

# SOCIALIST NEWS

Official Organ of the Communist Party of Cleveland and Vicinity

Vol. V.

Price Two Cents

CLEVELAND, O., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1st. 1919.

No. 256

## Social Revolution Impending in Poverty-Stricken Italy

The Council of the Chamber of Labor in Rome, passed a resolution in opposition to the formation of a militarist-imperialist government in Italy, which says:

"The proletariat will descend into the streets, build barricades and sacrifice their lives rather than fall into the rapacious claws of a military imperialism."

To the outside world it may seem as though all Italy is fervently Nationalist. In the Nationalist ranks are arrayed the so-called "best people," the business men and nobility, and the Nationalist cause is supported by the capitalist press, the "leading" papers.

But there is another party, less noisy but more numerous, less apparent in action but the most powerful, the Communist of Italy. What D'Annunzio has done they, too, can do, and the breach he made in Italian military discipline can be broadened by them to the breaking point.

At present Italy is on the brink of social revolution, and the almost unprecedented expedient of calling the leaders of every party to a Crown Council was an eleventh hour attempt to find a course of action that would stem the tide of revolt. The greatest significance of D'Annunzio's coup lies not in disobedience to the Supreme Council — though that would be serious enough — but in the proof thus given of the weakness of the bonds of discipline in the Italian Army.

D'Annunzio's act precipitated a crisis that had been latent in Italy since the early Spring. Even before the war Italian finances were in bad shape and her industries shaky. Today the country is virtually bankrupt and the Government is resorting to the desperate measure of a levy on capital — an enforced loan — as the sole chance of staving off ruin. To the lack of money must be added the lack of wheat, meat and coal.

The capitalist government of the world know that D'Annunzio is "rocking the boat" in dangerous waters, they know that he is brandishing a torch in the powder magazine of Italian proletarian revolutionary activities. An explosion is bound to follow. This is the reason why the Supreme Council in Paris does not dare to interfere

and agree to leave the matter to the Government immediately concerned, because any interference by outsiders might start the conflagration of revolution which could only end by the workers of Italy organizing a Soviet form of government and demand all power to the workers like their brothers in Russia.

The immediate question that concerns the ruling class in Italy is not how to get D'Annunzio out of Fiume, or whether the city should be annexed or abandoned, but an agonized search for a path of safety in the storm that is about to break. As matters stand today the working class of Italy see very plainly that the ruling class is committed to a policy of imperialism, that neither puts fire in their stoves nor bread on their tables.

D'Annunzio has stamped the government along imperialistic lines. For the sake of what the workers regard as empty glory he has jeopardized the already scanty food supply. He has raised the flag of rebellion, in the interest of the imperialists and has got away with it. The workers are asking, "Is the future to be nothing but semistarvation, unbearable taxes, and militarism with its death and suffering for the many and honor and glory for the few?"

The Communists, too, have devoted adherents. They, too, can take the power into their own hands, establish their own government and destroy the present imperialistic state.

They may not be ready to strike yet. They may prefer to wait until the first pinch of cold and hunger has ripened the masses for revolt. But it is now that the decisions of the communists are being made, and the seeds of their action sown.

Premier Nitti and his associates on the Crown Council know it, as do the Capitalist-imperialist governments of the world, and it is that knowledge of the impending revolution in Italy that is causing them so much anxiety, for they know that with Italy in the hands of her proletariat, all the Balkans would raise the relief banner of Communism and march to the relief of their embattled brothers in Russia.

Speed the day.

THE WORKER

## The Coming of the Storm

By Robin Adair

Do you hear the workers toiling in the murky shaft of Fate?  
Heavens! listen to the thunder of the sound,  
Of a million whispered curses; a million thoughts of hate;  
A mottled stream of anger — underground.

Do you see the miner sweating, reeking naked to the loins,  
Oh, you pious bible-thumping Man of God?  
De you see his widow weeping by his body, Man of Coin,  
And his starving children, homeless at your nod?  
If the game is worth the candle,  
'Tisn't you who turns the handle;  
'Tisn't you who mans the windless — Man of God.

Oh listen to the echo in the stokehole and the mine,  
Of a million anguished voices all a-wail;  
By the railroad and the quarry, or midst the bush and pine,  
I the stockyard and the foundry and the jail.

Do you hear the spirits stirring in the graves of shattered hopes,  
Oh, you sooties, brass encrusted Man of Fat?  
Do you hear the clanging voices of the dead men in the stopes,  
And the whisper of the "blackleg" and the "rat"?  
Oh, its dividends and hampers,  
To the music of the campers;  
It is you Dame Fortune pampers — Man of Fat.

Do you hear the faint, far rustle in the tree tops on the peak?  
(How the murmur gathers volume as it nears)  
Do you hear it, Man of Mammon? You're the cursed thing they seek;  
'Tis your victims — and the tempest is their jeers.

Oh, just hearken to the howling and the shrieking of the blast!  
Hear the trump of Resurrection, Man of Cash!  
For the one who once was tyrant, shall be Serf in fetters fast,  
And the broken slaves of years shall ply the lash.  
Oh, its greed and niggard wages,  
Makes the coming gale that rages.  
Down the ghastly path of ages — Man of Cash!

## Declaration of The Communist Party In Regard To Unity.

To the Executive Secretary and the Members of the Communist Labor Party.

COMRADES:

This statement by the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party is in reply to your proposal of a conference between the two Executive Committees to see if there is some basis for uniting the two parties.

The Communist Party earnestly desires Communist Unity in the United States. While there are some elements represented in the organization of the Communist Labor Party which have not irrevocably severed themselves from the Socialist Party in principle, it is our belief that there are several thousand Communists who are now identified with this party because of the circumstances that their delegates at Chicago attended the Convention which created the Communist Labor Party. These comrades, perhaps five thousand in number, are particularly from the Western States, where there was not close contact with the Left Wing developments.

representatives of the Left Wing made every possible effort to head off the conscious scheme to create a third party. The National Left Wing Council made its appeals to the Left Wing delegates at the Socialist Party convention individually and collectively. In the caucus meetings of these delegates, before and after bolting the Socialist Party convention, Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg made repeated efforts, in behalf of Left Wing unity, to get effective action for united building of the one Communist Party. When these efforts were defeated, by a combination of those who were not yet fully decided upon a decisive break with the Socialist Party and those who had come to Chicago purposely to start a third party, and when a committee of the Communist Labor Party came over to offer merger to the Organization Committee of the Communist Party, the appeal was again made that the Communist Convention be given a chance to deal with these delegates as delegates, not as a "party", otherwise there could be no merger.

We have charged and we now insist that the organization of the Communist Labor Party was a deliberate act against Communist Unity, so far as the conscious manipulators of the situation were concerned. But we repeat that this charge only touches a minority of the delegates of the Communist Labor Convention. We repeat that the membership is in no way to blame for this outcome of events at Chicago.

In the Eastern States there are perhaps another five thousand of former members of the Socialist Party who have been left in a state of confusion because their delegates at Chicago took part in the formation of a third party. In this group however, it is not so clear that the members thus represented are ready for the decisive step from Socialism to Communism. In this respect the membership situation corresponds fairly accurately with the convention situation out of which the third party arose, since in the Communist Labor Party Convention were many delegates who had not before committed themselves to the formation of a new party.

It is important that in so far as there are Communist elements in the Communist Labor Party that there be unity of these elements with the Communist Party.

The question is as to the practical means to bring about unity. Will a conference between the two executive committees be of any use for this purpose?

We think not; and we believe that it is more to the point for our committee at once to lay down the basis for unity which would necessarily be our governing instructions in such conference.

The Communist Convention acted clearly and decisively at Chicago, with the sincere purpose of attaining fundamental Communist unity. We could not deal with the Communist Labor Party as a "party", though we were most eager to have with us the delegates in that convention who were representatives of Communist membership. It is unnecessary to review our proposals made at that time. Wherever presented fairly to the Communist membership, the action of our Convention has been approved.

At all stages preliminary to the creation of a third party, the official

A conference could add nothing to this statement.

We will accept Communist Labor Party branches as branches of the Communist Party, if these branches or locals accept our program and constitution. This will at once give the membership a "basis of equality" with the existing Communist units; and it will give this membership full opportunity to choose their preferred delegates for the June convention of the Communist Party. No elections or appointments in the Communist Party go beyond this June convention, so the membership will have every opportunity for sharing in the control of the party at this early date. There is also immediate recourse to referendum on any matter, or recall of any party official with every opportunity for discussion of party problems in the party press and its forums.

In order to avoid any embarrassment on account of work undertaken or expenses incurred, we offer to liquidate the national organization of the Communist Labor Party, to take over its work, liabilities and assets. This would absolve the Communist Labor Party membership from any responsibility incurred by having joined the third party.

For such purpose, we will be glad to appoint a special committee to meet with a similar committee of the Communist Labor Party, this joint committee to arrange for the liquidation

## Soviet Bureau Warns of Capitalist Press Lies on Russ "Defeats"

In connection with press reports on Russia, the Russian Soviet Bureau here issued the following statement:

In the interest of truth we find it necessary once again to warn the American public against placing too much faith in the present sensational press campaign depicting alleged anti-Soviet victories.

The total absence in the alleged news dispatches of official communications from the Soviet government is an additional reason for not taking the printed stories at their face value. It is admitted by every informed person that the Soviet government, with absolute frankness, keeps the world informed as to events in Russia, regardless of whether the news is favorable or unfavorable to the Soviet government.

The foreign office of Soviet Russia sends every day wireless communications containing such information. These communications daily reach the United States as well as other countries.

In most cases the news is never given out to the public except when it contains admission of some reverse. The fact that no such information is given out now clearly shows that alleged dispatches from London, Copenhagen, Stockholm and other notorious centers of lying propaganda against Soviet Russia do not state the facts of the situation.

against Soviet Russia by using as their tools nationalistic movements in Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia—on the other hand betraying these movements by seeking an alliance with the Baltic Junkers led by Von der Goltz, who are arch-enemies not only of Soviet Russia but of the nationalistic aspirations of the Baltic peoples.

**Peace Considered.**

Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia have no interest whatsoever to strengthen either the Russian counter-revolutionists or the Baltic barons, and so the result has been that these countries, in the interest of their very existence, have been seriously considering peace with Soviet Russia.

The situation in this respect has developed to the point where peace negotiations were to start at Dorpat, October 12, and they would have undoubtedly led to an understanding between these peoples and Soviet Russia.

If such a peace is reached, it is obvious that it will together destroy the British and French plan to starve Soviet Russia and to re-establish monarchy in that country. The main driving force of the present campaign against Russia is, therefore, nothing but a desperate attempt, at any cost, to prevent such rapprochement between Soviet Russia and the Baltic nations. But the campaign will not succeed. The Russian workers, as well as the working people in the Baltic provinces, understand full well the real significance of all these criminal machinations, and the Russian Soviet government is well prepared to thwart all attacks.

**Denikin's Straits Admitted.**

But, even on the face of such reports, which emanate from sources hostile to the Soviet government, it is obvious that there is not an irresistible advance of the counter-revolutionary forces. While it may be true that Orel has been taken by Denikin's forces, it is admitted in the same dispatches that Denikin's army is hard pressed on its right flank, having been compelled to abandon vast territories to the southeast of Orel, and it is known that Denikin's rear is menaced by revolts.

It is also admitted by opponents of Soviet Russia that Denikin is meeting with obstinate opposition and severe reverses not only in the territory around Kiev, but southwest and north of Kiev.

In view of these admitted facts the situation seems to be that Denikin's advance to Orel, where the Soviet government was not prepared to place sufficient forces in the field because of the more important general offensive against Denikin's right flank, is nothing but a panicky result of his being desperately pressed on both flanks.

This pressure may result in the encircling of such Denikin forces which have advanced along a narrow line to the north. They are obviously in imminent danger of being caught far away from their bases and thus face utter destruction.

**Reports Called Unreliable.**

The reports of the alleged advance of the counter-revolutionary forces in the north also are singularly untrustworthy. The only significant thing about this news is that it shows the boundless hypocrisy of the British pretensions of opposition to the German Baltic Junkers.

General Yudenitch, the commander of the so-called Northwestern Russian army, is nothing but a tool of Von der Goltz and other Baltic Junkers, who together with Russian reactionaries of Yudenitch, Denikin and Kolchak type are striving to re-establish monarchy in Russia.

Von der Goltz has been kept in the Baltic with the connivance of Britain. The British played a double game—on one hand trying to create a barrier

**Business Men Impatient.**

There is also another very important reason for the present campaign of lies, and especially for the desperate efforts on the part of certain Allied governments to extend the starvation blockade of Russia by asking Germany and remnants of Austria to join the blockade.

Many commercial interests have long ago lost their patience with the present Allied policy toward Soviet Russia which not only is bringing the Russian people untold suffering but also is quite insane from the point of view of commercial peace.

Within the past two months there have been definite steps taken by business men in many countries, and especially in America, to open trade with Soviet Russia. The efforts in this direction have reached a point where great pressure is being brought to bear on all governments with the view of opening trade relations. To thwart such negotiations, the present campaign of lies has been instituted.

**Workers Demand Peace.**

Finally, the laboring masses in Allied countries and in Germany are becoming more and more insistent in their demands that their rulers cease the criminal and senseless war against the Russian workers. This dissatisfaction has resulted in mass demonstrations everywhere, and refusals to load supplies for the Russian monarchists.

The lies wherewith such demonstrations have been answered are becoming stale, especially in view of the ever increasing ability of Soviet Russia. It, therefore, becomes necessary to create an impression of an impending downfall of the Russian republic and to simulate a "German menace," which in reality exists nowhere but in the acts of the Allies themselves.

We feel confident that the workers everywhere will not let themselves be deceived by such obviously false pro-

(Continued on page 2.)

## Quick Watson, The Needle!

DISCOVERED! THE ONE HAPPY FAMILY IN INDUSTRY! IT MUST BE SO BECAUSE THEY SAY SO!

"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen and waste its sweetness on the desert air", sang a poet long ago. Many have been the comments upon the fact that greatness is often hidden and may be found in places least expected. — But who would ever suspect that right here in Cleveland existed that which the presidents round table so earnestly sought, that which has been so earnestly sought by all the happy little fixers for the continuance of the Capitalist state — THE HAPPY FAMILY IN INDUSTRY?

Under a very pretty picture of a bourgeois mother and child, the following notice appears:

lations only on a much broader field. With all the policies of the company based on justice the reciprocation of your confidence to us is the first stepping stone to happiness fairness and the condition of equality that must exist with us all to become the one happy family in industry known as the American Multigraph Company. Signed Mr. Tom Wright Manager of the industrial relations department.

Upon inquiry as to wages paid in this happy family we were informed that we could become one of the family at any time and receive the magnificent wage of 40c an hour!

We had just been looking for a house to live in and knew something of the prices we would have to pay for house rent, we had just had an ordinary proletarian dinner and had paid 65c for it, and we had just looked over the price list current in Cleveland stores and we couldn't figure out how could make 40c an hour cover all the necessary expenses of just an ordinary decent living. We wanted to take advantage of the generous offer of Mr. Wright and have him help us straighten out "our personal industrial problems" including the problem of how to live on 40c an hour and still have at least six hours to sleep but alas it's a cruel world! Our knowledge of Communist economics butted in here and told us that Mr. Wright for all his good intention and generous offers couldn't do it!

YOU CANNOT BE ONE OF A HAPPY FAMILY ON A WAGE OF 40c AN HOUR!

## Honest Advertising

Only honest advertising is accepted by the Socialist News. The readers know it.

That makes the Socialist News a very good advertising medium. You will get results.

You may send your copy in rough draft. An advertising man will write it up and lay it out in a way that will give it force and individuality.

Let us run your advertisement next week.

# The Coal Strike

With the breakup of the conference between the coal mine operators and the miners, the coal strike is now definitely determined.

It is a remarkable situation that upon the verge of winter weather the industrial anarchists who own and operate the coal mines will deliberately refuse to pay living wages and inaugurate decent conditions in their mines and thereby impose nationwide suffering upon hundreds of thousands of people. In their anticratic determination to exploit to the limit 500,000 coal miners, the masters of the mines without batting an eyelash declare that the masses can freeze to death for all they care — profits and still greater profits is the goal.

The steel workers and the coal miners have rightly concluded that they cannot afford to temporize longer with the anarchist capitalists who are undermining the very foundations of society and destroying the fundamental principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for which our fathers fought and died.

In denying the rights of the workers to organize into trade unions, in refusing to deal with the organized workers, the anarchist capitalists are taking a position from which they must be dislodged permanently unless labor is to be thrown back into the servitude of the last century.

## And Now The House Labor Committee

WASHINGTON.—The working people should be congratulated. The House of Representatives Labor Committee announces that if the civil war between the capitalists and the workers is not settled by the end of the year the committee will take a hand in the matter and lock into the labor situation Congress has been in session nearly six months. Labor question after labor question has been prominently in the public eye. But the House labor committee has slumbered peacefully through it all with the exception of a perfunctory session when it reported out the Nolan—\$3.00 a day minimum wage bill for government employees. The continued sleep of the House Committee is a good illustration of the inherent incapacity and constituent impotency of capitalist legislators to perform any useful work in the day to day battles of the working class with their exploiters.

## PRISON NOCTURNE

By Ralph Chaplin  
Outside the storm is swishing to and fro:  
The wet wind hums its colorless refrain  
Against the walls and dripping bars,  
Beats with a rhythm like a song of woe.  
Dimmed by the lightning's ever fitful glow,  
The purple lamps blur each steaming pane;  
The thunder rumbles o'er the darkened plain;  
The cells are hushed and silent, row on row.

Fall, fruitful drops, upon the parching earth,  
Fall, and revive the living sap of spring;  
Blossom the fields with wonder once again,  
And in all hearts awaken to new birth  
Those visions and endeavors that will bring  
A fresh, sweet morning to the world of men!

When work came into the world, play was forced to depart and that moment marked the beginning of the physical decay of mankind.

# The Illegitimate Child Social Problem

Dr. Anna Moutet Tells of French Legal Aspect.

Ethics and morals do but reflect the economic needs of the class dominant in Society.

Note that now under The Economic Need of France for more slaves to exploit it is highly moral to give birth to an illegitimate child.

Speaking before the International Conference of Women Physicians and the representatives from national organizations of women now in session in New York city this week, Dr. Anna Moutet of Lyons, France, discussed "The Legal Aspect of Illegitimacy in France."

"In proportion to the development of the ideas of liberty, of justice, of humanity," said Dr. Moutet, "the law reflects the more tolerant opinion and broadens the rights of the illegitimate children. These reforms have not been obtained without great struggle and do not embrace the whole of the question. Nowhere is the situation more delicate than in a country like ours, imbued with ideals of liberty and respect for tradition, quickly admitting in theory the most daring ideals but, in fact, rejecting them, strongly attached to prejudices, particularly where these may touch upon the bourgeois morality and that of the family, especially among the lower classes, where opinion changes but slowly."

"So the new laws concern themselves less with the interest of the individual child and with abstract justice, which disapproves of the secondary place granted by society to illegitimate children than to consideration of an economic and natural character; and the most important laws are not civil but social laws."

"In a country the population of which is decreasing it is important above all to favor the rate of birth by every means, to do away with all obstacles in the protection of all children indiscriminately. The procreation of a child must no longer be held either as a disgrace or as a burden. The girl mother must be lifted, the prejudice which makes her an object of general censure must be combated, and if irregular birth is no longer a disgrace to the child neither must it be a dishonor to the mother."

"Now, she must find in society for herself and for her child the support which in the past was refused her. To attain this result the law has assured the protection of the child born out of wedlock; first, in creating a bond of right between him and his parents when that is possible, then in assisting the mother when she is alone and without resources, and finally, in taking full responsibility in rearing the child when the parents fail in their duty."

"Investigation as to maternity has under certain conditions always been permitted, and a law of the year 1912 has in a certain number of cases allowed investigation as to paternity, but the conditions under which these two acts may be enforced are almost prohibitive. In fact, investigation as to maternity may be made either by the child himself when he has become of age or by the father who has already recognized the child and who desires to make the mother share the

burden of his rearing. In most cases recognition on the father's part follows that of the mother, or takes place at the same time. It is extremely rare for the father alone to recognize the child and this disposition of the child is nearly inapplicable. As to the fixing of maternity by the child himself he must wait until he attains his majority. In other words, he must wait until he has been educated and is capable of following a trade and is in no further need of his parents. He does not begin action except when he finds he has rights of succession to be safeguarded."

"The determination of fatherhood by the law of 1912 fails to assure to the child both sufficient protection and sustenance and under conditions which a shrewd man, desiring to avoid the responsibilities of fatherhood, might always circumvent. A new law of 1915 allows the legitimization of children born in adultery, by marriage under certain conditions. Before this law children born in adultery could not be recognized legally, so that legitimization was impossible. Finally, the law of 1917 has provided for a limited period and under particular conditions for the legitimization of children whose father has died under mobilization since August 14, 1914, following wounds received or disease contracted or aggravated during his term of service under the flag, provided that there is shown from correspondence or reliable documentary evidence a willingness to marry the mother and to legitimize the offspring."

Dr. Moutet then gave a review of the laws affecting legitimacy of children and the laws for simplifying marriage. The measure for protecting girl mothers was then described and some report of aid to these was given.

"To sum up," Dr. Moutet concluded, "the legal situation of the illegitimate child, although considerably improved, leaves much to be desired. Without doubt the modern tendency, inspired by necessity, to protect the child by any means in a country in the throes of depopulation, is excellent. It is important to facilitate the legitimization of the irregular family; to leave the child in his environment when that is possible, to help the mother and to replace the family when it is lacking. This program has been in part realized, but there still remains a great deal to do in this domain. Too many children reared by their parents, but not recognized, are legally without family. The rights of the unrecognized children are too limited in comparison with those of the legitimate children and especially it is still too easy for parents to avoid their duty either partly or entirely."

"Laws regarding investigation as to fatherhood are too lax and characteristic and ought to be broadened even if they should disturb the peace of a few families whose egotism and false honor are respected at the expense of the interest of the child. It is necessary to facilitate marriage by legitimization still more. Any measure will be good which will assure every child equal rights and an equal place in the world."

## — DICTATED BY CONQUEST —

The judgment of Secretary of State Lansing on the Peace Treaty and League Covenant, as reported to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee by William C. Bullitt, is an exact confirmation of all that we have said about these precious documents. "The great powers," said Mr. Lansing, "have simply gone ahead and arranged the world to suit themselves. England and France particularly have gotten out of the Treaty everything that they wanted, and the League of Nations can do nothing to alter any of the unjust clauses of the Treaty except by unanimous consent of the members of the League, and the great powers will never give their consent to changes in the interests of weaker peoples." In other words, the Peace Treaty is a document dictated by the spirit not of reconciliation and freedom but of ruthless conquest; and the League Covenant is a pact aimed to secure not the peace of the world but the military and economic predominance of the five great powers, especially France in Europe and England on the seas. Incidentally, this statement is a smashing answer to those persons now contending that the Treaty should be ratified, and its unjust features left to be corrected by amendment through the League. It is difficult to believe that men who argue in this fashion can be honest, for if anything is certain it is that amendment of the Treaty for the correction of injustice is impossible. Every evil in the Treaty was dictated by the selfish interest of some one of the great powers. What chance is there of the particular power served by a particular evil — Japan by the Shantung award, let us say — voting to correct that evil? And yet without that vote no change can be effected, for amendment must be by "unanimous consent"! For such purposes, as Secretary Lansing stated to Mr. Bullitt, "the League of Nations at present is entirely useless." What we have in the Covenant, as we have pointed out before, is an elaborate device for the preservation of the statu quo established by the Treaty. From such an iniquitous combination mankind must be delivered, sooner or later. And there are some of us who believe that this deliverance can be more easily and safely accomplished now by debate and ballot, than a generation hence by another world-wide upheaval.

## Editorial in Unity

### HER PASSING.

George the four years old grandson of an extremely pious and devout grandparent came rushing into the house. "Grandpa!" he called, "Mr. Barton's cow is dead. God called her home."

The earth belongs by right of use to the living.

A liar with an old lie will get by while a truth teller with a new truth will starve to death.

The object of the communist movement is to abolish work and make all industry play.

Spain has nearly 500 labor unions with a membership totaling approximately 1,000,000.

# COMMUNISTS, UNITE!

# General Strike?

WASHINGTON.—Conservative trade union officials in Washington admit that there is more than a possibility of a nationwide strike in the basic industries to compel the industrial autocrats to recognize the labor union and collective bargaining.

It is inconceivable that conference of the executive officials of the international and national unions called by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, will content itself with mere resolutions.

The non-union plants of the United States Steel Corporation have long been the menace to the progress of labor organization. The point-blank refusal of the management of that corporation to have anything to do with organized labor and its persistent policy to impose the individual contract upon individual workers is more than a challenge to the labor movement. The success of the Steel Trust in defeating the demands of the unions gives encouragement to other great corporations to undertake to impose the non-union shop upon their employees. And what labor sees is a nationwide organization of the large capitalist corporations to deprive or gage labor of even its partial control of industrial relations.

This challenge must be met. And the chiefs of the national and international unions will not only declare an industrial war against the owners and masters of the basic industries, but they will perfect an alliance of the workers in these basic industries patterned after the celebrated triple alliance in Great Britain, which is made up of the railroad and transport workers and the miners.

## The Joy of Life

In a recent interview, N. Bukharin a dominant personality in the Soviet Republic and the Communist Party of Russia, discusses the problem of prohibition. Bukharin declares that prohibition is rightly enforced in Russia. A severe penalty being imposed for violation of the Soviet regulations; that a drunken man in Moscow or Petrograd is a rarity.

But, proceeds Bukharin, these restrictions are temporary, made necessary by the civil war; after this necessity is over, the restrictions will be modified "and fine wines introduced for the use of the workers." The Communist, declares Bukharin, is not an ascetic, but a firm believer in life and the joy of life — a Pagan rather than a Puritan.

In this, there is another contrast between the sincere, human philosophy of the Communist, and the deadening hypocrisy of bourgeois "civilization." Capitalism develops two extremes — compulsory self-denial for the workers and corrupting self-indulgence for the bourgeois. Each extreme is vicious, demoralizing, a denial of life and the joy of life.

The bourgeois possesses an animal conception of life. Power — debauchery — brutality — that is the unholy bourgeois trinity. A social system based upon oppressor and oppressed, upon master and slave, can never develop a human conception of life. Luxury is considered joy, excesses self-expression. Through it all there runs the black thread of hypocrisy: does any one really believe that prohibition prohibits for the rich?... The other philosophy — for the oppressed, the workers — is a slave philosophy of work. The masses live to work, and not work to live. The burden of excessive toil imposes a burden upon the human spirit — there is no real self-expression for the masses of the people. Self-denials is the ideal that religions and class morality impose upon the workers. Self-denial itself a denial of life and the urge of life! Work — a means to an end made an end in itself!

Self-denial and self-indulgence each pervert the human spirit. The urge to life becomes under Capitalism the urge to the meretricious things of life: self-expression becomes either a perversion of life or mechanical routine; liberty of the individual becomes a mockery among the workers and incitement to degeneracy among the bourgeois. Life is stultified, joy perverted, and culture vitiated by the fetters imposed upon individual self-expression.

Capitalism, moreover, perverts life by making it a struggle for material wellbeing. In a class society, the struggle of man over nature becomes a means of aggrandizing the masters, and not a means of realizing life for the people. Communism, by ending class divisions and by mobilizing all the industrial resources for the use of life, ends the miserable struggle for existence, makes work a secondary consideration. Life and the joy of life become supreme — self-expression becomes the means to a finer culture, individual liberty the inspiration for a self-imposed discipline.

There have been moments in the history of the world when the potential beauty of life partly flowered. There were the Pagan Greeks; there was the Renaissance — each with its philosophy of self-expression, of life and the joy of life. But these efflorescences of the human spirit were limited by their class character, by not including the whole of humanity, but being based upon the oppression of the majority. The Pagan Greeks ended in degeneracy, the Renaissance in libertinage. The emancipation of humanity is necessary to realize life and the joy of life.

The Communist program implies the emancipation of humanity from material oppression; but it equally implies emancipation from oppression of the spirit of man — freeing life from the fetters imposed upon its expression, its joy and its beauty.

The Communist.

There is a heap of difference between justice and law. The wage slave usually receives more law than justice.

Shakespeare used the word, POLITICIAN five times and each time the word was used as a synonym for KNAVE.

# You Will Find it Here

EAST SIDE Y. P. S. L.

The stage is all set for our Concert and basket party for this Sat. Ev. Nov. 1st.

Our girl members surely do the best they can in preparing baskets for the party it remains to be seen how much the boys will appreciate it by coming across with their change...

The concert will be first class so we expect to have all our members present to this affair and enjoy the pleasure of the evening.

So remember the date this Saturday Nov. 1st at our usual meeting place.

Yours for Comradeship

PRESS COMM.

C. C. C. MEETING AT HEADQUARTERS MONDAY — NOV. 3-8D.

NOTICE TO ALL BRANCHES.

Sec. 5. Applications for membership shall not be finally acted upon until two months after presentation to the branch, and in the meantime applicant shall pay initiation fee and dues and shall attend meetings and classes. He shall have a voice and no vote. Provided that this rule shall not apply to the charter members of new branches nor to the members who make application to the newly organized branches during the first month.

Branches shall note this section of our constitution and see that it is enforced.

Do not send in any applications to the C. C. C. until finally acted upon by the branch two months after presentation.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

Members and Sympathizers.

The next entertainment and Dance of the Communist Party will be held at Acme Hall on November 16. A program which will surpass all previous ones is assured for this occasion. One thing must be done this time, Comrade and that is to see that every one is supplied with an invitation before coming to the hall. There were fully two hundred persons turned away from the hall last time for the simple reason that they had no invitations. THESE INVITATIONS CAN NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. THEY MUST BE SECURED BEFORE COMING TO THE HALL. If you have none of these sent to you by mail then see your branch secretary or come to headquarters and you can secure as many as you can use. If you are not on our ticket mailing list and feel that you want to do more work, then give us your name and address and you will be placed on the list immediately. Remember that the Communist Party wants only ACTIVE members in its ranks.

## NORTH CHURCH FORUM

Peter North is going to cut loose at the North Church Forum, St. Clair Ave. and 72nd on Sunday Eve. Nov. 2. He is going to talk on War, Wilson, Debs and Free Speech.—Hear what Will has to disclose about the present administration. Sounds interesting. Let's remember the date.

## As You Like It

Gone are the days of chivalry! Vanished forever have the simpering lady fair and the armored knight of romance, whose doings, related both in official "history" books and in the more alluring dime novel of our youth, which were wont to make us lament that we were born in such dull times, and sigh for the "good old days," the days when every woman was a queen, when even her name could not be brought into the rude affairs of men without a battle. But, alas! what shocks are in store for us in these degenerate days. We read in a pamphlet issued by the Public Health Department of the Federal Government, entitled "On Guard," and circulated amongst "girls and young women" that "the girl who believes that she is doing a patriotic service by providing a 'celebration' for returning soldiers is ignorant of true facts. She may unknowingly be spreading venereal diseases among these heroes."

The emphasis is ours. Verily, in spite of the devastating influence of our motley crowd of slubbering "reform" sisterhood, the days of chivalry are, indeed, gone.

Proletarian.

## Saws Reset.

"There's one thing that's certain" Says old Mr. Peck;  
"A boil on the stove is Worth two on the neck,"  
Luke McLuke.  
And here is what Uncle Jehosophat said;  
"One rose to the living," Beats ten to the dead,"  
Free Press.  
"Take your religion away" Said wise Uncle Si.  
"One pie here and now," Beats three in the sky."

# Drugs vs. Nature

A Lecture by JOHN DEQUER D. C. M. T. D.

at 1222 Prospect Ave.

Tuesday Nov. 4th 8 p. m.

Admission Free

# Soviet Bureau Warns

(Continued from page 1.)

paganda.

To sum up, the situation is as follows:

1. Denikin's campaign in the South is threatened with annihilation. His "advance on Moscow" is actually a retreat in the only direction where at this moment there is no concentrated military opposition, but where he instantly will be confronted with such his "advance" thus making him run right into the lion's lair without a chance of a return to his bases.

2. The Baltic nations are determined to make peace with Soviet Russia, frustrating Allied intentions to use them as tools against the Russian workers. The Baltic peoples are as hostile to Yudenitch as to Von der Goltz, but the British are supporting both of them. Yudenitch openly and Von der Goltz secretly, thus betraying the promises given by Britain to the Baltic nationals.

3. The British pretensions of opposition to von der Goltz are an unmitigated lie which is being used for the purpose of deceiving the British public opinion into a belief that "the German menace" demands the sending of additional troops to the Baltic coast. If such troops are permitted to be sent they will be used, not against the German Junkers, but in alliance with these Junkers against the workers of Russia.

4. Far from opposing the menace of German Junker designs on Russia, the Allied governments, and particularly Britain, are making an alliance with Germany and Austria against Soviet Russia. The announced demands of the Allies that Germany and Austria should participate in the criminal and brutal blockade of Russian ports is sufficient evidence hereof.

Some papers have referred to the situation in the Baltic as the reopening of the world war. It is true in a sense, but only in this sense. The reactionaries of the world, Allied and German alike, stand ready to sacrifice millions of lives of their peoples and of the Russian people in a last desperate effort to crush the Russian revolution, and, thereby, to remove the nightiest obstacle to the establishment of oligarchical despotism all over the world.

In this campaign are at stake the interests, not of the Russian workers alone, but of every labor and progressive interest of the world. Rather than come to a sensible understanding with Russia, the reactionaries among the Allies stand ready to plunge the world into new chaos and bloodshed on the slim chance that out of the shambles they shall be able to secure their threatened class interests. It remains to be seen whether the plain people will stand for such plans. Soviet Still Holds Radio.

The above statement was written Thursday. Secretary Santeri Nuorteva of the Russian Soviet Bureau was asked by The Call yesterday whether the alleged Russian dispatches carried by the day's papers threw any new light on the situation.

"They certainly do," was the answer. "They most conclusively prove that our doubts about the veracity of the entire press campaign are well founded."

"A dispatch from London printed in the Globe today admits that wireless dispatches are continuously being sent by the Soviet government from the powerful radio station at Tarskoe Selo. Allies Dare Not Tell Fate.

"This conclusively proves not only that Yudenitch has not advanced as near to Petrograd as the fake dispatches would have us believe, but also adds color to the situation by showing that the Allies do not dare to print the facts as stated by the Soviet government itself. It is clear that such facts are concealed by the Allies not because they are unfavorable to Soviet Russia."

"The only Soviet dispatch which has passed the British censorship shows that Kiev has been captured by Soviet troops and the dispatch states that the attack against Kiev was so sudden that Denikin had no time to cross the Dnieper river, but had to retire in panicky flight towards the north."

"This fact bears out the suggestion made in the above statement that the capture of Orel really is nothing but a result of a disordered flight due to pressure from both flanks."

Poverty is a beast of prey which chases the song birds of joy and gladness out of the heart.

Knowledge advances by leaps and bounds. — Sometimes, but we know a lot who acquire it only by bumps and dematation hard ones at that.

Who controls industry controls the press.  
Who controls the press controls society.

Armies never were used to protect the people,  
Armies are always used to protect GOVERNMENT.

The imprisonment of Eugene V. Debs is stirring this nation deeper than an anchor would plow in the bed of the ocean during a storm.

# Convention Of The German Speaking Socialists Of Ohio.

The state organizer opened the convention with a few words of explanation, after which came the election of officers. Comrades Carl Altenbernd of Cleveland and John Schmidt of Bellaire as chairman and Emil Oster, Akron and August Hoffman as secretaries. Upon examination of credentials it was found that there were 29 delegates with voice and vote and three fraternal delegates, of Erie, Pa., Fort Wayne Ind., and Comrade Bedacht as representative of the Communist Labor Party.

The subject of the future relations of the German Language group of the state of Ohio towards the splitting of the party was the most important business before the convention. Introduced by Comrade Gen. Goldbauer as speaker.

The following resolution was read and discussed:

Considering the fact, not to be denied that the Socialist Party of America failed in fulfilling their great historical task. It has differed in critical times very much from revolutionary Communist principle. The third State conference of the State Agitation Committee lately stopped communications with the interpreter secretary of the old German Language Group. The State Conference declares this attitude correct and in agreement with the resolution of the last National Conference held in Rochester N. Y.

The delegates that met, regretted it deeply that in such a critical time, and after the showing of such extraordinary development not forsaken at the Rochester Conference, that the National Committee of the old German Language Group of the Socialist Party has not done anything to start a new mutual conference of all branches, either through an immediate call of a new conference or discussion with a vote following.

**THE CONDEMN IT ABSOLUTELY** that under such circumstances a non-authorized decision was put up and the means and the influence which the

National Committee had at its disposition now should be used to induce branches of the old language Group to join the Communist Labor Party, which was founded so unexpectedly and so unnecessary. This means bad service to the revolutionary Communist movement of the country.

Knowing that the International of Communism is to be represented in this country by the Communist Party the state conference advises, all branches in Ohio to join the Communist Party as soon as possible, which is the only guarantee for the leading of revolutionary working-class movement with a clear program which was founded purposely to win the working-class for the Communist Revolution.

The State Agitation-Committee should put its work into service in the entire state, and if there is occasion, farther than that. It should be a link between the branches and the National Office of the Communist Party. Stamps and organization material for party work to be secured from now on from the National Office of the Communist Party only. THE ECHO has to be edited in accordance with the laws of the Communist Party. No time should be lost in obtaining the unlimited support of the German Weekly of the Communist Party.

Spiegel gave an interesting history of the split and explained why the convention should decide to connect with the Communist Labor Party.

Both speakers caused an interesting discussion. The resolution was accepted by a vote of 41 to 2. Seven did not vote and most of the German branches will go over to the Communist Party. It is understood that this resolution is in a certain way nothing but preparatory work, but everything should be done to bring both Communist Groups together.

La Salle Club of Cincinnati decided with 46 against 2 to unite with the Communist Party.

## AMERICANIZATION

Senator Kenyon of Iowa, a member of the Senate Committee "investigating" the steel strike, states that the only solution for the problem of unrest among the workers in the steel industry is "Americanization."

If the foreign speaking workers are "Americanized" will they be satisfied to work twelve and fourteen hours a day for insufficient wages? Will they be satisfied to live in the squalid, unsanitary hovels of the Steel Trust towns? Will they be satisfied to have their children grow to manhood and womanhood in ignorance and filth? If the workers are "Americanized" will they endure their present conditions and be content to just work, eat and sleep thru all the days of an ox-like existence?

Senator Kenyon seems to think so. His ideal of an American workman is apparently one who in abject servility and without a word of protest accepts whatever wages and hours industrial kaisers of the nation see fit to set.

Perhaps the worthy Senator gained this impression from the testimony of a few native born old men who testified before the committee that they were delighted to work in the blistering heat of the steel mills twelve hours a day for forty cents an hour. That they were satisfied with conditions that breed ignorance, disease and death; conditions that rob them of their manhood and make of them fawning dogs licking the hand that wields the whip over them.

Such pitiable creatures are the delight of the capitalist heart, the capitalist ideal of a workman.

Are the working people of this state willing to accept the results of this kind of "Americanization?" Are such fawning servile creatures the sons of the American Revolutionists of 1776 who tumbled the British King into the dust when he perpetrated outrages against them not one-hundredth part as cruel as the outrages daily committed against the workers by the Steel Kings? Can it be that the sons of the men who penned the Declaration of Independence have sunk to this low state?

If "Americanization" of the foreign speaking workmen in this state is going to make of them meek, contented and stupid oxen such as these few "American" workers who testified before the Senate committee we hope they will be forever delivered from "Americanization."

— Reading Labor Advocate

The Bell Telephone Company heads one of their advertisements "The Wages of Capital".

Capital itself is nothing but unpaid labor earnings and the wages of capital are likewise the accumulated stealings from the labor in that industry.

A wage earner with a capitalist mind is no better than a jack ass in a lion's skin.

He who fools another fools himself, which explains the reason why the editors of the kept press make such foolish breaks.

If any man hungereth or is athirst, let him say, verily I have it coming to me for di not hearken to the words of the prophets and keep away from the agitators? Did I not repeat even as a parrott repeateth their sayings that an agitator was unamerican, disloyal, and a preacher of a pernicious class hatred? And did I not believe that if anything aileth me the Lord will fix it or let it go unfixed to show the wisdom and mercy of God? Yea verily I am a chump and have it coming to me.

A hyena lives off from the dead but our very best citizens live off from the troubles of the living.

Thou shalt not bear false witness — unless you are an employee of the department of justice or a detective.

The machines of industry are working overtime to emancipate the worker's body. It is up to us to keep pace with the machine and emancipate the worker's mind.

# Minutes of the Executive Council of the Communist Party

October 14th

Present Fraina, Ferguson, Ruthenberg, Wicks and Schwartz.

Comrade Wicks elected chairman.

The following communication from the Communist Labor Party was read by the secretary:

Central Executive Committee, Communist Party, Chicago, Ill.

COMRADES: Upon Friday, September 6th we sent your convention the following communication:

"Be it resolved that the Communist Labor Party extends a standing invitation to the Communist Party to meet on a basis of equality, in Unity Conference, and

"That we hereby instruct our national officials and committees to accept every such invitation from the Communist Party or from any other revolutionary working class organization."

No answer has, to date, been received to this resolution, officially addressed to your party.

By motion, just carried in the Communist Labor Party National Executive Committee, I am instructed to forward to you the following communication:

Central Executive Committee, Communist Party, Chicago, Ill.

DEAR COMRADES: The National Executive Committee of the Communist Labor Party invite the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party to meet with it November 1st, 1915, or as near that date as possible, in Chicago or some other place agreed upon —

First, for an informal conference to discuss a basis for a formal unity conference and a mode of procedure for such a conference, and

Second, if a basis is agreed upon to them and there hold a unity conference.

In all sincerity we await your immediate an favorable answer, and remain

For a United Communist Movement, A. Bilan, Max Bedacht, Jack Carney, Edward Lindgren, L. E. Katterfeld, National Executive Committee, Communist Labor Party.

Fraternally submitted, A. Wagenknecht Executive Secretary.

Resolutions were also read from Local St. Louis, Communist Labor Party, Central Branch, Boston, Mass. Communist Party, Milwaukee, City Central Committee, Communist Party, Roxbury and the German Branches of Chicago affiliated with the Communist Labor Party, all in regard to unity.

Motion, that a committee of three be elected to draft a statement in reply to that of the Communist Labor Party. Carried.

Comrades Ferguson, Fraina and Ruthenberg elected.

Letter from the Lettish Federation requesting information on the subject of affiliation of three Canadian Branches with the Federation as part of the Communist Party of America.

Motion, that we advise the Lettish Federation that they may accept the three branches in question as branches of the Federation and of the Communist Party if they endorse the program and constitution of the Party, it being understood that this action is designed to promote the organization of a Communist Party of Canada in affiliation with the Communist Party of America, and that when such a party is organized they shall form part of the organization. Carried.

Resolution from the City Central Committee in regard to adding adjacent towns to the jurisdiction of the Boston City Central Committee.

Motion, that with the approval of the State Executive Committee of Massachusetts permission is granted to add Cambridge, Somerville and Watertown to the jurisdiction of the Boston City Central Committee. Carried.

Motion, that we refer to Comrade Cohen's letter from Comrade Key in regard to his expenses attending the Left Wing Conference and ask for a report in regard to the finances of the conference. Carried.

Resolution read from the Karl Marx Russian Branch of Chicago, urging that the Executive Council act in the matter of the steel strike and use the existing situation for the purpose of Communist propaganda.

Motion, that we reply that we appreciate very highly the spirit of the resolution and that we have already taken some action and will continue to use the steel strike for Communist propaganda and action to the extent that our resources permit. Carried.

Motion, that we suggest to the Communist Young Peoples Leagues that they hold a conference at an early date to perfect a national organization and that we extend our aid in establishing such an organization and a monthly paper. Carried.

Motion, that we print the article "Break the Blockade" appearing in the "Communist" of Oct. 15th in leaflet form and offer it to the party organizations for distribution. Carried.

Motion, that we draft a standard resolution in regard to the blockade and request all organizations holding mass meetings to forward same to the national organization with a statement of the number of persons attending such meetings. Carried.

Comrade Wicks and Ruthenberg elected Committee to draft resolution.

Motion, that a committee be elected to organize a school for national organizers and agitators to work under the auspices of the party. Carried.

Comrades Carlson, Stoekitsky, Ferguson, elected. The Executive Secretary is to be a member ex-officio.

Motion, that we print the leaflet "Your Shop" for general distribution. Carried.

The committee to draft a reply to the proposal of the Communist Labor Party submitted the statement printed elsewhere under the heading of Declaration of the Communist Party in regard to Unity.

Motion that this reply be adopted and submitted to the members of the Central Executive Committee for their approval. Carried.

Motion, that the matter of European representation be left to the next meeting of the Central Executive Committee for decision. Carried.

Motion, that we recommend to the Central Executive Committee that they date of the next meeting be changed from November 1st to December 20th. Carried.

On this motion Comrades Ferguson and Comrade Fraina submitted the following argument for the information of the Central Executive Committee:—

Our great task is to build the locals without which we can do nothing. In this task should go all our funds and energy. We have a tremendous territory to cover with only a handful of workers. Every day is important, because ever these few workers are threatened by imprisonment and deportation.

This work is secretarial and administrative purely.

No question of general policy has come before us which cannot be disposed of by correspondence, or which cannot wait until December 20th. Not until December can we hope to have subordinate organizations in such development that the national organization can enter upon new programs of such extensive character as to demand general committee discussion.

The original setting of the date for November 1st was without realistic conception of the inherent slowness of getting the new party machinery into operation.

Comrade Fraina agreed with this motion until it appeared that the Executive Council disagreed with him on the proposal that he should go forthwith to Europe. In other words Comrade Fraina appears to be in the need of throwing the whole question of sensible party administration into the issue of his immediate departure for Europe.

Without the locals in working order there is no party; and there can be no problems of policy justifying discussion costing the members much money urgently needed for the executive work. Whatever is to be said or done on such proposal as that of Comrade Fraina's can very well await a somewhat more mature stage of the party organization. Or, if it has emergency character, there is nothing about it which cannot be handled by the more economical method of mail and telegram.

It seems to us an obvious obligation to those who finance the party for us to delay the Central Executive Committee meeting in accordance with this motion.

COMRADE FRAINA: (Comment of Schwartz and Fraina against the motion of Ferguson, Ruthenberg, and Wicks to postpone the Nov. 1st meeting of the Central Executive Committee to December 20th)

The argument of the majority concerning the trip to Europe of the International Secretary is personal and worthless. In the first place the proposal is made by Fraina and the five New York members of the C. E. C.; in the second place, Comrade Schwartz, who is against December 20th, is equally against the European trip; in the third place, "Fraina's departure for Europe" involves something much more important — the international relations of the Communist Party.

We favor November 1st, and are against Dec. 20th because:

1. The Executive Council should consist of 7 members: until a few days ago, only 4 members were in Chicago; only now there are 5, three of whom — two editors, one executive secretary, concentrating on their particular work. — may miss the larger problems.

2. Questions of party policy are particularly important in the earlier stages of the new party. There are any number of questions of policy that the five members here may not see but that the other ten would propose. — questions that cannot be settled by executive motions.

3. A program of intensive party work must be developed now ready to be introduced two months from now, not first discussed two months from now.

4. The building of locals is not "secretarial and administrative purely"; that is a mechanical and bureaucratic idea. A meeting of the whole C. E. C., with members outside of Chicago, will develop plans for quick growth of the party.

5. The International relations of the party, our contact with the Communist International, is not something that can be postponed for six months or one year, or decided by correspondence; but requires immediate discussion and action by the full Central Committee.

6. A party of action requires frequent meetings of the Central Executive Committee.

The party must not drift. It must not concentrate on purely routine work. It must develop a real, full policy of activity. We therefore urge you to vote "NO" on the motion to postpone our meeting to December 20th.

Motion, that the monthly magazine "The Communist International" be published for December and that it consist of 72 to 96 pages and sell for 25c. Carried.

Motion, that as soon as the complete translation of the "State and Revolution" by Lenin is received, it be published. Carried.

Motion, that we make inquiry in regard to the type and manuscript of Lenin's "Imperialism" for the purpose of publishing that book. Carried.

Motion, that the article by Radek on "The Development of Socialism from Science to Action" be immediately published in pamphlet form. Carried.

Motion, that we include in our program of early publications Burcharin's pamphlet. Carried.

Motion, that we include in the program for publication the following pamphlets on American conditions.

1. The Communist Reconstruction of Society.

2. Political Strikes.

## Socialist News

W. E. Reynolds, Editor

Entered at Second-class matter Dec. 10, 1914, at the Postoffice of Cleveland, O., under Act of March 3, 1879.

Published Weekly by LOCAL CLEVELAND (and vicinity) COMMUNIST PARTY.

Carl Hacker, Secretary  
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Cleveland, O.  
Tel. Prospect 1270

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3. Industrial Unionism.

Motion, that the matter of purchasing a truck in co-operation with the Polish comrades and the Russian District Committee for the purpose of distributing our papers to the local news stands be left to the discretion of the Executive Secretary. Carried.

Motion, that we publish the pamphlet containing the Manifesto, Program, Address to the International and constitution in German, also the Program of the Spartacus. Carried.

Fraternally submitted, C. E. RUTHENBERG, Executive Secretary.

**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

COMRADES:—

Following is the vote on motion 1, reading:

The declaration in reply to the proposal of the Communist Labor Party Executive Committee be approved.

Voting Yes: Ballam, Dirba, Elbaum, Fraina, Ferguson, Karos, Ruthenberg, Schwartz, Wicks.

Voting No: Bittelmann, Cohen, Hourvich, Lovestone and Tyverowsky.

The motion is therefore adopted. The vote on Motion 2, reading:

That the meeting of the Central Executive Committee set for Nov. 1st be postponed to Saturday, December 20th, at 9 o'clock.

Voting yes: Ballam, Ferguson, Ruthenberg, Wicks.

Voting no: Bittelmann, Dirba, Elbaum, Cohen, Fraina, Hourvich, Karos, Lovestone, Schwartz and Tyverowsky.

Not voting: Petras.

The motion is therefore lost.

The following motions and comments are submitted by Comrades Bittelmann, Cohen, Hourvich, Lovestone and Tyverowsky:

Motion 3: That the reply to the Labor Party be withheld until the next physical meeting of the Central Executive Committee.

Reasons: In view of the objectionable features in certain paragraphs in view of impossibility of working out an acceptable reply through executive motion within a reasonable time and in view of the importance of such reply we believe this proposition should be considered by the entire Central Executive Committee at its next physical meeting.

Statement by the Executive Secretary: The reply voted on through motion 1, having been adopted by a vote of 9 to 5, it becomes the duty of the Executive Secretary to send this reply to the Executive Committee of the Communist Labor Party. If motions for delay were to hold up action after vote of the whole committee it would become possible for a minority to prevent action. In this particular instance there are reasons why our reply should be in the hands of the Communist Labor Party when its Executive Committee meets next Sunday which cannot be divulged in

correspondence but which will be stated to the full committee when it meets. While submitting this motion I wish at the same time to inform the Communist Labor Party Executive Committee in accordance with the decision of the majority of the committee.

Motion 4. Motion, that the next physical meeting of the Central Executive Committee be held on November 15th

Reasons: Because of the country-wide celebration of November 7th the presence of every member of the Central Executive Committee is required in his particular locality up to that date; and because of serious situation in New York in connection with this celebration New York members will be unable to leave town before November 7th. Realizing however that physical meeting of the Central Executive Committee must be held as soon after that date as possible we recommend November 15th.

Agree with Fraina's reasons as stated on 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, plus that added reason that the matter of expense cannot enter our calculations when questions of party policy are to be determined.

Motion 5. That sending of report of International Secretary be withheld until next physical meeting of the Central Executive Committee.

Reasons: International Secretary's report to the Third International is too important to be sent out without full discussion by the entire Central Executive Committee.

This report is a vital matter which concerns the Communist Party as a whole, and not individuals, and therefore rightfully comes under the scrutiny, discussion and endorsement of the Central Executive Committee as a whole body. Particularly in view of changes having already been made by two members in the original report it becomes more urgent than ever to have the whole Central Executive Committee go over it carefully.

Statement by Executive Secretary: An opportunity presented itself to have the report taken to Europe a day or two after it was received and a copy, in the form of a page proof of the pamphlet containing same, together with an official communication signed by the Executive Secretary and two International delegates were transmitted to the chairman of the Third International.

Since only a week remains before the date set for the meeting of the committee, I request a vote by wire on motion 4. I may add, for the information of the members and so that they can make their arrangements accordingly, that the five members of the Executive Council concur in the Nov. 15th date and this motion will likely carry and the meeting held on Nov. 15th.

Fraternally submitted, C. E. RUTHENBERG, Executive Secretary

# EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE SOCIALIST NEWS

## CONGRESS AND A SOLDIER'S LETTER.

"It took us a very brief time to learn that the word Bolshevik was merely the name of the economic faith and the political party of the mass of the people of Russia."

These words from a soldier's letter was recently read to the Senate by Senator McCormick.

The truth expressed in the above lines is known to every member of Congress, both Senate and House. The chief Executive also is very well versed in the same truth.

Countless committees have been sent and have returned and reported — not always to the president, for the reason that the presidential ear is deaf to an adverse report. But the truth is generally known.

Why is it then that Congress does not impeach the President for waging a war on Russia contrary to the basic law of the U. S.? Why is not Russia left alone unhampered and UNBLOCKADED to work out her destiny?

What has become of the self-determination of Nations? Why are American soldiers, members of the working class sent to far away Russia to wage the Capitalists private war?

Why is Congress appropriating men money and munitions for this illegal war, this imperialistic invasion of a foreign people?

Only one answer to the questions presents itself. Congress and the President are but the executive and the executive committee of the American Capitalist Class.

Capitalism has grown until it is no longer national but International. It has "nestled everywhere" and because of the fact that the Bolsheviks have established a working class government instead of a government of business interests in Russia it is to the economic interests of the business interests of the robbers of the world to crush this Industrial Republic or in turn be crushed by it.

International Capitalism has its counterpart in international solidarity of the workers. The Capitalists of the world know that the worker's republic in Russia must be crushed or it will be the forerunner of a worker's republic in America and elsewhere, and any worker who does not know that it is to his direct material interest to keep the Russian Worker's republic from being crushed by every means in his power is too stupid to be left alone on the job.

Congress is class conscious and is fighting for its class interests.

Your place is with the class conscious workers in the fight.

## COMING TO IT.

The threat of congress to embody a clause in the rail bill making it a crime to strike was instantly answered by the heads of several of the big trade unions in this manner. "You pass that bill — and we quit." Some of the leaders quoted in the daily papers are said to have openly threatened the use of 'direct action', expressing themselves as tired of fussing and fooling with parliamentary procedure with the workers ever getting the worst of it.

What is the reason for this sudden change of front amongst the "leaders" of the craft unions? Is it an evidence of a growing wisdom? Our guess is that it is a recognition of the fact that the rank and file of organized labor as well as a considerable portion of the unorganized have grown too radical for the more conservative leaders. The tendency towards strike action on the part of the masses is so great that the "leaders" recognize the futility of trying to stop it.

During the past four years at a time when the organized labor bodies of Europe were strengthening their position the A. F. of L. under the leadership of "safe and sane" labor misleaders of the type of Gompers, traded labor's opportunity for a promise of a future betterment. Now is the time when those promises are due and the rank and file do not intend to allow their leaders to lead them into another cul-de-sac. And the leaders are giving in to the demands of the rank and file in order to save their meal tickets!

In the meanwhile the activities of the RANK and FILE are furnishing the student of sociology with some of the most hopeful signs of modern times.

## THAT TWO SIDED THREE CORNERED TABLE.

We said in these columns at the very beginning of the President's round table that nothing would come of it. Nothing could come of it because they were in search of the impossible, a plan or scheme or proposal whereby labor could be made content without interfering with the capitalists profits. There is no such plan. There can be no such plan for the reason that every dollar capital gets labor has to earn and get along without. Industrial unity was doomed from the day when the needs of industry required a workingclass that could read and write and understand. The same intelligence which causes a worker to examine a machine for a loose nut to avoid a fatal accident, causes great numbers of the workers to inquire into the inner workings of the social machine. Once that inquiry is started the workingclass is no longer content with the crumbs of industry in the form of wages, but wants to eliminate the useless in industry. The useless in industry today are the capitalists. They do no work, perform no function of any real benefit to society.

The round table broke up without accomplishing a single thing unless it was to show a few more of the great American public the utter futility of seeking half-way reform measures to cure a social cancer.

As near as we can figure it out the object of the Americanization movement is to make the proletariat a sort of stingless bee who will not want to remove the drones from industry.

Capital is organized to get all it can out of labor, but when labor organizes to get all it can out of capital that as disloyalty, unamericanism, bolshevism and all that the plute press can think of that is vile!

## IT IS UNLAWFUL.

If the sick man of Washington was correctly quoted in the associated press, he said "The proposed miner's strike is not only a national calamity at this time but it is unlawful."

It is lawful for a robber coal company to seize, take and hold the coal deposits underlying a quarter of a state and make all of society pay tribute to it for the use of a social necessity, but it is unlawful for the diggers of that same coal to strike for a part of the stolen plunder!

It is lawful for the coal companies to hold up the delivery of coal thereby creating an unnatural shortage and forcing the price of coal above the ability of the average consumer to pay, but it is unlawful for the digger of the coal to withhold his labor power until he can sell it at a price which will secure a decent living for him and his family!

It is lawful for the government to give away thousands of acres of coal lands for a mere trifle but it is unlawful for the miners to ask for a share in the proceeds!

Verily the ways of capitalist political economy are wonderful, and wonderful is the grasp of these principles held by the former teacher of a young ladies seminary!

Camouflaged verbiage aside, it is lawful for the dominant class in society to do whatever they have the power to do, and it is unlawful for any member of the working class or any working class organization to try to do anything to stop the dominant class from doing as it pleases.

It is lawful for the government to give away thousands of acres of coal lands for a mere trifle but it is unlawful for the power to do. It is unlawful for the working class to try to develop that power.

The problem is thus much simplified. The class war now is transplanted from the domain of intellectual struggle into a struggle for the control of economic power and here will be sounded the deathknell of autocracy in industry.

Every victory for the master class gained by the arbitrary use of their autocratic power but insures their future damnation. The men whose manhood has been brooken loathe the system and are ever planning fresh attacks upon it. The infant being molded beneath the starved heart of the worried mother comes into being breathing a very song of hate and out of such material Capitalism is building for its undoing on some not distant tomorrow.

The immediate future is dark but it brightened here and there by the faint rays of the coming dawn when industrial autocracy will be forced to give way to industrial democracy.

## A WONDERFUL RECORD UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES

The report of a large installment concern states that over a period of more than five years their records show that 95o/o of the people are honest. When we stop to consider that in every walk in life the dishonest is rewarded and the honest penalized this is a remarkable showing. We have all heard the remark, "business is business" generally made as a prelude to a dishonest transaction. All the business of Capitalism is founded upon fraud, dishonesty and hypocrisy, so that showing of 90% honesty can only be explained by reason of the report having to do with buyers from business-houses. In other words, it is a report of the honesty of the common people — not the honesty of the better classes. There are about 90o/o working class to 10o/o middle and upper class. The inference is plain.

## A KING A QUEEN AND THE SCABS.

A real live king and his queen have been touring these benighted states of late. It is not so long since we were being compelled to voluntarily contribute foodstuffs, cash and clothing for the benefit of the starving Belgians, and now before the peace treaty has been signed the Belgian King, Queen and Royal party take a trip to the land of sham democracy which will cost over a million dollars. The plute press recently carried the story of how the king and queen walked over the hot iron in the steel mills of Pittsburg, and how the queen climbed to an advantageous position in order to take a picture of the men handling a red-hot ingot. When she got that picture she got a picture of a bunch of scabs. It is but logical however for kings, queen and scabs to herd together.

## A CAMPAIGN THAT FAILED.

The "hush-hush be quiet—" campaign of our industrial overlords does not seem to be much of a success.

Industrial unrest is so great that it would take up every inch of space in our great religious weekly to give even a four line notice of all the strikes and lockouts going on at the present time. It is significant, the fact that out of seventy eight big strikes now going on, sixty seven of them were called by the rank and file in defiance of the wishes of the "labor leaders"

## ETHICS.

What are "wrong," "right," "vice," "virtue," "bad" and "good?"

Mere whips to scourge the backs that naked bear  
The burden of the world—bent backs that dare  
Not rise erect, defy the tyrant, "Should,"  
And freely, boldly do the things they would.  
In living's joy they rarely have a share;  
They look beyond the grave, and hope that there  
They'll be repaid, poor fools, for being good.

To serve thy master, that is virtue, Slave;  
To do thy will, enjoy sweet life, is vice.  
Poor duty-ridden serf, rebel, forget  
Thy master-taught morality; be brave  
Enough to make this earth a Paradise  
Whereon the Sun of Joy shall never set!

## MAGNIFICENT!

Occasionally man rises to the heights of eppie magnificent. One of these occasions was at the Industrial Conference when Samuel Gompers, ill and weak, in trembling hoarse tones, "eloquently repudiated the insinuation that the American wokers were embracing Bolshevism." Gompers recalled that three weeks before Wilson declared war a conference of 136 labor leaders had pledged to back the government to the limit; that labor loyally kept its pledge during the war; that labor had never used the war for its own advantage; that union labor was willing to cooperate with capital; and that the organized workers, far from contemplating revolution, loved their government and were the most patriotic and loyal in the world: "Gompers shook with emotion and his voice quavered as he violently defended the loyalty and patriotism of organized labor." The gentleman making the insinuation apologized.

It was magnificent! An aged, ill man defying calumny and compelling an apology, heroically securing a victory for labor in spite of terrible odds.

But what Gompers actually said was this:  
"You can depend upon organized labor; we as its leaders are loyal to Capitalism. We are always ready to mobilize the workers as cannon-fodder in your wars. We shall prevent the workers from becoming radical, from initiating revolutionary measures. You and I are part of the governing system of things; and we shall defend our privileged status. You must cease your attacks upon the labor leaders: Your interest and theirs are identical."

Gompers condemned labor to industrial slavery, oppression and wars. It was magnificent — for Capitalism.

Editorial in Communist.

## KAISER GARY

If ever there was a situation which called for the sympathetic intervention of all right-minded men and women, it is that now prevailing in the steel industry in this country. We may or may not believe in strikes as a method of redressing the grievances of labor; we may or may not sustain the justice of the aims set forth by the steel workers in this particular strike; but we must all agree on the right of the workers to organize, to present their claims, to be heard by impartial arbiters; in other words to have a voice in the determination of the conditions of their labor. It is on the basis of the most orthodox and generally accepted principles of trade unionism that the steel workers have organized; it is with the most conservative group of organized labor in America, the A. F. of L., that they have affiliated; it is in accordance with the fundamental usages of orderly democratic procedure in this country that they have conducted their campaign. But like the Belgians in 1914, they have been met by the tyranny of a benighted and cruel "Kaiser," Judge Gary, who recognizes no human rights but those of his own autocratic will, and knows no power but that of his mailed fist — and the greatest industrial war in many years is the result! Anything more outrageous than Judge Gary's attitude is impossible to conceive. He talks of "the open shop" — and closes every steel mill tight against every man carrying a union card. He prates of American liberties — and like a Tsar sets loose his cossacks on all citizens within his factory realms who attempt to exercise ordinary constitutional privileges of free speech and free assembly. He raises the cry of anarchy and revolution — and is himself the supreme offender against the established laws, institution and habits of the nation. Judge Gary has but one purpose, and that is to smash unionism in the steel industry. He seeks to remove the workers from his path, as Austria sought to remove Serbia, and the Kaiser, Belgium and France, in 1914. And like these tyrants, he stands ready to use any weapon, to defy any law and custom, to outrage the whole public sentiment of the times, to accomplish his nefarious purposes. Judge Gary, in thought and action, is typically "Prussian"; he represents in industry today all that must be removed and gotten rid of, if our democratic civilization is to survive. Hence the challenge to all liberals to rally to the cause of the steel workers.

Exchange

One thing badly needed by the American public is an antidote for the overdose of front page headlines of the past four years.

The race riots here are but the echo of the big race-riot of all the races ended just last year over across the pond.

The big race riot was caused by economic, not racial differences, and the same diagnosis holds good here.

Capital organized to get all it can out of labor: Labor organized to get all it can out of capital, and the biggest labor organization in America, the A. F. of L. organized on a basis of identity of interest between capital and labor!

The desire on the part of an employer of labor to get more profits, is "business acumen" — a high term for brain and is given as the reason why he should be allowed to continue the system of exploitation. The same desire on the part of a worker for more income is not called "business acumen" but is unamericanism due to bolshevist influence!

Don't work overtime. You are selling your birthright for a mess of pottage when you do.

If a league of nations is to prevent wars, why do we need such a large increase in "our" army and navy?

The close of the war has left the majority of the people under the painful necessity of having to borrow a religion, make one, or else honestly admit the passing of a need for a religion.