SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1937

# PLOT AGAINST AGRICULTURAL WORKERS!

## Maritime Labor And The Government

The Scheme to Put Over the Fink Book By Amending the Copeland Bill

Although the details of the several proposed Consional bills on maritime labor have not yet been public, a brief item of great significance has aped in the daily papers. Copeland, it is reported, has pared a new bill which will allegedly make "illegal" attempts to use his notorious fink book for black-

The Administration hopes that with this well-soundaddition written into the union-smashing legislation last June the maritime workers will now meekly line to take their hated "continuous discharge books." nd if the bill will not be too openly transparent as a w labor strangling device, we can expect the hidden porters of Government control to come out with their rahs for this legislation. If we can believe the adnce reports on Copeland's newest bill it will be just at they have been clamoring for-an "amendment" ich will give the proper "promises" to deceive the

We already have intimations of what is coming. ten to the Western Worker of Jan. 7, 1937:

"The men do not object directly to the discharge ks, in which the date of each discharge at the end voyage will be recorded," Curran said.

They are opposed, however, to terms of the law

ch, they charge, give the ship lines an opportunity acklist employes for union activities or for reasons ich have nothing to do with their ability, he said." Nothing could be more confusing or false. The militworkers who have pledged themselves to refuse the books on all coasts have done so because they will accept such an anti-union book-and they do not into be bamboozled into taking such a book by any or 'amendments" clever politicians can invent. As long e fink book remains marine workers must and will

As far as the "terms of the law" are concerned, ich the Western Worker is worried about, there are express provisions in the law for blacklisting seamen. to could think that Congress would be so stupid as to mly expose its real intentions? Any employment which a worker is compelled to carry and without ch he cannot obtain a job is a fink book-and it will used to blacklist militants in any critical situation, all 'amendments" in the world to the contrary.

After all, if the fink book is not for the purpose of atrolling the activities of seafaring workers, why ould it exist at all? The Government will readily conan "anti-blacklist" clause, because it will still have log-collar clamped on the seamen. A few clauses promises can always be sacrificed cheaply in order eep the essence of a law.

Just let those who advocate acceptance of the fink k if it has an "anti-blacklist clause" explain this one on: Why have a government discharge book at Of course Copeland, government officials and latakers have their answer-that the book will "weed acompetents," "maintain high standards of seamanand similar ballyhoo.

The conclusion is inevitable: the fundamental purof the Copeland fink book is and always will be to the seaman hand and foot so as the better to gle all activity in any critical situation-for exe a strike or war.

he above article in the Western Worker shows also tle attempt to avoid completely the most basic that of the Government's role as shipowners' The workers are opposed, says the article, to the s of the law which . . . give the ship lines an opnity to blacklist employes. . . . " As a matter of is the shipowners which maritime workers are worried about in this connection. The ominous nt is the intervention of the Government.

waterfront workers know from their own experithat the shipowners could carry on their blackonly when the workers were unorganized. When orkers were 100 per cent organized into militant sthey could throw off this yoke. This explains why powners have called upon the government to a control which they were unable to establish

is not the shipowners who would do the blacklistut rather the Government for the shipowners. And the Government started to discriminate against it didn't like, it wouldn't be called "blacklist, would be called "elimination of the incompetor "getting rid of the aliens," or something

s outright treachery to the rank and file of the ne unions to attempt to interpret their militant he in exposing the vicious legislation of last June rely a struggle against a few "terms of the law." eyond such a puny perspective, the fight of these ers has been against the vicious and reactionary opment in recent years: "the moving in" of the mment to throttle the rising American labor move-

# He Uses Both Hands - By Carlo



# Select Men From 200 Volunteers For Debs Column

Socialist State Committee Calls for Wide Campaign to Finance Heroic Project to Aid Spanish Workers

of International working class Fascist hordes in Spain. solidarity, over 200 volunteers have applied to go to Spain under the banner of the Western Division of the Debs Column.

Competent committees in Los Angeles and in Sar Francisco have been interviewing each volunteer. able to offer their military trainand sifting is taking place. Only the most thoroughly experienced and trained in military technique, and only those who show the most reliable records of service sands of friends of the Debs

leave in the first detachment. ern Division of the Debs Column Column to Spain. We must be you to tireless work to complete tural will undoubtedly take a promi- gin to gather together all the this project successfully. nent place in the International pennies, nickels, quarters, and know the workers of California

In an inspiring demonstration ranks of the struggle against the

courageous and determined de- and inheritance taxes and capital sire to aid the workers cause in levy. Create union scale jobs on Spain even at the cost of their low cost housing and other public lives. Now new hundreds and thousands who are not as fortunate as the volunteers in being A careful process of selection ing, must step forward and exsupport in every possible

#### THE MAIN TASK

pathizer, is to insure a success- ods to raise funds. The men composing the West- ful transportation of the Debs

# **Burt Wire Puts** To Roosevelt ation in the southwest. The average "tenant farmer" in

lin D. Roosevelt by Roy E. Burt, of farm workers. The agriculnational executive secretary of the tural group in this section which Socialist Party:

"Workers' Alliance demands for WPA workers and unemployed must be granted to avoid mass starvation and hardship. Divert funds from the military budget to WPA. Congress must seek addi-The volunteers have shown a tional funds through higher income

honest liberals will give.

The State Executive Committee of the Socialist Party has issued an appeal to every branch, mediately begin to raise money The main task before the thou- for this tremendous project. Mass and chairman of the Federation meetings, dances, house parties, Committee on Agricultural Labor, and loyalty to the working class Column, the first job for every appeals to the trades-unions, tag Glen Trimble, State Secretary of movement are being chosen to Socialist Party member and sym- days, must be organized as meth- the Socialist Party, Julius Na-

The Socialist Party Brigade which is in the front dollars that working people and will not fail to answer the call. Labor and Socialist spokesmen

# Walter Cowan Exposes Deal Between Public Officials and Employers

declared that the problem of the

tion after pointing out that 60

per cent of all persons engaged

SOCIALIST PROGRAM

(Continued on Page 3)

federal action:

# GiveDamningFacts Stresses Necessity Of Union Organization On Farm Labor At Walter Cowan, vice-president of the California Fode-Federal Hearing ration of Labor, in a speech before the Socialist Forum in San Francisco last Sunday

Show Landless Laborer Takes the Rap In tween law enforcement ag-California; Socialist Program Presented by State Secretary

The Socialist program for California and Southwestern agriculture was presented at a packed Federal hearing on agricultural problems in San Francisco Tuesday, December 12th. The hearing was called by a Special Committee of the United States Department of Agriculture which is to this score by the leadership draft a bill designed to aid farm tenants.

The issue of farm tenantry, particularly the vicious exploitation and brutal feudal sys-4ern Tenant Farmer's Union has ers. They insisted that our prob- forms for "registering" made "sharecropping" a houseforced the same administration which ignored all past demands

Three previous Federal hear in California agriculture are farm ings in southern and midwestern workers. This program included states have served to bring out a complete survey of wage hour the seriousness of the tenantry and working conditions of farm San Francisco labor in the southwest, four imhearing, attended by representa- mediate federal hearings on this WPA Question and agricultural labor groups, farm centers in the area and, on tee is to be appointed largely by emphasized a very different situthis basis, the following specific the sheriff's office. emphasized a very different situ- this basis, the following specific

California has a farm valued at gram was sent to President Frank- hirer of scores, often hundreds direct is given. competes with the Arkansas sharecropper for the "honor" of the lowest living standard in the nation is the landless farm la borer. Based on 1935 surveys his average family income is \$362 a year if he does no other work, and \$388 if he can pick up industrial work in the oft season. This group is not only the most poorly paid, but the chief target

of employer violence and terror. Imperial Valley, Orange County and Salinas are by-words for official lawlessness and vigilantism throughout America.

LABOR SPEAKERS GIVE FACTS These facts were emphasized member, and sympathizer to im- by Walter Cowan, vice president than. Secretary of the Confer of the California Agricul-Workers and by speakers We from many local agricultural

# Campaign

dent of the California Fedenight, proved collusion beencies and the growers and shippers in California agricultural fields by documentary evidence. He also stressed the great need for industrial unionism in the agricultural industry and decried the lack of activity on of the California Federation

lem is, above all, a labor prob- agricultural workers Speaking for the Socialist Miller was working actively as the Party, Glen Trimble presented a agent of the large agricultural inconcrete program for federal ac- terests in the state.

meet regularly in order to be able tives of all significant farmer problem to be held in different labor organization. This commit-

sists of registering every worker 1. A minimum wage set at a in the district in good old Hitler \$14,136 dollars and covering 208.1 standard of health and decency style, and excluding all "undesiracres. He is a relatively prosper- for labor on all farms where fed- able" elements. This plan also in-CHICAGO - The following tele- ous pillar of the community, a eral subsidy or aid, direct or in- cludes the blacklisting of all workers who show a desire to organize.

2. Extension of the program The sheriff's letters also out-(Continued on Page 3)

# Truce Broken By Double Cross Of General Motors

Sit-down Strikers Hold Plants At Flint As Knudsen Walks Out On Schedule Conference With Union

The bigger the corporation—the bigger the double cross. That is the major lesson of the current news of the

On last Monday, January 18th, William S. Knudsen, executive vice-president of General Motors threw down a flat refusal of collective bargaining and walked out of a conference with Homer Martin, United Automobile Workers' head. The refusal was a di-

rect contradiction of previous com- spired vigilante group which is at-

pany promises.

ficials know this. TOO GREEDY

The union almost forgot it, for a meeting." though. Corporation officials promised big things-provided the men left the plants-and union officers hours later refused to "discuss any However greedy GMC question" with the UAWA. couldn't hold its double-cross until

made to negotiate on eight union the key Fisher Body plants promptagent in all plants, when vice-presi- another week. dent Knudsen gave the show away

messages. The first was from George Boy- country. son, "founder" and president of the "Flint Alliance," a company in-

tempting to provoke violence Meanwhile the sit-down strikers against the union workers. The at Flint Fisher Body plants 1 and telegram asked for a "collective 2 "held the fort" and prepared for bargaining" conference. Knudsen, a long winter. Court injunctions, only too glad of a conference in bullets, tear gas and phoney prom- which company representatives ises have not moved them. So long would sit on both sides of the table, as they remain, the many million wired back that "we stand ready aldollar General Motors' industry is ways to discuss with your group or bottled up-tied tighter than a any group of our employes any drum. Both union and company of questions without prejudice to anyone. We shall notify you as soon as possible as to time and place

IT ALL DEPENDS

This from the man who thirty

The double-cross was so obvious the deadline and the union caught that the strike strategy committee promptly canceled its orders for Hardly had the promise been removing sit-down strikers. Men in demands, including recognition of ly sat down again and the biggest the UAWA as the sole bargaining tie-up in auto history swung into

Already all actual auto work is by publication of two telegraph stopped. A few days will see empty dealer's showrooms throughout the

> The great showdown between the (Continued on Page 2)

# An Open Letter to the Communist Party

To the California State Executive Committee and members of the Communist Party.

Dear Comrades: On January 6th the Socialist Party of San Francisco voted unanimously to invite the Communist Party to united action in organizing and financing the transportation of a western column of the Deb's Brigade of trained aviators, military and technical experts, so that these working class fighters may join their Spanish brothers in the heroic fight against fascism and for the workers'

This invitation has not been answered. A similar action by the Los Angeles Central Branch has received no more considerate treatment.

Now we are informed that

project for sending technical workers to Spain. The Debs' Brigade was launched by the Socialist Party of New York. December 26th. In the face of our 12-day old invitation to united action and of the many scores of qualified men who have already volunteered for the Debs' Brigade from every working class party and group, including many from your own party, your action can only be regarded as narrowly partisan, dividing the working class at a time when unity of action is a vital ne-

your party has decided this

week to support a competing

cessity. Today the workers of Spain are engaged in life and death struggle. Thousands of our comrades have died in the fight to crush fascism and

win victory for the workers of Spain. The issue is a world one in which aid for the Spanish workers depends on the united and overwhelming action of the organized workers and their friends throughout the world; and on that alone. This is no time for partisan-

The California State Executive Committee urgently appeals to the State Executive Committee of the Communist Party to send representatives to meet with our special committee already appointed for this purpose immediately so that full plans for a united. effective campaign can be agreed upon. We are prepared to meet at an hour's notice.

Comrades! Not only Spain. but the world fight against fascism and the world advance toward workers' power are at stake! We cannot allow any minor differences, any false pride or lame excuse to obstruct our unity in acting to meet the most important crisis since 1917. Hours are lives! All too

many of both have been wasted. It lies in the power of the State Executive Committee of the Communist Party to make a long stride toward ending that waste today. Unite with us to send hundreds, yes thousands, for unity will make thousands possible, of trained working class fighters to

Yours for International Socialism. GLEN TRIMBLE, State Executive Secretary, Socialist Party of Calif.

### Tells Story United Action And The Debs Column Of Horrors

is the enemy.

The Socialist Party carries on is all too late. the campaign against capitalism propaganda and action. Our efforts in all mass organization Party leadership to this sincere eling in the United States in bework are directed toward awaken- appeal by the Socialist Party was ing the workers to the fact that an editorial in the Daily Worker their enemy is capitalism and calling the Debs Column a "prowhoever defends any phase of vocation" (because it was imit, and that their only hope of mediately opposed by a capitalist security, peace, and freedom lies government), and a hasty marin organized working-class action shalling of C. P. forces to confuse up in its place a workers' society tage the campaign for the Debs

tion of various working-class or that-MUST be exposed. ganizations on specific workingclass issues. But it cannot re-

struggle against fascism, but suc- tions. cessfully filling that need will mean both practical aid in the Party to a united front proposal A concentration camp is merely workers' fight against capitalist- for much needed aid to Spain is a detention place for "suspects." fascisal and a strengthening of only a knife-thrust to internation. Once charged, and the charges their courage to carry on.

be a working-class political party by their actions.

pledged to Marxian principles. In Germany Advocates of "harmony at all United action would aid the costs" become disturbed when Spanish workers. Only with the working-class organization co-operation of all working-class Refugee Speaks in Bay bership meeting to discuss quesbrings to light the mistakes, fail- organizations can the project be ings, and outright betrayals of thoroughly successful. The coother working-class organizations. operation of the Communist Their argument is that capitalism Party would make possible a more rapid mobilization before it

SABOTAGE OF C. P. The answer of the Communist wipe out capitalism and set the whole issue and thereby sabo-Column.

Their action can have no result Consequently, we stand for other than confusing the supportunity of action among working- ers of the Spanish workers, weakclass groups for the purpose of ening the support to be gained strengthening the working-class for sending the Debs Column to in its struggle against capitalism join the International Workers' or against any of its various me- Brigade, and sabotaging internathods of exploitation. It is on tional working-class support to that basis that the Socialist Party the Spanish Loyalist workers. has supported and will continue Any organization that is willing to support and initiate united ac- to do that-is capable of doing

STILL URGE CO-OPERATION United action for specific aid main true to the principles laid in crises of the class struggle down by Marx, Engels, and the does not require that the or-Great American Socialist, Eugene ganizations see eye-to-eye on any V. Debs, if as an organization it other principle than the need is willing to sacrifice the effect for united working-class support tiveness of working-class action of the given issue. We still urge to a merely superficial "front" of the support of the Communist Party in this project and will In spite of the many recent work together in the most coevidences that the Communist operative manner possible to give Party is no longer interested in any and all kinds of effective aid militant working-class action in to the Spanish workers. If the the face of capitalist oppression Communist Party continues its and organized opposition, the So- direct sabotage of the Debs Colcialist Party acted in good faith umn of fighting workers for when it asked the Communist Spain, the Socialist Party will leadership for co-opera- nevertheless continue its camtion in support of the Debs Col- paign to send as many men as Trained military men are can be financed by the support only one of the many needs of it can muster from other work- two or three thousand more are the Spanish workers in their ing-class and friendly organiza- added to the prisoners in this one

If the answer of the Communist tions prevail all over Germany." al working-class solidarity, on The invitation was issued to them rests the responsibility for the penalty is carried out in some an organization which claims to the black name they have earned

# Automobile Truce Broken; Strikers Holding Plants was guilty of negligible criticism

(Continued from Page 1) CIO and the mass production industries, long expected in steel, is

The lineup of UAWA-CIO forces progressive forces are supporting poration; the vicious Flint "Jour- regime, he would be guilty of through the Conference for Civil virtual lynch campaign against Roy cordingly." Pights (meeting this week-end in Reuther and the bus driver strik- Nazi officials admitted that in lint.) The Flint Federation of ers and is now transfering its GMC the first nine months of the ex-Labor has andorsed the strike and controlled venomous pages to the istence of the concentration camp is ready for a general strike if and auto workers; the local Flint radio to which Brother Rix was comwhen necessary. F. X. Martel and station which refused workers' cash mitted, there were 36 suicides. repudiated the strike-breaking an. and the general editorial columns heavy build by any means, lost

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Saturday Nite, Jan. 30 8:30 P. M. at

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(adjoining City Hall) TICKETS, 35 Cents

Stationery Store, 1004 Fillmore St.

## OPEN FORUM

International Hall

NEXT SUNDAY, JAN. 24th ERIC RIX

Will speak in English on his experiences in a German Concentration Camp where he spent two years.

ADMISSION, 15 CENTS UNEMPLOYED FREE Auspices: Socialist Party, San

Area on Fascist

Barbarities

half of the victims of German

Fascism. He spent two years in

speak in San Francisco at the So-

brought about by the wholesale

when a 'big shot' is due in town,

camp alone, and similar condi-

are usually some form of treason,

prisoners in concentration camps

are innocent victims of the terroristic spy system which forbids

Looks From the Outside."

Nazi Prison.'

and at one time editor of a trade

WISER MEN

wiser than they were in March,

month. They want no more Wol-

man Auto Labor boards, no arbi-

tration and no phoney agreements

unacceptable to a majority of the

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cialism. For full information

members of the UAWA locals.

even "negative criticism." CRITICISM IS TREASON

Brother Rix explained that one if he merely mentioned facts. "If

Catholic Bishop Gallagher of De- ment. He spent eight months in troit last Sunday virtually con- solitary confinement and at no demned the strikers by accusing time was properly fed. He was because they violated the property leased from the deadly monotony

rights of GMC. This, however, does of idleness and solitude. not reflect the general Catholic Nazi "justice" is such that if a person suspected of treason is not distant ones-will be held guilty Auto workers of 1937 are much and given punishment accordingly. Even neighbors of the suspect 1934. They have not forgotten the (if no family can be found) can great Roosevelt deception of that be taken to answer for his crime.

A VICTIM'S FUNERAL One harbor worker was executed for treason. Under present orable defeat if it comes to pass ular case, 4000 workers turned out marily addressed. (and it won't) than another 1934 to the burial. Each one of them was guilty in the eyes of the law, but since there were only 400 police available at the moment, only 400 were caught and given the

Asked if the promise of "bread to the people" had been fulfilled by the Fascist regime, Brother Rix gave an illustration of one German worker with a wife and three children whose wages were family had meat was Saturday the dry end of sausage.

Erich Rix will give more deeration of Fascism, as it affects for Oakland and San Francisco.

### **NEW ADDRESS**

New address for State Office, Labor Action, Young People's Socialist League, and San Francisco Local of the Socialist Party after January first will be 236 VAN NESS AVENUE,

# CHICAGO SOCIALIST NOTES

General Membership Meeting

The Cook County (Chicago) Executive Committee has summoned a strictly red card memtions of Socialist policy and interpretation on the Civil War in Spain to be held Sunday, January 24th, at 2:30 p. m., in the Erich Rix, a member of the Ger- Jugoslav Federation Labor Home man Transport Workers' Union at 2301 South Lawndale Avenue (Take Douglas Park 'L' to Lawndale stop). The speakers will be Ernest Erber, National Chairman of the Y.P.S.L. and John Mill, one of the founders of the Polish a concentration camp. Brother Bund.

Socialist Party members and in the Bay Area where he is helping to organize an effective nawho are prepared to do volunteer work in aid of the organization to counteract some of the work drives in steel, rubber and auto of the paid Nazi agents in this industries are to report to Bernard Kirby, newly designated director at the County Office, 35 the auspices of the Socialist Party S. Dearborn St. of East Bay at a public meeting

#### in Carpenters' Hall, 763 12th St., Oakland, Sunday evening, Jan- Thomas to

uary 17 at 8 p. m. on "Terror in Speak The Chicago reception for Com-The following week he will rades Roy Burt and Frank cialist Party Forum at Interna- retaries, has been postponed from Comes; How It Acts; How It tured speaker. The Reception will Workers Lyceum on Hirsch are the two speakers. The labor movement is one of Boulevard and the Italian Comthe first things that must be de- rades who made the Chicago re- Roosevelt Hall, 3437 Roosevelt at stroved in a Fascist state, and ceptions for Modigliani and An- 8:00 p. m Brother Rix speaks from his own gelica Balabanoff memorable afare in complete charge of.

Comrade Thomas will speak tions of signed," he said in an interview, three times in Chicago under ernment this meeting will be parwas an ancient prison built to Party auspices during the week ticularly significant. hold from 800 to 1000 prisoners. of February 7th to 14th. On Tues- The Socialist Party is carrying

banquet at Hirsch Center for Burt and Trager is set for the 10th. On Sunday afternoon, February the 14th, at the Capitol Building Comrade Thomas will address a mass meeting on the question of political asylum for Trotsky and the question of international labor investigation of the past and future Moscow

trials. process of an organization drive labor movement for a forward drive of the Party. Socialist Leagues of Office Workers, Radio and Electric Workers and Pocketbook Workers have been formed and other groups are on their YPSL members in Cook County has just loaned its Red Special Ed Adams, to the Detroit So

cialists and auto strikers. Fifty dollars was raised at the Chicago Erber meeting for the Debs Column.

#### Lenin-Liebknecht Meeting

On January 23 the Chicago District of the Young People's Socialist League and the Socialist Trager, new national Party sec- Party are holding an anti-war tional Hall, 236 Van Ness Avenue, January 23rd to February 10th. Liebknecht and Luxemberg. Naat 8 p. m., on "Fascism: How It Norman Thomas will be the fea- than Gould, Executive Secretary of the YPSL, and Albert Glotzer, take place at a banquet at the representing the Socialist Party

experience as an active trade un- fairs promise to outdo them- war, the recent Anglo-French ionist condemned to two years in selves on the menu which they proposal for intervention in Spain, the United States' gov-

Because of the 'over-crowding' day, February the 9th, he will be on the traditions of Lenin, Liebk- the state tax load to the tune of featured at a meeting in support necht and Luxemburg. All work \$10,000,000 a year. Heavy taxing Nazi arrests, this prison now of the Eugene Debs Column to ers in Chicago should rally to of iron ore and chain store interhouses from 3000 to 5000 prison- Spain on Chicago's south side, this meeting, building a mighty ests would cover this additional ERS. For information read the ers regularly. On celebration days probably at Shotwell Hall. The defense against imperialist war, financing.

Is Put Up To

By JULES GELLER

Benson responded to the mandate of an overwhelming labor vote with many to mobilize its strength in the sweeping proposals for labor address, January 5, before legislature in St. Paul. It remains to be seen what the legislature will do with the proposals.

son's proposals to abolish the criminal syndicalist law, and to outlaw Avenue. the use of thugs and strikebreakers in labor struggles.

#### GOVERNOR'S PROPOSALS

by the incoming governor proposed

- 1. An amendment to authorize the fixing of maximum hours and minimum wages.
- 2. Extension of the mortgage mo. ganize in this field.
- under \$4,000.

5. Placement of net income tax on mining corporations.

The governor's address also urged the passage of the AYA, the bill, government control and ownermany other demands on Congress.

It is estimated that Benson's suggested legislation would boost

# Legislation The Action Army

We have evolved a plan to get 1,000 new subset F. L. Solons and at the same time assure a steady medium of incoming weeks to support Labor Action in the coming weeks.

It is simply this. We are making a special offer of ST. PAUL. - Farmer La- cent three month trial subscriptions. The subscriptions bor governor-elect Elmer A. printed on stamped post-cards and sell at 4 for \$1

## Rix to Speak at cards. If you want self in the Action legislation in his inaugural Sunday Night one dollar or more and we legislation in his inaugural Sunday Night send you prepaid sub car the newly convened F. L. Open Forum

Every Sunday evening, at 8 p. m. then keep the ball rolling Local San Francisco of the Social gathering in the quarters. Of immediate interest are Ben- ist Party conducts an Open Forum at International Hall, 236 Van Ness

Last week's forum with Walter Cowan proved extremely interesting, educational and instructive. The legislative program outlined The question and discussion period can dispose of a bunch of was lively and manifested a deep subs a week. interest in the subject of Cowan's address-the plight of the agricultural workers and how to help or-

Next Open Forum will take place 3. Exemption of homestead tax on Sunday evening, January 24th. Eric Rix, for twenty years a Ger-4. Increase of iron ore tax about man Trade unionist, spent two years in a Hitler Concentration put this campaign over Camp. He will tell of his experi- bang. ences and give a general view of what life under a fascist dictatorship means to a radical worker. go over the top with eight Frazier-Lundeen social security Rix will speak in English. All party cards, two dollars, each and YPSL members are urged to will guarantee long life ship of federal reserve banks and attend this important forum. Also Action. This hundred wi

### WANTED

ACTION ARMY column.

# Rounding Up The Innocents

# The Lowdown on the League Against War and Fascism

THE AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM, By Hillman H. Bishop, College of City of New York.

REVIEW BY JOHN ARLINGTON Of all those numerous "mass" and "united front" or- longer possible for either the Party had over 100 of such ganizations initiated by the Communist Party in the past Party or the League to make "mass" affiliates in New York 14 years, the American League Against War and Fascism any further attack upon "this nouncement of Frey and the A. the price of potatoes before Hit. has been by far the most impressive and successful. The mouthpiece of the imperialist F. of L. Metal Trades Council and ler came into power was 21/2 reason for this is obvious. Its ostensible purpose forms powers." The League of Nations ber has increased during the past

are supporting the strike. The marks and was now 7 marks, he the widest possible base for pop-Cleveland Federation of Labor en- would immediately be arrested ular-particularly liberal and paci- miliar on every campus. Some of against war and fascism. and imprisoned for six months. fist-support. Almost everyone is the chapter headings convey the By the 1935 Congress, another Against the workers in solid ca- If he were heard using those facts opposed, in the abstract, to both scope of the inquiry—Genesis and right-about-face was necessary behas substantial backing. The So- pitalist array there are: The Gen- to propagate sentiment against war and fascism. And since the History of the American League; cause of the Franco-Soviet Milieral Motors billion and a half cor- Hitler or in favor of the old rise of Hitlerism and the Japa- Program of the League; How the tary Pact. France, chief defender the strike with direct aid and nal" which for weeks conducted a high treason and dealt with ac-

The American League was the port." offspring of the new 1933 Cominthough it has preferred, as a rule, to speak of this control as

#### An Anti-Fascist Analysis Of the League

so poor that the only time that investigate affiliation of the As- the CP. sociation with the American night when they could go to the League in 1935. "The case prestore and buy one-half pound of sented by the League's representatives," say the author, tails and facts regarding the op- plausible." The Committee rec- the League program is modeled can control an unorganized, amthe working class, in the meet- suspicions aroused by the list of turn in the CP position on war which applies not only to the ings which have been announced the League "trade union affili- and fascism in the last three and League but to all Communist inon "documentary evidence largely following evidence: from sources friendly to the present report.

graphed, blue-covered format fa- instruments for peace.

nese invasion of Manchuria in Communist Party Controls the of the status quo created by the

the Detroit Central Labor Council for radio time; the Flint Alliance, Brother Rix himself, not of a tern line of the "united front from anti-fascist liberal to whom so Soviet Union." It furthermore folabove and below" through which much of the League's appeal has lowed the party line in its new a sufficient number of liberals of the Detroit and Chicago press. forty pounds during his imprison- Russian diplomacy sought new been directed, Dr. Bishop's report distinction between "aggressive" and trade unionists to remove the "democratic" allies against Japa- cannot be dismissed as the prod- and "defensive" wars. The new possibility of Communist control. nese-German aggression. At no uct either of a "red-baiter" or a program called for the support of Harry F. Ward has been the chief time since its organization has "sectarian" opposition radical. "all peoples (not merely colonial apostle of this message to Ephesithe sit-downers in Fisher Body of actually grateful for a chance to there been the slightest illusion Though he proves conclusively peoples) who are resisting ex. ans, but Dr. Bishop disposes of being on the road to communism "peel potatoes" when finally re- among informed radicals gener- that the League is now and al- ploitation, aggression and sup- the argument with little difficulty. ally as to its real nature and pur- ways has been under complete pression by imperialist powers." Like the Party line, the League pose. In fact, it is only during CP domination, this is not the By taking out the word "colonial" base has certainly been broadthe past year and a half, and in part of his study which is of and adding the word "aggression," ened-broadened to the point compliance with a still newer primary interest to Socialists and says Dr. Bishop, the latest turn where-like the Party line-it is to be found, his relatives-even Comintern line, that the Commu- radical trade unionists. Socialist of the Comintern is included in neither anti-war nor anti-fascist. nist Party itself has gone to the refusal to affiliate with the League program so neatly This is hardly a change which trouble of camouflaging its com. League has not been based pri- that probably few of the delegates will recommend it to revolutionplete control of the League- marily upon the fact that it is present saw the implications. Communist-controlled.

"leadership." And it has been have cooperated in numerous spe- wars' there there is only one during this period that the League cific united fronts-defense comlike the Party, has had its great- mittees, strikers aid, student rations for defensive wars." In German law, anyone who ex- est success among liberals and re- strikes, unemployed demonstrapresses sympathy with such a vic- ligious pacifists. It is to these tions, etc.-which has been domi-They are wary of Governor Mur- tim by going to his funeral is latter-day innocents that a recent nated by the CP and have carried phy and general meddler, Ed. Mc- himself guilty of treason. It is a study of the League, made by a on a struggle for internal democ Grady. In the words of one of the tribute to the courage of the Ger- liberal instructor of the College racy within such united fronts. chief union leaders, "Rather hon- man workers that in this partii- of the City of New York, is pri- Socialist criticism of the League has been based rather on the

#### The League Follows The Party Line

League" and are embodied in the in 1933, the League program fol- united front in all its phases, The 46-page study is as detailed sition to all imperialist wars and But an analysis of the delegates and well-documented as a Ph.D. especially in its denunciation of to the second Congress reveals ously: "Other non-Communists salary. The complete thesis-though far more interest- the League of Nations and the the fact that "over 70 per cent ing—an is issued in the mimeo- Kellogg Peace Pact as effective of the total number of delegates tion by the names which appear dismissed employee has

And, the author adds, "After

Socialists and other radicals agreeing to support 'defensive further step-support for prepa- into the history and analysis of

#### How the Party Controls The League; the Innocent Front That part of the Bishop report

fact that the League program CP controls the American League from below"; the methods by ruary 12th to the 25th. (like the Communist party line is no news to any working class which it imitates even in its in group that has ever participated This study is called "The consistencies) is neither funda- in "united front" movements. It League Against War and Fas- mentally anti-war nor anti-fascist, should be of interest, however, to cism" and is written by Hillman but is merely a pseudo-pacifist the real innocents among the M. Bishop, of the Government extension of the Soviet bureauc- liberals, pacifists and Y.W.C.A. Department of City College. The racy's diplomatic maneuvers for secretaries who meet every critiauthor was a member of the the maintenance of the interna- cism of the League by the naive Anti-Fascist Association of the tional status quo. It is also, of declaration that the Communist staffs of City College and was course, a highly profitable recruit Party delegates constitute a small one of a Committee appointed to ing and fund-raising adjunct for minority at League Congresses. Even if this were the truth, it would mean nothing to those who know how a small, united, disciplined "fraction" - especially In support of his contention when it works in cooperation with "seemed, on the surface, rather that "even in its contradictions a few supposedly "liberal" stooges, ommended affiliation. Later, his after that of the CP and every orphous majority-a situation ates." Dr. Bishop made an ex- a half years has been followed itiated "united fronts." As Earl tended investigation of the sub- by a similar turn in the League Browder points out in his Commuject. His conclusions are based position," Dr. Bishop cites the nism in the United States: "In the center, as the conscious mov-At the first League Congress ing and directing force of the lowed the old Party line of oppo- stands the Communist Party."

By the 1934 Congress, the So- numerous disguises-the I.W.O., viet Union had entered the I.L.D., T.U.U.L. and other purely made sacrifices and gave un League of Nations and it was no alphabetical combinations." (The ingly that Labor Action mig had now become a bulwark two years.) The non-partisan and Lincoln Steffens.

Leaders of the League will lized into a steadily mounting ture; The Innocent Front; The year before "a leader in the past year, the League has beapprehension in labor, liberal and League's Attitude Toward Com- preparations for imperialist war" longed to the Communist Party, munist Opposition Groups; and an was now a custodian of democ- bag and baggage, but will insist cially perhaps, in Jewish circles. analysis of its "trade union sup- racy. The American League en- that at the third Congress held dorsed the Franco-Soviet pact as in January, 1936, a reorganiza-Coming from that very type of part of the "peace policies of the tion took place which "broadened ary workers. The Communist Party continues to hold the reins. Names On the Letterhead

> There is no space here to go the Communist Party's general Czecho-Slovakia, the Communist "united front" tactics; the scope Party has already taken this step. of its organization periphery; its frank admission in an editorial of the Young People's addressed to the "Militant Sccialist" (Daily Worker, Feb. 1936) "You are wrong if you think we outlining methods by which the have given up "the united front try, will be in California which it has manipulated the American League. The Bishop study discusses these issues with a wealth of quotations. It closes however with a bit of editorial comment which indicates that the for his tour. He is sche writer possesses more psychologi. fill several speaking eng cal insight than is usual in acade- at the various schools and mic circles. He says: "There are, of course, many

non-Communists in the League who are not influenced by the desire for office and who are fully cognizant of the nature of the League. . . . Some of these are individuals without any definite political convictions whose sympathies are vaguely with the left. To many such individuals, the authoritarian leadership of the Communist Party has a definite attraction. Those who do not care to think through difficult political questions for themselves frequently find it comforting to follow au-

may be drawn into the organiza- decided by the length of

sell a subscription for a just a bit of application a

finitely wider circulation we can raise enough mor Join the Action Army.

tute the advance guard of Action Army. Enlist today

money to keep going on a keel. Though our appeal fo gone unheeded, it has not h the necessary results.

the country. Labor Action filled a long feit need of th cialist and labor movement is

bor Action is approxima \$200 per week. This mi must come from three sou namely subscriptions, b orders and contributions. ing income because we re that business men do not out the radical press as dium for expression.

This week, as every other we need \$200. Send in yo tribution now. And put y down for a fixed contril

each month.

PRIZE WINNER As predicted in last column, this week the prise most subs goes to Bill Mil Stanford U. Bill also starte two-bit sub army by pu a mere 25 cards as a st And Herman Banks of delphia came through with contribution. Thanks, Bal

# To Californ In Februa

Ernest Erber, National League of America, who tour throughout the ent His stay in California

marked with large mass League members are plant quets, symposiums, debate throughout the state.

Labor Action in the n will carry his detailed sch speaking dates for the en

#### Guild Curbs H

NEW YORK .- The Newspaper Guild has bee successful in curbing 5 ups and wholesale fil eral of the largest Hea Negotiations on hours ing conditions are ducted, and many unde ployees have already heavy salary increases.

bonuses have gone And he adds, perhaps faceti- running as high as si

On seven of Hearsts tions heavily graded

#### write to Business Manager of Labor Action at 236 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco.

# Documents Reveal the Conspiracy Against Agricultural Labor The Party At Work

# Cowan Shows Plot Of Public Officials To Crush Unions

Letters of Contra Costa Sheriff Explain Elaborate Scheme to Blacklist Agricultural Workers

| cent was levied at the last convenmethods for "dealing with" tion of the California Federation of organizers who attempt to Labor for the purpose of organiznto the territory to organize ing agricultural workers, Mr. Cowand jailed.

GANIZERS "DISAPPEAR" rding to Brother Cowan, orers have been known to disfor days and weeks under thod of procedure.

tural workers appear on county and elsewhere. three in this issue of Labor

her Cowan, who has been recent struggles in Orange tion. and Salinas, and called atto the short-comings of the es due to lack of the indusorm of organization or any strike, I took a different attitude." wide charter covering all tural workers.

ers covering field, packing, ing, and cannery workers.

a state-wide charter cover-

According to the an said the State Federation has these organizers are per- taken no action. He urged that all to address the workers, but trade unionists press the matter in on as they are out of sight of their local unions and send letters growd they are followed, ar- to the executive council of the California rederation of Labor de manding action. He said that had the state fed-

eration followed the mandate of the union membership the Salinas fiasco could not have taken place ductions of the letters and and that the agricultural workers registration cards and the would now be prepared for the card to be carried by all struggles to come shortly in Orange

COMMENDS SOCIALIST PARTY Mr. Cowan commended the Soactive than any other trade. cialist Party for the work in the in the state in organizing Los Angeles and Orange County tural workers, outlined the strikes and in the Salinas situa-

"I used to be prejudiced against the Socialist Party," he said, "but organizations in those com- after the splendid work its members did in the Orange County

He added that, unlike other political organizations, the Socialist the A. F. of L. convention in Party had done its work for no a last year Cowan appeared partisan gain, but had stepped into the resolutions committee the forefront of the struggle for ged the granting of an inter- the purpose of winning immediate nal charter for agricultural economic gains for the workers.

It is important for all trade unions to take up this matter of agricultural organization and force the ing in this, Cowan persuaded executive council of the California San Francisco Labor Council Federation to take immediate aca meeting of all agricultural tion. It is important that all workin the state in San Francis- ers flood the office of the various month in an effort to per- officials of the federation with dethem to relinquish the fed- mands for action. It is essential and independent charters in that other strike-breaking plans such as those of the sheriff of Conagricultural workers in the tra Costa County be fought with the organized might of the workers igh a per capita tax of one of California.

MILLER SHERIFF

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MARTINEZ. CALIFORNIA

John A. MILLER SHERIFF

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MARTINEZ, CALIFORNIA

In connection with your request as to information regarding the place used by this County in the interest of industrial peace, we are pleased

can be effectively worked unless started far in advance of a known per-loc of employment, that is, insofar as fruit harvesting is concerned.

We will use, for example, the apricot harvest which runs normally from June 25 until July 20. The first movement them is the organizing in the winter months of a group we here named the "Diable Valley Public Relations Committee" composed of five small ranchers selected by the Sheriff, five large farmers selected by the farm organizations and five merchants or laboring men selected by the ten farmers - these fifteen men form a committee which meets monthly prior to the harvest season and weekly just before the season comes on. They also are available for service for special meetings at all times, day or night.

This group, far in advance of the harvest season, goes into every detail in connection with the various requirements, wages, camp conditions, publicity policy and all other matters prior to the actual picking season—in this way, an equitable wage scale, fair to all concerned, is set and agreed upon to the satisfaction of the entire community.

The next move is the registration of every fruit worker in the district, giving the worker his card of identification, and no grower hires a man unless he has such a card -- the system contemplates a copy of the registration in the hands of the registration headquarters, one to the Sheriff and one to the farmer. The utilization of this method gives me and my officers complete surveillance over every fruit worker in the district, and as the season progresses, we make a daily round of the various fruit workers in the community, asking them if they have registered and if they want work, advising them that it will be necessary to register; otherwise, they will not be needed in the community. You can see that at once we

have complete control of the situation and can choose our workers from those who have had past good records, as at the expiration of the picking season, each farmer makes a report on his registration sheet showing at which type of work the worker is proficient, how much he was paid and what type of work he produced.

As a side light to the situation, our office does not wait until the fruit season is upon us, but several weeks prior to the season I have set up a temporary office in the midst of the effected area and have gone there personally, never leaving night or day, in a sincere effort to contact each worker personally, giving him a hearty handclasp and a happy smile. As the season begins, I don my working clothes and go out on to the ranches, picking a little fruit with each worker or giving him a happy smile — in my boyhood days I was a farm boy myself, and I realize the value of a smile given to the fruit worker under conditions which he operates, and sin this way we tend to inject contentant and happingses. in this way we tend to inject contentment and happiness.

You may be surprised to know that in the past several seasons the fruit workers at Brentwood have actually been proud to possess a card of registration and there has been not the least sign of labor trouble in the district — understand me, it is liable to happen at any time in these unrestful days, but I find that constant vigilance on our parts and a conscientious desire really to do our jobhas given us the material assistance necessary to realize our fond hope of 'peace on earth - good will to men'. If one just wishes for peace and then does nothing personally about it, no results can be expected, and it takes the fair judgment of not only In one just wishes for peace and then does nothing personally about it, no results can be expected, and it takes the fair judgment of not only the farmer and the worker but the authorities as well, and I believe herein lies your troubles in many other counties, for without criticism, let me say frankly that many of the peace authorities do not get to work until the fire has burned down the building — here we merely try to stamp out a fire before it gets too much of a head start, and while we have been successful in the past, all I can do is to sincerely hope that our efforts will meet with the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the former of the same conversion and success in the sam will meet with the same cooperation and success in the future.

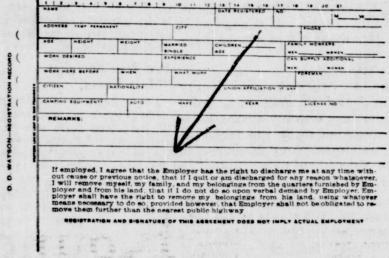
> John A. Willer, Sheriff Contra Costa County

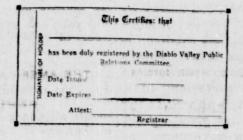
Concerning your letter of November 28, please be advised that forwarded to you in prior communications a specimen of our registration system which you asked for.

regarding outside organizers who come into the territory, this regarding outside organizers who come into the territory, this office feels they have a right to come in and talk to individuals or they have a right to hire a hall to speak to then, but where they get up on roap boxes and address a group from a street corner or in the open, the people of Brentwood take the position that these people are inciting rict and disturbing the peace of the residents of the community, and so therefore they swarp out a marrowith upon that beats. therefore they swear out a warrant upon that basis.

It is upon the serving of the warrant and the method used that the peace officer either makes or breaks the case, and if an arrest is made at the time that the soap box orator is in the midst of his cration, the peace officer immediately juts every last one of the hearers against him, and therefore the peace officer blows up the entire situation. He attack the metter in an entirely different way as follows: the resident shears out a warrant for disturbing the peace; our officers keep the soap box orator under surveillance during the time he makes the oration; we allow him to finish; we watch him carefully, and when he gets alone somewhere away from the scene, we place him under arrest and take him to the County Jail. You will note that this is an entirely different type of procedure than most peace officers use, but by employing it, we absolutely alignate. then most peace officers use, but by employing it, we absolutely eliminate the belligerent attitude of the mob and in this way the psychology of the entire proceedings is to have the mob with you mather than against you. (That in a nut shell is the secret of our success at Brentwood more than anything else)

John a Miller





# live Damning Facts On Farm Labor At Federal Hearing Will Play For

ee hundred necessary to iral unions, just as the

gratory farm workers.

bargaining for the agriworkers' unions. E KEY QUESTION

key question," Trimble lown and county authori- representatives.

ities maintain control, the best

unions control their hir- rious intention of attempting to tonelli's Red Orchestra. This unique solve this greatest single labor orchestra, the only one of its kind program for providing off problem in the southwest, it must in the West, is made up of revolurural cottages and gardens recognize that planning must be tionists and anti-fascists. undertaken on the basis of the ederation and the agri- tion, which includes California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, New that of off season indi- Mexico and Arizona. Control and November will remember the lively or collective farms which administration of the plan must end to lower seasonal in- be on the same area basis, not delegated to local or state auguarantee of the right of thorities, and the growing farm workers' unions must be recognized and given a full voice in planning and administration."

Reactionary "Associated Farout, "is not, however, that mer" speakers made little imnery for aiding the ex- pression and no serious suggesworkers, but THE tions at the hearing which was of that machinery. So completely dominated by labor

## 86-A Year Of Labor **Progress In Minneapolis**

and Vice President Boerthe workers of Minneapoready carried them along will bring even greater the organized workers ity as a whole."

movement in the last |

Walter Frank, business shadowed only by the general August 1, 1936."

ting federal camps for machinery in the world will be orkers from the present to twisted to their objective of

as a year of great labor agent of the Lathers Union re- smashing union victory in a seven of habeas corpus in the Federal distinguished by being the host in Minneapolis, accord- ports for the joint organizing weeks' strike against the whole- Court in Los Angeles. New Year's summary in committee of the Lathers ond sale grocery employers, the bosses the Minneapolis Central Such is the tenor of the reports heels of this victory came a flood long to come over to Velarde and on declare that "the

of militancy that has mated Clothing Workers, Peter and each week has seen new con- "Well you s.o.b.'s we've finally called a "vag." Help us to smash Upholsterers Union, and Kelly of progress and in the

er Roy Weir of the C. General Drivers Union, Local 544, unionization of its employes. ates that "judging from reports for the Teamsters Joint mance of the Minneapo- Council, No. 32 (Minneapolis):

indicates the greatest progress in fruit and produce, liquor, taxi, that in 1937 it will many years among the unions af- furniture stores, package deliv- County, was heard to say: "Those even greater triumphs. filiated with the T. J. C. Never ery, greenhouses, newspapers, s.o.b.'s (that is Orange County ly increasing member- before has there been such a spring water, cold storage, auto language for union organizers) n and power Minneapo- broad and consistent development accessory, building material, sand think we're through with them are making bright among all the drivers unions. The and gravel, excavating and grad- now after they have served their labor history and will most important single event of ing, prepared concrete, lumber ninety days. But wait, we will the year in the driving trades and wrecking, waste paper, trans- have another surprise in store er Hilliard Smith of the was the restoration of internal fer, and scores of small groups for them." Union, Local 382, re- peace through the amalgamation and miscellaneous individual en- It is not clear if these words

# **Labor Press**

Music for the Labor Action Press "contented" slavery, International Hall, 236 Van Ness Avenue, will be supplied by A. An-

songs played by these musicians. Besides music and dancing, a

sist of dramatic presentations and other offerings. Tickets for this affair are only

35c and can be obtained at the hall or at Koblik's, 1004 Fillmore St.

covering a wide group of local these two leaders of the workers. "A review of events during 1936 industries such as coal, grocery,

## Red Orchestra Labor Organizers Are 'Bums' In Orange County Bonus System

Labor organizers are "bums"- thorities of Orange County will in Orange County, California, leave nothing undone to keep Veproof of this can be found on larde and Espinoza from organiz-Ball to be held on January 30th at 31st in the county jail in Sarta California. In jail they are very Ana, California. Here the entry valuable to the squires of the appears: William Velarde and citrus industry. They stand as a Joe Espinoza; charge-vagrancy; warning to anyone who attempts sentence-90 days.

known. Driving along a public district. Their purpose is to aid the work- highway in Velarde's car during In Orange County they think ing class struggle for liberation, the strike in Orange County last Comrades and friends who attend- summer these men were picked just two bums picked up on a Growers' refusal to negotiate the Socialist organization there. ed the Labor Action banquet in up and charged with vagrancy. vag charge. They don't know that further for an agreement for the More power to them! ers' Union.

TWO APPEALS DENIED

truck drivers' strike of 1934 one to the Appelate Court of Or- nia. Tell them you'll be glad which changed the whole attitude ange County, the other to the when they get out. Write some of labor to unionization and sent District Court of Appeals now local news of a labor kind. Flood a surge of organizational stimu- sitting in Fresno. Both of these the jail with letters so that the lus through Minneapolis and the appeals were denied. At present prisoners will know; so that the "The new union, Local 544, was Los Angeles Branch of the Work- that a certain fairly numerous immediately challenged by the or- ers Defense League is attempting section of the population conganized employers, and after a to secure their release by a writ siders Santa Ana to be unjustly

other building trades unions: were completely convinced that pitable bastille of Orange County Company, which for too long a of any in jail at the time. Pick- fornia. Farrell Dobbs, secretary of the time had successfully opposed the pockets, drunks and peeping-toms are fine upstanding citizens in "Local 544 now holds contracts Orange County compared with

One of the officials of Orange

the sheriff's records of December ing the agricultural workers of Unions Taking Strike mass organizations has been met so that the State Office will have

The circumstances are well and Filipino field workers of that that Velarde and Espinoza are

to help the Mexican, American

for a long time. What can you do about it? Sit Numerous efforts have been down and write a letter to Joe made to obtain the release of the Espinoza or Bill Velarde, Orange men. Two appeals were made, County Jail, Santa Ana, Califorthe Non-Partisan Labor Defense, postman and the jailer will know of two honored and respected On their first day in the hos- members of the working class.

What else can you do about it? "There are 700 more members in Local 544 was made of the same the Sheriff took time off from We need money to carry on this stuff as old Local 574. On the his pinochle game sufficiently appeal. Send us a dollar or five or ten. Maybe you or your union of Sander Genis of the Amalga- of negotiations with employers, Espinoza and smirk genially, organizer will be the next to be Warhol and Luff Anderson of the tracts signed and placed in the got you in." The worst cell in the California Vagrancy law. Send union files. Among the signers the place was reserved for our your contribution to Non Partisan and Aslasson of the Miscellaneous are the department stores of the friends; for, you see, they were Labor Defense, Room 303, 124 W. city, including that of the Dayton guilty of the most heinous crime 6th street, Los Angeles, Cali-

# Chicago Printers

have come out for the establish- the lettuce strike, offered a 25 January 18, Comrade Anderson ment of a liberal Chicago daily, cents per day bonus to scabs. planned to talk over with the Kansas. The "no" vote was qualipublication of the Chicago Lino- by this promise have not to this bilities for work in that state. type Society. The members of the day been paid and they never society are all in Typographical will. The agricultural workers arrive in California in about but that I object to the entire Union No. 16 and are employed are learning fast and realize that three weeks' time. Locals in the system of 'official' papers." as linotype operators on Chicago the strength of their organizations state are urged to cooperate in Union, Local 382, rendid progress of both and 1313, the latter General Drivers Union, Local 544. Which numbers in the thoundid progress of both and 1313, the latter General Drivers Union, Local 544. Which numbers in the thoundid progress of both and 1313, the latter General Drivers Union, Local 544. Which numbers in the thoundid progress of both and 1313, the latter General Drivers Union, Local 544. Which numbers in the thoundid progress of both and 1313, the latter General Drivers Union, Local 544. Which numbers in the thoundid progress of both and 1313, the latter General Drivers Union, Local 544. Ornamental Iron WorkWalter Front havings the development of this is overSands, has almost doubled since Velarde and Espinoza. But one regards their own workers and their editorial policy.

# **Growers Try**

## Vote of Celery Workers

Agricultural Unions (Mexican, among these groups. Although American and Filipino) of San few in number in such a large Federation Endorses Diego County, are taking a strike state, the Socialists are loyal and vote this week in answer to the sacrifice a good deal to maintain Velarde has part interest in a behind those bars are marshalled harvest of the celery crop and

one of the most vicious of the California Growers' weapons, lowing places in the state: Es- or before mailing date of Janu-They use it in two ways. One tancia, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, ary 5. is the yearly bonus, paid only at Hot Springs, Lac Cruses, from The vote by affiliated states the end of the season by each in- whence we move on into Arizona. in good standing on the motion, dividual employer to all employes who have worked steadily for the of representing the Socialist the Socialist Party endorses La-Association and only them during Party in Sound Truck No. 1-the bor Action as its official organ the entire year. This means that Red Special! The comrades with the understanding that such after a worker has been working everywhere rejoice when they see endorsement shall continue until for any one grower for a month this bright red truck on its way such time as, in the judgment of or so and a slack in the work across the country with its mes- the majority of the WFSP Excomes, as a result of an imma- sage of hope to the exploited ecutive, the policies of Labor Acture crop, the worker may not workers of country and city." seek employment elsewhere if he Comrade Anderson reports en longer coincide," was as follows: wants his bonus at the end of thusiasm on the part of comrades the year. Like all bonus systems in New Mexico for the organiza- tee members in New Mexico all it is used to hold a club over the tion and plans of the Western voted in favor of the proposal. workers' head in order to keep Federation. him in line and to prevent him from going out on strike. It was against this vicious system that the Citrus Workers in Orange The Red Special County struck last year.

STRIKEBREAKING SCHEMES

ACTION? See the Action Army, sound truck for organization TION ARMY.

#### the German Transport Workers' Union and two years a prisoner in a German Concentration Camp. will speak on the subject: "Under the Iron Heel-How Fascism Comes, How it Acts, and How it Looks from the Outside." Other activities are the regular

Headquarters at 236 Van Ness

San Francisco

Monday evening class from 7-8 p. m. in Socialist Fundamentals, with Millie Goldberg as instrucweeks, from the opening, Janu- the average. ary 18. The last day for registration will be January 25. Another Monday evening class,

from 8:30-10:00 p. m., takes up the "History of Socialist Thought," under the instruction of Ernest Capay Valley 2; Fresno 1; Los a period of fifteen weeks, there will be a class from 8-10 p. m. on the "History of the Three Internationals (includes Paris Commune, the International Workingmen's Association, Blanquism, Convention Proudhonism, Marxism, etc.) Beginning January 21, with January 28 as the last day for registration, this class will be conducted by Barney Mayes.

Every Saturday night an informal social will be held at the headquarters. A special Italian Social will be held January 30with Italian orchestra and refresh-An educational meeting will be

held Wednesday, January 27 at 8 p. m. on the topic of "Interna- Los Angeles Affiliations and the Sobe the speaker.

League will hold an open meeting vited. Friday, January 29, at 8 p. m.

## Referendum

ticle XVI, Section 2 (last line) tour of California to build up inand Section 5, was passed by a terest and circulation for the vete of 81-53, with some locals paper. Locals will be notified of not voting. This means that So- the schedule and members are cialist Party members who have asked to cooperate to the fullest been in the Party in California extent to make this tour a sucfor six months are eligible to run |cess.

State Convention, to be held from Activity is being organized to noon on Saturday, February 20 make full use of the new Socialist to noon on Monday, February 22 Avenue. The second Forum in in either Berkeley or San Francisco (exact place will be an-

the regular Sunday evening servnounced later). ices will take place January 24 The number of delegates alat 8 p. m. Erich Rix, member of lowed each local has been tentatively figured (on a basis of local dues stamp purchase average for the year of 1936). Some slight adjustments in figures will be made, owing to discovery of figures for January and February, 1936, not available at the time averages were figured. Locals should check their own record of dues stamps bought and notify the State Office not later tor, which will continue for six than January 27 of any error in

Under Article XVI, Section 2, of the Constitution, locals are entitled to the following number of delegates: Bakersfield 2; Berke-Norback. Thursday evenings, for Angeles Branch Central 6; Los Angeles Jewish 2; Los Angeles Polish 3; Oxnard 2; Palo Alto 2; San Diego 1; San Francisco 4.

## Delegates

Owing to a slight delay in issuance of instructions from the National Office, the number of delegates allowed California is not yet known. As soon as this information is received, the ballots will be sent out with the nominations received in the State Office which were mailed from locals on or before January 20.

## A social will be held at So-

cialist Party." Glen Trimble will cialist Party Headquarters, 1161/2 West Ninth Street, at 8 p. m. The Young People's Socialist January 30. The public is in-

#### Tour for Labor Action

The Business Manager of La-The referendum to suspend Ar- bor Action starts this week on a

## Western States Federation Of the Socialist Party

# Red Special

SAN DIEGO.—The Independent mentary work of organization moving vehicles!

dance tunes and revolutionary grocery store and both the men thousands, hundreds of thousands, other vegetables grown in the New Mexico. We spent two days Socialist Party, Labor Action has "We are now traveling through the Western Federation of the had small sums of money on their of workers who stand in spirit county. The Celery Growers, in Clovis, enjoying the cordial been officially endorsed as the persons at the time of arrest. But behind these two "bums." They fearful of the recent organiza- hospitality of the Duncans and organ of the Federation. The mospecial program is being prepared more important, and this really don't realize that Velarde and tional drive initiated by the Powells—faithful and loyal tion made by Comrade Paul S. by the committee in charge to conpresident and organizer respec- mighty army and not just two intend to initiate the bonus sys- These comrades and others are WFSP Executive Committee in tively of the Agricultural Work- vags that ought to be put away tem in the fields, attempting to deserving of the highest regard, Colorado, was mailed December disguise it by calling it a 5-cent for they are giving all they have 18 to the members of the general in time and money to maintain executive body of the affiliated the Socialist organization here states, with the announcement The bonus system has proven against the greatest of obstacles, that the decision would be made "We expect to stop at the fol- on the basis of votes received on

"We are proud of the privilege "that the Western Federation of

# California Awaits

Anderson entered Arizona Be-If this first type of bonus is cause the organization in that pointing the other two members. Want New Daily meant to forestall strikes, the state is not extensive, very few second is supposed to break plans could be made in advance California voted three in favor of CHICAGO, Ill.—The linotype strikes. This was initiated in Sa- for extensive use of the truck, the proposal. The only "no" vote workers on Chicago newspapers linas when the growers, during Arriving in Lowell, Arizona, on according to "Hot Slug" official Those workers who were taken in State Secretary there the possi- fied as follows by the comrade

every way possible to make the Do You want to build LABOR tage of the opportunity to have a the way to build see the AC-

work. Tentatively the plan will be for Comrade Anderson to stop Comrade Anderson, on his way seem to be good possibilities for through New Mexico, writes: "We organization work, and from there have just finished more than two go into the Los Angeles and weeks' travel in the large state southern area. Detailed plans, of Texas. Street meetings with both as to routing the truck and the use of the sound equipment, for its use in connection with and local meetings of comrades Comrade Ernest Erber's tour will At San Diego and sympathizers have been held be announced later. Locals are in ten cities. Everywhere the urged to send in suggestions as new emphasis of Socialist work in to use of the tour in their locality with great enthusiasm. Texas is a basis for working out detailed ripe for the mass organization of plans. Information must be sent workers, farmers, and the unem- to the State Office in regard to ployed. Our Socialist comrades local ordinances in connection are taking up in earnest the ele- with use of sound equipment in

# Labor Action

With a vote of nine to one by Executive Committee members of

tion and of the WFSP shall no

The three Executive Commit-Two members of the Colorado Committee voted in favor, and the other member did not vote. Only one member from Minnosota voted (a favorable vote). Early this past week Comrade since there had been at the time no official action by the SEC ap-Wyoming did not submit a vote. came from one men er of the WFSP Executive Committee in voting: "I might add that this Probably the Red Special will is no criticism of Labor Action,

For Socialism in Our Time tour a success and take advan- build the Socialist press. For

#### LABOR ACTION OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE WESTERN STATES

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ed on the responsibility of the authors.

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**SATURDAY, JAN. 23, 1937** 

#### The Only Road

The project of the Socialist Party to aid volunteers who want to go to Spain with the Debs' Column of the International Brigade continues to stand as the central issue in the radical labor movement. And rightly so. Nothing for many years has made such a strong appeal to the genuine militants. And no issue has made such a sharp, clear and unerringly just division between the genuine and the spurious advocates of international labor solidarity. The Debs' Column presents the acid test of internationalism and the struggle of the workers against fascism ..

Is the civil war in Spain of any real concern to us in America? In our opinion it is of the most vital concern. A victory of fascism in Spain would depress the whole labor movement of Europe and of the whole world. It would increase the isolation of the Soviet Union and tremendously accelerate the movement for a united attack of world capitalism against it.

A victory of the Spanish workers on the other hand, would inspire the French workers to smash French fascism and carry their revolution through to victory. The revolutionary struggle in France would lift the German and Italian workers to their feet and start a counter-offensive against fascism in its centers of power. The labor movement in the United States, stimulated by the world resurgence, would move forward with giant strides. Yes, we have a vital interest in the outcome of the civil war in Spain.

Would the sending of 500 men to Spain in the Debs' Column exert any influence on the Spanish struggle? Or, would it merely be a theatrical gesture, of no military significance? On this question we will give the floor to a correspondent on the ground in Spain.

Louis Fisher, in the Nation of January 9, writes as follows from Alicante: "The International Column was thrown into the breech to save Madrid. It saved Madrid."

Yet the numerical strength of the International troops was not great. Says Fisher: "The first International Brigade reached the front in the early days of November with a full complement of 1,900 men. The second brigade got to the front on November 14. Its strength then was 1,550. Today these are the only foreign units which have borne arms in the cause of Spanish democracy-3,450 soldiers. Yet they have appreciably influenced the military situation."

According to all reports the International troops fought bravely and effectively.

But it is obvious, from the small numbers involved, that their influence was primarily moral. Their presence on the fighting lines inspired the Spanish workers with the assurance that they were not alone, that the international proletariat was on its side, not in words only but in deeds.

Who can doubt that the arrival of 500 fighters from America, under the banner of Debs, would inspire the Spanish workers with new hope and courage? And, besides that, the careful sifting of applicants, from a military and political standpoint, insures the selection of volunteers who can shoot straight-and in the right direction. The Debs' Column will undoubtedly play a good part in the fateful struggle in Spain.

The campaign of the Socialist Party to finance the Debs' Column is meeting with furious and many-sided resistance. We must analyze this resistance and learn from cialist National Convention .it. But we must not yield to it.

The Roosevelt administration is against the daring enterprise of the Socialist Party. Why? Because American capitalism, fronting the Socialist Party in which the Roosevelt administration repre- 1937. Most of these deal with sents, is a thousand times more afraid of a party relations to other groups socialist Spain—the only possible outcome and reorganization of party maof a real workers' victory there-than a fascist Spain.

The Old Guard Socialists, and all others intelligently without a clear-cut, of this stripe, are against the Debs' Col- unmistakable answer to a preumn. But that is because they have no idea whatever of a real struggle against Party?" This answer idea whatever of a real struggle against should include a realistic esticapitalism, against the fascists, or, in fact, mate of what the party has been, Farmer-Labor Party and prayed against anybody but revolutionary social- is at present, and should be. We ists. Their opposition is a tribute to the cannot judge either our own wisdom of the New York organization of groups without such a perspecthe Socialist Party in initiating the plan tive and yet we must begin by for the Debs' Column. It shows that the recognizing that at present there split with the Old Guard was a good split is no general agreement among —simply the throwing off of excess bagparty members or leaders on this
fundamental point.

The Communist workers are deeply "Mass Party" stirred by the Debs' Column and, from many indications, are warmly sympathetic cialist history in this country. In many indications, are warmly sympathetic the seventeen years prior to Amnized is that in the course of the seventeen years prior to Amnized is that in the course of the reformist mass workers' of the reformist mass workers' quite a few Communist Party members, in the Socialist Party grew rapidly definite attempt to restate and parties in every other advanced California and New York, have applied to and fairly steadily. It aimed at, define the purpose and function go to Spain with the Column.

But the leadership of the party, it appears, is against it. Why? Is it because "all-inclusive party" welcoming they are afraid the Socialists, who were almost all applicants from directnothing but "social fascists" yesterday, action syndicalists to "pure" votewill join Franco's troops to fight for fascism in Spain? Or, is it because they fear that the American Socialists and the Haywood, John Spargo and Upthat the American Socialists, led astray by ton Sinclair upheld their widely Only Two the slogan of "Socialism versus Capital- different and often conflicting Alternatives ism," will fight for a Socialist Spain? Is types of radicalism within the it because the Communist Party thinks boundaries of a single party. Sothere are already too many workers in gressively proud of the party. In Party. We can aim at becoming Chicago Convention and, second, Spain infected with this "sectarian" idea. hobo jungles, union halls and a mass, all-inclusive, party of the direct application to every lesser Or, is the Communist Party opposed to the "pink tea" parlors there were So- working class in the near future problem confronting the dele-Debs' Column because it has given up the cialists expounding the doctrine or at creating a trained and dis-Debs' Column because it has given up the idea of really opposing a government of body and everybody to join the democratic capitalism on any question?

Let the opponents of the Debs' Column cialist Parties were the rule. have their own reasons for trying to stop Their very size steam-rollered or sabotage the enterprise, whatever they doubt as to their reliability in may be. But for the socialists, and for the ment of socialism in each counlabor militants who have been aroused by try depended only on the mathethe call for the Debs' Column, there is matical problem of figuring the only one road: straight ahead. The pro- rate of past increase in Socialist ject must be carried through. The neces- vote and setting the early future sary funds must be raised. The volun-date when 51 per cent would be teers must be sent. American Socialism must fulfill its obligations of international The World War solidarity to the embattled workers of And After

# Mass Party" Or Vanguard Party?

By GLEN TRIMBLE

Note: This is the second of series of articles on issues confronting the March Convention of the Socialist Party. They are intended as a basis for local and branch discussion. We are sure that nonparty readers will also find them interesting and educational. Labor Action will welcome articles submitted by party members on all subjects to be considered at the So-

Last week's article outlined the problems and opportunities con-

It is impossible to approach any of these particular problems

### Pre-War Socialist

Let us begin by a review of Soand confidently expected to be- of the Socialist Party has been "reds."

Then came the war. The great European parties turned them selves overnight into recruiting

man people . . ."

Karl Gotz, alderman of the City of Stuttgart and member of the board of the German Auslandsinstitut in that city, explained what America a Hitler will have to this "state political activity and work for the German people

> "Today, in the period of nationalistic thinking, the nation comes first. The membership in the great German blood community is the decisive factor. The great leader of all Germans has gloriously placed the conception of the co-nationals (Volksgenosse, racial comrade) above that of the

> In the next paragraph of the editorial the same opinion is exit very important when an official representative of the Nazi government declares that the American citizenship paper is of minor importance. This paragraph of the editorial states:

"For our German native counmans in the

Founded at Hitler's command "But what distinguished this consider the citizenship papers as

machinery for their governments. | velops. At the Cleveland conven-Illusions came tumbling about the tion, the party Declaration of ears of the "mass party" enthusiasts, and handfuls of Marxian revolutionaries began the slow, painful process of rebuilding on firmer foundations.

In the United States the Socialist Party lost many of its "stars" but held to its opposition to the war and actually increased its membership. What the war could not accomplish, the 1919 split and subsequent splintering the issue later on. of the radical movement plus post-war prosperity and consequent labor conservatism did.

The Socialist Party lost almost all of its militants in the split; couraged, robbed of the pre-war not actually exist in the '20s-it was no wonder that Socialists supported the La Follette campaign in 1924—they had not the numbers or the morale to do anything else. They ceased to think of the Socialist Party as THE party of the working class, en-

cialist Party, the clash of the cruits, the sharp right turn of the Communist Party, the ferment and development of the organized labor movement-are sufficiently recent to be common knowledge. Only Choice What is less generally recog-

basis for action was unclear.

two alternatives for the Socialist unmistakable statement at the summer, an increase of 7,000 over as the revolutionary crisis de-lems

Principles implies the first alternative while a section of the Labor Party resolution definitely states the second! The fact that both passed proves the confusion which prevails.

Some comrades justify the confusion by pointing out that we are a mass party or a revolutionary vanguard. Therefore, they say, let us build the party and decide

This pleasant evasion is impossible. Every decision, large or small, local or national, depends on a prior answer to the basic question, "What is the Socialist

in relation to all other groups in that labor leaders would take the ference of opinion, a minimum of discipline or obligation on the pression revival of working-class part of party members—otherradicalism, the growth of the So- ers who understand neither the defeatist old guard and the new, or the necessity of a disciplined, instinctively militant, young re- trained group to meet the prob-

country in the world-that a unwieldy, too loosely hung to-We have been so engaged with gether, too undecided itself, to Training Camps Association in Christmas bonus are being detail that we have failed to act decisively and correctly in their annual meeting held here this year to municipal tackle the essential problem and revolutionary crisis - then we have, consequently, made conflict- must choose the alternative of ing decisions because our whole building a party trained and pre- were several army officers, in- The Burgomaster has infe pared for just such an emergency, cluding Lieut. Col. Victor V. Tay- officials that owing to

> writer's opinion, it is the only office in Washington. realistic one for the Socialist

come a mass revolutionary party guard principle to these prob- though the training is given on a near future prove a m

## Extracts from Letters Of Debs Column Volunteen

a practical expression of In- service, general or special ternational Working Class Solidarity.

"I have been watching the papers hoping to hear that nurses would be recruited. I am very much in sympathy liberation of the workers with the Loyalist Cause . . . . have been doing public health in Spain." nursing for several years."

"I pledge my life to the Socialists of Spain. I was a second lieutenant in the Cadets, Rifle and Machine Gun, 28th Division and Gunner in the 10th Artillery."

"I have always been interested in the problems of the working class and have ten years of aeronautical engineering training and experience that I want to put at their dis-

"I am very glad to see that you are sending men to Spain fighting for its life there. I want to get back to Spain, which I left a month before the revolution started . . .

"Your organization deserves the salute of all class consci- friend and I want very m ous workers for mobilizing aid to go to Spain. We are for Spain against the Finks of members of the Teamste Fascism.

"I am glad to for the Debs' Brigade. all he can in the fight for the world and especially

"A newspaper article recently stated that Femini the Spanish Lovalists.

Brigade to fight for the

Spain to help the Wor Class there defeat the "I saw your article in

anxious to go help my S Brothers in their struggle

with the Spanish Workers Union. . . . .

#### Army Officers Want More Cannon Fodder

CHICAGO.-A sharp increase in the development of good citizens by the use of military training ried the following item camps was advocated by the gov- on earth and good gas-ma erning committee of Military all: "Gas masks instead recently. Attending the meeting of Kapovar in Southern That decision, and, in this lor of the Adjutant General's shortage of cash the t

The meeting laid plans to en- Christmas bonus. There are, broadly speaking, Party, requires, first, clear and roll 38,000 men in the CMTC this the enrollment of last summer. Charles Burrel Pike, chief civ-

War, pointed out that the camps on easy terms from military basis.

#### GAS MASKS FO CHRISTMAS

The Manchester Weekly

The Friends of the Debs Column

has been organized to raise mone

for the transport of America



# Hitler Commands American Citizens

The government officials of the Third Reich and the Nazi organizations in the United States stress again and again that National Socialism is merely a philosophy for

home consumption in Germany. The organization of Nazi character in the foreign countries, they say, are independent organizations which simply admire the greatness of the new Germany.

At the party convention of the on June 14, 1936, the Reich propa- land. As the representative of ganda minister, Dr. Goebbels, ex-

for export but, on the contrary, a The tendency of this national sopatent article which is used only cialist meeting is exposed by a by official German government within Germany.'

This declaration can have only one meaning: National Socialism is limited to Germany. However, take home the conviction that the fact is that the present rulers national socialist propaganda lit- of this country, we need one thing erature to foreign countries; also, more than anything else, namely, the organizations of American citi- a strong mother-country which is bund" in the spirit of National zens are founded in the USA at the able to represent powerfully the Socialism is not limited to an in-

#### "The Germany Of the Future'

That the American Nazi organizations are influenced officially by the representative of the Hitgovernment, two examples may suffice. On June 19, 1936, at the Lincoln Turner Hall, Chicago, act powerfully in the world." a "Sprechabend" (evening for discussion) of the "Amerikadeutscher Volksbund" was held. The foreign government, speaks at He closed his

future, and therefore we want you Anderson of the "American Vigi- sors was the will stressed in the to respect Adolf Hitler and his to be like this Germany will be lant Association" spoke about: speeches and addresses of its ideas more than anything else-

national socialistic Horst Wessel Weckruf" of May 2, 1936, says: to attract them to state political branch in the U.S. under Hitler's

Weckruf," June 25, 1936-the official organ of the Amerikadeutscher Volkusbund.")

On the fourth and fifth of July, 1936 the fourth "Gautag Mittlewest" of the "Amerikadeutscher NSDAP in Hildesheim, Germany, Volksbund" was held at Clevethe Third Reich, Mr. Kassler of the German consulate of Cleve-"National Socialism to us is not land was present at this meeting. quotation from "Gauleiter" Fro-

"May we therefore also today although we have emigrated, alof Germany export carloads of though we have become citizens Taken Lightly order of the German government. German prestige in the world."

#### "America Needs a Hitler"

Indeed, the convention of an organization of American citizens regards as their main task "the creation of the conditions under

And the representative of the National Socialist Third Reich. a zens in an official capacity.

On April 22, 1936, in the Lin-"You are the Germany of the coln Turner Hall in Chicago, Dr. German day from its predeces- a matter of minor importance and At the end of this evening the The report of the "Deutscher ing forces of "Germandom" and Volksbund," a National Socialist was sung. ("Deutscher "Finally the speaker explained activity and to work for the Ger- command.

that our American institutions are must not be disturbed. But the time will come when also in

The view of the speaker that the institutions of America for the time being must not be disturbed and that a Hitler will have to come to America was applauded vigorously and the local group leader, Sautter, thanked speaker especially for his

"Amerikadeutscher Volksbund" which has been founded at American organization, as the spirit of Hitler's propaganda representatives in close cooperation with native American fas-

#### U. S. Citizenship

We also see that influencing "Amerikadeutscher Volkstellectual preparation for fascism over here. Moreover, the Nazi sentatives of Germany to Amer- Indeed. ica to have them declare in Am- Hitler's work lies in the concepmembers of the "Amerikadeutscher Volksbund" are national so- munity of fate of all Germans: American citizenship.

The "Deutscher Weckruf" of June 27, 1936, writes about the trained by Hitler's official represpeaker was Dr. Tannenberg, the this convention of American citi- German day of Hudson County as sentatives in the USA, urged by

"Will Hitler Influence America." leaders to awaken the slumber- this is the "Amerikadeutscher