

LETTERS FROM THE MILITANTS

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Have you ever witnessed an election conference of a labor political organization consisting of 655 delegates representing 300 organizations, that endorses unconditionally every proposition and a political platform put before them without even a semblance of discussion? This is precisely what happened at the New York Communist Election Conference held last Sunday at Manhattan Lyceum.

The above occurrence would have been impossible under Leninist leadership. A whole day, perhaps, would have been wasted and paper, ink, labor, spent just to discuss, write and correct resolutions and propositions that would have come from the delegates.

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The Daily Worker informs us that the comrade who opened the meeting was Stevens, District Election Campaign Manager.

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The steering committee soon got busy and everything was well again. The chairman explained that all this was done to expedite matters.

Now a treat was given the delegates. In short talk of about an hour and a half, the recently celebrated Amter explained the C. P. platform for the com-

MILITANT BUILDERS

Our Militant builders are still hot foot after the prizes we offered for the highest standing for the final month of the drive and for the period of the entire campaign.

In the list below we put the figures for the final month of the drive in parentheses and they are quoted in dollars.

- R. Sacharow (11 12)-10; L. Nagy (7 14)-8; C. R. Hedlund (6)-4; V. R. Dunne (6)-0; J. Weber (5)-2; G. Duell (5)-M. Lilly (5)-L. Rose-land (4 12)-6; J. Sifakis (4)-2; L. Gleisser (4)-2; M. Koehler (3-4)-3; M. Dunne (3)-8; C. Forsen (2 12)-3; A. Buehler (2) - 2; M. Rosen (2) -2; O. Coover (2)-3; A. Ehrlich (2)-1; S. Frank (1 12)-2; L. Baskin (1 12)-5; T. Vaszily (1)-1; R. Ruskin (1)-2; W. Curran (1)-2; S. Zalmanoff (1)-1; P. Carlson (1)-1; C. Cowell (1)-5; P. Schulman (1)-1; F. Barach (1)-4; C. Johnson (1)-2; S. Lessin (1)-2; B. Houman (1); S. Gendelman (1); N. Berman (1); G. R. Herman (1); H. Ross (1); H. Milton (1-2)-1; T. Droby (1-2)-1; J. Carr (1-4)-3; C. Skoglund-3; F. Cheloff-2; G. Ray-2; M. Gottlieb-1; M. Koehler-1; W. Wynne-1; J. Carter-1; H. Capelis-1; W. Herman-1; A. Swaback-1; A. Glotzer-1; L. Logan-1; A. Kaldis-1; M. Sterling-1.

NEW YORK, ATTENTION! All Comrades Out to the Picnic Sunday. Come and bring your friends to celebrate the release of our class war prisoners, comrades Morgenstern and Goodman of Philadelphia.

ing election campaign, which will, according to him, be epochmaking for the Communist movement in the U. S.

The resolutions committee followed with its report. It read a resolution in imperialist war and did not forget to warn everybody to be on guard against the internal enemies—the Trotskyites and the Lovestonites (a violation in the orthodox Stalinist liturgy was noticeable—the Trotskyites were not dubbed this time: the "vanguard of the counter-revolutionary bourgeoisie").

The chairman then opened the floor for discussion, but none of the delegates seemed to care to speak. The chairman had to appeal to someone to break the ice.

After I left, I met some of the delegates, members of the party, and they boasted that only one delegate, representing the Communist League of America (Opposition) was not seated.

The bureaucrats must have heaved a sigh of relief at the end of the conference. But their worries are not over. Lacking confidence in themselves; already preparing to repudiate what they so ardently preach today in the avalanche of "self-criticism" that will surely follow after the election campaign, feeling the ground shaky under their feet, they are ever obsessed with fear of somebody or something.

The present situation in the New York Pocketbook Workers Union is deplorable. The Socialist party fakers of last year's administration forced an agreement on the workers which up to date has resulted in wage-cuts, and the reorganization of the workers, despite the fact the workers voted against it.

About two weeks ago our manager announced in the press that a conference was held with the manufacturers in order to review the agreement which expires June 1st.

On Thursday, May 12, a membership meeting took place at Stuyvesant High School. Our manager outlined the demands of the employers to the union. The meeting was a very stormy one.

At the same meeting the "Fraternal Club" administration introduced a resolution to express full confidence in the conference committee.

It is not too late for all groups to get together and unite against their enemies the employers and the "Fraternal Club" administration who are agents of the bosses.

tionary workers. That is why they were so afraid to seat the delegate of the Left Opposition.

—A DELEGATE FROM THE WORKMEN'S CIRCLE.

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The Bosses' Tax Problem and the Workers

The bosses have tried every imaginable remedy for the crisis. To no avail. Now they hope to find a lever to raise their profits by lowering taxes.

Chicago and the other leading cities are bankrupt, the national government is running in red at the rate of seven million a day. Congress is struggling to make a two and a half billion income meet a four and two-thirds billion expense for 1932.

The cost of the American government, city, state and national, amounts to twelve billion a year and the total indebtedness of the government is thirty billion with the Federal government holding sixteen billion of this debt.

The recent attempt to put through the sales tax in the form presented to the House of Representatives was an attempt to shift the tax burden to the petty bourgeoisie.

The first year of the crisis showed a fair return from income tax but the present year tells another story. In 1930 the forty-five million gainfully employed (workers and capitalists, etc.) listed 2,411,000 million liable to income tax.

Many workers will say, "I do pay tax."

es and will enter the campaign to reduce the cost these political crooks are piling upon our shoulders." We did not say that workers do not pay taxes. We say the workers have no interest in helping the bosses cheapen their government.

It is futile to point our main class guns at the point of consumption, at the cost of living, etc. Our main struggle must be at the point of production.

We must be prepared for such moves, but the present campaign to reduce expenses of government is aimed at something far more important for the capitalist class.

The crisis has forced the American im-

perialists to retrench in order to produce cheaper commodities to enable her to defeat the competitors on the world market. For the last three years an intense retrenchment through discharge and speed up of the remaining workers has been the result.

The Socialists are out for a cheap government and in Milwaukee they have proven their ability. They have proven to the capitalist they can be a cheaper office boy than those of the undisguised capitalist parties.

Each year the government spends over a billion dollars to pay interest and retire debts from the last war and each year they spend about a billion dollars to prepare for the next war.

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Situation in Pocketbook Makers' Union

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it. The Lefts nominated ten of their group. It was decided to call another meeting for Tuesday, May 17 to continue the nomination and election of a conference committee.

On Tuesday, May 17, a meeting took place at Stuyvesant High School. At the meeting everybody could see that the administration had changed their mind that they were determined not to allow a new conference committee to be elected.

Brother Black, an active member of the Joint Council then made a statement to the effect that he was threatened by one of the strong arm gang to leave the meeting hall.

The last two meetings of the Pocketbook Workers Union have proved first, that our corrupted administration is preparing to force on the workers a treacherous agreement with more wage cuts, reorganizations and readjustments, second, the administration is bulldozing and terrorizing active workers with strong arm gangs like in the good all days of Wolinsky, Shipiloff and Co.

It is not too late for all groups to get together and unite against their enemies the employers and the "Fraternal Club" administration who are agents of the bosses.

—N. DAVIS.

Statement of Greek Comrades on «Empros»

To the Greek Party members and sympathizers:

Last August the editor and business manager of the Empros were arrested and charged with spreading false rumors against the Athens Trust Co. of New York City.

The hearings at the Magistrate's Court lasted for whole weeks and the minutes of the court were printed in the Empros.

The Magistrate's court ended the hearing last fall and ordered the transfer of the trial to the Special Sessions Court where a few weeks ago the trial began.

This case represents a great victory for the Empros and for the entire Com-

munist movement of America against the capitalists who always try to frame up working class organs, organizations and individual comrades. And we believe the Greek Stalinist bureaucrats agree with us in this point: if so why the silence about this matter.

The comrades ought to demand from the bureaucrats to announce to the Greek workers and to the working class of America at large this great victory of our organ the Empros against the Athens Trust Co.

This victory of ours should be hailed in heavy type and the case should be reviewed in every detail in order to educate the workers on the role that the banks play in this rotten capitalist system.

After a half-hearted retreat by the bureaucrats on the question of the Greek newspapers, we see in the Empros of May 7th that the Atlantis is leading all the other lackeys of capitalism in their role of exploiting the Greek workers, in full accord with the National Herald.

In Greece, the party members demand a united front with the Archio-Marxists, the Greek Left Oppositionists, in order to fight effectively against the attacks of the Greek bourgeois government, but the bureaucrats still obstruct the application of this united front with all the means at their disposal.

The same procedure, we are sure, will take place here once you will force the Stalinist bureaucrats to give you an account of their irresponsible activities, and force them to undertake a discussion of theoretical questions.

Slanders and calumnies against ideological opponents serve only our enemies. Every sincere worker revolutionist will demand a free discussion of the disputes between the Left Opposition and the Stalinists.

—EDITORIAL BOARD OF COMMUNISTES

Finish the Press Drive with Donations!

As this issue reaches our readers the press drive is over. Newark likewise increased its total.

Table with 3 columns: City, Quotas, Results. Lists cities like New York, Minneapolis, Chicago, Toronto, Cleveland, Duluth, Philadelphia, Boston, Newark, Kansas City, St. Louis, Los Angeles, Youngstown, New Haven, Montreal, Springfield, Ill., W. Frankfort, Ill., Pittsburgh, Trenton, Miscellaneous and their respective quotas and results.

This is a considerable increase over last week's total. Very encouraging is the result of the house party held in Chicago for the benefit of our press.

on after the drive is over. Newark likewise increased its total.

But the point is that we are still a long way from our goal. As we see it the only way to reach it now is to get donations. Subs will help. But that alone will be insufficient. As his final contribution to the press drive let every comrade and sympathizer send in a donation.

On this last week-end, let us give a concrete expression of our support of our press, which is striving so determinedly against such heavy odds to fulfill its historic mission.

Entered as second class mail matter November 28, 1928, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Under the act of March 3, 1879.

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1932 Vol. 7, No. 22 (Whole No. 118) Subscription rate: \$2.00 per year; foreign \$2.50. Five cents per copy. Single rates, 3 cents per copy.