

# Dressmakers on Strike Hoover and the Farmers Chicago Is Bankrupt

(Continued from Page 1)

must call down its own members in every dress shop.

It is not enough for the Left wing, which has been so seriously weakened in the last year or two to call upon the dress strikers to come to the Left wing halls. The fact is that the bulk of the striking workers are going in the other direction, and it is imperative to keep close contact with these workers so that the Left wing is not isolated. The Left wing must follow a conscious and persistent policy of mingling with the workers temporarily misled by Schlesinger and Dubinsky. It must work shoulder to shoulder with them.

Fighting side by side with the mass of the workers, gaining their confidence in struggle, the Left wing will be able to put a spike in Schlesinger's efforts to round up the workers without protest for sale to the bosses. By permeating the ranks of the Right wing workers, the Left wing will be able to reawaken their militant sentiments, and prevent a premature and treasonable conclusion of the strike.

Schlesinger has planned a parade of workers on his field in order to show the bosses that he is worthy of their hire.

The Left wing must establish fraternal contact with the strikers' ranks and turn the parade into a real struggle, prevent the dispersal of the forces of the workers. They will not win the sympathy and support of the strikers by remaining isolated in their own little Left wing halls. They will win them by fighting by their side to make Schlesinger's "strike" a real strike of the workers against the bosses and their emissaries in the labor movement.

Φ

**MILWAUKEE**—Wages of 32 to 42 cents an hour do not indicate "American prosperity" and constitute an indirect wage cut, contrary to the promise made by the bosses to Pres. Hoover, according to business agent Jac. Friedrich of the Milwaukee machinist union.

New men are being hired at this rate, though the previous rate was higher. This constitutes a wage cut because the ultimate effect will be to drag the other wages down to the 32-42 cents level. In spite of the low hourly rate there are up to 500 men seeking jobs at the plant every day.

Φ

**NEW ORLEANS**—(FP)—Bitter cold, and the hunger of the jobless, have sent a record number—100—of men, women and children daily to the Warrington House for food. At night the floors of the dormitories are covered with sleeping men and boys. Rugs and matting are used in place of beds. Early comers get chairs to sleep in.

Φ

**NEW YORK OPEN FORUM**  
Max Schachtman will speak on the London Naval Conference at the regular Open Forum meeting of the Militant Hall, 25 Third Ave. Room 4, on Saturday, February 8, 1930, at 8 p. m. Admission is free and all workers are invited. Questions and discussion after the speaker's presentation. Bring your friends.

## Chicago

### HARD TIMES PARTY & REBEL DANCE

Given by Communist League (Opposition)  
Saturday Evening, February 22  
STISKA'S HALL, 4021 N. Drake Ave.  
(3335 West)

Doors Open 8 p. m.  
Dance Music Refreshments  
Special Entertainment Number  
Admission 35 Cents

If the number on your wrapper is

# 31

then your subscription to the Militant has expired. Renew immediately in order to avoid missing any issues.

An intelligent member of the working class cannot help being astonished at the utter helplessness of the capitalist economists and their complete bankruptcy in ideas. Though not in so many words, they yet admit that they do not know how to solve the economic problem confronting the world today.

In the annual outlook report issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economy of the Department of Agriculture published by the New York Times (1-27-30) farmers are warned against overproduction because of the period of industrial depression we are now experiencing. They are plainly advised not to plant too much and to economize in their expenditures. This—in the face of four to five million industrial workers unemployed or working on a part time schedule (also because of overproduction) who scarcely know where they are going to find the wherewithal to live from one day to the next.

#### The Capitalist "Solution"

The only solution, judging by this report, that the capitalist economists have to offer to the tremendous problems raised by this situation is for the proletariat to starve for want of surplus of food products in the farmers' warehouses, and for the farmer to economize on clothes, shoes, farm machinery, and other necessities of which the industrial proletariat in its turn has produced a surplus. Both are expected to continue in the hope that the almighty will find a way out that has so far escaped the attention of his apologists.

The farmer himself is certainly in a sad fix. "The world do move"; technical changes are going on, even in the most backward of industries, and with the introduction of power machinery in agriculture, and large scale farming, the farm hand and the small farmer have no alternative but to go to the city and join the ranks of the harrassed proletariat. Here again they are confronted with the ever increasing productivity of machinery, this time industrial, which has already made superfluous large sections of the working class.

The report from Washington at first raises the slight hope that conditions abroad will improve at a point somewhere between 1930 and 1931 and provide a market for the American farmer's surplus but immediately shatters the hope by announcing that export will be met by keen competition from Argentina and Canada and possibly Russia. This is bad news. But what can a poor economist—a capitalist economist—do about that? "Lie low and get along the best way you can. In a couple of years things may brighten up. May, mind you." That is the essence of what Hoover's economists have to tell a few million cultivators of the soil in the early moments of this era of "prosperity".

In other words, a bona fide capitalist document once more offers a proof of the Communist contention that the private-property system is obsolete, that it has served its historic function and the day is not far distant when it must give way to a cooperative commonwealth. Capitalist economists may issue reports and serve the interests of their masters in many a learned volume wherein they prove that Marx was wrong, but the accusing finger of the Communist will always point to the capitalist class and will say:

#### The Communist Answer

"You can't solve your own national or the world's economic problem, and sooner or later the millions of unemployed proletarians and the expropriated farmers as well will realize your failure. They are slowly learning that the Russian workers and peasants have managed to do without

you. They will ask themselves, 'Why is it that in this country, though we have an abundance of fertile land, raw material of all descriptions, the most highly developed industrial and transportation systems, in fact, everything to satisfy human needs, yet millions of industrial workers are denied the right to produce the things of which the farmers are in want, and at the same time, the farmers must let their land lie idle while millions in the cities starve?'

"And the Communist's answer to their question will be: 'The capitalist system can only allow industry to run when there is profit in it for the capitalist; his only interests are rent from the land and dividends from the factory—human beings don't count, for, under capitalism, property rights precede human rights.'"

Day by day the proletariat learns by experience that the Communists are right. The time will come when it will challenge the rule of the working class and the poison gas of the capitalist press will be but a puff of wind in its face.

Neither their paid intellectuals nor their armed strength will be able to save the capitalists' state. For the proletariat has the power and will know how to use it. Russia has taught us how.

—PETER HANSEN

Continued from Page 1

by over \$400,000,000. The big down town properties alone cut over \$300,000,000 with none of these taxes paid as yet. Injunctions, suits and political maneuvering keep this money in the pockets of the exploiters. As one City Hall authority stated significantly to a newspaper reporter in regards to the fight stirred up over the budget: "The finance committee group (who fought for the cut) will win a victory or two. The mayor will save his face. The appropriations may be a million or two above the estimated revenue, but no more. The battle was decided in advance by the bankers."

Oscar Nelson, the alderman who carries a union card, vice President of the Chicago Federation of Labor and floor leader for the Big Bill Thompson administration in the city council, has voiced aspirations to become candidate for mayor in the Spring elections. But such change of personality would mean not the slightest break in the continuity of capitalist politics. The Chicago workers are, of course, not so much stirred by the budget fight, one way or the other. While they could, by acting politically in their own name and using their own mass power, easily catch some of these big thieves and tax dodgers, their real task will still remain ahead until they chase all the capitalist politicians out.

—A. S.

## Help Us to Sustain The Militant

A labor paper, particularly a revolutionary organ, does not receive the big advertisements and subsidies, without which a capitalist paper is unthinkable. The Militant is no exception to this rule. It must depend entirely upon readers and supporters for its existence and growth.

The Militant was founded because it fills a special and urgent need in the labor and revolutionary movements. It has been maintained by a group of devoted workers, who understand the value of adherence to the fundamental teachings of the great leaders of our movement, Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky. These teachings are not strong if they are limited to small groups; they become a powerful weapon for labor's liberation when they are made known to the whole working class—honestly and truthfully. This is the task set itself by the Militant.

This great work can be carried out effectively only if the existence of the Militant is secured. For this purpose, it is necessary to establish and strengthen a systematic SUSTAINING FUND. Such a fund will not only enable us to print a whole series of most valuable books and pamphlets. The Militant has on hand a number of manuscripts by L. D. Trotsky. They include: "What Is the Permanent Revolution?" "The Struggle for the Chinese Revolution", "Europe and America", "The Great Organizers of Defeat: a Record of Five Years of the Comintern", and many others. If the SUSTAINING FUND of the Militant is assured, we can proceed to the immediate publication of these Bolshevik classics.

The sooner donations accumulate for the FUND, the more rapidly can we proceed with this important job. Every dollar counts doubly now. We are depending upon all our readers and friends to act with speed. The blank below is for your use. Fill it out now!

THE MILITANT  
2525 Third Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

I am enclosing a donation of \$..... for the Militant SUSTAINING FUND to help maintain the paper and publish the works of L. D. Trotsky.

Name .....  
Address .....  
City ..... State .....

**BOSTON**—(FP)—More building trades workers are walking the streets in Boston today than at any time since the depression of 1920-21, concedes the Building Trades Employers Assn., in a public appeal for resumption of construction activities. Half the 25,000 men in the building crafts are jobless, according to the employers' figures. Building Trade Council officers admit that the estimate is not overdrawn. The Carpenters District Council is broadcasting appeals throughout the country warning mechanics to stay away from Boston.

## ★ DANCE ★

For the Benefit of the Weekly Militant  
on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1930 at 8 p. m.  
at the  
HUNGARIAN HALL, 828 East 79th Street  
Excellent Musical Program—Dancing—Entertainment  
Admission: 50 cents in advance or 60 cents at door  
AUSPICES: Communist League of New York (Opposition)  
English and Hungarian Branches