no harm could come to seamen by accepting the discharge books, quite evidently taken (Continued on page 2)

SOCIALIST PARTY IN STEEL BELT

The Socialist Party reaches again into industry. The East Chicago Local of the Socialist Party was reorganized on January 29, 1937. The new organization was permitted to function under the old charter. The Branch is located in the heart of the steel belt.

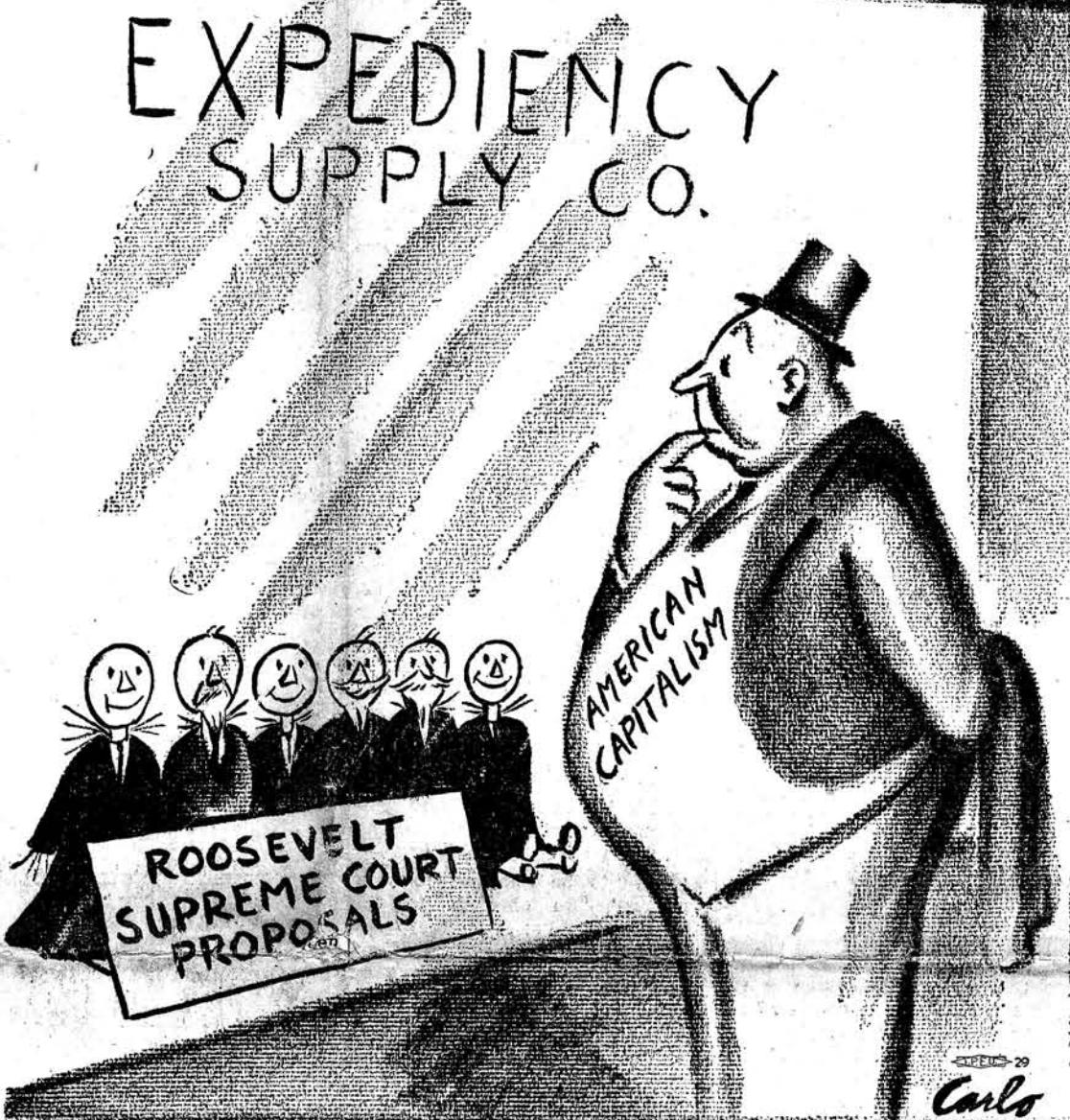
The political level of the group is exceptionally high as many of the members belong to Yipsels, several have been members in neighboring cities and transferred to the new local. The composition of the members is almost entirely steel workers. The prospects for growth are splendid.

The local is planning to have a permanent headquarters at a local hall. The drive for finances is moving rapidly and on March 1st will probably open.

ATTENTION! Socialist Cooperators

All Socialists who are members of Cooperative Distributors, Consumers' Union, or some other national cooperative or consumer organization, are urged to get in touch with the Socialist Cooperators of New York who have been organized to unify and stimulate the work of Socialists in co-ops. Please send your name at once to Benjamin H. Wolf at 21 E. 17th Street, New York City.

It's All For His Own Good - - By Carlo



Socialist State Convention Takes Revolutionary Stand

California Organization Adopts Clear Resolutions On Key Questions

The annual convention of the Socialist Party of California, held in San Francisco in the local Socialist headquarters at 236 Van Ness Avenue, went on record in favor of a continuance and strengthening of revolutionary Socialist principles as a guide for Socialist work in all phases of the class struggle.

Opening Saturday noon, February 20, the convention remained in session until Sunday evening, adjourning in time for delegates to attend the mass meeting for Ernest Erber, national chairman of the Young People's Socialist League.

FIRM STAND ON WAR
Delegates assembled at this convention unanimously reaffirmed the historic stand of the Socialist Party in opposition to any war in which capitalist government engages. The war resolution emphasized the Marxian position that "only when the workers take political and economic power into their own hands will the great nations of the earth have a sound basis of lasting peace... Uncompromising struggle against all capitalist states, both before and after war is declared, is the only method of fighting imperialism and the threat of fascism here and abroad."

The California Socialist convention took an unequivocal stand against the class-collaboration tech. (Continued on page 2)

United Mine Workers Ask Six Dollars For Six Hours

NEW YORK.—Demanding the 6-hour day and a \$6 wage, representatives of the United Mine Workers met soft-coal operators from eight States last week in a conference seeking a new agreement.

The miners are asking a guarantee of 200 working days a year, with a basic yearly wage of \$1,200, and full right in determining working conditions and the use of machinery in speeding up production. John L. Lewis, president of the U. M. W. A., voiced the hope of securing the miners' demands peacefully, "without loss of time to a single worker in the industry."

Prospects of securing the demands of the miners by peaceful negotiation seemed remote as mine operators rejected the proposals of the union as "utterly impossible" and countered with a plan to increase the weekly hours from the present 35 to 40. The owners pressed amazement at the demand for a two-week vacation with pay, and declared that other proposals of the miners "were beyond the capacity of the industry to grant."

The Second Annual Social of the Lake County Socialist Parties will be held in Hammond, Indiana, at the Workmen's Circle Hall, 119th W. State St., February 27th. Everybody is invited. Music, dancing, refreshments.

The probe will resume February 25th in San Francisco, and is scheduled to conclude in Modesto, scene of the trial.

Unions Meet To Close Ranks At Federation Call

State-wide Industrial Union Planned To Launch Biggest Organization Drive In California History

The conference to form a State-wide organization of agricultural workers in California, sponsored by the California Federation of Labor, meets Saturday and Sunday, February 27 and 28, in San Francisco, at the Labor Temple, 16th and Capp Streets. This conference opens the way for the organization of one of the most exploited sections of the working class.

More than 50 A. F. of L. federal locals and independent agricultural unions and 30 central labor bodies have indicated that they will participate in the conference to start the largest organization drive in agriculture in California labor movement.

This is in line with the resolution adopted at the last convention of the California Federation of Labor which stated, "pending the establishment of an International union of agricultural workers, a State wide charter is to be issued covering all workers in agriculture."

The executive council of the American Federation of Labor recently rejected the application of 30 federal agricultural locals for an international charter under the pledge of William Green that a nation-wide drive to organize agriculture was to be started by the A. F. of L.

"In line with the Industrial Farm Settler resolution of the State Federation the matter of a State-wide charter which will cover all agricultural workers is mandatory," said Walter Cowan, vice president of the California Federation in charge of agricultural work. "There can be no discussion of any other structural form. The organization is to be a State-wide industrial union; that is settled by the resolution."

The advantages of this form of organization are obvious. Mr. Cowan lists five major points which can only be enforced under the proposed organization structure. They are:

1. A uniform program of demands adequately controlled.
2. A centralized organizational set-up with power to concentrate forces at any given point.
3. State-wide negotiating with all employers' organization for all crops in all areas.
4. One union card good in all sections of the State.
5. A common treasury and defense fund.

Previous attempts at State-wide organization on a federated structure such as established last year at the Stockton conference have proven inadequate in a crisis. Such situations as Salinas, Orange County and, more recently, San Diego, have shown that the individual unions were isolated, had no strength, and could not cope with the forces of the Associated Farmers who are strongly organized on a State-wide basis.

"The farmers and shippers have always been able to pick their spots," said Mr. Cowan, "and the unions have had to fight on that basis. With a solid, state-wide industrial union the workers will fight when and where they are prepared to and will have the forces necessary for a victory."

Communists Attack Program

The only force opposing one big industrial union of agricultural workers, with the exception of the Associated Farmers, is the Communist Party.

According to the Western Worker of February 25 the Communist Party proposes the formation of a joint council of the already exist-

(Continued on page 4)

Benefit Dance To Aid Spain

For the benefit of Spanish workers now battling to crush Fascism in Spain, an entertainment and dance will be held Saturday, March 13, at Garibaldi Hall, 441 Broadway, San Francisco.

A union orchestra will furnish music for dancing and refreshments will be served by the International Libertarian Group, which is sponsoring the benefit. Admission is 35 cents.

Trotsky Telegram Repeats Challenge

Offers To Accept Verdict Of An Impartial Commission of Inquiry

CHICAGO.—In a telegram to the mass meeting on the Moscow trials, held at the Capitol Building, February 14, Leon Trotsky repeated his offer to deliver himself voluntarily into the hands of the G. P. U. (Soviet Secret Police) if an impartial commission of inquiry should find him guilty "directly or indirectly, even if only in an infinitesimal degree" of the crimes imputed to him.

The meeting, attended by 900 people, adopted a resolution in support of the proposal for an international impartial commission of inquiry on the Moscow trials. Norman Thomas, Albert Goldman, Frank McCulloch and Albert Glotzer addressed the meeting.

Trotsky's telegram to the meeting follows:

"Amongst you are representative of diverse tendencies of Socialist, Communist and Democratic thought of Chicago and of the United States generally. I do not doubt, however, that a great majority of you, all else aside, are sincere partisans of the October Revolution and unshakable defenders of the Soviet Union. Permit me to tell you, above all, that those who are called Trotskyites in the U. S. S. R., that is to say, my true ideological friends, not pseudo 'Trotskyites' fabricated by the G. P. U., will at the hour of danger be found to be the most certain and most courageous defenders of the October Revolution against the plans of Fascism. One can count firmly on these men who are not functionaries but revolutionaries, who by long years of prison and deportation have demonstrated their devotion to their banner and their spirit of sacrifice."

The enemies of the working class throughout the entire world try to utilize the Moscow trials to discredit not only the Soviet Union but also the very idea of Socialism in the eyes of the popular masses. Such is, above all, the policy of the yellow press of Hearst. From this certain radical bigots draw the conclusion that it is necessary to give up all revelations and to keep silent. As if it were a question of revelations not of the trials themselves! Is if the danger were in the medical diagnosis not in the disease which gnaws continually at the organism?

"Down with bigotry! The curse for social ill begins with the rank expression of that which is. It is impossible to erase the Moscow trials from history. They did not fall from the sky. They were not invented by Stalin. They were engendered by the interests and spirit of a parasitic caste which menaces all the grandest conquests of the Revolution and which, at the same time, through the Comintern causes demoralization of the workers movement of the whole world. It is precisely to protect the toiling masses from despair and to save the honor of Socialism and its future that the workers must learn to distinguish clearly the profound internal contradictions of the Soviet Union, its great conquests and its barbarous heritage. Its Socialist possibilities and its social sores."

The Soviet bureaucracy says, "We are the State, we are Socialism." World reaction on its part tries to present the crimes of the bureaucracy as the crimes of Socialism. We revolutionists, Marxists, say, "The bureaucracy is not the revolution but a diseased excretion of the Revolution."

"The cause of this growth lies in the isolation of the Soviet Union,

"The people can be helped only by truth!"

"Citizens and Friends, demand imperatively the creation of an International Commission of Inquiry. Support it with all your strength."

"Down with the poison of falsehood!"

"Down with frameups! Long live truth! Long live Socialism!"

More Prominent Liberals Join Defense Of Trotsky

The American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky, headed by such distinguished figures in American public life as John Dewey and Norman Thomas, is continuing its campaign for the organization of an impartial commission of inquiry on the Moscow Trials.

During the past two weeks new names of outstanding prominence in the worlds of literature, art, science, jurisprudence and liberal thought have been added to the committee.

The organized campaign of the Stalinists and their allies to blackmail the members of the committee into resigning and to hound them into silence appears now to have met with dismal failure.

One of the principal methods to force resignations has been to bombard the members with telegrams, delegations and telephone calls around midnight (GPU fashion), in order to make life intolerable for the victims, especially those in poor health or advanced in years.

Although a half dozen or so succumbed to the hounding campaign and brought freedom from further molestation by resigning, the great majority are reacting to a more determined and active participation in the work of the committee. At the same time the membership of the committee has increased from 70 to more than 100.

Among the new members are Prof. Franz Boas; Sidney Howard, the playwright; and James Casey, former managing editor of the Daily Worker.

Professors John Dewey and Horace M. Kallen have issued the following statement:

Statement of John Dewey And Horace M. Kallen

During the past week a number of us have been called on the telephone, visited by friends and received letters, urging us to resign from the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky. The pressure exercised upon us, however devout in intention and disinterested in motive, involves so profound a misunderstanding of the reasons that led us to accept membership on the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky.

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We have no concern whatsoever with Leon Trotsky's political views in this connection; nor are we interested in prejudging the question of the truth or falsity of the charges made against him. Our sole concern is to secure for him those plain human rights before the court of public opinion and under the law of the land to which, according to immemorial liberal tradition, all people in similar circumstances are entitled. Were Stalin in the same precarious position, we would just as willingly defend his right to be heard before being adjudged guilty or innocent. The fundamental issues involved are far more important than those which specifically concern Trotsky, for if the right to lay his case before the world is denied him, the rights of all others are im-

The Terrible Story Of America's Sharecroppers

A Socialist Who Knows The Facts Paints A Graphic Picture

By J. C. THOMPSON.

Farm tenantry is increasing more rapidly in the Southern and Western States than anywhere else. Most of the investigators with the approval of the New Deal Administration come from New York, Washington, Chicago, and other large cities of the East with no knowledge of farming except that learned from bulletins. The few who really reach the cotton belt seldom get closer to the tenant farmer than the local banker, or the local Chamber of Commerce. In view of these facts it is not to be wondered at that their reports of conditions and their proffered remedies are most ludicrous.

We read, for instance, a report from one writer who laments the fact that the poor tenant farmers of the South "had to labor 12 hours a day, picking cotton, under the burning sun of June for a wage of only 50 cents per day."

Now cotton is never picked in June. Neither is the cotton picker paid a daily wage. Cotton picking is always paid at a hundred pound rate. It is always picked during the summer and the fall months.

FACTS AT THE SCENE.

I happen to have been reared on a cotton farm and to have made a share-crop. I assisted in the organization of some 20,000 Arkansas cotton farmers into the Arkansas branch of the Farm-Labor Union of America soon after the World War and was their State president for five years—1921 to 1925, inclusive. While doing this work I lived with the farmers. I slept in their homes. I ate at their tables. I talked with them, and studied their problems. With them I attended their religious meetings. I lectured to them in their school houses. I helped them to fight their economic and political battles. I think I can qualify as one who understands the wants and needs of the cotton farmers.

I visited the Mississippi Delta section of Arkansas from October 1932 to April 1932, making a quiet study of the much publicized share-croppers' problems. This study further convinces me that the New Dealers either do not understand the farm tenant problem or have not the courage to go to the root of this evil.

The wise preacher, if he wants to hold his job there, avoid the lash and stay out of jail, will stick to such texts as the following:

"Servants be obedient to your masters;" "Be obedient to the powers that be; for they are ordained of God;" "The meek shall inherit the earth." (The preacher must explain that this means after death). There are many others that are safe, sane, and sound for the preacher. Of course only preachers with "sound doctrines" preach more than one or two sermons.

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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY STATE CONVENTION

Socialist Party Of California Recommends Revolutionary Program To National Convention

The Socialist Party And The Peoples' Front

The Socialist Party of California declares its opposition to all forms of class collaboration and particularly to the policy and practices of the People's Front.

Throughout working class history, the policy of class collaboration and coalition government has demonstrated its anti-revolutionary character and has resulted in disaster for the working class.

In the present period of capitalism decline, advocates of the People's Front who pretend to speak for the working class—and by these we mean, primarily, the Communist Party—gloss over the real nature of such coalitions and attempt to justify them as a necessary weapon of defense against Fascism.

But the policy of the People's Front can offer no adequate defense against Fascism since its purpose is the maintenance and rehabilitation of a system which inevitably breeds fascism. In the People's Front, as in any form of class collaboration, the working class abandons its own revolutionary struggle and accepts the program of its "democratic" allies. Instead of mobilizing large sections of the middle class under working class leadership in the struggle against fascism, it mobilizes the working class in defense of the capitalist state.

The policy of the People's Front, whether expressed in inter-class political alliances in general or in coalition governments, hinders and side-tracks the independent struggle of the working class for its own objectives. The policies of any such inter-class combination are dominated by its most conservative elements. In France, for example, the People's Front has tied the workers in the Socialist and Communist ranks to the middle-class Radical Socialist Party and through it to French imperialism. It has prevented the workers from consolidating their own strength and from preparing their own ranks for the seizure of power, while it has done nothing to check the spread of Fascism among the middle classes. It has sent troops and police against striking workers, suppressed revolutionary journals, established compulsory arbitration and made Leon Blum the initiator of a so-called non-intervention pact which boycotts aid to the Spanish workers.

In Spain the People's Front Policy has been even more disastrous. Though supported by all the workers' parties when it took power and deriving its actual strength from these parties, the government, interested only in maintaining the status quo, soon found itself forced to send troops against peasants and striking workers, to censor the working class press, forestall the arming of workers and peasants in the face of a rising fascist threat. When the Fascists struck under Franco, only the resistance

of the workers themselves prevented a compromise with the Fascists and compelled the arming of the people. During the past six months of civil war, the entry of all the working class parties into the People's Front government has made impossible the rising of these political slugs which would solidify the ranks of the workers and peasants and undermine the morale of the Fascist armies.

7. Socialist members in the trade unions are duty bound to take active part in the work of the organizations, to be in the front line in all strikes and other struggles and thus to demonstrate to the trade unionists in action that the Socialists are real defenders of the interests of the workers in deed as well as in word. Socialists cannot in any case confine their educational work to abstract propaganda, but by their actual participation in the struggles of the workers help them to learn the logic of socialist ideas in action.

8. Socialist Party members in trade unions and all other mass organizations of the workers must co-operate and work together unitedly under the general direction of the Party and for the furtherance of the Party's policies. Socialist Leagues in the unions must be democratically organized and give free play for the expression of individual opinions. Once a decision is arrived at, however, and approved by the Party, all members are obligated to carry out the decision in the trade unions.

Socialist Leagues in the unions are not party units but are subordinate to the regular organization of the party, having jurisdiction in the particular case. While the Socialist Leagues are obligated to observe party discipline and to carry out the decisions of the party, the party organizations on their part must exercise special care to avoid arbitrary interference and bureaucratic direction of the Socialist Leagues in the unions.

9. In the struggle for the revolutionary development of the unions, the Socialists co-operate with all genuine militants and progressives and strive to work unitedly with them for all measures which advance the interests of the unions. Wherever feasible and possible, the Socialists favor the organization of broad groups of progressive trade unionists to advance progressive programs and participate in such groups.

United Front Resolution

For many years the Socialist Party was bombarded by the Communist Party with various united front appeals. Despite tremendous pressure from the Old Guard in the days before the Cleveland Convention against any joint action whatever with the Communists, the genuine and sincere desire for united working class action on the part of many Socialists resulted in various sporadic united fronts. Within these united fronts as a rule, however, the Socialists, undisciplined and lacking any clear-cut policy, were at the mercy of Communist maneuvering.

Today, however, the Socialist Party is emerging as a united and disciplined organization and is the only party standing for industrial unionism within the framework of a United A. F. of L. The Party cannot under any circumstances sanction the abandonment of the first for industrial unionism or its outspoken support of the C. I. O. under specious arguments for "unity" which are advanced insincerely by the opponents of progressive and militant industrial union methods. If the provocations of the craft union bureaucrats, and the violations of trade union democracy, force the present conflict to a formal split in the labor movement, the Socialist Party will support the C. I. O. At the same time it will continue to work for the restoration of unity in the entire movement and oppose splits in separate craft union internationals in all cases where the overwhelming majority is not clearly ready to take the path of industrial organization.

5. In the trade unions the Party works unceasingly to educate the rank and file of the workers to the necessity of adopting Socialism as the goal of their struggle and in all their activities advocates the policy of class struggle and opposes the policy of class collaboration.

6. Trade union democracy is an absolute prerequisite for the healthy development of the labor movement and the unfettered expression of the initiative of the rank and file. The Socialist Party is the champion trade union democracy and the irreconcilable opponent of all attempts and maneuvers to eliminate it or restrict it and to concentrate the power of the labor movement in the hands of a bu-

Trade Union Resolution

The main points of Socialist Trade Union policy are the following:

1. The organization of the workers on the economic field into strong and effective unions is a prime necessity in order to enable the workers to defend their day to day interests in the struggle against the exploiters and to develop the power, self-reliance and organization necessary for the eventual overthrow of the capitalist system and the establishment of a socialist society. The Socialist Party co-operates closely with the trade unions at every stage of their development, works loyalty and constructively within them in order to build them up, improve their solidarity and at all times aids and defends the trade unions in their struggles.

2. In order for the unions to cope effectively with the exploiters of labor, they must have unity in their own ranks. The Socialist Party opposes all splits and divisions in the trade movement, and whenever such splits occur always works to the best of its ability to overcome the division and to restore unity.

3. The modern development of industry renders antiquated craft organization ineffective in the conflict with capital in modern trusts. Especially is this the case in the mass production industries. The Socialist Party vigorously supports the industrial union form of organization and advocates this idea within all the established trade unions.

4. It follows from this that the Party cannot be neutral in the great dispute now raging in the labor movement between the craft union bureaucracy and the forces

Resolutions on Labor and Farmer Labor Parties

MAJORITY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Only a revolutionary Socialist Party can successfully lead and organize the working class for the successful resistance to the onslaught of fascism and reaction; and,

WHEREAS, Only a revolutionary Socialist Party can mobilize and lead the working class towards the establishment of a workers state; and,

WHEREAS, A Labor Party or Farmer-Labor Party can by its nature and every practical consideration of American politics be nothing more than a reformist party and is therefore incapable of solving the fundamental problems facing the working class today; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Socialist Party, as a party cannot take the responsibility of launching a Labor or Farmer-Labor party, and further be it

RESOLVED, That whether the Socialist Party, as a party is to join the Labor Party once it is formed or not to join such a party is purely a practical consideration which can only be decided when the Labor Party is ac-

Party Organization

In the Cleveland Convention of May 1936, the membership of the Socialist Party through its elected delegates, registered a decisive break with the theories and practice of social democracy and set for itself the task of re-building the Party as an effective instrument of revolutionary struggle. The subsequent desertion of various social democratic groups, unwilling to accept that decision, has clarified the Party's position during the past year. This new position involves organizational as well as theoretical changes. The Party cannot function as an effective, disciplined instrument while its organizational structure continues to be that of a loosely organized propaganda society or a federation of autonomous groups, each following its own line.

The need for a more highly centralized and disciplined national organization has been obvious for many years. However, centralization of authority on a national basis without complete internal democracy and freedom of discussion can easily degenerate into bureaucratic control. The Communist Party furnishes us with an excellent example of such degeneration and of how the phrase "democratic centralism" can be used to mask a monolithic organization.

The highest authority in an aggressive revolutionary party must be the will of the membership expressed through its duly elected delegates at National Conventions or through referendum vote between conventions. Such a party demands a National Executive Committee or representative party members who are themselves active participants in party work. It should be the function of this Committee, not merely to handle routine work between conventions but to translate into activity the decisions and policies laid down by the party conventions; to initiate and co-ordinate party work on a national scale; to enforce discipline among the party machinery on the principle of capacity to pay and not solely on flat rate membership dues. While the income tax plan of financing is difficult to initiate, provisions should be made for impressing upon the membership the necessity of this voluntary obligation to their part. Instead of periodic appeals for funds for miscellaneous purposes, the National Organization should lay out an annual budget covering all estimated requirements, apportioning and submitting this to the various state organizations, which in turn will budget their requirements, including the national obligation, and likewise apportioning and submitting same to the locals and branches. This plan shall be considered supplementary to the present regular dues payment.

(c) To overcome in part the present lack of field organizers, steps should be taken to organize the work of those members who are willing to volunteer their time for work in the field.

(f) One red-special sound truck should be allocated for full-time work in the west.

(g) To improve and coordinate trade union work by the Party, trade union conferences of Party members of particular sections shall be called whenever necessary.

tually formed.

The main energy must be shifted towards the building of a strong revolutionary party which working within the structure of a Labor Party or outside of it, will retain its independence, its program and fight unyieldingly and unceasingly for its revolutionary ideas and program.

MINORITY RESOLUTION

It is the object of the Socialist Party to organize the working class of the United States into a class conscious, revolutionary political party for the overthrow of the present social and economical order, the taking of power by the working class and the establishment of a classless society. The primary object of every Socialist must be to build the Socialist Party for the fulfillment of this function.

If, however, the organized workers, independent of our desires, should form a bona fide working class party, independent of the parties of capitalism, the S. P. will co-operate with such an organization or enter it as an organized Socialist unit, without surrender of

its own basic program. The Socialist Party will function within such an organization as it does within any other form of united front with working class elements which do not accept its full program.

In the event of a labor party sentiment arising directly within the trade union movement itself, some guidance is necessary for the conduct of Socialist Party trade unionists in relation to such a movement.

Trade union members of the Party have a definite function to perform—the winning of the workers in their organization to a revolutionary socialist position. It is not their task to give an impetus to the formation of a labor party. They must, however, maintain a systematic and positive position to ward independent political action on the part of the labor movement in order that they may gain a hearing in the councils of such a movement and retain the confidence of the progressive labor elements which may be behind it. They must do everything in their power to prevent such a party from becoming the football of labor politicians or a classless People's Front alignment. They must at attempt through their Socialist Leagues within the Labor movement to orient it toward a positive class-struggle program, while continuing to point out the need for a definitive revolutionary position.

When it becomes apparent to the mass of the workers that a more labor Party cannot solve their problems, the Socialist Party will stand to gain the support and confidence of the workers only to the extent that is membership, particularly in the trade unions, have taken an active, loyal, but consistently Socialist position both in the unions and in the Labor Party itself.

Garment Workers Strike Sheba Ann

DALLAS, Texas—Charging that they were paid wages as low as \$4 for a 44-hour week and that they were discharged for joining a union, employees of the Sheba Ann dress factory went on their third strike within a month. They demand a 35-hour week, basic minimum wages of \$18.90, and recognition of the International Ladies Garment Workers as their bargaining agent.

(d) Steps shall be taken toward financing the party machinery on the principle of capacity to pay and not solely on flat rate membership dues. While the income tax plan of financing is difficult to initiate, provisions should be made for impressing upon the membership the necessity of this voluntary obligation to their part. Instead of periodic appeals for funds for miscellaneous purposes, the National Organization should lay out an annual budget covering all estimated requirements, apportioning and submitting this to the various state organizations, which in turn will budget their requirements, including the national obligation, and likewise apportioning and submitting same to the locals and branches. This plan shall be considered supplementary to the present regular dues payment.

(e) The secretaries of the National Executive sub-committees shall continually supervise and guide socialist work within mass organizations, in close harmony with and only after due consultation with the local organized party bodies working within those mass organizations.

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(g) To improve and coordinate trade union work by the Party, trade union conferences of Party members of particular sections shall be called whenever necessary.

Football Headgear For Ohio Strikers

WOOSTER, Ohio—Shoulder pads and football headgear for protection from the blows of police clubs—that was the novel innovation introduced to the picket lines thrown about the gas wells and pipe lines by the Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers of America.

Militant rubber workers, fresh from their battles at Akron, reinforced the strikers, helping them in their effort to gain maximum concessions from the oil bosses.

Houston Grand Jury Whitewashes Police

HOUSTON, Texas—Despite beating and gassing more than 150 striking seamen in this port last December 24, police forces were cleared by a grand jury which refused to consider charges of aggravated assault filed by attorneys for the strikers against seven of the thugs who led in the armed attack upon pickets peacefully guarding the waterfront.

Concession Gained By Meat Packers

CALGARY, Canada—Demanding union recognition and higher wage rates, strikers of the Union Meat Packing Company refused to return to work until a conciliation board was appointed to consider their grievances. When the board had been appointed, they agreed to return, pending consideration of their basic demands.

"The purpose of the program," said a formal statement by the League's national officers, disclosing the real motivation for its participation, "will be to show the nation that labor is behind the President today, as it was during his election campaign."

"Labor's Non-Partisan League stands solidly behind the President," states the organization, levelling its heaviest artillery 100 per cent for capitalist democracy in the first major campaign since the election designed to demonstrate its true reason for existence. Coincident with the League's re-

sumption of campaigning on a national scale, additional State branches are perfecting plans for permanent organization.

accepted into membership in the Socialist Party of California have been given full and free opportunity to participate in the work and they have worked loyally and constructively in its ranks. They have made substantial contributions to the Party's activities and are necessary for its future development as a revolutionary force.

The Socialist Party of California contemptuously rejects the demand of the Communist Party that they be expelled and states, on the contrary, that they are to remain in our ranks with the same rights and duties as other members of the party without discriminations and without special privileges. The Socialist Party of California categorically instructs the California delegates to the National Convention to take a firm and uncompromising stand in the sense of this resolution.

Socialism and War

(Passed Unanimously)

All the devices of capitalism to maintain peace in the post-war era have failed. Capitalist peace plans are only covers for new war preparations. The Socialist Party reaffirms its historic stand of opposition to any war in which the government engages. The next war will be one of imperialist interest on both sides.

Once again the workers in the imperialist countries are being misled by the pretext that the next war will be one of democratic versus fascist nations. No capitalist war, no capitalist device, can be a basis for a policy of peace. Only when the workers take political and economic power into their own hands in the great nations of the earth will the world have a sound basis of lasting peace.

The dangers of war and fascism must be fought simultaneously as the products of capitalist nationalism. Uncompromising struggle against all capitalist states, both before and after war is declared is the only method of fighting imperialism and the threat of fascism here and abroad. Just as fascism intensifies the danger of war, so the coming of war hastens the coming of fascism. Dictatorial military rule is the normal attendant of all capitalist wars, and this is necessarily exaggerated in the present era of capitalist decay and fascist reaction.

The Soviet Union, surrounded by capitalist enemies, is in constant danger of imperialist attack and all class-conscious workers must be prepared to defend the Soviet Union against such attacks.

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"Non-Partisan" League Again Pledges Capitalist Solidarity

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Under the slogan, "PREVENT ANOTHER DEPRESSION," Labor's Non-Partisan League plunged into the Roosevelt campaign to "Get the Nine Old Men," circularizing its entire membership and bombarding the nation's labor

press with propaganda lauding Roosevelt, the Constitution, and the preservation of capitalist democracy through increasing the number of judges on the Supreme Court.

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L. Glantz.

DENVER SCHOOL

The first of a regular series of "School for Socialists" opened in State Headquarters room Monday night, February 1, under auspices of the Educational Committee of Local Denver. Comrade Harley Murray is instructor and it is expected attendance at the classes will grow as his ability as an instructor becomes known throughout Socialist and liberal circles of the city. The Educational Committee of Local Denver is composed of Comrades I. W. Holland, John O. Moore and H. L. Glantz.

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The Supreme Court

We have nothing against any plan to "liberalize" the United States Supreme Court. But we are one hundred per cent against the ridiculous illusion that the addition of a half dozen more exponents of the capitalist system to that judicial body will do away with the class struggle or materially affect the relationship between the workers and their exploiters in any way whatever.

The Supreme Court, like all other political and judicial institutions in modern society, is a class instrument, pure and simple. The conservative attitude of the court is not derived fundamentally from its composition, nor from the age of its incumbents, but from the nature of its essential function as a protecting barrier of the system of private property and private profit. Roosevelt, the "reformer," avowedly stands for the maintenance of that system just as ardently as do the nine old men on the Supreme Court bench. The quarrel between them is merely this: What is the best, most effective and economical way to protect the system of private property in the impending social storms?

The whole dispute is essentially the affair of the rulers of America and their political representatives. To us it appears that Roosevelt, with his liberal demagogery and his policy of minor concessions to take the edge off the harsh collisions of the classes, is a more effective champion of the capitalist cause than the nine old fossils muttering into their beards. The most wide-awake and far-sighted elements of the money crowd think so too. That is why they supported him in the last election—along with the labor leaders, the old guard Socialists, the Communists and the great mass of duped workers.

But our concern, the concern of the working class, is not at all with oiling the machinery of exploitation in order to make it function more smoothly and effectively. Theory and experience alike teach us that not even the meanest, most miserly concessions are to be wrested from the exploiters without the most determined struggle. And a genuine rectification of the gross inequalities and injustices of capitalism is to be attained only by the development of these struggles to their logical and inevitable climax—the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism.

A "liberal" Supreme Court can't and won't aid these struggles. And a "reactionary" Supreme Court can't stop them. The question is solely a question of power. The development of the workers' power to attain their historic aims—the abolition of capitalism and all its institutions, including the Supreme Court—that is the real business of the intelligent workers.

Let the bosses and their dupes argue the fine points of judicial reform. What the American workers need is a revolution.

"July Days" in Spain

The Spanish Revolution has entered its "July Days." That is the entire meaning of the attempt to suppress the Workers' Party of Marxist Unity (POUM) and the Syndicalist Labor Federation (CNT).

The campaign of vilification and slander against all those in Spain who stand for the workers' rule as the goal of the struggle had its counterpart in Russia in July, 1917. The parallel is striking. The situation and

the methods are duplicated. Even the slander—"German agents"—is repeated verbatim.

In July, 1917, the Russian edition of the Peoples Front government, headed by Kerensky, was in power. They seized the first opportunity, when the workers' movement showed weakness to open up a slanderous attack on the Bolsheviks. They also had "facts" (the "sealed train"), just as the Stalinists today have "facts" (The Moscow Trial Confessions). They "proved" that Lenin was a German agent by the fact that he came to Russia thru Germany in a sealed train. Tens of hundreds of newspaper articles and speeches were delivered in a frenzied attempt to bury the workers revolution vanguard under a landslide of slander. In those days the slander factory was operated by the Mensheviks. Today it is operated by the former Bolsheviks—the Stalinists. Everything else is the same.

In the month of July, "the month of the great slander," the capitalists of Russia and their lackeys, succeeded in driving the Bolsheviks underground. Lenin went into hiding. Trotsky was put in jail. The workers' cause hung in the balance. But the revolution triumphed over the slanderers. July was followed by October and the workers' victory.

These are crucial days in Spain. Simultaneously with the campaign to exterminate the revolutionaries, the move to dissolve the workers' militia and disarm the workers' organizations is taking place. Instead of the revolutionary task of building the workers' militia and arming the people the Stalinists have substituted for themselves the task of disarming the militia and building a centralized army which can become the instrument of the Spanish bourgeoisie against the workers.

Every class conscious worker must raise his voice in protest against the attack on the POUM and the CNT. That is an attack on the Spanish and the world revolution. Every other explanation is a fraud and a lie.

The Spanish workers' revolution must not be buried by the treachery of the Stalinists. The fascist beasts must be driven back by a united working class. The vicious plan to dismember Spain must be defeated. The Spanish revolutionaries must be protected and defended.

Sit Down Strikes

The surging wave of strikes which followed the successful conclusion of the conflict with General Motors can be ascribed basically to rise in the rate of profit due to the upswing in the economic cycle. But its generation at this particular time with its utilization of the particular technique of the sit down tactic, can be ascribed to the heartening example of the French sit down strikes of last summer and their successful duplication in the United States, principally by the rubber workers. As a matter of fact it is an open question whether this technique was primarily developed in France or at Akron, Ohio, but its first large scale use came in the titanic strikes of the French workers when the Blum government took over the task of preserving class harmony.

The success of the strike comes from two factors, the quickness with which it may be called in a particular section of a line and the difficulty to displace the strikers with scabs. If discrimination occurs against a worker, one small unit of a line sits down immediately, paralyzing a whole factory. The suddenness prevents the boss from preparing for it. The costliness of the shut down over a minor issue brings him quickly to terms. If the boss attempts wholesale discrimination, or if a major issue such as wages, hours, or union recognition demands strike action, then the workers simply stay at their posts, guarding their jobs and the machines, practising that rigid self-discipline which amazes only the owners and the decadent circles clinging to them.

The effectiveness of the sit down strike technique is graphically established by the flood of editorial demands that the sit down technique be declared illegal.

The workers will know how to answer this threat from their exploiters with the same militancy which has sprung from boss after boss across the nation a grudging share of the inflated profits an upswing in the economic cycle has brought them.

PEARLS FROM THE PRESS

By CARL O'SHEA

A southern clergyman says (quoted from New Republic): "The rich would become too smug without poverty around to remind them of their duties to the poor, but they are on the other hand an incentive to the poor to better their conditions."—Yes, if it weren't for the rich pots hanging around, I'd never think of eating or wearing clothes or sleeping in houses. And we sure don't want the rich to get smug about life, do we, boys?

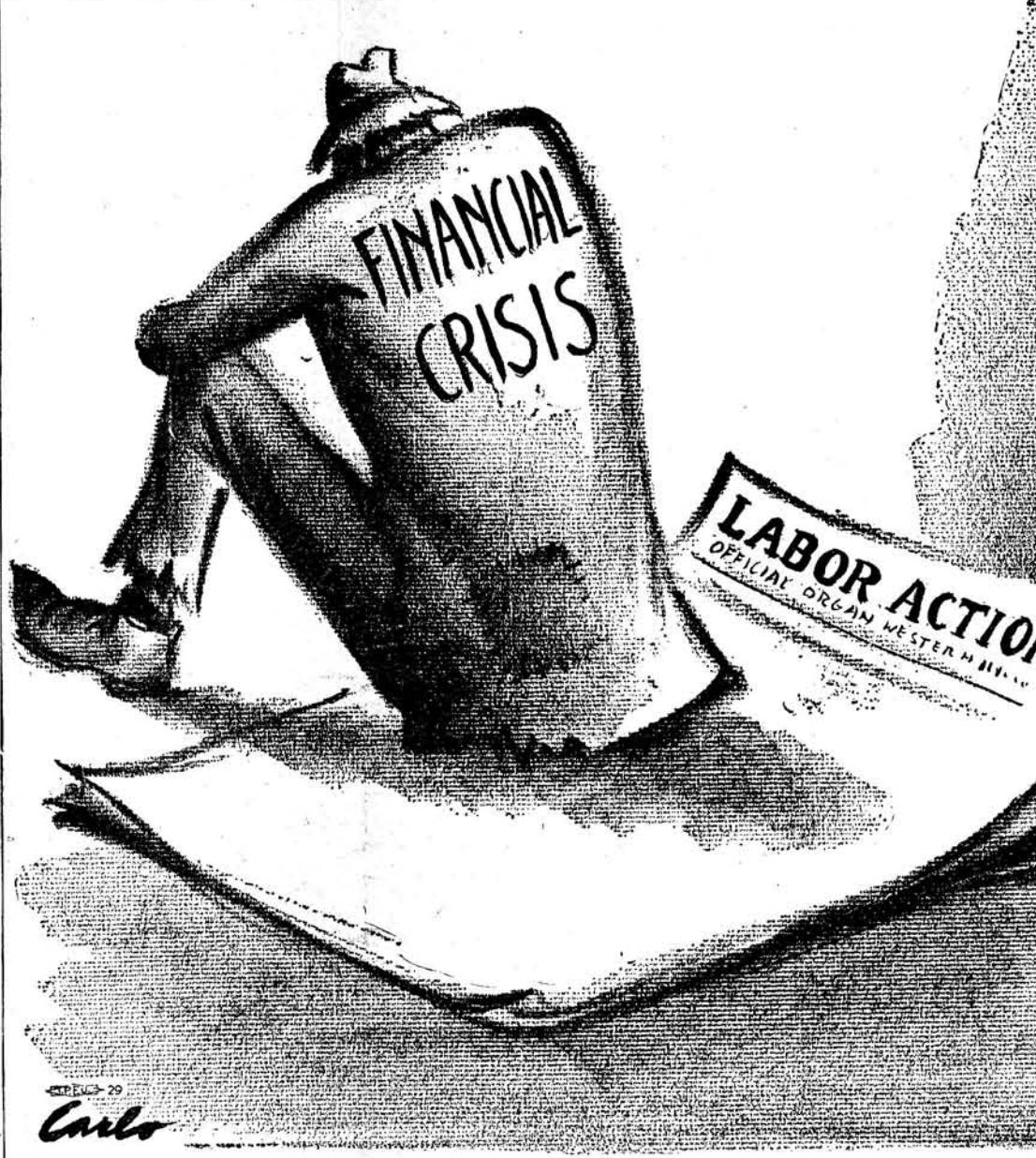
Jay C. Hormel, in the American Legion Monthly: "Whoever originated the idea the employees and employers have their interests necessarily opposed has a lot to answer for when he comes to judgment."—Hormel's got us. For instance, the more money that a company pays out in dividends, the more there is left over for wages. The longer and faster the assembly line runs, the happier the boss is, the more the workers like it. The rich and the poor benefit alike.

 From the *National Republic*

"We must remember that many Communists vote for 'liberal' candidates on other party tickets, believing that by so doing they can disrupt the legislatures."—At that, it's a sounder theory than Popular Frontism.

Washington headline: "F. R. CITES HARMONIOUS RELATIONS IN SOUTH AMERICA AS WORLD EXAMPLE."—That cannot you hear booming in the background is the American marines landing in Nicaragua, the American warships off the coast of Cuba, and Bolivia and Paraguay mopping up on one another for the greater glory of dear old Standard Oil.

Soothing Thought from the Christian Science Monitor: "But, though bombing planes roar overhead, in much of Spain the cows still go to pasture, the peasants still pray, the fires of home still draw the circle closer at eventide."

Stop This Sit-Down Strike! / By Carlo

Bill Green
Denounced
By Miners
Arch Labor Faker
Attacked Auto
Settlement

The storm of protest rising from the attack on the settlement terms of the General Motors strike by William Green, arch labor-faker and President of the A. F. of L., culminated in a move for his expulsion from the ranks of the United Mine Workers.

The miners' policy committee adopted a resolution declaring that Green "did everything in his power to assist General Motors in their efforts to divide, destroy, and render impotent the United Automobile Workers and those associated with them in their effort to inaugurate collective bargaining and economic justice in that industry," and called for his immediate expulsion from the union.

Green charged the committee and the union's leader, John L. Lewis, with "Hitlerism" and promised to

Family Faces
Prison Term
Roosevelt
Composes
Crop Plan
Tells Congress Insurance Is
Solution To Rural
Unemployment

ROCHESTER, Minn.—Without work, without relief, starving, James V. Murphy, his wife, and children were arrested and charged with burglary, disorderly conduct, and maintaining a nuisance. His children were taken away and consigned to a welfare agency while he and his wife face, without money, the charges filed against them.

His crime: shoving open the door of a janitor's supply room in the Olmstead courthouse and starting a sit-down strike with his family to enforce his demand for food.

Washington, D. C.—The terrible misery in rural areas arising from the complete inability of land owners to provide even a minimum share of the food crops for their wage-slaves, was reflected in the proposal of President Roosevelt to Congress last week that crops be insured and reserves stored, beginning with wheat in 1938.

Such a policy, according to the president, would contribute to the security of business and improve the unemployment situation as well.

The policy, said President Roosevelt, "must include the conservation of soil and water, better land use, increased farm income, and alleviation of distress."

Nothing was embodied in the proposal concerning the distress agricultural workers have suffered from tear gas and clubs of thugs under Roosevelt's dictatorship, or the distress of agricultural strikers who have been herded like Nazi political dissenters into the jails existing under Roosevelt's famous New Deal. Roosevelt indicated no solution for the unending misery of the Southern sharecroppers over whom he sheds his fatherly tears.

Washington, D. C.—Little more than a pious expression of concern over the plight of between 25,000,000 and 30,000,000 of this country's agricultural population, was the characterization applied to the report of President Roosevelt's farm tenancy committee by Gardner Jackson, chairman of the National Committee on Rural Social Planning. Jackson held the report was a cause for hope only if it were implemented by effective legislation sympathetic from "top to bottom."

"PIOUS CONCERN"

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Furniture Workers
Win At Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS—Winning a 7-day strike against the Grain King Company, members of the Furniture Workers Union, Local 1859, returned to work with a signed contract guaranteeing strict seniority, a minimum wage of 45 cents an hour, a 44-hour week, and time and a half for overtime.

The wage question will be re-opened in July when the union expects to secure a further increase in wages.

Illinois Technicians
Gain Pay Increases

CHICAGO, Ill.—Pay increases of \$10 to \$70 a month, pay for overtime, dismissal notice with pay and recognition of the office committee of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians was gained from the Universal Oil Products Company when the union proved through a labor board survey that the organization represented nearly 100 per cent of the company's employees.

 Fight the *Copeland Bill*
Sit-down Strikes
Challenge Owners

(Continued from Page 1)
 Detroit and the surrounding cities. Several plants manufacturing auto parts are closed, and the giant Timken Axle plant in Detroit, which supplies axles to Ford, General Motors and Chrysler, is the scene of sit down action.

FLOCK TO UNIONS

In Detroit, Flint, Lansing, Pontiac, and every other auto center, workers are flocking into the union ranks as a result of the GM strike. A demonstration of victorious strikers in Flint was the biggest celebration in the city's history.

SLANDER UNIONISTS

In other plants hostile foremen attempt to prove union men to be inefficient by putting them on work they are unaccustomed to performing.

Already GM is trying to foist an anti-union seniority plan on the workers, judging seniority by the position of the worker in the plant and by the number of dependents, fictitious or otherwise, that each man claims. In negotiations, the GM officials refuse to discuss conditions in any plants besides the 17 recognized, and denies the right of the UAW to press forward demands for the other 52 plants.

But the hard-won strike of the last two months has conclusively shown the way to organized strength, and the new upsurge of union consciousness throughout the nation will sweep away the chiseling machinations of the corporation bosses.

The first big battle in the campaign to organize the broad layers of the American working class has been won. The road is clear. It is the road of militant industrial unionism. The mounting wave of strike action throughout the nation proves that the road will be traveled.

PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS
Citizens of the Hospitals Lie in State

And still the veterans of the World War continue their sacrifices to make the world safe for democracy. In government hospitals they regularly reappear for further amputation of a gangrenous leg, for fresh re-opening of a belly wound, or for the regulation gray pine box (properly morticed according to government specifications) which the democracy covers with a free flag for its deceased warriors.

At military funerals the government provides a free bugler too, who will blow taps in regulation manner across the open grave of the man who died to make the world safe for democracy and the veteran's family sob as the corporal presents them with the neatly folded flag that covered the gray coffin.

Now there is a new generation, fresh, eager, virile. They face the same issues these war-torn citizens of hospitals faced. But the slogans have been altered just enough to make them as confusing as the slogans of 1918. Now they must do more than sacrifice their lives to PRESERVE PEACE. Now they must plunge into the bodies of fellow workers when they went over the top to make democracy safe from the attack of imperialist aggressor nations. They gave their lives for the democratic nations, the nations who are lovers of peace and who slaughter their workers to preserve peace.

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Now they do not need to fight to make the world safe for democracy. The issue is crystal clear. But they must prepare to join the PEACE LOVING NATIONS who are preparing at an ever-accelerated rate to DEFEND THEMSELVES AGAINST FASCIST AGGRESSOR NATIONS. Above all they must prepare to give their lives to make the world safe for PEACE, PROSPERITY, and THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.

As for those infantile leftists who would turn the imperialist conflict into civil war and level their guns at the capitalist executive committee no matter what its mask might be, they are to be driven from the ranks of humanity. They are the most horrible Judases in history. They are worse than SLACKERS, for SLACKERS only refused to fight. These infantile leftists are dangerous. They would destroy CAPITALISM. Their name is SOCIALIST.

400 Hosiery Workers Win
Sitdown For Union Wages

PHILADELPHIA, Penn.—Four hundred employees of the Brownhill and Kramer hosiery mill returned to work with union wage and hour scale after a 37-day sit-down strike. Future differences will be

settled by a shop committee of the union or possibly referred to Judge Lewis, chairman of Mayor Wilson's labor board.

The strike began when the company attempted to move its machinery to New Jersey in an attempt to avoid unionization of its

Mechanics Local Joins Auto
Workers; Secures Agreement

CLEVELAND, Ohio—Upon receiving its charter as Local No. 217 of the United Automobile Workers of America, former Local No. 5 of the Mechanics Educational Society

The agreement drawn up with the Eaton Detroit Metal Company provides for union recognition, seniority, time and a half for all overtime above eight hours a day and forty hours a week, time and a half for Saturday work and double time for Sunday work. The agreement also provides for a five cent hourly increase in all day rates and progressive increases on all piece rates.

The new local includes workers of the Eaton Detroit Metal Co., the Columbia Metal Stamping Co., the Globe Stamping Co., Modern Tool, Paramount Tool Co., Progressive Tool, Rockwell Mfg. Co.,