

Norman Thomas Discovers America IV.

Mr. Thomas and Communism

by Ben Gitlow

Norman Thomas is caught in his own perplexities. He is in a mazy jumble of confusion, contradictions, and absurdities.

power and build Socialism, to compromise within Russia with capitalist forces and outside of Russia with those forces also.

Norman Thomas treats Kerensky who tried to direct the revolution into the camp of the allied imperialists!

The Marxism of Norman Thomas

Too bad that Norman Thomas cannot appreciate the necessity of the alliance of the workers and peasants against capitalism!

The World of Reality

We no longer live in the period of abstracts. Norman Thomas should know that an outstanding historical event which removes from the sphere of speculation, scientific or otherwise, the course of present day historical development.

Thomas and the Russian Revolution

What, however, is the attitude of Norman Thomas on the Russian proletarian revolution. The attitude of Norman Thomas is a peculiar one.

The Capitalist System and the Workers

THE 'AMERICAN STANDARD OF LIVING'

by A. E.

The favorite theme of the hallelujah singers during the late lamented "prosperity days" was "That Wonderful New Standard of Living."

of life" as they are understood by the American worker—education, recreation, church, gifts, etc.

In an interesting article in the New York Times of May 10, 1931, Louis Dublin, the well-known statistician, gives some very significant figures.

III. DISTRIBUTION OF 'MISCELLANEOUS ITEM' Wage-Earners in U.S.A. University Professors

Two interesting comparisons may be made. The percentage expenditure of the American working class family in recent years for recreation was 1.2%.

I. WAGE-EARNERS IN THE U.S. Amount Percent

In other words, food, shelter and clothing, the necessities of mere existence amount to three-quarters of the expenses of the working class family.

LABOR AGE

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All of these figures mean this: In the most hectic days of "prosperity" the worker's income went practically exclusively for food, clothing and shelter.

STAGNATION characterized the week, except for European economic developments, particularly German, which became much worse.

The Way for the Shoe Workers

Shoe and Leather Section of C. P. Majority Group Issues Statement

Thousands of shoe workers are walking the streets today looking for work and are unable to find any.

In the face of these conditions we find the shoe workers almost completely unorganized.

The remnants of the old Independent, renamed National Shoe and Leather Workers Industrial Union,

The Boot and Shoe Workers Union has a long history of betrayal of the shoe workers and of class-collaboration and strike-breaking.

The leadership of the Boot and Shoe Workers Union is reactionary and cannot be trusted.

These leaders not only fail to encourage the workers to fight against the attacks of the bosses but in many cases they deliberately sabotage and hinder the workers when they of themselves take militant action.

What, therefore, must class-conscious, progressive workers do in this situation?

There are in the B. & S. in New York today 1500-2000 shoe workers, many of whom are progressive workers who want a militant fighting union such as the Independent was.

The crying need of the workers in the B. & S. today is an organized left wing which shall give expression to the discontent of the workers and lead them in the fight against the reactionary officials of the B. & S.

It is therefore the duty of every left-wing shoe worker to join the B. & S. where the largest number of organized shoe workers find themselves today and organize them and lead them in their struggle against the bosses and their agents, the reactionary union leaders.

We call upon all the workers to join B. & S. and carry on a fight for the following program:

- 1. Organization of the unorganized. 2. For the closed shop! No hiring and firing! No discrimination! 3. Abolition of all securities as payments for jobs! Against all forms of yellow dog contract!

Shoe and Leather Section, C. P. Majority Group

The Seat of the Mighty

It must be great to be a Pope and refer to yourself as "the sacred depositary of all truth."

Fire losses in 1930 rose to \$465,000,000. Well, how can the con coach capitalists avoid bankruptcy in periods of depression?

The Economic Week

railroad income continue to fall. The price decline is still on. Freight car loadings are not rising even on a seasonal basis.

Hunger and War in Europe Czechoslovakia in Crisis

by Alois Neurath (Prague)

(Concluded from last issue)

Radicalization Among the Workers

And all this occurs at a time in which the objective conditions of revolutionary class struggle are splendid and become better and better every day.

The Effects of the Party Line

All this is a mystery to the ultra-left petty bourgeois leaders of the Communist Party.

every vestige of Communist influence. The cooperatives remain the only phase of the general labor movement in which the Communists still have some significant roots.

The Fight of the Opposition

The first results of these insane ultra-left tactics consisted and still consist in stimulating the attitude of indifference, in strengthening the Social-democratic movement and above all Fascism.

An Unemployed Council Member Writes: THE PARTY AND THE COUNCILS

by "Unemployed"

We herewith print an article by a member of the New York Unemployed Council affiliated with the T.U.U.L.

For months there were sharp disagreements in the Council but we were keeping quiet, holding back our criticism until we could no longer stand it.

Building a Leadership Every day we go to the city employment agency to pick up a few workers. One day we picked up a certain fellow by the name of Lampkin.

After this, Brown, section organizer of the Party, came up to Comrade Stone and others and said: "Comrades, you must help us. We are organizing the workers in the Lower Manhattan district and we want to put up demands to the Commission of Public Welfare."

Fizzle After Fizzle

In a week or so another fizzle was made. They decided to organize new councils in the Downtown district and to appeal to all organizations from 52nd St to the Battery for aid.

Opposition has achieved great influence in the economic struggles of the working class, especially on a local scale.

The growing strength of the Opposition is shown in the recent Enlarged National Council of April 5. In this conference there participated sixty-two functionaries and representatives from all parts of the country.

was elected despite Johnstone, Steuben (Rijak), Nesin, Lampkin and Anna Lyons, who all voted for Lampkin.

At the next fraction meeting Johnstone raised hell and ordered the fraction to open fire against Ball and all those who didn't vote for Paul.

Amongst themselves they said: "We must get them off the executive committee," but this was easier said than done because many members support us who are in opposition to the crazy methods of Nesin, Johnstone and Rijak.

A couple of days later there was a meeting of the Branch with Comrade Ball as chairman. He read off a list of members of the executive with Marks' name on it.

(Concluded in next issue)

