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Western Worker

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By March 1!

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(Section of the Communist International)

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MARITIME UNIONS' UNITY ANSWERS PLANT

Spain Fascists Commit Act of Piracy

PUT HEAT ON MERRIAM FOR MODESTO MEN

Delegation Sees the Gov.; L.A. Labor Demands Pardon

SAN RAFAEL—Judge Butler, who a few weeks ago railroaded Alphonse Buyle and John Roger Modesto defendants, on Wednesday fined Secretary Mervyn Rathbone of the Bay Area Council, Maritime Federation, \$100, for "contempt of court," because Rathbone signed a letter for the Federation protesting the railroad of the Modesto men. The fine was paid by Attorney Sapiro under protest. Notice was given that the case would be taken to a higher court.

SACRAMENTO — Governor Merriam would like to dodge the sensational new evidence that the Modesto boys (tanker strikers) were framed up by Standard Oil, District Attorney Cleary of Stanislaus County and San Francisco police acting together. A San Francisco Central Labor Council delegation went to see Merriam to demand an admission of James Scudder, chief state witness against the Modesto boys. The delegation was told by Merriam that he would "look into it," and take it up with the Parole Board.

L. A. Labor for Pardon
LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Central Labor Council has concurred with a resolution passed by the San Pedro Labor Council, demanding that Gov. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

JAPAN PUSHING THE CAMPAIGN

Tries to Put Over "Red Scare" on Chiang Capture

PEIPING, China.—Japanese agents are still trying to put over the "Communist menace" idea in connection with Marshal Chang Hsueh-Liang's capture of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, in order to furnish an "excuse" for Japanese troops to move in still further in North China. Reports were circulating in this city, largely under Japanese domination, that Chang had offered to "submit to any punishment Nanking decrees" if Kai-Shek "will only adopt a policy of resistance to our foe (Japan)" and will cease his anti-Communist policies. By raising the "red scare" Japan hopes to becloud the issue and furnish "justification" for aggression in Suiyan, Hopei and Chahar provinces.

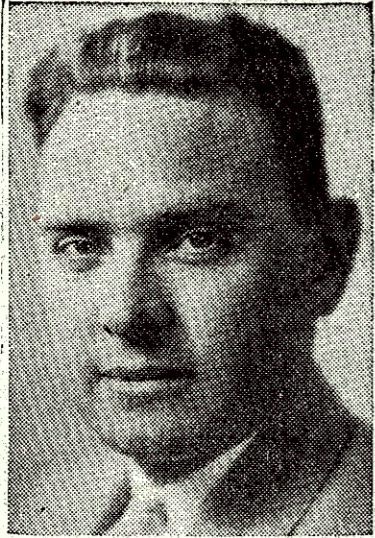
Negotiate for Chiang
SHANGHAI—Forty-six of 52 officers who were with Generalissimo Chiang when he was seized a week ago last Saturday, were killed in a fight which preceded Chiang's capture by the "young Marshal." It was announced here.

Negotiations for release of Chiang continued, but the Nanking government was preparing to release him by force of arms if necessary. A Hongkong dispatch reported 24 airplanes left for Loyang, east of Sian-Fu, ready for bombing operations against Marshal Chang's army.

CHECK ON GRANGE!

NEW YORK — Accountants auditing the books of the East Coast Marine Cooks and Stewards Union report that a large proportion of the membership cards are missing from the files. This is part of a frantic attempt by David Grange to conceal his embezzlements.

ULTIMATUM



HOMER F. MARTIN, president of the six-months old United Automobile Workers' Union, which has served notice on General Motors that it demands collective bargaining rights for that company's 211,000 workers. The union (a C.I.O. affiliate) is strong enough to tie up all the General Motors plants, Martin says.

PLAN WPA CUT OF 800,000

Latest Plan of Pres. Roosevelt

WASHINGTON.—Reduction of relief rolls by nearly 800,000 before July 1, 1937 was foreshadowed by President Roosevelt here upon his return from a long cruise in southern waters.

The President revealed his intentions when he declared that \$500,000,000 as a deficiency appropriation for relief until the beginning of the new fiscal year would be about right. The sum is the same he mentioned this spring when he sent to Congress recommendations for last year's deficiency appropriation for relief.

One-Third To Be Cut
According to present schedules such an amount, providing slightly over \$100,000,000 a month, would take care of only two-thirds of those now on WPA rolls for whom \$152,000,000 is being spent between December 15 and January 15.

On December 5 there were approximately 2,400,000 on WPA rolls. A reduction of one-third would necessitate the discharge of 800,000.

Officials of the Workers' Alliance leading the fight against the cuts, unemployed workers' organization, calculate that \$1,250,000,000 will be needed to carry the relief load until July 1, 1937.

Pedro ILA Goes to Bat for Gallagher

LOS ANGELES.—The International Longshoremen's Association in San Pedro has taken up the defense of Leo Gallagher, famous labor attorney and a member of the legal staff of the International Labor Defense, in protesting the recent move of the State Bar to disbar him for certain statements he made during the recent elections against the arch reactionary Superior Judge Arthur Crum.

High Court Puts Off Decision On Wagner Labor Act

WASHINGTON.—The Supreme Court's test of the constitutionality of the Wagner Labor Relations Act has been postponed until Feb. 8. This is due to the illness of Justice Harlan F. Stone. The court is expected to be split into two opinions on this important decision.

ORGANIZE FOR LEGISLATION FOR PEOPLE

Headquarters Set Up In Sacramento To Push Convention

Organizing quickly to meet the threat of the California Manufacturers Association to set up its biggest legislative lobby in history to kill all proposed labor legislation, the California People's Legislative Conference has just set up headquarters in the Hotel Senator in Sacramento. The Conference has also mailed out calls to the statewide convention to be held in Sacramento January 16th and 17th to all trade unions and central labor bodies, as well as to all organizations sympathetic to the cause of labor and the people, throughout California.

Sponsoring Committees
Moves to set up sponsoring committees in the main cities of California were also being made by the Conference.

Many unions and other organizations were already electing delegates to the Sacramento convention, and were considering proposed legislative bills for submission to the convention, which is planned to rally all labor and progressive forces behind a common people's program for legislation in the State Legislature, which convenes January 4th.

Unions and other organizations desiring further information are asked to communicate with the Conference at the Hotel Senator, Sacramento, or at the Conference offices in Los Angeles, Room 911, 424 South Broadway.

Official Neglect Jumps Fire Toll

SAN FRANCISCO.—Enforcement officers have refused to enforce existing fire-laws; the Board of Supervisors has refused to strengthen fire-laws to protect families in the working-class sections of the city.

Last Tuesday brought another tragic result of this situation, when 13-year-old Josephine Melson and her 60-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Rose Durham, were burned to death in a fire at 25 Lafayette Street.

Two other children narrowly escaped death; passers-by formed a human pyramid to lower them and Josephine to the ground, but Josephine died a few hours later.

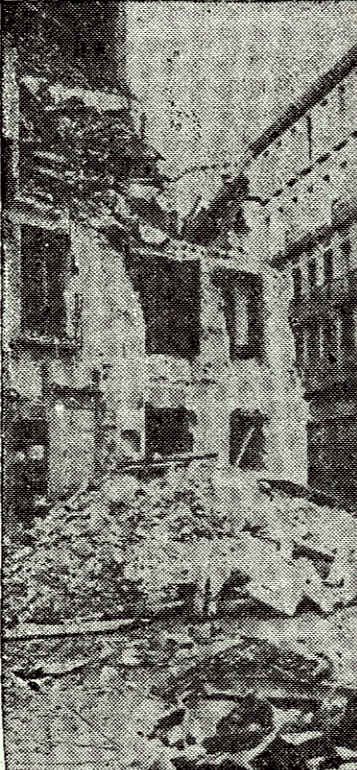
Last May, Fire Chief Brennan declared that if present inadequate fire laws were enforced, half of San Francisco's dwelling places would have to be torn down.

Mooney's Lawyer Confers With Walsh In New York City

NEW YORK.—With 20 volumes containing 14,000 pages of transcript records, George T. Davis, Tom Mooney's attorney, arrived here from San Francisco Tuesday and conferred with Frank P. Walsh, who has also taken part in Mooney's defense.

The case will be presented to Referee Shaw January 4, who will hear the testimony on a request for a writ of habeas corpus.

BARBARISM



AFTER a fascist air raid on Madrid—bombs dropped on women and children, illustrating Fascism in all its barbarism.

KING DEFENSE NEARS CLOSE

Ramsay, Conner On Witness Stand

OAKLAND.—Those behind the attempt to frame Earl King, E. G. Ramsay and Frank Conner went a step further in the crudely obvious frameup by having a supposed "defendant," George Wallace, "confess" taking part in the killing of Engineer Alberts of the Point Lobos last March.

Wallace's "confession" was sprung in order to involve King, Ramsay and Conner as the men who "engineered" the killing, even though previous prosecution witnesses' testimony was riddled full of holes by defense attorneys and witnesses. The Wallace "confession" was a last desperate move on the part of the prosecution.

OAKLAND.—Both E. G. Ramsay and Frank M. Conner took the stand in their own defense Tuesday in the framed trial of the Marine Firemen's Union members for the killing of Chief Engineer George Alberts on the (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Simpson, Free, Is On Way to America

HAMBURG.—Lawrence Simpson, American seaman arrested over a year ago by Nazi secret police and held in prison since then, sailed aboard the "President Roosevelt" on Wednesday for New York.

Mass protests had forced the Hitler government to set him free, after a typical Nazi farce trial had sentenced him. Simpson was arrested aboard an American ship, the "Manhattan."

LAUNDRY STRIKE OVER
MARTINEZ.—The four-day strike in the Martinez Laundry, led by Laundry Workers Local 194, has ended with both sides agreeing to abide by the previous arrangement covering hours and wages. Four drivers will become members of the Teamsters.

SOVIET CREW MURDERED BY FRANCO'S MEN

Fascists Executed 4 Men Who Escaped Fired Ship

LONDON.—When the Fascist cruiser Canarias attacked the Soviet freighter Komsomol, the Spanish Fascists abandoned it in flames with the crew aboard and executed the only four Soviet seamen who escaped, declared the Daily Herald, British Party organ, in a dispatch from Gibraltar.

General Francisco Franco answered Great Britain's plan to establish a control organization to keep war supplies out of Spain, by complaining that Britain had failed to appreciate the "greatness of the nationalist (Fascist) government."

Militia Stand Firm
MADRID.—Unable to advance against the heroic government militia, the Spanish Fascists again resorted to bombing and shelling of Madrid, killing and wounding many women and children.

Fascist airplanes were driven off by the government planes, and in the fighting, one government plane and one Fascist bombing plane were shot down. Christmas baskets and boxes were sent up to the front line trenches for the militiamen and members of the International Columns.

"DOG - COLLAR" GOES IN EFFECT

Cummings Tells Roper No Delay On Act Is Possible

WASHINGTON.—The U. S. Dept. of Commerce has eased the way for enforcement of all provisions of the Copeland Act, starting Dec. 26.

This includes the hated continuous discharge book and certificates of service, blacklisting weapons, despite the assurance of Secretary of Labor Perkins to Harry Lundeberg of the Sailors Union of the Pacific that the discharge book provisions would be postponed for 90 days.

Attorney General Cummings informed Secretary of Commerce Roper that issuance of the continuous discharge books cannot be postponed beyond Dec. 26th.

West Coast seamen have indicated their refusal to accept the continuous discharge book. Hundreds of resolutions against the "dog-collar" act have shown the sentiment of the seamen against the measure.

SUGAR AGREEMENT

CROCKETT.—Granted a wage increase of 50 cents a day, members of the Sugar Refiners Union voted 783 to 63 to accept an agreement with the California-Hawaiian Sugar Corp.

ANSWER TO PLANT SLANDER IS BLISTERING

Bridges Shows Who Have Been Seeking Genuine Peace

SAN FRANCISCO.—Harry Bridges has given a blistering reply to new slanderous and vicious attacks on him by the shipowners, particularly by Thomas G. Plant, secretary of the shipowners' coast committee.

Ignoring every act and spoken word of Bridges for a peaceful settlement of the maritime strike, Plant charged the popular maritime workers' leader with "an arbitrary attitude... that constitutes an open threat to the peace and happiness of both labor and industry."

"The Eastern question is not the concern of this coast," said Plant.

Bridges replied: "An emphatic denial is the only answer that could be made to the incorrect statement of T. G. Plant, chairman of the coast committee of the shipowners. (Continued on Page 3, Col. 5)

211,000 MAY STRIKE IN AUTO

General Motors Co. Rejects Ultimatum

DETROIT.—The General Motors Corp. has rejected demands of the United Automobile Workers for a conference on collective bargaining for the GMC's 211,000 employees.

The rejection followed a meeting with Homer Martin, the C.I.O. union's president.

The company's decision is expected to result in great strike sentiment in GMC plants from California to the Atlantic Coast-General Motors plants in Kansas City and Atlanta are already struck.

The sit-down in the Kelsey-Hayes Wheel plant had almost crippled Ford operations before it ended in victory.

Did Merriam Say "Orchids to You?"

LOS ANGELES.—Is Governor Merriam a devoted reader of Walter Winchell?

He must be, because just before her liquor control bribery case went to the jury, "Queen" Helen Werner, local politician, was sporting some orchids and told reporters that they came from the governor, "if you're interested."

The jury was reported deadlocked on Wednesday after 30 hours of deliberation on the bribery charges against "Queen Helen," her husband Erwin "Petticoat Pete" Werner, and Joseph Weinblatt.

Throughout the trial "Queen Helen," who admitted being a politician but said she was no grafter, has put on a real show with her sudden bursts of anger, weeping and "attacks."

CAL. C.P. MEET DISCUSSES LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

SAN FRANCISCO.—All efforts of the Communist Party in California will be exerted to fight for a program of social and labor legislation in the 1937 State Legislature, and to support the California People's Legislative Conference which will meet Jan. 17th in Sacramento, as a result of the enlarged meeting of the State Committee of the Party, which met last Sunday with the County Organizers from all sections of the state.

Concentrate In Drive
The State Committee heard a report of the recent deliberations of the Central Committee of the Party, held December 4th,

and decisions were adopted to concentrate on the final month of the Browder-Ford membership drive, which concludes on Lenin Memorial Day, Jan. 21st.

Steps to speed up the Financial Drive for the Western, Daily, and Sunday Worker, which has just passed the \$1,000,000 mark out of a quota of \$12,000,000, were adopted. The drive has two months to go, till March 1st.

Local conferences of the Party are being held throughout the state to discuss the reports of the Central Committee and the State Committee, and adopt measures to improve the work of the Party, particularly in the units, in accordance with the report of Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Party, at the Central Committee meeting.

Socialist Bulletin In Vicious Attack On Harry Bridges

RED-BAITING OUTDOES SHIPOWNERS' PROPAGANDA

(An Editorial)

AN UNSCRUPULOUS campaign of slanderous attacks on Harry Bridges, the militant longshoremen's leader trusted by tens of thousands of maritime workers and workers of every industry, has been carried out in the Socialist-Trotskyite press which outdoes all the discredited red-baiting attacks of reactionary A.F.L. leaders and the shipowners.

The latest such attacks appear in a bulletin issued for members of the Socialist Party and the Young People's Socialist League.

Under the heading "C. P. stooges," this Socialist-Trotskyite sheet says "The role of the Communist Party is providing sell-out stooges so that Roosevelt may keep his smile pleasant and his hands clean."

From the first moves of the government to shroud the unions with the Copeland Act and the Ship Subsidy Act, the Bridges clique has endeavored to stave off strike action...

"In the fight of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific to regain its revoked charter upon its own terms, Bridges aligned himself with the reactionary I.S.U. officials who had revoked the charter until mass protest compelled him to change his position. He had consistently minimized the viciousness of the Copeland "Fink" Act and advocated appeals to Congress as the proper method of fighting it. His personal position as a leader is relatively secure over a short time.

"A continuation of the present award for the I.L.A. which Bridges leads is small pay for padlocking the unlicensed personnel to President Roosevelt's new Maritime Commission. There in brief is the reason for the shipowners agreeing to continuing the I.L.A. agreement and for their rejecting all considerations of the Marine Firemen, the Sailors, and the Cooks and Stewards.

"When strike action began after every effort of Bridges to stave it off had failed, then began a policy of dissipating strike energy... His recent conference with J. P. Ryan, national president of the I.L.A., notorious labor faker and sell-out artist, resulted in fresh corns on the feet of Bridges' militancy that draws a scream every time a genuine militant trods upon them with mention of Ryan's sell-out propensities. There is every indication that Bridges and Ryan arrived at an understanding regarding the strike situation long before September 30th.

"What connections Ryan has with the executive committee of the capitalists may be inferred from his orders to work West Coast ships declared unfair by the West Coast unions. But Ryan as intermediary between the government and Communist Party puppets like Bridges is only one variant... The Soviet bureaucracy, too, has its need for allies in the approaching war... betrayal of a few thousand American maritime workers would be cheap price for an understanding with Roosevelt's regime.

"If Bridges fails to sell out the 1936 maritime strike it will not be because of shyness over his new role of handmaiden to Roosevelt... he (Bridges) must rely upon mass delusion rather than open contact with the shipowners to accomplish his assigned share of working-class strangulations. Whether Bridges will be successful as (Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)

BIG STRIKE MEET STANDS BY BRIDGES

Unanimous Vote of Confidence in Him By 7000 Strikers

SAN FRANCISCO.—7000 members of all striking maritime unions, in a mass meeting at Dreamland Auditorium of all Maritime Federation members, on Wednesday unanimously adopted a motion made by Al Quittenden of the Sailors Union expressing full confidence in Harry Bridges and in his policies.

It was a ringing reply to the attacks of Thomas G. Plant against Bridges, and to such attacks on Bridges as contained in an unfortunate bulletin issued Wednesday by the publicity committee of the Sailors Union. The rank and file sailors' sentiment was not represented by this bulletin.

The 7000 strikers also adopted almost unanimously a resolution that no union submit to a referendum of its membership any tentative agreement until all unions have arrived at tentative agreements and are ready to submit them to referendums.

The resolution also stated that here be no more one-man negotiation committees, and that a full coast negotiations committee be assembled in San Francisco.

"The resolution in addition called for the holding of Maritime Federation mass meetings in all ports.

Al Quittenden, who placed the motion for a vote of confidence in Bridges, is assistant secretary of the SUP.

The mass meeting booted down (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

SUN. BIG DAY — LA STRIKE MEET

There'll Be 10,000 At Least To Hear Bridges

LOS ANGELES.—Twelve huge banners will be hung in Olympic Auditorium for the big public mass meeting, called by the San Pedro Joint Maritime Strike Committee, at which Harry Bridges will speak next Sunday, Dec. 27th.

Each of the twelve banners will bear slogans explaining the strike issues. In addition each union on strike will have its banner up.

Los Angeles Local 831 of the Sign Painters' Union, has given extraordinary help in preparing the mass meeting, at which Bridges, President Donnelly of the San Pedro I.L.A. and other speakers will tell the public the strikers' side.

Gains on Project Won by Alliance

LOS ANGELES.—Led by a job steward of the Workers' Alliance, 250 workers on the Arroyo Seco WPA project last week presented demands to the project engineer and were successful in gaining important concessions for the 1500 workers on the job.

The demands granted were pay for hours checked in on rainy days; union scale wages for concrete finishers and carpenters; the right to be paid the day before Christmas, instead of on December 28th; firing of a straw boss "pusher" who insisted on speed-up.

REBUKE DELEGATE
CHICAGO.—By 91 to 84 the Chicago Federation of Labor deleted the words "with thanks" from a resolution receiving the report of its delegates to the Tampa convention of the A.F.L. Though the Chicago federation had protested suspension of the C.I.O. international unions by the A.F.L. executive council, its Tampa delegate voted to sustain the suspensions.

WORKERS ALLIANCE IN LONG BEACH GETS MACHINERY IN ACTION AGAINST WPA CUTS

Hit Reducing of Relief Budget; Transfer of Direct Relief to Counties and Municipalities in California

LONG BEACH—A committee of five, representing the two locals of the Workers' Alliance of California in Long Beach, appeared before John Gee Clark, State Assemblyman for the seventieth district, to present their protests, and ask for his active support in a nation-wide move of the Union

KING DEFENSE NEARS CLOSE

Ramsay, Conner On Witness Stand

(Continued From Page One)

Freighter Point Lobos here last March 22.

7-Hour Grilling

Ramsay described the seven-hour interrogation to which he was forced to submit in District Attorney Earl Warren's office. He denied statements made by prosecution witnesses attempting to connect him with the murder despite the fact that no witness had even placed him on the Pt. Lobos on the day the murder was committed.

His wife, Mrs. Gwendolyn Ramsay, and his mother-in-law and sister-in-law, corroborated his testimony as to where he was on the day of the killing and immediately after his visit to Alberts' stateroom on the day before.

The prosecution is attempting to connect him with the murder through the routine visit he made to Alberts attempting to settle a dispute on overtime between Alberts and one of the members of the Union. Ramsay was patrolman for the union.

Conner identified specimens of his handwriting, corroborating his earlier testimony that the signature he put to the "confession" read in court was signed by a sick man after an all-night grueling.

Slade's Personal Reasons

In Monday's testimony, the state's witness Roscoe Slade was further shown to have a personal interest in testifying against the defense. Although Slade's testimony was exposed as thoroughly contradictory under cross-examination, Fraser added to the testimony of a ship's officer, H. M. Mann, in testifying that Slade had told him while on the Katrina Luckenbach that he had been offered a long-term job in South America if he would testify for the prosecution and had expressed only a concern as to how his testimony could best serve his own ends.

Alliance Project Local on the Job

LOS ANGELES—Pointing out to project workers the improved working conditions won by militant action, the Workers' Alliance recently formed a local on WPA spot number 72.

Although it has functioned but a short time, the Alliance has done away with the segregation of union members, has gained a half-hour lunch period during long shifts, and elimination of wading through mud to check in or out.

Workers' Alliance representatives described how a committee last Tuesday won the right of not checking in for two days.

Run-Around Doesn't Work

They said the committee of eight went to WPA headquarters and, after getting the run-around for an hour, were finally sent to San Pedro, where officials declared they would see only part of the committee. However, the Alliance representatives compelled a hearing with the full committee present. The outcome was that the workers won a victory.

They urge all project workers to join the Workers' Alliance.

Young Steel Strike Ends in Wage Gains

OAKLAND.—With definite gains made, the 420 strikers of the L.A. Young Spring and Wire Co. here have returned to work. They had been out since Nov. 3.

Under terms of a new agreement, the workers receive wage increases ranging from 50 to 60 cents a day. Also granted are a 40-hour week, and overtime pay. A lot of the company's equipment was sent to Los Angeles, so that the plant will not immediately resume full operations.

Why a Labor Party



THIS PHOTO of police mauling strikers at the Berkshire Knitting Mills in Reading, Pa., is one reason showing why a Labor Party is needed. Labor's own men in office wouldn't allow the police to be used against the unions.

CHURCH'S RED BAITING FLOPS

Anti-Communist Meet Turned to "Pro"

LOS ANGELES—Officials of the Catholic Church and other anti-labor forces were successful here Sunday, December 20th, in misleading more than 500 Mexican workers into a demonstration against labor on the pretext of fighting the Communist Party.

From the City Hall, the marchers, with their wives and children, proceeded to the city's historic gathering place of workers, the Plaza, under escort of police squad cars.

Led by several priests and flanked by scores of provocative young hoodlums, the workers marched to the City Hall, where speakers in most profane thanks paid tribute to the City Council, Mayor Shaw and Chief "Peanut Hitler" Davis for permission to parade.

Demonstration Changed

They were greeted there by over 1000 workers, made up mostly of Mexicans, who converted the semi-Fascist demonstration into a pro-Communist demonstration.

Police radio cars stood quietly by while embryo storm troops man-handled at least two Mexican workers, who shouted "Viva Communista," when placards bearing anti-Communist slogans were carried along the line of march.

Retaliation against the hoodlums was averted when members of the Communist Party went through the crowd cautioning workers not to be provoked into giving the police an excuse to loose a flood of tear gas bombs.

Boo Slanderer

However, the workers were not restrained from voicing their disapproval of the anti-labor demonstration by hoots and booing when a speaker attempted to slander the Communist Party. So strong was the sentiment against the speaker that his speech lasted only about three minutes and no one else tried to follow him.

Although scab-printed leaflets advertised an anti-Communist demonstration, with an "interesting program" to be held in the Plaza, the paraders broke up within 15 minutes after their arrival.

Several workers pointed out that this demonstration, which was sponsored by the Mexican Catholic Young Men's Association (A.C.J.M.), follows on the heels of the first official speech of the newly-ordained Archbishop Cantwell, a few weeks ago in the Shrine Auditorium here, before approximately 400 Catholic workers, when he directed his whole speech against the Communists.

Pro-Fascist Judge

At the same time, Federal Judge McCormick, who recently drew the criticism of progressives all over the city by his anti-labor decision in the celebrated San Pedro "banana case," spoke viciously against the Communist Party.

McCormick is the same judge who refused to grant an injunction restraining vigilantes, the Police Chief of El Centro, and the Sheriff of Imperial County, from interfering with the radio speeches of Communist candidates during the recent elections.

Also significant is the fact that a Communist speaker at the so-called anti-Communist demonstration sold out his entire stock of Western Workers.

Portland Textile Strike

PORTLAND—A strike called by United Textile Workers' Local 2435 recently closed. The Foundation Worsted Co.

WAREHOUSE UNION HITS ASSN. LIES

Cites Benefits It Has Brought To Its Members

SAN FRANCISCO—Vicious slander on the part of the open shop Industrial Association against the Warehousemen's Union, I.L.A. Local 38-44 (accusing the union of racketeering) has received the sharp answer it deserves, in a statement from the union. The union's statement reads:

Union's Achievements

"The union is guilty of raising wages and bettering conditions of thousands of workers in the Bay Area. The Industrial Association objects to the activity of the Warehousemen's Union in industries where men are paid an average of \$60 to \$70 a month and are expected to maintain their families on a decent standard of living."

It told of agreements reached between the union and the grocery industry, cold storage plants, fish and meal plants, strappers and weighers and with some drug and public warehouses.

"We are prepared to settle the strike in the public warehouses and mills on an equitable basis," the statement continued.

"We are of the opinion that the Industrial Association is not interested in settling the strike. The responsibility for industrial welfare and for irreparable damage to the citizens of this city and to the very business men who are being misled by the Industrial Association, of San Francisco will rest completely upon those in control of the Industrial Association of San Francisco, and those misled members of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce who are following their lead."

Trick by Struck Bag Companies

SAN FRANCISCO.—A new and dangerous tactic has been adopted by the employers, in the strike of 500 bag workers, led by the United Textile Workers Union in four plants here.

Marshall Madison, Industrial Association attorney for the companies has told the UHW that hours and union recognition would be no obstacle to settlement "if the I.L.A. gets out." (There are a number of Warehousemen's Union members involved in the strike.)

This is an attempt to work up sentiment against the I.L.A., but it is doomed to failure. Marshall agreed to bring men's wages up to women's where the men's wages are below the women's minimum (\$16 a week), but he did not agree to other wage increases.

Murderer Trotzky Leaves for Mexico

OSLO, Norway.—Granted asylum by the Mexican government over the strong protests of the Confederation of Mexican Workers (C.T.M.), Leon Trotzky, murderer-plotter and co-conspirator with the German Nazi secret police, left here aboard the steamship *Ruth* of Oslo last Saturday.

Government police helped the infamous counter-revolutionary to get out of Norway secretly.

The C.T.M. protested to the Mexican government against granting asylum to Trotzky on the grounds that he alinged himself with the worst counter-revolutionary elements in the world, including the Nazis, and that his presence in Mexico would tend to split the solidarity of the labor movement.

Heat on San Rafael Police for Brutal Attack on Workers

SAN RAFAEL.—This is one time the police didn't get away completely with their usual brutality. A grand jury investigation may be ordered into charges filed by two railroad workers, Robert Belshaw and W. A. Nelson, that policeman Max Bruce manhandled them when he arrested them on charges of "disorderly conduct" Dec. 13.

The charges were filed in the Marin County District Attorney's office. Members of a railroad brotherhood pushed the charges.

Subscribe to the Western Worker.

Cal. Keeps Sharp Eye on Auto Test

DETROIT—The six-months-old United Automobile Workers' Union is no baby, as far as strength is concerned.

Its officials and members feel the union is strong enough to challenge the General Motors Corp., which employs 211,000 workers. A conference on collective bargaining has been demanded of General Motors by the union. If the General Motors assumes an arrogant attitude, a major automobile strike looms, with the backing of all the powerful CIO unions behind it.

"The CIO has dedicated all its men and resources to this struggle in the automobile industry," CIO director John Brophy states. "Strikes in the industries which feed the main auto plants—plate glass, automobile accessories and parts, wheels and bodies—have been raging for over a month; they are mainly sit-down strikes."

The three main grievances listed by President Martin are: Discrimination against union members; the intense speed-up system, and lack of security through absence of seniority rights.

The Federation of Flat Glass Workers, conducting big strikes in Pittsburgh, Toledo, and in Illinois towns, and the United Automobile Workers Union have set up a council for joint action.

Many thousands of California workers are affected and watching the developments closely, besides the General Motors plants in Oakland and South Gate, there are Ford and other auto plants throughout the state, besides the aircraft industry concentrated in Los Angeles and San Diego—closely allied with the auto industry.

The mass meeting heard a report on the East Coast by Bridges; reports from unions on the status of negotiations; and a report on the Modesto frame-up from Attorney Aaron Sapiro. A resolution to picket all Standard Oil stations was unanimously adopted.

SAN FRANCISCO—Harry Lundeberg, Pacific Sailors' Union secretary, who last Monday brought the tentative agreement, which he personally had negotiated with T. G. Plant, to the San Francisco membership of the union, announced Wednesday that the referendum will be held in abeyance.

At Lundeberg's statement that the agreement had to be accepted or rejected in its entirety, the San Francisco membership voted on the agreement clause by clause last Monday, although there were vigorous objections raised to many of the clauses.

Bridges Warns of Danger
Toward the close of the meeting, Harry Bridges appeared and warned of the danger which a Sailors' referendum would lead to, if held before all other unions have reached agreements and are ready to ballot on them.

The Marine Firemen's Union secretary, J. E. Ferguson, had also reached a tentative agreement with the shipowners' representative Plant, but at a special meeting on Tuesday, the San Francisco membership of the union voted to hold in abeyance any action to call in their Negotiations Committee to examine the agreement. The Firemen also will not take a referendum till all other unions are ready to do so.

The maritime unions' coast policy committee issued the following open letter, to correct any misunderstandings that immediate settlement of the strike is looming:

"Some of the statements appearing in the press have created the wrong impression regarding the immediate termination of the strike. Due to the fact that consideration has been given to some proposals arrived at, as between the members of some of the unlicensed groups, the impression has been given that these negotiations concluded understandings between the unions concerned and their employers, which is but partly true.

"It would appear that this is done with a purpose which is to give the impression that the major questions involved have been concluded, which is not the case. In fact, several of the organizations have not as yet had any contact with the employers to even advance their proposals.

Shipowners Maneuver
"For instance, the marine engineers have not met the employers since the strike began. The radio telegraphists have had no meeting with the employers looking toward negotiations. The I.L.A. has not had any contact with the employers looking toward negotiations. The Machinists' Union, who are a very vital organization in the maritime strike, have had no conclusions negotiated with their employers—it being the evident intent of their employers to withhold negotiations, trusting that the maritime unions may be prevailed upon to accept a settlement and ignore them. This is not going to be done.

"Serious consideration has been given to the problem presented by the East Coast strike and

while it has not been determined just what will be done in the matter, it is felt that their problem is very much our problem.

"In summing up the whole situation, the public is being misled with a definite object to eventually estrange the support we now have for the justness of our cause. This is a part of a program to make the organizations appear in a bad light to the public and make them subject to attack, as the public may have the impression that we are simply obstinate and inclined to prolong the strike in not accepting what is shoved at us.

Hope for Peace
"However, we are all hopeful for an early settlement, but until such time as certain fundamentals of each organization are arrived at, that is impossible. With the organizations enumerated that have had no contacts for negotiations with employers, the situation is identical as it was on October 29. All the organizations have endeavored to arrive at a solution, but haven't gotten very far.

"Another attempt of this publicity, we believe, was designed to make the general public feel that no further contributions would be necessary. The fact remains that 20,000 men in the Bay Area are receiving relief and we feel that this recent publicity was designed to have that curtailed. That has been done to some extent.

"We want it to be known that the strike is on in full force and will have to continue until an honorable settlement is arrived at. We direct specific attention on the part of our fellow unionists to the fact that this publicity, no doubt, was inspired with a view to having them feel that assistance—moral and financial—was no longer needed, but such is not the case. It has had a very serious effect in that direction. We wish those concerned to pick up any slack it may have caused."

The Executive Board of the California State Federation of Labor, which met last Sunday, endorsed the maritime strike in the same strong terms contained in the recent resolution passed by the San Francisco Central Labor Council.

The Executive Board also accepted reaffiliation of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific to the State Federation.

The publicity committee of the Coast Joint Policy Committee condemned the headlines in the "Voice of the Federation," which had helped to add to the confusion (such headlines as "Strike End Looms"). The Policy Committee called for removal of Barney Mayes as "Voice" editor. The San Francisco Joint Strike Committee occurred in this. Mayes has since resigned.

Green Talks Like Industrial Assn.
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Allying himself with the shipowners, President William Green issued one of his famous autocratic edicts on Wednesday, this time ordering the Pacific Coast I.L.A. to abandon organization of warehouse workers. Green ordered the I.L.A. to organize only on the docks.

SAN FRANCISCO—"It's not news to us," stated Harry Bridges when he learned of the high-handed order by Green. "The Industrial Association has been telling us the same thing for six months. The facts are that we have jurisdiction over these workers. We've got them organized and we intend to hold onto them, despite Mr. Green, Joseph P. Ryan and other strikebreakers."

HAVE YOU RECRUITED ONE NEW COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBER SINCE SEPTEMBER 7, 1936?

The California Organizational Department Speaks to All Members of the Communist Party in This State

(Organization Dept., Communist Party, California)

This is the question that every Party member, new and old, must ask himself or herself at this time.

With only five weeks remaining till January 21, it is now your personal duty to fulfill this obligation to yourself and the Party. There is no time to be lost now. From now on,

You should concentrate on one contact ONLY and we assure you that if you do this, you will have recruited a new party member by Jan. 21.

And you who have recruited three and four or seven and eight new members. You who are close to receiving our prizes or becoming a candidate for our Party Builders' Congress; NOW is the time to CINCH your goal. Don't forget the old proverb: "Don't count your chickens before they are hatched." In other words we don't want YOU to be disappointed.

In the meanwhile, our recruiting keeps marching on. Below are the latest scores. Our new Bulletin is out. Get your copy.

San Francisco	424
Los Angeles	432
Alameda	128
Bakersfield	30
Monterey	26
San Diego	34
Santa Clara	23
Sacramento	25
San Bernardino	15
Marced	14
Sonoma	12
Contra Costa	11
Santa Barbara	10
San Mateo	6
Stockton	4
Eureka	4
Tulare	4
Fort Bragg	1
Arizona	1
Fresno	0
Nevada	0

Gambling Blamed On Cops, D.A.'s

LOS ANGELES.—Placing the blame for existence of gambling rackets in California solely upon the district attorneys and law enforcement officers, U.S. Attorney General Webb declared here last Friday that if police officers enforced the law, gambling would cease overnight.

In a state-wide conference at which over 200 law enforcement officials were present, Webb stated:

"It's up to the police and the sheriffs to make the arrests; it's up to the district attorneys to see that convictions are obtained."

He further maintained that, though there has been a law in California since 1879 making it the duty of district attorneys and police officers to curb gambling, "that law is not being enforced."

The hurried conference of state law officers came in response to astounding revelations that hundreds of millions of dollars are spent in California annually on racing and various other forms of gambling.

Socialist Bulletin Slanders Bridges

(Continued From Page One)

third-hand stooge for the capitalist executive or whether a maritime membership will be advanced enough to detect his policy and repudiate it, . . . remains to be seen."

The contemptible and disgusting character of these ravings from the mouths of Cannon, Trimble & Co., reveals the depths to which Trotskyites will stoop, for which the shipowners should give them three round cheers. All honest Socialists will blush with shame to see the name of the Socialist Party, which the Trotskyites have captured, so dragged in the mud. Their lies require no answer. They are like fleas biting at an elephant.

If the peddlers of these lies want to know what the maritime workers, longshoremen and seamen alike, think of such rot, let them try peddling such strike-breaking propaganda to the rank-and-file, and they will find out soon enough. Let Mr. Glen Trimble stand before a meeting of longshoremen and repeat the lie about the united front between Harry Bridges, the banker Gianni, Sloan of the General Motors, etc.

In the meantime, Lee Holman, Colonel Sanborn's "American Citizen," the "Maritime Mirror," and Mr. T. G. Plant's agents have found a journalistic rival in red-baiting.

U.S. Resettlement Administration to Build 4 New Camps

MARYSVILLE.—Work will be started around Jan. 1 on four new resettlement camps for agricultural workers, the Resettlement Administration has announced.

The existing camps at Marysville and Arvin will be doubled, to a capacity of 200 families each, the capacity of the new camps. New camps will be in Shafter (Kern Co.); Brawley (Imperial Co.); Coachella (Riverside), and one in Tulare County.

Scharrenberg In Cal.; But He Keeps Away From the Seamen
SAN FRANCISCO.—Paul Scharrenberg, one of the International Seamen's Union reactionaries who found it pretty hot out here and was yanked to Washington because he was discredited, is here for a visit. He won't dare attempt to address the seamen. Instead he was scheduled to address the Commonwealth Club on Thursday about the Geneva Maritime Conference.

A Special Maritime Strike Page of News and Features

Real International Solidarity

JAPANESE S. S. CREW PLEDGES SOLIDARITY

Men on Taiyo Maru Stretch Hand of Solidarity

The 50 members of the crew of the Japanese S. S. Taiyo Maru have stretched out the hand of solidarity in the following resolution adopted by them:

WHEREAS: The Pacific Coast Maritime Workers are at present locked out, as the shipowners refuse to grant their just demands, and

WHEREAS: The shipowners as international merchants recognize no particular flag or country when the question of wages and conditions are concerned,

WHEREAS: A successful fight of the American merchant seamen to gain their demands requires international solidarity, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: That we, the undersigned, seamen of the Japanese steamer, Taiyo Maru, express our solidarity and support to the American Maritime Unions now on the picket lines, and be it further

RESOLVED: That we call upon all Japanese workers and seamen to render what aid they can in helping the fight to a successful conclusion.

Shipowners Prove Bum Sportsmen

SAN FRANCISCO.—Shipowners agreed to debate strikers representative on the radio last night. Here's how the shipowners' sportsmanship worked out, according to the Maritime Publicity Committee's bulletin:

"A joint radio program was agreed to by the employers and the striking maritime unions, whereby each side would submit ten questions. The unions submitted their questions which the employers refused to answer, stating the questions offered were libelous.

"The ten questions submitted by the employers, which the unions were ready and eager to answer, have now been submitted by the Associated Farmers. By this maneuver, the shipowners must think they have put the unions on the spot. Well, we'll see if these shipowners are as smart as they believe themselves to be. The unions will answer these questions over KFRC Sunday. When will the shipowners answer the unions question?

Employers' Weak Case

"The shipowners have a weak case and apparently they know it. The questions which the unions submitted and the employers refused to answer, calling them libelous, will be answered over the air by union speakers. If the spirit of sportsmanship which the unions have shown would be duplicated by the shipowners, phoney maneuvers on their part would be unnecessary. But the shipowners have to resort to trickery and phoney maneuvers. What else can they do?

"In radio speeches and through the press, the shipowners have stressed their stand regarding 'Fair Play and Justice for All.' Here is an example as they apply it: When Lynn Fox, ace-publicity man and trouble shooter for the shipowners, was asked by a union representative for a copy of his radio speech, the representative was met with a point blank refusal. It is a fact that once a speech goes over the air, it becomes public property. Very sporting on their part when we can't even get a copy of their used speeches. Yes, yes, very sporting indeed."

ILA Local Certified To Represent Miscellaneous Men

WASHINGTON.—Certification of the Gatemans, Watchmen and Miscellaneous Waterfront Workers Union, local 38-124 International Longshoremen's Association, as the proper representative of workers on the American-Hawaiian Steamship Co. is announced, following an election, by the National Labor Relations Board. West coast local 90 of the Masters, Mates and Pilots was also certified as the proper bargaining agency on the same line.

Maritime Board Showed Colors

WASHINGTON (MNS)—The nation's capitol has awakened to the true character of the new U. S. Maritime Commission and joined with the maritime unions in wholehearted criticism of its first actions.

Reactionaries Had Five Killed In Baltimore

BALTIMORE.—Five men have been killed here since the seamen's Rank and File strike started last October, a survey just concluded shows.

Rank and File members blamed the strikebreaking activities of discredited I.S.U. officials for the killings. They named Vander Staay, Warren and Bley, who have employed gangsters to aid in strikebreaking and attacks on the strikers.

Despite these intimidations, 23 ships are tied up here and 2,486 men signed for picket duty.

At a mass meeting attended by 1,700 in port here, P. Whalen was elected local strike chairman. Men attending were members of I.S.U., Sailors' Union of the Pacific, Masters, Mates and Pilots, Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, American Radio Telegraphists' Association, Longshoremen and Teamsters.

Men Mean Nothing To Shipowners

SEATTLE.—Demands by shipowners that spoiled perishable cargo aboard tied-up ships in the Seattle harbor be removed because it is a health menace, were countered by the Seattle joint strike committee with the demand that shipowners clean house on their own ships.

Aurilli's Death

The case of the death of Demo Aurilli, a waiter on the Alaska Steamship Company's steamer Victoria, was cited as ample proof by the strike committee, that the shipowners really do not mind about spoiled cargo, but are using the issue as a means of turning public sentiment against the striking groups.

Aurilli died in May, 1935, in the marine hospital here from an illness brought on by sleeping in a wet berth on a voyage from Seward, Alaska, to Seattle in April, 1935. The strike committee asserted that no other berth was available for Aurilli and that water flowed from the scuppers into Aurilli's berth. Ventilation for the berth had to come from a toilet. All ports on the Victoria have to be closed in the least rough weather to prevent seas from coming in.

The conditions on the Victoria have been brought to the attention of the Alaska Steamship Company repeatedly, the most recent being this summer, yet no action was taken to improve the situation. Fumigation of the ship, says the strike committee, is ineffective because of the decrepit condition of the vessel and the impossibility of sealing it against leakage through the scuppers.

The strike committee will insist that action on the Victoria's sanitary facilities is of far greater importance since it concerns actual lives at stake, than the case of perishable stores or cargo, situated far away from any place of human habitation.

Pedro Kitchen Is Feeding 4000

SAN PEDRO.—A kitchen large enough to seat 600 men at one time is being used here to feed the maritime strikers at the rate of 4,000 daily.

The food is secured from well-wishers, strike funds and work for farmers by the men. A boxing committee arranging programs is also aiding in raising funds.

EINSTEIN AIDS LABOR

MENA, Ark.—Prof. Albert Einstein, noted scientist and pacifist, who financed a scholarship at Commonwealth (Labor) College last year, has followed it by a donation to the school.

REAL MEXICO UNIONS WILL HELP STRIKE

C.T.M. Calls on All Mexican Workers To Give Aid

MEXICO CITY.—Immediately after the strike call on the Pacific Coast by the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, the militant Mexican Confederation of Workers issued a call to the Mexican workers supporting the strike on the Pacific Coast.

The following are excerpts of a leaflet widely distributed at Ensenada recently:

"A CALL

"At this moment when the American stevedores are being strangled by American shipowners it is the duty of the Mexican workers to render all assistance in this struggle and come out to help the Pacific Longshoremen, whose fight is our fight. The American workers have asked our cooperation.

"The C.T.M. (Confederacion de Trabajadores Mejanicos Confederation of Mexican Workers) has not hesitated one minute. The Central office of the C.T.M. sent the following two telegrams to Ensenada in answer to an enquiry from the Ensenada Local:

"Mexican Confederation of Workers must back 100 per cent the strike. All help and assistance must be given the Pacific Coast maritime strike regardless of cost and sacrifice... Greetings, signed Vicente Lombardo Toledano."

"Your twenty-second Maritime Federation Delegation Office to secure permit remain in Mexico. Everything taken care of by C.T.M. should difficulties arise, contact us. Fraternal greetings, Vicente Lombardo Toledano, General Secretary."

However, the C.R.O.M. (Confederacion Regional de Obreros Mejanicos) a Fascist outfit led by Morones, today in exile for his treacherous conduct against the Mexican Government has balked the efforts of the militant C.T.M. The actual leaders of the C.R.O.M. are playing in Mexico a similar role as played by Ivan Hunter, Ryan and Green in American labor difficulties. Their power and influence, however, is dwindling rapidly."

Disobey Orders

Instead of a general housecleaning of the old personnel in the discredited Shipping Bureau of the Department of Commerce, the new commission took the old staff over bag and baggage.

At the same time the commission has lopped desirable from contact with Washington by shifting them to outside jobs.

But the high point of their errors was reached when they chartered seven shipping board vessels to the Lykes Brothers of New Orleans without competitive bidding in direct defiance of section 706-A of the subsidy law.

The provision specifically states competitive bidding must determine which line secures the taxpayer-built ships.

When President Hoover was President, the line negotiated (which is also in direct violation of the present law and the 1928 subsidy measure) for the securing of 52 government ships for an average of \$50,000 each—the lowest ever received for vessels constructed with taxpayer money.

The End of the Hot Banana Case

LOS ANGELES.—The "hot banana" case in federal court here, which threatened to be a shipowners wedge in the maritime strike ended this week in a smashing victory for the unions.

Judge Paul J. McCormick who had ordered the U. S. Marshal to remove 4,216 stems of bananas from the Panama-Pacific liner California vacated his order.

John C. Packard, counsel for the unions, in masterly fashion argued the matter was beyond the jurisdiction of the admiralty courts and further, that there was no contractual relations between the plaintiff, Otis McAllister and Company, and the steamship company to deliver the cargo in time of strike.

Judge McCormick in handing down his decision declared there was no evidence of collusion between shipowners and the fruit dealer. Despite this denial the impression existed here that they had conspired to use the court as an instrument to break the picket lines.

300 Jailed in New Orleans Raid

NEW ORLEANS.—In a renewed reign of terror against the striking seamen here, police raided the strikers' hall and arrested more than 300 strikers Wednesday. As many as 25 strikers were crowded into a single cell after a squad of nine policemen swooped down on the strike hall.

Despite the continued terror here and in other Gulf Coast ports, the strikers continue to hold their picket lines.

Where San Pedro Pickets Are Fed



THE CENTRAL maritime strike food kitchen in San Pedro.

THEY WANT A REAL 'VOICE'

Want to Make Their Paper Best Possible

SAN FRANCISCO.—With over 2,500 members in attendance at a regular meeting of the International Longshoremen's Association, Local 38-79, the following resolution introduced by Harry Bridges was adopted by an overwhelming majority.

The resolution adopted by one of the largest attended meetings of the local speaks for itself, and was introduced after a five-hour discussion on the competency of Barney Mayes, as editor of the Voice of the Federation.

WHEREAS: Local 38-79 passed a resolution endorsing B. Mayes as Editor of the Voice of the Federation, and

WHEREAS: At that time certain facts regarding B. Mayes were not made known to Local 38-79, such as forged references, etc., and

WHEREAS: Three District Councils have gone on record against B. Mayes and in favor of Grattan as Editor of the Voice, Therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That we go on record as condemning the present Editorial Board for concealing the true facts of the Voice and the editor, and be it further

RESOLVED: That we go on record as demanding Barney Mayes be removed in accordance with the Maritime Federation Constitution and that Local 38-79 rescind its action in giving Mayes a vote of confidence.

(SEAL)

John Schomaker, Chairman, Publicity Committee, I.L.A., Local 38-79, San Francisco.

Scalers Report Pact on the Fish Reduction Ships

SAN FRANCISCO.—The negotiations committee for the Ship Scalers' Union, I.L.A. 38-100 reports satisfactory working agreements have been signed with a majority of the fish reduction ship operators.

All Demands Granted

The companies agreed to all demands of the union which include a basic wage higher than that paid by scaling contractors; recognition of the hiring hall; recognition of the right of the men to refuse to pass through picket lines set up by other unions and recognition of Maritime Memorial Day (July 5) as a holiday.

The agreement is the first negotiated directly by the Scalers and shippers. Contractors attempting to muscle in and take the work from the ship reduction boats were eliminated.

The Scalers' Union is conducting a militant organizational campaign in the shipyards on both sides of the Bay and scores of shipyard workers have signified their willingness to join I.L.A. 38-100.

From Portland, Me. To Portland, Ore.

PORTLAND, Maine.—Striking East Coast seamen are seeing to it that this port is no longer a scab-herd's paradise.

Although strike headquarters has only been set up for a little over a week, the seamen have registered some success. Three men walked off the Oakley L. Alexander and on Saturday, seamen left the S. S. Black Point, although they were told by their officers that there was no strike.

Meanwhile, the strike committee is bending every effort to prevent the shipping of scabs to New York out of this port. And although the strike has only "spread here recently," many of the waterfront firms, including ship's agents, have had only skeleton staffs for weeks.

The seamen also reported that donations of food and clothing are being made by sympathizers.

Blistering Reply To Lies of Plant

(Continued From Page One)

that no settlement, could be reached on the Pacific until terms of the seamen's strike on the Atlantic could be met.

Who Disrupts?

"Despite the attempts of the unions to keep negotiations on the basis of good faith and to deal fairly and respect the rights of cooperation between the shipowners themselves, the shipowners have attempted to disrupt the program of like cooperation between the maritime unions.

"No other explanation can be given to their demand that unions separately vote on the tentative agreements reached. Nor can any smoke-screen be big enough to conceal those really responsible for prolonging the strike.

"The only question regarding Eastern seamen's strike which has been raised, is what consideration will be shown the seamen on American ships that regularly ply between intercoastal ports. The unions are wary and suspicious of any attempt to create the "hot cargo" situation immediately after a settlement is reached on the Pacific, by bringing ships from the East Coast, manned by strike-breakers and demanding that they be worked.

Strive for Peace

"The I. L. A. and myself, as district president, are sincere in striving for a quick and peaceful settlement of the present strike.

"We are further sincere in wanting the settlement to be permanent. Our opinions, however, are to the effect that those intercoastal ships trading regularly to Pacific Coast ports, if excluded from present agreements, will be the cause of further friction after a settlement is arrived at. This is all that has been given consideration. No program or demand has been made by the I.L.A. to prolong the West Coast strike until the full demands of the East Coast seamen are met.

"The employers' statement has no basis of fact, beyond further confusing the issue.

Unions' position

"The I.L.A., marine engineers, radio operators have not as yet even met with the employers. The marine cooks and the masters, mates and pilots had received no concessions from the operators in the matter of preferential hiring and the 8-hour day. The position of the operators in this regard is as it was prior to the strike. The unions' position before the public remains the same, a speedy conclusion of the strike, based on reasonable and justified demands of the men.

"Certain morning and daily newspapers, regarded by the water front unions as anti-labor publications, although carrying so-called official stories of waterfront developments, are apt to be misleading. The maritime unions are on record as boycotting and refusing official statements to the San Francisco newspapers other than the News and the San Francisco Chronicle.

HARRY BRIDGES, International Longshoremen's Assn. Pacific Coast District.

COMMUNIST PARTY SPONSORS BROADCAST IN SEATTLE TO TELL PUBLIC STRIKE'S AIMS

Stack of Marine Firemen Tells How Marine Unions Have Been Seeking for Peaceful Settlements; Balked by Shipowners

SEATTLE.—The people of Seattle, like those of other ports are getting the strikers' side over the radio now, and the result is that shipowners' propaganda is not working out so well.

The Communist Party is helping the cause of the strikers by devoting time over the radio to urging support for the strike.

Recently, over station KIRO, Walter J. Stack, a leading member of the Marine Firemen's Union, spoke over that station, under the auspices of the Waterfront Section of the Communist Party.

His speech is worth reproducing. It follows:

Shipowners have threatened disaster to the people of America. Mr. T. G. Plant, head of the coast committee for ship operators, has stated they are prepared to hold out for four months. Developments so far in the strike indicate that this is no idle threat. 42 days have elapsed since a small group of shipowners have deliberately paralyzed the nation's entire water-borne commerce.

Unions Seek Peace

Weeks of untiring efforts on the part of maritime unions to negotiate a peaceful settlement, to avoid a strike, were met with resistance and stubborn refusal by the shipowners. Since the strike the unions have repeatedly attempted to negotiate a settlement and repeatedly met with refusal by the shipowners. They have no grounds to put forward for their refusal to settle, so they raise false issues and resort to deliberate lies, to confuse the general public. The true facts are generally known but must be repeated. The unions propose a 6-point program to the employers based almost entirely on practices in effect for over two years. They are:

1. To continue the present practice of hiring seamen directly from the union hall.
2. Cash payment for overtime work performed.
3. Retention of the employer-employee joint controlled longshoremen's hiring hall.
4. Continuation of the 6-hour day for longshoremen.
5. The 8-hour day for marine cooks and stewards, which would mean a 56-hour week instead of a 70-hour week.
6. The right of licensed officers belonging to the unions to receive preference when being employed.

These demands are reasonable and just.

Hiring Halls Do Good

Federal Co-ordinator Eastman, making an investigation of the hiring halls, reported that such a system of hiring spread the work and eliminated flourishing rackets. The United States government just concluded an agreement with the unions to operate Alaska boats, meeting all union demands. Several shipping companies and foreign lines have indicated the union demands are reasonable.

These things give the lie to the shipowners who have declared the hiring halls were a menace to the American Merchant Marine. The Dollar, Matson, and American Hawaiian Steamship Companies, the big three who are the ring leaders, are bitterly opposed to the hiring halls, maintaining they are the ones responsible for "safety at sea" and therefore must have the right to do their own hiring and firing. What is good enough for the government is not good enough for these gentlemen.

They want to arbitrate these fundamental demands of the unions. Harry Bridges, who recently spoke at a packed Civic Auditorium meeting, pointed out that arbitrating these fundamental questions would amount to arbitrating whether unions should remain in existence or not and asked the shipowners if they would arbitrate a similar question concerning them, whether or not they would remain in the shipping business.

People's Support

Increased support behind the maritime strikers from all sections of the population is the only method that will compel the shipowners to settle with the unions. The maritime strike is not confined to the waterfront, but has become a major political struggle.

The Communist Party desires to see a quick settlement of the strike and is supporting the unions who are opposed to arbitration of these fundamental demands. The right of workers to have unions is at stake. This question cannot be arbitrated. It must be fought out. The Communist Party demands that all ship subsidies (taxpayers' money) be withheld from the shipowners until they grant the demands of the maritime unions that the majority of tax-paying citizens are supporting. Hundreds of thousands and millions of people must demand that subsidies be cut off. A united front of the people behind this demand will exert sufficient pressure to force a quick settlement of the maritime strike.

Foes Work Overtime

There are many enemies working overtime to break the maritime strike. Public enemies—1, 2, 3, Dollar, Matson and American-Hawaiian Steamship Companies are the ones responsible for the waterfront tieup and are the ones getting the largest subsidies. They are the ones hatching out "red plots" saying "Communism" is responsible for the strike. They have many friends on the east and gulf coasts, inside and outside the unions, trying to break the strike. Reactionary union officials such as William Green, J. P. Ryan, International president of I.L.A.

What Shipowners Want

It can be clearly seen that the big powerful shipping companies are not interested in settling the strike, but are concerned solely with eliminating the unions. These shipowners are part of the same crowd that did their best to elect Landon and Knox in the recent elections. They received a defeat. The majority of the American people, although re-electing Roose-

(To Be Continued.)

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Step On Fascist Arrogance!

HOW MUCH LONGER will the forces of world democracy mark time and hesitate and make technical excuses before they act to stop the arrogant actions of Hitlerism in the Fascist invasion of Spain?

First it was open violation of the so-called "non-intervention pact" by the shipment of arms and ammunition by Hitler and Mussolini to Franco.

Then the landing of thousands of German troops, fully armed and equipped. The war in Spain became openly a war of Fascist invasion of a democratic country.

Now the latest infamy is the burning of a Soviet ship by the Fascists. This was followed by a Spanish Fascist warship firing upon an American gunboat, the U.S.S. "Erie."

The Fascists are moving fast to provoke a new world slaughter. Action to halt their plans must be taken now. Organized labor and the people generally in every democratic country must take steps to force their governments to put an immediate end to this Fascist provocation, to drive Hitler and Mussolini out of Spain!

The Battle of Sacramento

THE FIELD is being cleared for the Battle of Sacramento. Both sides are unlimbering their guns, observation planes are flying over the lines of both armies, the general staffs of the Open-Shop Interests and of the People are in conference as the zero hour approaches in the coming battle for the capture of the state legislature.

The anti-labor forces of reaction have had their spies and scouts in the field for some time—armed with bribes, threats, promises—visiting legislators, pulling wires. The army of reaction has already let loose a barrage of poison gas in the form of bulletins and capitalist newspaper propaganda by Chambers of Commerce, Merchants and Manufacturers' Associations, Industrial Associations.

The army of the people, the labor and progressive forces, are awaiting the outcome of the conference of their general staff, the California People's Legislative Conference, meeting to plan a counter-offensive in Sacramento January 16th and 17th.

How successfully the people can resist the drive against labor planned by the large-scale employers depends on the outcome of this Conference. The success of this conference depends on the support it receives from trade unions, fraternal organizations, farm organizations, all progressive groups in California.

The election of delegates to the Conference, the General Staff of the People's Army of California, is the most urgent duty of every working-class and progressive organization in the State. The People's Lobby to be elected out of this conference will have the responsibility of mapping the legislative campaign to be waged during the coming session of legislature; a campaign for the protection and extension of civil rights, for the protection of the rights of labor.

The Open-Shop interests have fancy weapons and money; the people have numbers and economic organization. What the people need is political unity—and the battle will be won.

Anti-Labor Propaganda in Law School

IN A LABOR dispute A, B and C were trying to drive these groups of working men from a construction job. Acting independently they did the following things:

(a) Approaching a group of men, told them to leave and threatened to throw a bomb at them. When they refused to leave, A did throw the bomb under the place where they were working. The bomb, though loaded, failed to explode.

(b) B approached a second group and did the same thing, with this difference: The "bomb" he threw was not loaded.

(c) C approached a third group with a loaded bomb. The men left when C threatened to throw it. In fact, C never intended to throw it.

All three were indicted for assault. Are any of them guilty?

This is not a question given to a class of

strike-breakers by the Industrial Association, or to a group of anti-labor terrorists by Pearl Bergoff, ace strike-breaker, but is the first question in an examination given to a class of law students at the Stanford University School of Law, recently.

Some may say this is merely a theoretical question involving a point of law—but in reality it is subtle anti-labor propaganda of the worst type. The impression given is that strikers throw bombs and are criminals, that strike-breakers are innocent, law-abiding citizens.

Small wonder that we have a corps of attorneys turned out ready to prosecute victims of labor frame-ups such as Mooney; the C. S. prisoners; the Modesto boys; King, Conner and Ramsay.

Questions involving such points of law as this one brings out should be built around the strike-breaking activities of the professional labor spies, thugs and provocateurs. We suggest that the Stanford University law faculty be made aware of this in no uncertain terms.

Which Road for the President?

EVEN CAPITALIST political columnists are aware of the fact that President Roosevelt takes a middle-of-the-road position—that what he will do to fulfill the promises he made during his campaign for re-election depends on the amount of pressure brought to bear upon the administration by the forces of organized labor and other progressive elements throughout the country. In their more candid moments, these capitalist commentators admit it.

A case in point is David Lawrence, who writes a syndicated column from Washington. During the election campaign Mr. Lawrence devoted his columns to support of Landon, hitting out viciously at the Roosevelt administration.

In a column headed "Which Road for the President?" Mr. Lawrence tells of interviewing "a man who has the President's confidence, a man on whose judgment he relies, a man with whom Mr. Roosevelt has been conferring on his return"—and asking this person whether the President will turn to the right or the left.

"No man knows—not even the President," Lawrence was told, and the explanation given was that "forces, the will of the masses, the shaping up of public opinion" will decide which way Roosevelt turns.

Now is the time to bring the progressive forces of the people into play, to register the will of the masses, in order that the President's famous "we have just begun to fight" phrase may be turned into reality, in order that the Liberty League reactionaries do not have their way.

An Indictment

A SHARP INDICTMENT of capitalism is contained in the story of a girl who ran away from the drudgery and poverty of a five-dollar-a-week job in Chicago with a man who, it later turned out, was wanted on a murder charge.

Her paralyzed stepfather, crippled brother and mother had been on relief for ten years—and forced to live on \$26 a month for all three of them. Not wishing to be a burden on her family, and not being able to obtain work, she married when she was 15—and divorced when 21. Then followed a series of jobs as night club singer, waitress, drug store clerk. Although Chicago has a minimum wage law, she was forced to work ten hours a day for \$5 a week, room and board—and to take care of her employer's invalid mother evenings, with no extra pay.

Then along came the stranger, with promise of travel and security, at least for a time. Then—his arrest for murder.

Many people will call her conduct "disgraceful" and "immoral." But the fault for her plight lies not with her but with the system that breeds such inhuman conditions as that in which she and her family found themselves; the system that makes it possible to exploit girls for miserable wages and drives them to use other means to escape from such abject poverty. It is capitalism that is disgraceful and immoral, not its victims.

The A. F. of L. Convention and Tasks

The Western Worker prints herewith an abridged text of the report presented by Jack Stachel, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, to the recent plenary session of the Central Committee held on Dec. 4 to 6.

I. General Characterization

The 56th convention of the A.F.L., if only because it endorsed the action of the Executive Council in suspending the unions affiliated to the C.I.O., thus increasing the danger of a long-time and widespread split in the trade union movement, must be characterized as one of the most reactionary gatherings in the 55-year history of the American Federation of Labor. The reactionary leaders of the craft unions who controlled the convention, afraid of the rank and file (which is at the bottom of their refusal to organize the unorganized), concerned only with the maintenance of their power, passed a number of other reactionary measures which rob the workers of much of their trade union democracy. This attack was especially directed against the federal unions and the Central Labor bodies.

Last year the convention, through the anti-red amendment limited the rights of the federal locals, central labor bodies and state federations of labor in the name of the fight against communism. They failed at that time to include in this amendment an attack against the international unions. The presence of the C.I.O. unions at the convention, constituting more than one-third of the votes, compelled them to make a retreat with their amendment insofar as it concerned the international unions. It can be said at this point that the C.I.O. unions who voted for the modified amendment are now in danger of reaping the fruits of their own mistake. For, as we pointed out at that time—starting with an attack against the Communists—the reactionaries in the Council would use these new powers granted them to attack all progressives.

The A.F.L. Council, in its fight against the C.I.O. unions (which they already had in mind when they proposed their amendment at the 55th convention), as we now know, usurped powers which were not granted to it by the constitution. They adopted a so-called enabling measure on the basis of which they suspended the C.I.O. unions, and by depriving them of their rights at the convention had these measures approved by the Tampa convention. This measure gives the Council virtual power to perpetuate itself and its policies by the device of suspending any opponent unions prior to the convention, thus assuring for themselves a majority. In addition, the convention, by the adoption of an amendment limiting the rights of the Federal locals, central labor bodies, etc., with regard to the introduction of resolutions, and a resolution robbing the central bodies of the power to declare employers unfair in their community, has further centralized control in the small clique of reactionary craft union leaders and robbed the rank and file and the organizations closest to the rank and file of their rights.

The reactionary character of the 56th convention was further shown by its refusal to go on record in support of the people of Spain, against the Fascist invaders. The reactionaries refused the floor to an accredited representative of the Spanish trade unions which are affiliated to the International Federation of Trade Unions. A low point in the convention was reached in the vote against the striking seamen of the Atlantic and Gulf ports. This, perhaps, more than anything else, showed the true color of the reactionary splitters.

One of the outstanding features of the convention, which characterized the reactionary trend among the top officials, was the injection of the Jewish issue in a manner which openly smacked of anti-Semitism. The fact that the reactionaries were forced into a hasty retreat on this question does not in the least minimize the significance of this reactionary trend.

On a number of questions the Tampa convention continued the old policies of the reactionaries, the actions taken being practically the same as at previous conventions. In the face of the changing situation in the country, the growth of the fascist danger on the one hand, and the leftward movement of the masses, on the other, this attitude in itself stamps the convention as stand-pat reactionary. This includes the action of the convention opposing the Labor Party; the refusal to take a stand for curbing the Supreme Court; the failure to act in favor of application to the International Federation of Trade Unions; the failure to act against Hearst; for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys; the re-affirmation of the old position with re-

gard to the Negro workers; the Youth Congress, etc.

But, despite the general reactionary character of the 56th convention, quite a number of progressive resolutions sponsored especially by the Central Labor bodies and the Federal locals were passed. Among these are the resolutions in the interest of the unemployed, for the freedom of McNamara; against the Tampa terror (a resolution which also condemned the attack on the meeting of Comrade Browder); a resolution for the organization of the young workers, and a resolution against vigilantism.

In connection with Communism, it is important to note that there was not a single resolution at this convention calling for condemnation of the Communists, nor was there any reference in the opening speech of Green. The only reference to Communism was in the resolution dealing with the seamen. But in the report of the Resolutions Committee there was a general condemnation of Communism along with fascism and nazism. This report, which dealt wholesale with numerous resolutions that were introduced against fascism, treated this question in a manner somewhat similar to that of the British Trade Union Congress. Strange as it may seem, there was probably less red-baiting at this convention than at all the conventions of recent years. And this was certainly not because the Council felt that the Communists had grown

weaker in the A.F.L. They were fully aware of the presence of Communists among the delegates and of very many important resolutions sponsored by the Communists. Undoubtedly, this is due to the defeat which red-baiting and Hearst received in the last elections, and particularly to the changed attitude of the rank and file of the A.F.L. on this question.

There was not absent a militant spirit in the convention. The progressives, coming primarily from federal locals, central bodies and state federations, did not have many votes, but they were quite a large number. What is more important, they had practically all the younger people, workers from the bench, hopeful, militant, ready for a fight. The opposite camp, it is true, had the votes. But they did not look very happy. They knew that back home the rank and file would not support their reactionary stand. Some said it. They blamed Lewis more than anyone or anything else for stirring up the rank and file against them.

A militant note was struck in the speeches of the rank and file and progressive delegates, as well as by a number of scheduled speakers from the outside. In this connection, a few speeches should be mentioned. First, the speech dealing with the fight against fascism and reaction made by Spenser Miller, in which he came out openly in support of the Spanish Loyalists; in the references to the struggle against fascism and war made by the British delegation; and in the speech of the representative of the Cuban trade unions. A second group of speeches were those dealing with the right to organize; speeches on the fight for a higher standard of living and more adequate social security made by Edwin Smith of the National Labor Relations Board and Secretary Perkins, as well as a speech calling for the curbing of the Supreme Court and for a Constitutional amendment made by Judge Padway of Wisconsin.

The Executive Council was undoubtedly conscious of the fact that the eyes of the workers were upon the Tampa convention, and sensed that the convention by its action would not finally decide the issue dividing the A.F.L. It already felt a certain dissatisfaction even from some of the top layers of the bureaucracy of certain unions. Here it tried to cover up its reactionary and splitting policies with a tone of "militancy" which found expression particularly on such questions as the organization of the millions of unorganized, the fight for the 30-hour week, and amending the Social Security Act. In connection with the 30-hour week, it is important to note that a resolution calling upon Congress to pass the 30-hour week "without reduction of earning power" was passed over the opposition of Hutcheson. The convention, however, did not provide for those measures that could actually realize these resolutions and speeches in life; that was made obvious by its action with regard to the suspension, the rejection of the policy of industrial unionism, etc.

As it was, Zaritzky was the outstanding leader of the C.I.O. forces at the convention. He made the principle speech immediately following the report of the Resolutions Committee. Although there were at least two members of the Resolutions Committee who refused to sign the report as it pertained to the C.I.O. there was no minority report. Had a minority report been made, the vote would have taken place on a more favorable placing of the question. The absence of such a minority report must be ascribed to the unwillingness or the failure on the part of Howard-Zaritzky to work in that direction.

There were present a number of progressive delegates elected with the help of the Party, who came with instructions to work with the left and progressive forces. The number of Party members present was about the same as last year and many times the number of both wings of both wings of Socialists. Two delegates joined the Party. "Considering the fact that the C.I.O. unions were not there, and that the bulk of those from the federal locals last year are now in International unions, this number is fair. But, at the same time, we must be critical of those districts that had no delegates at all, and we should especially have had more delegates from Central bodies.

Our comrades participated with others in calling together a number of meetings where the progressive bloc was crystallized. The biggest meeting was attended by some 70 delegates, including a number from international unions, state federations, central bodies, as well as federal locals. At this meeting, a committee was organized to guide the work and to contact some of the other progressive delegates.

We can state that the work of our comrades at the convention helped give backbone to whatever progressive forces that were crystallized, and to the fight that was made for the C.I.O. and other progressive measures. Had it not been for our comrades, the discussion on the C.I.O. would not have taken on the character that it did. Many of the resolutions of a progressive character would not have been introduced. And, above all, there would not have been the large number of votes cast in suspension, on the part of the State federations, Central bodies and Federal unions present.

The local Party committee gave all the assistance we asked for. We were encouraged on some days to find that the Daily Worker was sold openly in front of the Convention Hall, although for some reason this was not done regularly. This was probably the first time that the Daily Worker was sold openly in Tampa. We feel that as a result of the convention and the favorable action taken on the Tampa resolution, which we introduced, the Party in Tampa can now go forward much more openly in the building of a progressive movement in the trade unions, and the People's Front, as well as in the building of the Party itself.

III. The C.I.O., the S.P., etc.

What was the role of the Committee for Industrial Organization at the Tampa Convention? First, we must state that not only did the C.I.O. unions that were suspended stay away from the convention, but a number of state federations, federal locals and especially central bodies also stayed away under the direct influence of the C.I.O.

At the convention those unions that are affiliated to the C.I.O. (hatters, or connected with it through their officials (Typographical), or the State Federations and Central bodies directly influenced and led by those coming from C.I.O. unions, made no attempt to organize the progressive forces. Had the C.I.O. people organized the forces among some of the top leaders, and had Howard (who though in Tampa did not attend the sessions of the convention) come to lead these forces—undoubtedly a more effective fight could have been made with perhaps some additional votes gained against suspension.

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IV. Role of the Party

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V. Perspectives and Tasks

The convention, by not expelling the C.I.O. unions, left the door open for further negotiations. The resolution adopted and as interpreted by the Council, is as follows:

a. The Council has the power to lift the suspension prior to, or after, negotiations.

b. The committee previously set up, with Harrison at the head, is the standing committee which is to try to negotiate with the C.I.O.

c. Should no agreement be reached, and should the C.I.O. take a further step which the Council would think requires further action (in other words,

expulsion), the Council shall call a special convention.

d. The Council will not, for the present, ask for the unsanctioning of C.I.O. union delegates from State Federations and Central Bodies, but there is no question that it has the power and may do this if it finds it necessary and possible.

The decisions of the convention are not merely a middle course between lifting the suspension and the expulsion demanded by the die-hards. Many of the die-hards voted for this course in the belief that this is the best way to carry through the expulsion, by trying to place the responsibility for the split upon the C.I.O. This is seen from the fact that the Council at its meeting following the convention voted down a proposal for a compromise with the C.I.O. which would set up an industrial union department in the A.F.L. to be headed by Lewis. Those who favored this proposal, the so-called middle group headed by Harrison, were defeated by the die-hard craft union clique.

The Council is unyielding and provocative, and stubborn in its refusal to allow the organization of the unorganized, thus actually forcing the split. The C.I.O. cannot and will not accept a compromise on the terms of the Executive Council. A compromise on their terms, which means virtual capitulation, would be a betrayal of the interests of the workers.

In the face of this situation the most important task is the intensification of the campaign for the organization of the unorganized, and especially the steel workers, keeping the C.I.O. united, while at the same time developing a unity campaign throughout all of the unions of the American Federation of Labor. In the statement of the Central Committee, issued toward the close of the A.F.L. convention, we already gave our position in favor of this course.

This demands of us that we develop simultaneously the most intensive campaign of support for the organization of the unorganized in the mass production industries, and at the same time carry the fight for unity, and against the splitting policies of the Council into every craft union, into all state federations and central bodies.

Only if the relation of forces changes in favor of the C.I.O. through the organization of important sections of the unorganized and the simultaneous strengthening of the progressive forces in the craft unions, will unity be possible on a basis that will not compromise the fundamental aims of the C.I.O.

This demands that the line of the Party shall be made clear to the entire Party and to all those workers whom we influence. We must mobilize our full strength to carry through the line of the Party. It requires that we make clear to the workers the action of the A.F.L. convention and mobilize them to fight for our policies.

Our task in the C.I.O. unions is to fight for the maintenance of the unity and common action of all the C.I.O. unions. We must oppose all tendencies in some of the C.I.O. unions to withdraw from the C.I.O., and to make their own compromise with the Council. In those unions where this danger exists (I.L.G.W.U., Hatters) we must mobilize the rank and file and all progressives to defeat such tendencies.

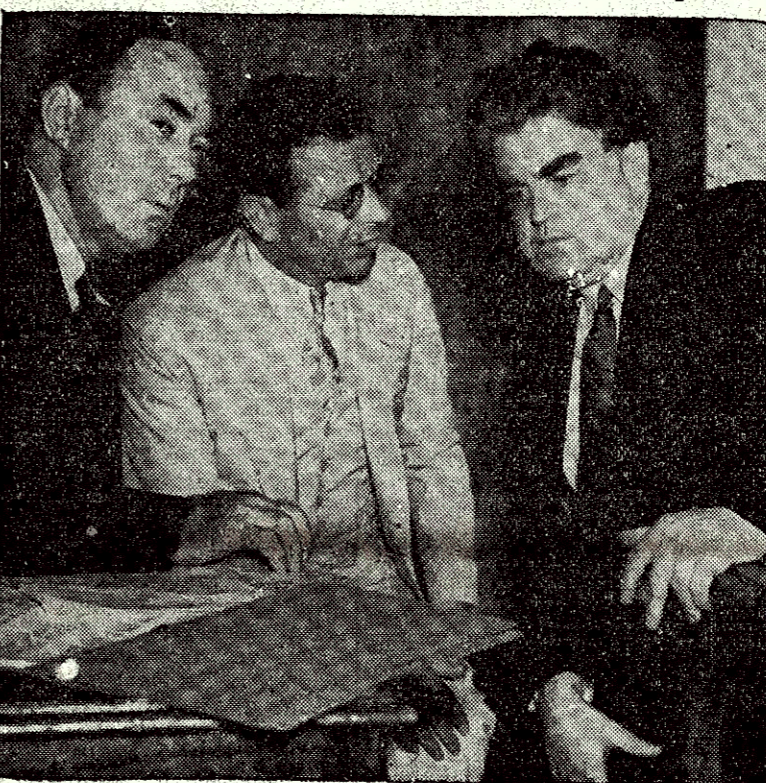
At the same time within the C.I.O. unions we must carry on the fight for improvement of the conditions of the workers, for trade union democracy, so that the workers in the other A.F.L. unions will see in the unions affiliated to the C.I.O. an example of progressive trade unionism. Naturally the character of our work in the C.I.O. unions, how we organize the fight for the proposals, must take into account our general policy toward the C.I.O. and the Executive Council.

We must strive to convince the leaders of the C.I.O. to give support to all the struggles of the workers in the other unions, as for example, the present nationwide strike of the maritime workers. Here, too, they must show to the workers everywhere the meaning of progressive trade unionism in practice.

We must also convince the leaders of the C.I.O. nationally and in the localities to take measures in the interests of the workers through championing a legislative program in defense of the economic and political interests of all workers in the struggle against reaction and Fascism, in support of the people's movement against Fascism and war, and in the building of the Farmer-Labor Party.

Our most important task is to mobilize all our forces to assist in the organization of the unorganized, and especially of the steel workers, the auto and textile workers, as well as the millions of agricultural workers.

Conferring on C.I.O.'s Next Steps



JOHN LEWIS (at right) confers with George L. Berry of the Pressmen's Union (at left) and David Dubinsky of the International Ladies Garment Workers on next steps of the CIO

weaker in the A.F.L. They were fully aware of the presence of Communists among the delegates and of very many important resolutions sponsored by the Communists. Undoubtedly, this is due to the defeat which red-baiting and Hearst received in the last elections, and particularly to the changed attitude of the rank and file of the A.F.L. on this question.

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AS WE SEE IT

By BILL SCHNEIDERMAN,
California State Secretary, Communist Party, U. S. A.

Struggles Ahead

THE RECENT sessions of the Central Committee of the Party had the two-fold task of summing up the results of the political struggle of the past six months, and of mobilizing the Party for the tasks ahead of us. Comrade Browder summed up these tasks as follows:

FIRST: Organizing of the economic struggles that are looming in the mass production industries, of which the national maritime strike and the numerous sit-down strikes are only the forerunners; support the fight for organizing the unorganized into industrial unions, prevent the deepening of the split in the A.F.L. fight for a united American Federation of Labor.

SECONDLY: The fight for a People's Front, for the building of a Farmer-Labor party; the fight for social and labor legislation in the State Legislatures and in Congress during the coming sessions which open January, 1937.

THIRDLY, organizing the fight for peace, and the building of a mass people's peace movement. For an active American peace policy, to throw its weight on the side of the Soviet Union and the world peace forces against the adventurist war policies of Fascist powers. Support for Spanish democracy. Build the American League Against War and Fascism.

FOURTHLY: Building the Party into a Mass Party. Mass recruiting and improving the QUALITY of our work in the field of organization and education. Improving the life of the Party organizations, so as to develop greater initiative, train new forces, activate every member by proper assignment to the work most suitable to him or her.

The Central Committee meeting was rich in experiences from every district which gave striking confirmation of the correctness of the policies outlined by the Seventh World Congress of the Communist International, and the Ninth National Convention of our Party. The American people, after giving a crushing rebuke to the outstanding representatives of the camp of reaction and Fascism in the last election, are now stirring to new struggles, to reap the fruits of the favorable outcome of the elections. Even those who had the blindest faith in Roosevelt are moved into action for the vital demands which they consider themselves entitled to, and which Roosevelt so lavishly promised to fulfill. The looming strike struggles, the impetus given to the movement for independent political action, and the fight for social and labor legislation now under way, show that the masses are imbued with greater consciousness and confidence in their power, which augurs well for the building of an American People's Front, the fight for which is inseparable from the fight for Socialism.

One of the most important questions that faces the people of California is the legislative program which will come before the January, 1937, session of the State Legislature. All labor, farmer, and progressive organizations must take an active part in shaping the people's legislative demands, by supporting the California People's Legislative Conference for social and labor legislation which is being called in Sacramento on January 17th. The Communist Party pledges its full support to the realization of such a program.

Every member of the Party is urged to read and study the reports and discussion at the Central Committee meeting, particularly the reports of Comrade Browder and Stachel (Daily Worker and Western Worker) and articles appearing in "The Communist" of December and January.

A Question and An Answer

Editor, Western Worker: A small business man of my acquaintance wants to get into the Communist Party. He employs workers, tries to pay as little wages as possible and is very much afraid of union help, because he might have to pay union wages or obey laws of the workers.

When I asked him about these things he said, "Trade unionism is that what you're talking about. You are not talking about the party." Then he said that the majority of the party is business men. Is this true, and is such a man eligible for membership in the Communist Party?

Answer: If such is the man's attitude, of course he does not belong to the Communist Party, which fully supports trade unionism in principle and practice. Workers are a majority in the Communist Party, and in the leadership. He might, of course, believe in the ultimate purposes of the Party and contribute financially, but to be a member he would have to give unhesitating support to the immediate program which is necessary to attain political liberation and economic freedom.

Fascists Murder 30 Catholic Priests Loyal to Madrid

BILBAO, Spain.—Spanish Fascists have shot 30 Basque Catholic priests for having remained loyal to the legal government of Spain, it was learned here last week.

The Catholic priests supported the Basque nationalist movement, which is part of the People's Front and has a member in the government cabinet.

Travelers' Aid Works Free for Maj. Bowes

NEW YORK—Major Bowes, earning his thousands weekly while the Travelers Aid Society suffers a weekly headache from sending home stranded young aspirants for the Bowes amateur hour (and gong), is facing a shortage of "amateurs." While the Travelers Aid digs into its jeans for too-ambitious, but penniless youngsters, the major scours the Strand Building booking agents for "actors" willing to accept a few pennies and a chance to work in a Bowes unit.

A Glance At Films

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN: Nothing to wire the folks back home. Weak story with plenty of gaps into which Bing Crosby steps to sing pleasant tunes.

BANJO ON MY KNEE: Lacking in Mississippi river flavor, it tries so hard to get. An old man wants a granddaddy so badly he moves heaven and earth to bring his son and daughter-in-law together.

LOVE IN EXILE: Although considered a natural in film trade because it's about a king who abdicates for love, this British-made piece is receiving no attention—as it rightfully deserves.

ABYSSINIA: Soviet picture showing some terror-striking scenes of Italian planes bombing thatched villages in Ethiopia. Good resume of Italo-Ethiopian affair, so quickly forgotten now that Spain is here.

MAKE WAY FOR A LADY: Ann Shirley and Herbert Marshall wasted on a story of a girl who spends her life match-making for her widowed father—and then picks the wrong one. Silly.

State Chamber Plots Attack on Agricultural Workers

SAN FRANCISCO—Not without real cause do the friends of the small farmers and of the agricultural workers plan a legislative and mass campaign calculated to curb the hand of the large growers.

The program of the California State Chamber of Commerce, acting for these growers and attempting to make the agricultural areas the spearhead of their drive against trade unionism, is not the secret it was intended to be.

A bulletin issued by the board of directors of the Chamber, made public at the recent state conference called by the American League Against War and Fascism, lets the cat out of the bag as to what they fear and what they expect to do about it. **Great Fear of Even A Part of the Truth**

In this bulletin the board vented its wrath against even the San Francisco Chronicle and the San Francisco News for the mere printing of factual accounts of conditions in the agricultural areas. It was particularly outspoken against a series of articles by John Steinbeck in the San Francisco News which, in the words of the bul-

Make a Joyful Noise for the Western Worker

Dine, dance and make a joyful noise on New Year's Eve!

And by all odds, the merriest place to do it is at one of the numerous New Year's Eve affairs arranged to mark the fifth anniversary of the West Coast's most militant and comprehensive workers' newspaper—the semi-weekly Western Worker.

And though of course you'll part with some of your dimes to pay the fiddler, remember that the largest share of what you spend will go to the annual sustaining fund being raised to maintain the Western Worker, along with the Daily and Sunday Worker, for another year.

Where to Go

Some of the larger of these New Year's Eve affairs will be held as follows:

Los Angeles: Cultural Center, 230 S. Spring Street. Dancing and entertainment.

Hollywood: 1759 N. Highland (Edith Jane Studios). Dancing and entertainment. Small admission charge. Dinner at mid-night for those who make reservations in advance at \$1.25.

Oakland: 1619 Tenth Street (Oakraides Hall). Dancing, festival. Featuring a Jumping Frog contest, the winner to entertain the celebrated April contest in Angel Camp, Calaveras County.

San Francisco: 121 Haight Street. Dinner served from 6 p. m. until it's all eaten. Carnival.

Proper Fiddling

Union orchestras will play for dancing at all these affairs.

A long list of the most recent funds received in the drive will be ready for acknowledgment in the next issue of the Western Worker, including the results of the Los Angeles bazaar, which was reported as an outstanding success, and an impressive list of donations from San Francisco county.

Of the large county organizations, Oakland and San Diego are still the furthest behind in the drive.

Section and county campaign managers are again reminded to furnish the state campaign director, Harry Kramer, with information on all public affairs arranged for the fund drive in their territories, so that they can be announced in the Western Worker.

Anniversary Number

The anniversary number of the Western Worker, to be ready for distribution before New Year's Eve, will prominently feature a reproduction of significant former issues over the whole five years of its existence. A resume of important news developments of 1936 will be another feature. Still another will be short messages of greeting from national party leaders.

Emmett Kirby, one of the original staff members, will write an article on the history of the paper from its beginning until after the trying days of the San Francisco general strike.

Special bundles of this edition may be ordered in advance at 2½ cents per copy. Address the business manager at 121 Haight St., San Francisco.

MORGAN'S CHARITY

The London Sunday Graphic recently printed a tale about Squire J. P. Morgan and his village of Aldenham, in Hertshire. That publication, with typical British lack of humor, saw nothing funny in the fact that the Morgan-owned village supports a couple of almshouses. God bless King Morgan!

McNamara, Ignoring Self, Wants Fight Carried on

By ANNA DAMON

I walked through the gates of Folsom Prison, at Represa, California, and saw J. B. McNamara. It was the first time in nine months that the oldest political prisoner in the world had been permitted a visitor. It was just a few days before the convention of the American Federation of Labor passed a resolution, after 25 years of waiting, on J. B.'s behalf.

I saw J. B. through triple bars. Two tiny-meshed steel screens, with solid bars between them, separated us. But through those bars there came to me perhaps the greatest inspiration that I have ever experienced. I had expected to come away from this visit with a man embittered by a quarter of a century, depressed. I came away with a feeling of joy and happiness. His spirit and determination, unbroken by imprisonment, was something that no bars, no prison walls, could restrain.

Anxious to get latest information

I had to be well-informed to satisfy the questions that J. B. asked. I could not get him to answer the personal questions I wanted to put to him about his health (he has a very weak heart) or his work. He merely waved his hand and said: "Oh never mind. Let's not waste our time talking about myself. I'm all right. I can stand things—but tell me about the other political prisoners. Tell me about Tom Mooney. You saw him recently, didn't you? Tell me about Angelo Herndon. How is his case going on? What is happening to the Sacramento criminal syndicalism prisoners at San Quentin. I spent many memorable hours with them before I was moved into this other grave. What is happening to the Farmer-Labor Party? And what about Spain? How I wish that I was able to give all that I have to the cause of Spain!"

But he is able to read between lines

I truly saw a great man in Folsom prison.

He wanted to know about the international movement, the development of the People's Front. His information was limited to the New York Times, which the International Labor Defense subscribes to for him. He is not permitted to receive other papers. He winked and smiled—this living, shining spirit in a

This article is the result of an interview with J. B. McNamara by Anna Damon, national secretary of the International Labor Defense. It is reprinted from the Sunday Worker.

"That's all right," he said. "Even though the Times doesn't say things that are written in the labor papers that are barred from here, I can read between the lines. I know that labor's on the upward march."

I want to quote as much as possible exactly what J. B. said to me. He was thinking out loud a lot of the time, but what he said inspired me so that I want to pass his words on.

He spoke of the Townsend movement. "There's a crowd of people I can't understand so well," he said. "Just think, people of 60 and older worrying about themselves and their future. Why don't they worry about the youth? That's the real problem."

Help for the prisoners' families

"Then there are the political prisoners who have families and children. I haven't any. But I keep thinking about those that have. Their families are deprived of what rightfully belongs to them, food and nourishment of all kinds so that the children can develop into healthy, strong fighters who will be a credit to the cause for which their fathers and mothers went to jail."

"We must do everything for them. That's your job, Anna. After all, you take my job, Mooney or Cornelison, or Herndon, and many of our old war-horses who have been steeled in the struggle—for us the hardships in jail are something that we can stand. Those of us who come out will come out better fighters, physically and mentally, to battle on and on for the cause of labor. But the children? What about them, with their fathers or mothers in jail? We must help them, not only morally, but physically. The help that the I.L.D. is giving to the children

to provide them with clothing, with food, and with the necessities of life which will help them grow into healthy human beings is the I.L.D.'s best work. We cannot, we dare not neglect the future generation."

Wanted to know about sharecroppers

He wanted to learn the facts of the conditions of the children of the sharecroppers whose fathers have been murdered, or thrown into jail for long terms. He wanted to know what schooling they were getting, how they were treated in the schools.

"No listen, Anna," he said. "I have an idea. What do you think of making a real broad appeal to the laboring people on the basis of giving a penny for every year that I have spent in jail, and a penny for every year that Tom Mooney has spent in jail; a penny for every year that Matt Schmidt has been in jail, and so forth? I think that this way you could get thousands of dollars for the children of labor's prisoners."

Finally, I refused to leave until he actually took up some personal problems of his own, and he admitted reluctantly that he was not very well, and felt that anything might happen to him.

"Other matters are more important"

"That was something I wanted to talk about," he said, "but these things seem so much more important. In case I should die, it is my wish that the International Labor Defense handle all matters from start to finish, and I am communicating this request to my brother, A. R. McNamara, and to my sister, Alice McNamara Knabe. I know that the I.L.D. will give me the kind of a funeral that I desire, and in line with the kind of life that I have led in the labor movement."

"But Anna," he said. "That isn't the point. That isn't so important. How about the children? I have been buried for twenty-five years, this December. The thing to think about is the youth, the kids. In this Christmas campaign, you're asking for money to feed and house them and send them to school. How about toys? Are you sending the little ones toys?"

"Yes, we're asking for toys, too," I said.

"That good, Anna. Everything the children need and want they should have."

Behind the Rate Reductions of the Telephone Company

Investigators Disclose Stock Manipulations, Hand Phone Graft

Recent announcements of telephone rate reductions in California have received headlined publicity in the capitalist press along with editorial comment on the benevolence of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and its local subsidiaries.

These announcements have left entirely out of account the fabulous profits of the A.T.T. and its duplicity which milked subscribers, disclosed in Washington by attorneys and accounts of the Securities Exchange Commission who examined the Bell Securities Co. and by engineers who reported on the uses of the handset or "French" telephone.

Duplicity Through Subsidiary
Bell Securities was formed in 1921 as a wholly owned subsidiary of the A.T.T. Although the A.T.T., by its charter or by statute was not legally authorized to engage in the activities of the Securities Company and lawyers for the A.T.T. expressed doubt as to the legality of hold-

ing the stocks of the Securities Company, the Securities Company as an instrumentality of the A.T.T. "disseminated information" and attempted to secure wider distribution of A.T.T. stock.

Not only did the A.T.T., through its subsidiary, deal in its own stock and sell its own stock short but it made the telephone subscribers pay for these operations, the commission contended. It showed that the local companies of the A.T.T. participated in the stock selling scheme and that they were not fully reimbursed for their expenditures. These expenditures made by the companies were charged to the cost of telephone service for which the telephone subscribers paid.

Owned Both
This arrangement was possible because the commission noted, because the A.T.T. owned and controlled both the associated companies and the Bell Securities Company. Following the passage of the

Federal Securities Act in 1933, the Securities Company suspended its plan for the sale of A.T.T. capital stock and after spending a couple of inactive years, filed a certificate of dissolution in order to avoid taxation.

On the hand set telephone, engineers testified, the A.T.T. has collected over \$53,000,000 from telephone subscribers on which the net profit has been \$24,000,000, an annual return of 25 percent on investment.

If the present excess charge added for the hand phones were to be eliminated on January 1, 1937, the commission found, the company could furnish hand set telephones without extra charge until 1950 and still have \$11,000,000 profit.

The Handset Racket
"Of greater importance," said the commission, "was the fact that the A.T.T. had developed and introduced the hand telephone set as a telephone transmission improvement of such magnitude that additional savings

SEEING RED

BY MICHAEL QUIN

THE MARITIME UNIONS in the present waterfront controversy, are using a brand new weapon with deadly effect. They are on the air from four to seven times weekly in a series of broadcasts a la "March of Time."

One of the complaints broadcasting stations have voiced in the past when objecting to labor programs is that they have consisted mostly of long speeches which do not attract a wide range of listeners. Without going too deeply into the matter of how much employers' influence had to do with these objections, we can at least say that in the future they will have no legitimate complaints on this score.

The present broadcasts, which consist of dramatic sketches, informative dialogues, and re-enacted incidents from real life and from congressional procedure, are prepared by a special staff of volunteer writers from the Northern California Newspaper Guild and the Writers' Congress. They are acted out by members of the San Francisco Theater Union under the competent direction of Wellman Farley.

Arrangement for four nightly broadcasts over station KGGC were made possible through the cooperation of Dr. G. Faci, editor of the local Italian language paper "Cultura Popolare." The time is paid for by sympathetic small businessmen who sometimes avail themselves of the opportunity to advertise their shops on the program.

Other programs over stations KQW KSFO and KJBS are broadcast on time donated by the broadcasting companies, an equal amount of time having been offered to both employers and unions. On Sunday, December 13th, a one-hour program (30 minutes to each side) was put on the air over a simultaneous hookup of four stations, KJBS, KQW, KFRC and KSFO.

This should give you an idea of what is possible when a vigorous, organized effort is made to reach the public by means of radio.

These programs are blazing the trail for a permanent labor theater of the air which may be possible in the future. Before the strike is over, a trained and experienced crew of writers, actors and technicians, capable of putting on a program in every respect equal to the popular "March of Time" broadcast, will have been developed.

It cannot be said that the present programs are up to that standard yet. But even the least skillful of them are far superior to the average program you tune in on. The performers are not backed up by the elaborate sound equipment which other programs can employ. In fact, the matter of sound effects and musical background is still pretty weak in these broadcasts. But the performers are working hard and will master these things before they are through.

At one time they tried to precede the introduction of a voice representing R. Stanley Dollar, the shipowner, by clinking a lot of silver dollars in a hat. The result sounded more like somebody spraying the lawn.

Many of these broadcasts have been woven almost entirely out of direct quotes from Government documents and re-enactment of actual transcripts of dialogues which took place in Washington. The result is an utterly damning indictment of the shipowners, leaving them with no one to challenge or reply to but the United States Government.

I think you will agree with me that these programs should be encouraged. If you haven't heard them yet, tune in on them. If you like them, don't keep quiet about it. Tell your next door neighbor. Better still, write to the broadcasting station telling them how much you approve of the idea. Tell them you like labor broadcasts and you want to hear more of them, not just while the strike is on, but all the time.

It takes a lot of team work to put on radio programs. It isn't a one-man job or a two-man job or a three-man job. It takes a lot of people. You can't summon such a team together at the drop of a hat. What San Francisco needs is a permanent broadcast—already organized and on the air whenever it is needed.

IWO Branch Gets 70 New Recruits And Raises \$100

LOS ANGELES.—Not only has the Freiheit-Winchevsky Branch No. 58 of the International Workers' Order reported raising its full quota of \$50 in the workers' press drive, but it has in recent weeks raised another \$50 for other causes including Spanish relief.

While doing this, the branch recruited seventy new members in the current membership drive of the I.W.O. This announcement was made by Jacob Solomon, secretary of the branch. The money donated in the press campaign, however, will be formally acknowledged only when it is received by the state campaign office in San Francisco.

Because of a hurry-up call from the local press drive committee, Solomon announced, the quota was completed by a house party given as a welcome home to Sam Rabinov who has been absent for three months.

Sonoma Party Aids Western Worker

SONOMA.—A group of friends of the Western Worker here, with the help of the Petaluma unit of the Communist Party, held a dinner for the Western Worker. When the expenses are deducted we expect that there will be about \$12 coming from this affair.

We found a novel way of utilizing the food which was left over from the dinner. Orders were taken for lunches for a family at 50 cents each, and eight were sold. It brought in \$4 for the total amount, and eight of the women didn't have to cook lunch the next day.

COLLEGIATE SAILORS?
BOSTON.—If picketing seamen turn out with a collegiate appearance, it's because Tufts College students have been donating through the effort to stop agricultural organization.

LEGISLATION DRAFTED TO AID AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION

SAN FRANCISCO—Eight bills designed to facilitate the organization of agricultural workers have been drawn up by the legislative committee of the Simon J. Lubin Society, which has worked jointly with the corresponding committee from the San Francisco Chapter of the Inter-Professional Association.

The bills are ready for publication and will be made available at the office of the Society, 347 Phelan Building, 760 Market street, San Francisco.

The Society has been organized to give financial research and organizational aid to workers and small farmers through-out the State.

The bills, to be introduced in the state legislature, are the

Anti-Vigilante Act, laws legalizing picketing (California Picketing Act), and acts limiting labor injunctions and requiring jury trials for violations, perjury reconsideration of convictions based on perjury, making employers liable for acts of hired police, and extending civil and criminal penalties for refusal to give equal treatment to

minority nationalities in restaurants, etc.

Other acts being drawn up by the committee for a similar purpose are laws limiting the activities of the state highway patrol, forbidding libel of races or creeds, outlawing the blacklist, making cities responsible for vigilante damage, and registration of labor spies.

SPANISH TRADE UNIONS CALL ON AMERICAN LABOR AND ALL FOES OF FASCISM FOR AID!

Urge Action by All Friends of Democracy; Plea Sent to A.F.L., Communist and Socialist Internationals

The Appeal of the General Workers' Union of Spain to the Workers of the World follows:
Workers of every land! Since the outbreak of the July insurrection, Spain has been invaded by international Fascism, which is committing the most brutal and foul crimes yet known to history.

Peoples Influence Pan-Amer. Meet In Peace Plans

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina.—Progressive forces for peace of the people of North and South America, were felt as an influence in the Inter-American Peace Conference meeting here.

One important development was the forcing of United States diplomats at least to promise to keep the U.S. Marines from acting as a debt-collection agency in Latin-American nations. In the future the marines are to be used only after consultation with all 21 American republics.

Attempts to create a Pan-American League of Nations were postponed to the Pan-American conference scheduled for 1938 at Lima, Peru.

Progressive resolutions adopted included:

Progressive Measures

A convention to sponsor the teaching of peace principles in schools and stimulate peace movements by films and the radio; a recommendation that governments attempt to prevent stage shows and films from glorifying war or offending other nations (U.S. representatives did not concur on the ground that this would be censorship); a resolution that the governments foster the peace movements and general international understanding by means of radio; a recommendation that governments adopt legislation to give women full civil rights and duties.

Wall Street pressure on the U.S. delegation was seen in the attempts to get favorable trade agreements for America, at the expense of British imperialism.

Blum Defeats C.P. Plan to Tax Rich To Solve Crisis

PARIS.—Yielding to the clamor of the reactionaries and Fascists, the Blum Cabinet has turned down a Communist proposal to place the burden of the present financial crisis upon the shoulders of the rich, through a stiff capital levy upon large fortunes.

Large industrial interests breathed a little easier when Vincent Auriol, finance minister, turned his back on his own past to put thumbs down on the Communist motion. Before entering the government last June, Auriol had more than once advocated a capital levy upon the great capitalists.

The government's 1937 budget contains an ordinary deficit of 4,500,000,000 francs (\$209,700,000). Government income has been cut by fraudulent tax returns by the rich who also sabotaged the recent issue of "baby bonds."

Spanish Government Claims Fascist-Owned Ship in N.Y.

NEW YORK.—Through its Ambassador in Washington, the Popular Front Government of Spain has formally asserted its ownership of the Spanish freighter Navemar, now anchored in New York harbor, under a government decree requisitioning all merchant ships.

Federal Judge Galston in Brooklyn had already decided in favor of the Compania Espanola de Navegacion, owned by Fascists, which had started action against members of the crew, who are loyal to the Spanish government and who were charged with illegally seizing the ship. The court must now reconsider on a "show-cause" order.

SHAKESPEARE STRIKEBOUNDED.—AUSTIN, Tex.—A shipment of Shakespearean texts failed to reach a local bookstore for use in a University of Texas English course. It had been shipped by water.

Communist Party Supports Appeal From Spain Labor

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the U.S.A. in plenary session, accepts the proposals made in the appeal of the Spanish trade unions issued on November 20th, which will be published in all the Party press. We call upon all friends of the Spanish people to organize their forces to work together for these common aims, in the trade unions and other mass organizations, in the Socialist Party, and everywhere.

Basing this work upon the appeal of the Spanish trade unions and the declaration of Premier Caballero of Nov. 24th, the support for the struggle for Democracy in Spain, to defend its parliamentary regime, against the enslavement of Spain by German and Italian Fascism, must be more energetically carried on with political and material support.

The whole democratic world must unite in the demand for the immediate withdrawal of the German and Italian troops and fleets from Spain.

All help to the embattled Spanish People's Republic! CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.

Send us news of your union.

Franco Doomed, So Hitler Wants to Divide Spain

BERLIN.—Their hopes that General Franco would be able to capture Madrid and the rest of Spain, having been crushed, Hitler is preparing a plan to split up Spain into two countries and will submit this "plan" in the near future to other nations, it became known here.

General Faupel, Hitler's charge d'affaires with Franco, made a flying visit here to get more help for Franco, and revealed that the Fascist cause is losing ground.

Hitler would separate Spain by setting up a Fascist state under Franco in the districts he now holds, and by "allowing" an independent Republican state centering in Catalonia.

Chances of his plan going over are considered practically non-existent.

AT WHO'S EXPENSE?

A study by the Alexander Hamilton Institute shows the August, 1936, per capita income to be 38 per cent lower than in October, 1929, with the cost of living only 15 per cent lower.

531,400 IN STEEL
NEW YORK.—The Steel industry had 531,400 employees in October, according to the American Iron and Steel Institute.

PROVE JAPAN BEHIND CHANG HSEUH-LIANG

Araki Tipped Plot to Seize Chiang 10 Days Before

Japan instigated the capture of Chiang Kai-Shek, head of the Chinese Nanking government, by Marshal Chang Hseuh-Liang!

Positive proof exists that Baron Sadao Araki, member of the Tokyo Supreme War Council and Minister of War at the time of the invasion of Manchuria, was aware of a plot to assassinate Chiang Kai-Shek.

Plot Bared 10 Days Before
Fully 10 days before Chiang was seized, General Araki accepted an invitation of William Randolph Hearst to attack the Soviet Union in an article published in the New York American, Tuesday, December 1st.

"I am afraid, wrote Araki, 'that if General Chiang Kai-Shek dances to the Soviet tune, he will be shot to death while in his trance by young Chinese Communists, who will take the opportunity to dispose of him, so that they may, under Soviet direction, dispose of the present Chinese government and pave the way for an invasion of all China in a sensational coup d'etat that would startle the world.'"

The Nanking government, in which Chiang Kai-Shek's influence was greatest, DID move in an anti-Japanese direction by defending itself in Suiyuan province against further invasion.

Nanking DID resist Tokyo's ambassador Kawagoe's insulting demands that Chiang enter an anti-Soviet alliance with Japan to supplement the Fascist nations' war alliance.

Because Nanking showed these signs of conceding to the unity demands of the Chinese people, the warning of General Araki is carried into action.

"Young Chinese Communists," that is to say, Japanese native agents in China, who parade under demagogic cloaks, carry out what is obviously a coup that aids Japan, and seize Chiang Kai-Shek.

Elizabeth Keen, N. Y. Herald-Tribune's Shanghai correspondent, made this revealing comment:

N. Y. Paper Exposes Plot
"Paradoxically, it appears that Chang is unlikely to realize his dream unless the Japanese make concessions to him in repayment for the present revolt, which ostensibly is anti-Japanese in nature. Despite the marshal's avowed desire for a strong trend against Japanese imperialism, such a development is not improbable."

"The Japanese are unable to conceal their joy over the present precarious position of China's one-man government, which lately thumbed its nose at Tokyo."

Grieving for a Great Leader



DEEP GRIEF is mirrored in the faces of these women of Barcelona, as the funeral cortege of Buena Ventura Durruti Spanish workers' leader, killed in action against the Fascists, passes through the streets of Catalonia's capital. Note also the upraised fists, expressing the determination to fight on for democracy.

"Viva Russia!" All Republican Spain Is Enthusiastic Over the Soviet Union

By HUGH SLATER
BARCELONA.—When I was in Spain last April, one of the things that surprised me most was the scrawled slogans on the walls of remote villages and in the back streets in Barcelona and Madrid. It was to be expected that there should be slogans about so soon after the elections, but the interesting thing was the popularity of the not very local or concrete "Viva Russia."

I remember seeing one, incorrectly spelled, on the famous old bridge over the Tagus to Toledo. BIVA RUSIA was splashed with tar all over the stone-work.

These writings on the walls were clearly not the result of any propaganda drive initiated by politically educated sections of the population. "Soviet Union" would probably have been the expression used had they not been written up entirely spontaneously by local people.

Another unusual sight in Spain last spring was the barrows of books which were being hawked round the streets of Madrid. Beginning as soon as it was dark and going on all through the night, these barrows in the main streets would be the center of groups of arguers.

"Leninism" Best Seller
The books being sold were to an extraordinary extent about Russia or by Russians. Stalin's "Leninism" was perhaps the best-seller. It must have caused the vendors a great deal of anxiety. As soon as somebody bought it or asked for it or looked at it, a furious argument would start up among the bystanders. All the newspapers gave ab-

normal amount of space to describing, supporting or attacking Russia—according to the political line-up of the paper. The anarchist and syndicalist papers were among the more bitterly critical and antagonistic propagators of anti-Sovietism, but the overwhelming majority of the newspapers and other publications were definitely pro-Soviet.

Against this background, it is not difficult to understand the surge of enthusiasm with which the Spanish people received the money collected in the U.S.S.R., the food ships and the offer to look after the wounded in the present civil war. Since July 18th there have been more books than ever about Russia on the bookstalls. Today Viva Russia! decorates 20 times more walls than before.

Popularity Grows
A month ago Russia's popularity in Spain was very great. It can be imagined, therefore, what the reaction of the public was when the Soviet Union came right out into the open with decisive proposals on the neutrality question.

Every newspaper blazed its enthusiasm and gratitude across the front page. The anarchists were no less lavish with superlatives than the Socialists, Republicans and Communists. Even the miserable P.O.U.M. had a grudging word to say in favor of its old bogey—Soviet foreign policy. All republican Spain, from the most violently irresponsible anarchist to the most sedate member of Union Republicana, responded more than enthusiastically, almost hysterically, to the diplomatic activities of the representative of the Un-

ion of Socialist Soviet Republics.

A few days ago the Soviet supply ship "Ziryaniin" having discharged its cargo, left Barcelona harbor. It is not an exaggeration to say that the whole population of the city turned out to say goodbye.

Greatest Since 1917
There have been some big and enthusiastic demonstrations during the last decade—May Day, 1926, in London—the red demonstrations in Berlin in 1932 and in Paris recently, but I cannot believe that there has been anything more impressive in the working-class movement since 1917 than Barcelona harbor when the Soviet ship left port.

Every window in every warehouse all round the wide harbor (thick with shipping) was crowded with spectators. Every ship from the decks to the tops of the masts swarmed with demonstrators. All the rowing boats were dangerously full. Pleasure boats in the middle of the harbor decorated with flags and bright flowers, carrying hundreds of shouting Catalans, were blowing their hooters continuously. The quays were completely impassable, so tightly packed were the people—tens of thousands waving huge red flags with hammers and sickles and Catalan national flags, and a very big proportion of the red-black banners of the anarchists.

"Viva Russia!"
The "Ziryaniin" itself was covered with flowers of all colors. The bright sun sinking down towards the roofs of the warehouses intensified the contrasts in color and tone, showing up the scarlet and vermilion ban-

ners against the brilliant sky-blue shirts of many of the demonstrators.

Somebody was trying to make a speech from the bridge. Nobody could understand a word he said. Every time he hesitated to glance down at his notes, the crowds seized the opportunity to yell "Viva Russia!"—clapping and stamping—the noise rising and falling in waves round the warehouses and wharves, taken up from one ship to another, varied with Viva Stalin! and echoed again on the crowded "Ziryaniin" itself, drowning and ruining the efforts of the speaker.

"International" Sung
Bands were stationed here and there. At all sorts of convenient moments they would strike up the "International." Then the whole crowd would sing, standing to attention, with fists raised—except for those who needed their hands for clinging on to masts, ropes and roofs.

When the speeches were over and the boat was about to leave, the crew leaned over the railings and rather shyly threw flowers to the people on the quay. We all shouted and scrambled for buttonholes—pushing and quarreling good-naturedly.

As the "Ziryaniin" steamed away, we waved handkerchiefs, waiting until she was a small dark smudge on the horizon. The crowd pushed along the quays and out into the streets, and the shouts of Viva Russia! seemed as if they would soon die out. But the row started up all over again with groups of black and red-uniformed anarchists yelling out up and down the harbor and the streets, shouting incessantly: Viva Stalin! Viva Stalin!

Senator Nye Denounces Fascist Drive In Cuba As Wall Street Plot; Cuban Leader Exposes Dictator Batista

LOS ANGELES.—Senator Gerald P. Nye denounced the drive to establish a Fascist dictatorship in Cuba as inspired by American commercial interests, in a conference with the Provincial Committee for Cuba, here December 17th.

Dr. Fabian Garcia, former commercial attache of the Cuban embassy in Washington, D. C., and now a political exile, declared that reports of 90,000 Cuban cane field workers marching in support of the bloody Col. Fulgencio Batista, Cuban dictator, were lies.

"Why should workers, who receive only 20 cents a day, march in support of the man who represents interests which keep them in virtual slavery?" he asked.

In elaborating on the terror directed against the Cuban workers, Senator Nye declared: "I have long been interested in the situation in Cuba, and have long felt that the troubles there are largely occasioned by commercial aggressiveness on the part of American business interests, and I feel that any stable government in Cuba is dependent upon divorcing it from American business."

In reply to a statement from the committee, which said in part: "It is our knowledge and understanding that the existing Fascist dictatorship in Cuba is nothing more than an ambassador for American sugar interests," Nye said:

"I shall always be glad to cooperate with those who are seeking to keep American business out of Cuba's government."

The committee stated that "it is possible that officials in our own state department are keeping him (President Roosevelt) ignorant of the true conditions in Cuba, of the seething unrest of its people under the iron heel of the militarist (Ambassador) Jefferson Caffery and Col. Batista."

"We believe that the peaceful and democratic people of America should urge their President to find out the truth about Cuba and act accordingly."

Hitler-Type Election
Dr. Garcia said that 80 per cent of the Cuban electorate was not allowed to vote in the last sham election and that the Congress is spurious and represents

BATISTA TRIES FOR FASCIST RULE IN CUBA

Threat to Oust Pres. For Opposing Tax For "Schools"

HAVANA, Cuba.—Moving for a complete Fascist rule, Col. Fulgencio Batista, Cuban army head and leader of pro-Fascist forces in this island republic, is driving to oust President Miguel Mariano Gomez through impeachment proceedings.

Gomez has refused outright to sign a tax bill, now before the House of Representatives after passage by the Senate, which would place a nine-cent tax on each 100-pound bag of sugar to finance a series of rural "schools" run by army sergeants.

Batista was reported still shy of his two-thirds majority vote. Colonel Batista's aid, Major Marine, was reported to have said that Batista wanted President Gomez ousted within 72 hours, "as there was not room for them both and one had to go."

Batista has already bulldozed local authorities and seized taxes to establish some 700 schools, which he used as training grounds for recruits for his Fascist terrorist bands and propaganda agencies for Fascism.

When a budget deficit faced Cuba, with \$18,000,000 (the largest single item) out of the \$73,000,000 income handed to the army, Batista immediately proposed an additional tax on sugar for "schools."

His school was to draw attention away from the obvious demand to cut down the appropriation to the Fascist-led military set-up, to lower the peasants' taxes, to increase the revenue from the trusts, and to pay for real schools and other needs by making the imperialist trusts fork over some of their super-profits.

Yankee Escadrille Fights for Spain

PARIS.—The first "Yankee Escadrille," formed of four famous American fliers who volunteered for service with the Spanish government air force and several British volunteers, is now fighting the Fascist warplanes on the Basque northern front, it is reported here by Hal du Berrier, of Chicago, another American volunteer now in Paris after duty as a combat pilot based at Alicante.

In the Yankee squadron are Bert Acosta, and Capt. Gordon Barry, who was to have paired up with Acosta in next summer's transatlantic Lindbergh Prize Flight from Paris to New York; Eddie Schneider, junior winner of the American Trans-continental Air Race; and Maj. Frederic Lord.

nothing but the orders of Caffery and Batista.

On the latest reports from Cuba, Garcia said: "This is a Fascist coup on the part of Batista to convince the rest of the world that the Cuban people are behind him. The rise of Batista to power means nothing more than the rise of a new Fascist state."

"With Caffery and Batista in Cuba, human rights are denied, universities and high schools are under military rule, trade unions and civic organizations are suppressed, students and intellectuals are rotting in dungeons, and the grim sign of Fascism looks down over all."

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RESERVED

New Year's Eve is the 5th Birthday of the Western Worker. The Calif. Western and Daily Worker Drive Committee and the Communist Party hereby reserves New Year's Eve for celebrations to raise funds to maintain and improve the voices of the people for a Farmer-Labor Party.

We respectfully request that non-party workers organizations not plan any affairs for New Years Eve but to support the Western Worker affairs in their localities.

Readers! Watch for an announcement of the New Year's Eve Affair in your city.

What's Doing In California

Parties, Affairs, Meetings, Classified Advertisements—Advertise Here and Get Results—Low Rates at 15 Cents per Line, Paid in Advance.

Next F. S. U. Vietcherinka Sat., Jan. 30, 1937.

Los Angeles
Workers forum, 230 S. Spring St., L. A. Every Sunday night, 8 p. m. Admission ten cents.

Keep this date open: Sat. and Sun., Jan. 30, 31, 1937. Annual Bazaar of the International Labor Defense, Dist. 14, will be held at the Angelus Hall, 1954 E. First St.

Reserve New Year's Eve, Western Worker Benefit Affair, Cultural Center, 230 S. Spring St. A. S. P. Downtown Section C. P.

CONCERT AND CARNIVAL, New Year's Eve. Benefit W.W. Music Center, 2625 1/2 Brooklyn Ave. A. S. P. Eastside Section C.P.

WANTED: The Los Angeles office of the Western Worker, Rm. 416, 224 So. Spring St., is in need of a typewriter. If you can donate one, please notify them.

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Make whoopee at Comrade's Hall, 1819 10th Street, Berkeley, Benefit Western Worker. Biggest and best dance Jamboree Carnival.

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LABOR AND POLITICS

By John Broman

People who expected Fascist-minded, anti-labor big business and its stooges to curl up and die after the re-election of President Roosevelt, are changing their minds pretty fast as the opening session of the California Legislature approaches.

In the last issue, the Western Worker exclusively reported the plans of the California Manufacturers Association to set up the biggest and most highly financed lobby for big business in the history of the state.

Why this biggest lobby in history? Because of the legislative program being put forward by the State Federation of Labor, and by other labor and progressive forces for the coming Legislature. This program is one which, if adopted into law, would provide considerable gains for the working class and for the people generally.

You can also bet your boots that the Liberty Leaguers and Wall Streeters will set up their biggest lobby in Washington, D.C., history, to try to work its program through the next Congress.

They failed to put through their Fascist-minded program via Alf Landon in the presidential elections, but they didn't give up. Now they're going to try to put it through Congress, for they know that although the majority of Senators and Congressmen are Democrats, still a large number of Democrats in Congress are just as reactionary as Republicans—those from the South, for instance.

And Wall Street is not only out to put over its own program; the bankers and industrialists also want to halt, at all costs, the carrying through of Roosevelt's promises to labor, promises that labor has announced it intends to cash in on. Labor knows that it is chiefly responsible for Roosevelt's overwhelming vote, and now it wants what it voted for.

And its got to put plenty of pressure on the President, or these promises will be forgotten.

Labor Must Be In Politics... Although the old A.F.L. policy of "non-partisanship" in politics has long been dying, the present situation is outlined above ought to convince all honest unionists that it's time to put this policy out of its misery and plant it six feet under.

In California, labor and the small farmers and all progressives have a chance to take a great step forward in beating back the attacks of big business and in putting over its own legislative program. This chance is the state-wide convention being called by the California People's Legislative Conference, in Sacramento on January 16th and 17th.

A Step Towards F.L.P. . . . This convention will be to mobilize enough mass pressure and public opinion behind labor's legislative program, and against the California Manufacturers Association's program, to insure that labor's program is presented in bills and ADOPTED.

What is, it will be able to if the people's organizations, particularly the trade unions, but including every organization that stands for the people against the reactionaries, get behind this convention and push it.

And this convention will be a tremendous step forward in the organization of a People's Front in California, a Farmer-Labor Party that will be an unyielding bulwark against the manufacturers and all the anti-labor and pro-Fascist groups.

If you're a trade unionist, write now for a copy of the call to the convention—California People's Legislative Conference, Room 911, 224 South Broadway, Los Angeles—and introduce it in your union at its next meeting. And if you're a small farmer, unemployed or member of any people's organization, do the same thing.

With wide support this convention will provide cold proof, in the results it gets during this legislative session, that a Farmer-Labor Party is the only answer to the needs of labor and the needs of the people generally.

French Trotskyite, Fascist Working With Hitler... PARIS—Jacques Doriot, who works hand-in-glove with the counter-revolutionary Trotskyites, and Francois de la Rocque, Fascist leader, have completely united their forces here in an attack on the Blum government and the Popular Front, in direct connivance with Hitler.

ALASKA UNION GIVES BOOT TO REACTIONARIES

99% Okay Expulsion On Anti-Unionism Charges

By a Worker Correspondent SAN FRANCISCO—Paul Feliciano, Adrian Duhagon, Adolfo Duhagon were expelled from the Alaska Cannery Workers' Union at the regular membership meeting November 29th.

They were charged with Fascist tendencies, anti-unionism, etc. At a previous meeting of the union, it had been decided to contact them by registered mail, asking them to appear before the membership and defend themselves of the charges against them.

When they failed to appear, the evidence was presented to the membership through reliable reports, as had been intended, whereupon the membership voted 99 per cent for their expulsion.

Only one member, Brother Colman, objected to their immediate expulsion and pleaded they should be given more time, but the membership decided that the three months they had suffered with them was plenty of time.

Another member of the union put on the mat that night was Santos Santiago, a cannery foreman. He denied some charges. He admitted his defense was rather weak, however. He apologized to the union, saying he was sorry, that anyone was subject to making mistakes, etc.

He was not expelled, but cannot go to Alaska as foreman for a long time, perhaps never. Other reactionaries will face the same music in the near future.

East Bay Jewish Relief Director Serves the Rich

By H. MILLER OAKLAND—Wealthy Jews have nothing in common with the poor ones. The Communist Party has persistently pointed out that in Germany the rich Jews remain untouched by the Fascist butchers, while the poor ones, together with workers of every denomination, bear the brunt of the desperate drive to maintain capitalism at any bloody cost.

At one time it was known throughout the world that Jews provided and cared for their own. They boasted proudly of the fact.

Today, Jewry still boasts, but the boast is vain and groundless. Harry J. Sapper, Oakland Director of Jewish Federation relief, is proving that this responsibility is being renounced.

So far as Sapper is concerned, there are two classes of Jews. The rich, and the class he has been delegated to serve. . . BUT DOESN'T.

A Jewish tubercular family applied to Sapper for relief. He wept with them. No one would more gladly aid—if he could. (What purpose, then, does his office serve? Is it to provide a sinecure?)

He spent about a half hour of his "valuable" time commiserating with them. He dared not take the initiative, for the county would be at his throat, he stated.

In a decisive manner, Sapper proceeded to acknowledge the inadequacy of county relief. "If the county aids you, we will supplement their relief."

He then directed the invalids to the county charities. The proud race of Judah surrenders to the capitalist gods!

It was, however, passing the buck—in good old working class parlance. When this family was placed on the county relief, Sapper failed to keep his word and reneged on his promise of supplementary aid.

Canner Stands by Charges Against Domingo Fajardo

Editor, Western Worker:

In an issue of your paper dated December 21st, an article appeared signed by Domingo Fajardo, and I'm taking the liberty to answer it as requested by you and Mr. Fajardo.

First of all, I happen to be the one who wrote the article in question on the Alaska Cannery Workers Union, and I will not retract my statement. Neither shall I expect an apology from me.

Mr. Fajardo states: "I have been charged with being a dirty discriminator." I don't remember if I used the word "dirty" in my statement against him, but allow me to say that I heard him say in our first hall that he had something up his sleeve, that he'd never forget the "raize" (race).

I ask him, is this not racial discrimination? I quote further from his letter: "A man of my own ideas, I have never discriminated between any race regardless of nationality, color, creed, or political affiliations."

Please allow me to refresh his mind. Did he not, in the May Day demonstration, admonish a rather class-conscious worker who carried a placard to throw it away, get rid of it in any way possible, that he should be very quiet because it was a Communist parade? Didn't he shortly after arrange a special meeting in which he told the workers that they were lost, the Alaska Cannery Workers' Union was lost, eight points out of ten we had in our favor to organize the union were lost, due to Communist influence? He can't deny this. Many workers will testify to this. In view of this, can he say he is not a discriminator?

He also claims to be a big shot in the A.C.W.U. Will he please acknowledge who elected him general organizer?

I will quote him again: "I was elected general organizer. I began to inscribe the names of all applicants, without discrimination as to race or origin, the only restriction being to register only those who had been to Alaska in previous seasons."

One day I was sitting in the hall when Feliciano (expelled faker) walked in with a man and introduced him to Fajardo, while patting the man on the back and saying, "He hasn't been to Alaska before, but he is a 'good worker,' sign him up," and Fajardo did. About five minutes later two young boys walked up to Fajardo. They were signed up.

They came to me and asked: "Do you think we have a chance to go to Alaska?" I replied: "Yes, you have a good chance if you have been there before."

They replied: "We have not been there before, but Fajardo knows our father. We got a 'pull.'"

This happened on the same day Fajardo had said: "I got something up my sleeve: I'll never forget the 'raize.'"

Was this discrimination and a violation of the union's decision that all men inscribed must be men who had been to Alaska in previous seasons?

Furthermore, Mr. Fajardo disclaims to have been a member of the "Feliciano clique." Then, why did he in Alaska propagandize for Feliciano and Fred West? He can't deny this; he spoke about it to workers in his cannery.

In conclusion, I will ask him where has he been since we came back from Alaska? He attended only one meeting. After attending this meeting, he told a member of the union: "I'm going to see what happens in the union."

It happened that Brother George Woolf was elected president; Lyons, vice-president; Barola, secretary-treasurer. Feliciano and the fakers, the Duhagon brothers, were expelled, so Mr. Fajardo forgets all about the A.C.W.U.

Before writing this letter, I showed Fajardo's letter to about seven workers and this is what they told me: "I know that Fajardo is a two-faced man but I don't believe in arguments between members of a union through a paper should be prolonged. Brother Fajardo should take his case before the membership of the union as soon as possible. Instead of writing to the Western Worker, why did he not face the union and explain his case?"

I'm of the opinion of these workers also. (Signed) PHILIP CANO. Los Angeles

Dr. Z. Klein (D.C.) Physiotherapy, Dietetics, Adjustments 306 No. Soto St. Los Angeles, California. Tel. AN 0420

PEOPLE ROBBED WITH JUMP IN WATER RATES

Railroad Commission Is Santa Clause to Sonoma Company

By a Worker Correspondent. PETALUMA—In the Petaluma local newspaper, the Argus Courier, of December 16th, is an article informing the public about the raise in the minimum meter charges for water by the Sonoma Water & Irrigation Company, granted the right to do so by a group known as the California Railroad Commission.

This price is paid for water even if it is not used, and the minimum charge of \$1.25 per month (now increased to \$1.75 per month) has been sufficient in the past, and the new rate is not justified.

A part of the water supply comes from the Sonoma Mountains and part of it is pumped from wells about two miles from the city of Petaluma, with electric power supplied by the Pacific Gas & Electric Company of California.

They Push F. D. R. Around I do not understand where business is cooperating with the President's "program for recovery" by having companies overcharge the public for the very needs of life itself.

Am mailing this article on with the thought in mind that you may wish to give it a write-up in the Western Worker and show the people why water should be worth more today than it was yesterday, considering the fact that the P. G. & E. claims to have dropped its power price charges recently.

(The Railroad Commission is notoriously dominated by the big utilities corporations of California, which in turn are largely controlled by big eastern banking interests. The only way to stop these corporations from robbing the people is to organize a people's party in California and in the U. S., a Farmer-Labor Party that can put representatives of labor and the poor farmers into office.—Ed.)

Sen. Thomas' Peace Plan Is Duck Soup For War-Makers

LOS ANGELES—Playing into the hands of the Fascist forces in the country and world, Senator Elbert D. Thomas, at the closing session of the Institute of World Affairs, Saturday, December 19th, at Riverside, advocated a policy of "aloofness from war" to be followed by all nations of the Western Hemisphere.

Failing to see the necessity of collective security, to "keep war out of the world," Senator Thomas maintained that his policy would "bring the Americas into harmony in condemnation of all belligerents at the outbreak of hostilities."

Dr. Charles E. Martin, professor of political science, University of Washington, was elected director of the Institute for 1937.

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Los Angeles

Applauding the New Constitution



JOSEPH STALIN, general secretary of the Communist Party, Soviet Union, applauds a speaker at the recent Congress of Soviets, which passed the new constitution, the most democratic constitution ever known in any country. It guarantees civil liberties, the right to education, leisure, a job and social security.

Relief Fight Story Wins "Spain In Revolt" Prize

Another winner! For the best workers' correspondence story in the previous two issues, Mrs. B. of Long Beach wins the prize of "Spain In Revolt," the new book by Harry Gannes and Theodore Rappard.

Her prize-winning story told of the achievements of a Workers' Alliance grievance committee in winning adjustment of 24 relief cases from the Long Beach headquarters of the Los Angeles County Relief Administration.

This same correspondent also sent in a lot of good stories last summer on the agricultural workers' strike in that area.

For the best story on this page in this issue and the next issue, the prize will be "History of the American Working Class," by Anthony Gimba. The next prize will be "What Is Communism," by Earl Browder.

Every week a book is given to the best correspondent. Get into action with your pen or pencil, and let us have a story hot from your sector of the front. Expose the conditions in your shop or factory, tell about the militancy of your picket line, about the organization of unorganized workers, about the struggles of the poor farmers, or about political issues.

Let's Have YOUR Story! Send your story to Workers' Correspondence Editor, 121 Haight St., San Francisco. And if you can, send a money order for extra copies of the issue in which your story will appear, at 2 1/2 cents per copy. You'll want your fellow workers and neighbors to read your story. Let's hear from you!

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San Pedro Meet Organized Labor at QUALITY CAFE 107 West 6th St., San Pedro, Calif. San Francisco

Even Rain Can't Hold Back San Pedro Athletes

By a Worker Correspondent SAN PEDRO—The week started off with a blue Monday for the outdoor athletes here in Pedro, and rain checks were their continuous diet until Thursday.

The I.L.A. baseball team must have been practicing somewhere else how did they take the West Coast boys to such a cleaning. The West Coast boys are supposed to be hard to beat but here's Thursday's score—I.L.A., 7; West Coast, 2. But the West Coast boys vindicated themselves Friday by putting the East Coast team on the run with a score of 7-2.

In basketball, a practice game was played between the East Coast and West Coast teams Friday night, and some of the players showed a mighty good form.

Four Swimming Stars In water-sports, Brother Andy Filosa, who is Athletic Director for the Entertainment Committee, has 23 water dogs, and he says four of them are a whole lot better than good.

Brother Eggen, our secretary, is abroad in the Los Angeles field right now, looking for competition for our different teams. So we expect big things in the future. The Entertainment Committee, as well as the entertainers, send Frisco a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

San Pedro Meet Organized Labor at QUALITY CAFE 107 West 6th St., San Pedro, Calif. San Francisco

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WATERFRONT STRIKERS WIN MANY NEW FRIENDS AMONG FARMERS AT NOVATO, CALIF.

I.L.A. Speaker Routs Shipowners' Stogie In Debate; Workers and Farmers Learning to Get Together

By a Worker Correspondent. NOVATO, Cal.—About 50 people here in Novato, which is a small farming community, turned out to hear a debate between a representative of the International Longshoremen's Association and one from the shipowners.

The shippers' man, who claimed to be an ex-sailor and insurance man, came out on the short end of the debate in the eyes of the audience. His whole theme was arbitrate. Several questions from the audience, he either refused to answer or evaded.

Striker Did Good Job The I.L.A. spokesman did a quite competent job of informing the people of the issues at stake and in the opinion of the writer, only missed one chance during the evening. He failed to clearly enough bring out the principle of unionism in answer to a question from the audience in regard to the handling of hot cargo.

The shippers' stogie got a couple of people quite sore when he accused the unions of allowing the strikers to use violence. He also refused to discuss whether the tear-gas, clubs, guns and militia of '34 played any part in the arrival at the '34 awards, declaring that the starting point must be the close of the '34 strike.

New Friends for Unions The net result of the debate is quite a few new friends for the strikers, out talking in the community on the basis of what they learned at the meeting. One told me today: "I wasn't much interested before, but I'm going to make up for it now." He's a striker fan for sure now.

The waterfront workers and the back country farmers are beginning to learn to unite.

SAN DIEGO GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE CABARET STYLE FRATERNAL HALL 1322 5th AVENUE 8 P. M.

ORCHESTRA—REFRESHMENTS—ENTERTAINMENT Tickets: 25c in Advance—35c at the Door. Benefit Western Worker. Invite Your Friends!

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EAST BAY MAKE WHOOPEE!

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NEW YEAR'S EVE 1819 10th St. — Berkeley

Auspices East Bay Workers' Press Com. Benefit Western Worker

What Oil Union Needs

MISRULE OF J. C. COULTER SHOULD STOP

Strong Pressure to Move Forward Is Put Forth

Bakersfield. Editor Western Worker:

A recent article by Tom Patterson regarding the present situation of the Oil Workers' Union on the Pacific has caused much discussion at Long Beach, found while visiting there.

Because the secretary of the Long Beach local holds an international office that places him in a top position among California Oil Workers' Union officers, it can readily be seen that the welfare of the Long Beach local is immediately felt in our Kern County locals and others in the state.

Strong Pressure

The Long Beach local is no doubt in a condition wherein the present leadership is being subjected to strong pressure to move aggressively forward into a position whereby the oil workers can really cash in on the swollen profits of the companies.

The present leadership wants to go forward with such a program to a certain degree. However, the past, acting as a brake, prevents them from making effective moves toward progress.

They would like to crack into the super profits of the companies. It would mean more and increased salaries for them, but they have been trading so assiduously with the moguls of oil that the way has been almost closed to them to make a demand on their part sound serious enough to be considered.

The internal situation seems to have some interesting features.

There is a little group of "ex-organizers" and "would-be" officials who serve without question the present officials. They have for a long time waited for something good to break for them. The administration feeds them to retain itself in office, but it cannot use them as organization builders. They have no capacity for constructive work.

Mistakes Prove Costly

It seems that past mistakes are now proving costly, and that the local officials are unable to move as they would like to because of this dead timber.

Another potent feature of this situation is the slowly growing number of oil workers who are beginning to find out that "a chicken is not all neck and wings." Their own union paper having been discontinued, they have taken to reading other labor papers, among them the Western Worker. The Western Worker is being quoted and studied more than any other labor paper by these readers.

It is also studied carefully by the union officials, because they recognize that information they would like suppressed now reaches the membership.

Therefore the local's leadership is in a quandary.

They would like to use this rising demand to go forward, to build the union and increase their own political fortunes.

But they do not know how to handle such a situation.

Stooges Block Growth

This personal following of stooges is useless for any purpose except that of informers and for blocking progressive moves. They are without the ability to work in a constructive way.

Try as they will, they are unable to lead the membership forward, being subjected both by employer pressure and the pressure for jobs by stooges who they know will in the end wreck their careers. They are allowed no peace by the leaderless progressives, and a crisis looms in the near future.

Either they will be moved to make a few timid steps forward or they will once again rely on their old method of defense. That is, institute a campaign to drive the progressives from the local.

"If we cannot control them, we destroy them"—in the past this method of obtaining peace has been used.

The charter of locals at Huntington Beach, Whittier and Lost Hills were revoked because these locals pressed for a constructive, progressive program of action.

These places have been dead to organization efforts since.

There is no doubt that the nation's oil workers will be organized solidly in a powerful in-

Teachers Demand Freedom of King

SEATTLE—Composed of teachers at the University of Washington, Local 401 of the American Federation of Teachers, has condemned the frameup of Earl King, Ernest Ramsay and Frank Conner. Its resolution reads:

WHEREAS: Investigations of the charge of murder brought by District Attorney Earl Warren of Alameda County, California, against prominent members and officers of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific has shown this charge to be based on flimsy, contradictory and generally unreliable evidence, and

Aimed at Unions WHEREAS: The arrest and filing of the charges of murder against the trade unionists King, Ramsay and Conner were timed and given such publicity as to damage and prejudice the Federation in the eyes of the public, and

WHEREAS: By this move an important officer, distinguished for his loyalty and militancy was lodged in prison when his services were most needed in the struggle to maintain decent working conditions in the Pacific maritime industry, and even to maintain the existence of trade unionism itself.

Condemn Frameup

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That Local 401 of the American Federation of Teachers go on record as condemning the action of District Attorney Earl Warren as unwarranted, prejudicial and contrary both to the tradition of American government and the welfare of the people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to the officers of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, to the affiliated unions, and to the Central Labor Council of Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Everett, San Francisco, Bellingham, San Diego and Los Angeles.

Acqueduct Men In Banning Organize

BANNING, Cal.—The workers on the aqueduct at Beaumont and Banning are now being organized into the Mine, Mill, Smelter and Tunnel Workers' Union.

The drive brought 285 members into the union in 48 hours. The union rented a hall and is busy all day long signing up new members.

There are about 1700 men on the aqueduct in this section to be signed up.

A meeting was held and officers were elected. The secretary was voted a salary of \$40 per week.

The hall is open all hours of the day, so that the workers can come in and sign up at their convenience.

Tune In For L.A. Labor Broadcasts

LOS ANGELES.—Nightly labor broadcasts (from Monday to Saturday) from 10:30 to 11 o'clock are being conducted by the Los Angeles Central Labor Council from Station KEBG, 820 Kilocycles.

This station is located in Mexico, just below the border line and has been operating from San Diego. It is just a few miles from Tia Juana. Tune in for timely week night messages on unionism, prepared under the auspices of the Los Angeles Labor Council and the editors of the union weekly, the Los Angeles Citizen.

Industrial type union. The question is, will the present California leadership be able to get their house in order, put aside the present reactionary tactics that have made them impotent and help the membership toward a full reward for their labor as called for in the Oil Workers' International constitution?

To a great degree this responsibility is that of James C. Coulter, International Vice-President and Secretary of the Long Beach Local. He could decide to go forward to attain the objectives of the oil workers or he could do what he has done in the past: fight against the progressives who could build the union and who need the encouragement of leadership. There are many reasons to believe he could not win another try at disruption.

AN OIL WORKER.

DIGGING IN AT MONTEREY, CAL.

Cannery Workers Union Growing

MONTEREY—A. B. Reser, business agent for the San Pedro Fish Cannery Workers Union, and until recently head of the Monterey union, has been brought up on charges and expelled from the union by the membership of the Monterey Cannery Workers' Union. The sentiment of the union membership was that Reser's actions were not in keeping with union principles.

Over 2000 workers are employed in the Monterey Fish Canneries. The union, only a few months old, has a membership of about 200, with several hundred applications on hand. The union is starting a membership drive.

CIO Moves to Unify Shoe Labor Unions

WASHINGTON—An organization drive to culminate in an industrial union in the boot and shoe industry was seen here as a conference between representatives of three unions of the boot and shoe workers and John Brophy, director of the Committee for Industrial Organization.

Representatives of the C.I.O. will be sent to work with the shoe unions "for unity as a basis for progress in organizing the entire industry," Brophy announced following the conference.

"The union representatives report that sentiment is ripe for a forward movement and that there is very widespread support of the aggressive organizing program advocated by the C.I.O.," the announcement read.

At the conference with Brophy were Daniel K. Collins, Brotherhood of Shoe and Allied Craftsmen; John D. Nolan, P. E. Turner, and Ernest Henry, Shoe Workers' Protective Union, and Wm. P. Mahon and James Mitchell, United Shoe and Leather Workers. None of the unions represented are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, jurisdiction in the field being granted to the Boot and Shoe Union.

In the industry, according to C.I.O. officials, there are approximately 225,000 workers, of whom 170,000 are unorganized. The unions at the conference claim a membership of 40,000.

Have YOU Donated to the Cause of Spain Democracy?

SAN FRANCISCO.—More contributions for the aid of the embattled Spanish people against Fascism has been collected by the Communist Party of California, and is being forwarded to the North American Committee for Aid to Spanish Democracy, in New York City.

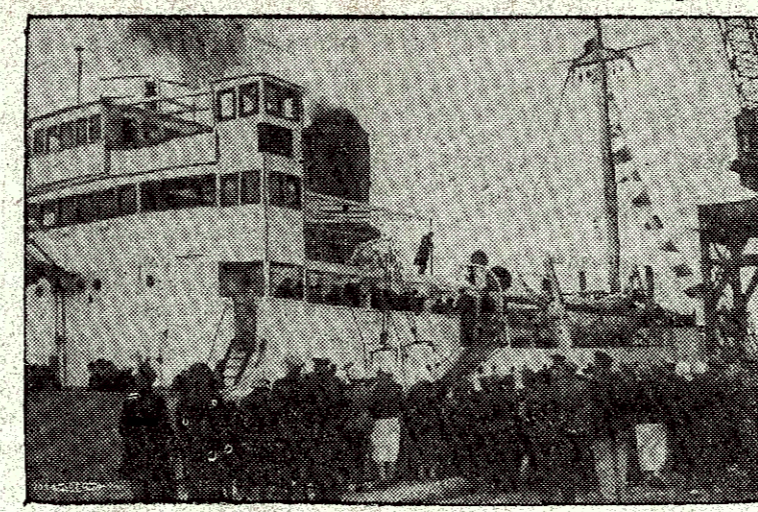
Recent contributions are: Previously acknowledged, \$1390.27; Los Angeles County, \$6; Nels G. Swanson, \$2; San Diego Section, \$1; D.S., \$5; Bookshop, \$5; Yuba City sympathizer, 50 cents; A. Z., Los Angeles, \$2.50; total to date—\$1412.27.

Send further contributions to Communist Party, 121 Haight St., San Francisco.

Oil Workers Walk Out On Strike In Venezuela

MARACAIBO, Venezuela.—Demanding higher wages and better working conditions, oil workers have gone on strike here, forcing all drilling and shipping activities to a standstill. The semi-Fascist government ordered soldiers out to "protect property," which is chiefly owned by the Royal Dutch Shell Company, British trust.

A Gift of Food From Odessa to Spain



SOVIET WORKERS cheer the steamer Kuban as it departs from Odessa for Spain, laden with over 2500 tons of food, the gift of Soviet workers to Spanish women and children. American unionists should help their Spanish brothers with the fight for democracy.

L. A. Teamsters Drive Gaining

LOS ANGELES—The campaign in Los Angeles county by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Helpers to bring into the fold all eligible men, is continuing with wonderful success reported.

House-to-house contacts with the men is being carried out, and also some personal contacts on trucks, though all city and county laws are being strictly observed, cutting the ground out from under "Red" Hynes, who has been breathing fire and brimstone in regard to what he would do "to protect the citizenry" and demand for more men. Employers also have been contacted to aid in having their men sign up. Many are reported extending aid.

AFL Convention's More Reactionary Decisions Assailed

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a surprising reversal of form the Washington, D. C., central labor union after a stormy meeting here voted to protest the action of the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor amending the method by which a central body may place a firm on the unfair list.

The body also refused to pass, by a vote of 50-44, a resolution backing the stand of the A.F.L. executive council with regard to William Randolph Hearst. The executive council declared itself in opposition to a boycott on the Hearst papers because such action, it is said, "would interfere with the freedom of the press."

The local body, representing 100,000 Washington trade unionists, voted to table a resolution brought to support the action of the executive council which would forbid any units of organized labor to participate in a boycott of Hearst.

Usually the local central labor group here is conservative in its action and the change in its attitude is viewed with surprise.

Ralph Darling, business agent of San Pedro Teamsters 208, joined Secretary G. R. Phillips of Bakersfield local in the campaign on the Ridge Route for organization work, which is under way in full force. Good results are reported. The campaign includes Los Angeles, Kern, Tulare and Kings counties.

More than 750 new members have been signed up since the drive started," said Horace Waterbury, business agent of the San Pedro local.

"The United Rubber Workers of America paid cash for everything it ever got," Dalrymple declared. "While we are grateful to the A.F.L. for what it has done, we certainly have no reason to offer an apology for our actions."

The \$200,000 mentioned in the report was by no means confined to organizing rubber workers," he said. It was expended in a dozen industries through Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin, reaching into a number of southern states.

"Moreover, during that period the Goodrich Local alone paid into the A.F.L. \$30,000 in per capita tax. Other unions under A.F.L. jurisdiction also paid."

The rubber workers' president emphasized that his union did not withdraw from the A.F.L. "We simply elected to join the C.I.O. and we were suspended from the A.F.L."

"We joined the C.I.O. because under its organization plan, we increased our membership 100 per cent. It is set up to solidly organize mass industries and employs the methods we need."

IRISH YOUTH TO ORGANIZE DUBLIN—Irish trade union and labor leaders have started steps toward building and Irish Labor Youth movement. Hitherto, the Labor Party in the Free State has neglected to organize young people.

NEW ORLEANS I.L.A. Local Demands Poll To Represent Men

NEW ORLEANS—Charging that New Orleans freight contractors of the port have formed a company union to contest its rights to represent 800 freight loaders, the Intl. Longshoremen's Assn. Local 854 has filed formal petition with the regional labor board for an election.

Make the Labor Page of the Western Worker a real page of, by and for organized labor

CHICKENS COME HOME TO ROOST

Doss Gets His Salary Cut By Salinas Union

SALINAS.—The dirty work of Doss and Shevlin is finally getting its reward. At the union meeting in Salinas on Dec. 17, Doss, Financial Secretary, had his salary cut from \$40 a week to \$20. Charges were brought against Shevlin, President, for drunkenness and the use of profane and abusive language.

These actions against the fakers are a result of their strike-breaking moves during the strike. The rank and file intend to clean house.

Doss, when faced with the salary cut whined and threatened to resign. But he backed out when he realized that the membership was more than ready to accept his resignation.

Who Buys Tear Gas?

Bay Area Mooney AFL Committee

SAN FRANCISCO—Officially appointed delegates from the San Francisco Labor Council, the Alameda County Labor Council, the San Francisco Building Trades Council and 53 representatives from 37 local labor unions met at 83 McAllister Street, San Francisco recently, for the purpose of following up mandates laid down at the recent conventions of the California State Federation of Labor and of the American Federation of Labor with regard to the fight for freedom being waged by the internationally famous labor prisoners, Tom Mooney and Warren Billings.

Follows Sacramento Decision The resolution with regard to Mooney and Billings adopted by the California State Federation at its recent Sacramento Convention, requested all local unions in California "to immediately form in their respective communities, Mooney-Billings defense committees to raise necessary funds and receive donations to this cause, all of which are to be transmitted to the stewardship of the San Francisco Labor Council."

The resolution adopted by the American Federation of Labor Convention at Tampa, Florida, placed the conduct of the Mooney-Billings campaign in the hands of the California Federation.

The meeting here was in the nature of an initial step to systematically crystallize and activate the membership of organized labor so that the efforts of being waged by Mooney and Billings, thereby obtaining the maximum benefit from all Mooney-Billings activities. Temporary officers were selected to guide the organization until its next meeting, which was scheduled for January 10th.

These officers include: Jack Shelley, vice-president of the San Francisco Labor Council as chairman; C. E. Morris of Carpenter's Union No. 482 as vice-chairman; Herbert Resner, San Francisco attorney, as secretary. A temporary executive committee was also appointed and consists of George Kidwell, Bakery Drivers' Union No. 484; Albin Kullberg, I.L.A. No. 38-79; Harry Radbord, Ladies Garment Workers' Union No. 213; Ole Olson, Sailors' Union of the Pacific; John J. Gibson, Molders' Union No. 164; V. V. Dart, Carpenters' Union No. 36; Lois Martin, Sheet Metal Workers' Union No. 216; and Mrs. Constance Murgan of the Alameda Central Labor Council and Culinary Workers' Union No. 31.

The organization adopted as its official name, "The San Francisco Bay Area A.F.L. Committee for the Freedom of Mooney and Billings." Similar organizations will be launched in other communities throughout the State in the near future.

A resolution calling upon the executive council of the California State Federation of Labor to call upon the International Unions throughout the country for financial support was unanimously adopted. This resolution was in conformity with the action taken at the A.F.L. convention at Tampa.

Principle customers of the Oregon Worsted Co. are the Jantzen Knitting Mills, Woolworth's, Kresge's, and J. C. Penney & Co.

DENVER.—The newly-elected president of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers is Reid Robinson. He was elected by referendum vote of the union's membership throughout the United States and Canada. Dan Orlich is vice president of the international, and John M. Sherwood, secretary-treasurer.

Newly-elected board members include John M. Emmons, Dist. 1; John Fitzsimmons, Dist. 3, and Tony McTeer, Dist. 4. The elections made no change in the board members for Districts 2, 5, 6 and 7.

Townsend Lays Bond On "Contempt of Congress" Charge

LOS ANGELES.—Though he posted a bond of \$1,000 to insure his appearance in Washington for contempt of court proceedings, Dr. Francis E. Townsend last week reiterated to U.S. Attorney Hall his determination to go to jail if convicted, rather than pay a fine.

Dr. Townsend was then taken to U.S. Marshall Robert Clark's office to be fingerprinted in the usual customary manner.

MANY A WEST COAST FIRM IS INVOLVED

Waterfront Bosses, Sugar Company Among Them

WASHINGTON—Between January 1934 and September 19, three companies specialized in tear and sickening gases sold nearly half a million dollars worth of their products, publication of records by the LaFollette committee investigating violations of civil liberties shows.

Most of the sales were to private companies and intended for use in the event of strikes, the committee's records show. A minor portion of the sales were to banks and police agencies for routine protection against burglary and bandits.

The records also show that salesmen for the companies made great efforts to sell tear gas to west coast firms in an effort to trade on fear of the coming maritime strike.

Between May 1935 and July 1936 the Art Burnside & Co. of Spokane, Wash., purchased \$706 worth of gas and gas equipment from the Manville Manufacturing Corp. From the Lake Erie Steamship Co. of Seattle bought \$110 worth of tear or sickening gas, while on July 9, 1935, C. A. Smith of Seattle, bought \$319 worth of gas.

Recently one C. A. Smith of Seattle was exposed as a notorious strikebreaker and scabherd.

Other West Coast Buyers Other purchasers from the Lake Erie Co. included the Cal. and Hawaiian Sugar Refining Corp., Cal., General Motors, Bristol, Conn., Celanese Corp. of America, Cumberland, Mr. American Aluminum, Detroit, Pontiac Motor Co., Pontiac, Mich., Firestone, Goodyear, Goodrich, and General Tire Co., Akron, Ohio, and William Randolph Hearst's Homestead Mines, L. S. D.

Purchasers from the Federal Laboratories Inc., linked with the munitions industry, of tear and sickening gas included American Sheet & Tin Plate Co., Gary, Ind., Nat'l Distillers Prod. Co., Frankfort, Ky., Harlan City Sheriff, Harlan, Ky., Ford Motor Co., Detroit; Frick Co., through J. B. Mehele, Duluth, Minn., and Carnegie, Bethlehem, and Jones & Laughlin Steel companies, Pennsylvania.

Hearings before the LaFollette Committee are expected to be resumed in January. Published records and testimony from the two previous hearings are available through the government printing office here.

U.R.C. Class "A" Nine Wins, Class "C" Gets Dumped

By a Worker Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO.—The Union Recreation Center baseball team, Class A, won easily from the Paramount Club, 7-0, while Team No. 2, Class C, got the worst dumping of the season to Visitation Valley, 21-0.

The game with Paramount was just like taking candy from a baby. The U.R.C. boys grabbed eight hits to two. Rizzo of U.R.C. is continuing his good form on the mound, and also was star slugger, two runs at three hits for three times at bat. O'Donnell, Cardinale and E. Decamp made one run each.

This win probably puts the Class A team in second place tie with Munny Club, which was defeated last Sunday.

Due to bad weather, the Class C nine were not at their best form, and the Visitation Valley guys took advantage to run away with the game. The game should have been called off on account of rain. This game ended the Class C Winter League. The Visitation Club takes first place; Noe Valley club second; Olympic Hotel club, third; U.R.C., fourth.

U.R.C. Soccer Eleven, 8; Hornets, 1

The writer was told there wasn't going to be a game last Sunday, December 20th, but at the last minute the Hornet Club was scared up, only to be dumped on the wet field to the score of U.R.C., 8; Hornets, 1. Guess the Hornets are like bees, they don't like water, which probably was lucky for the U.R.C. field.

Mine, Mill Men Elect Officers

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