

WORKERS
OF THE
WORLD.
UNITE

THE MILITANT



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ON THE SPOT

CRIME IS GAINING ALL THE TIME

A Mr. McGeoghegan of Chicago, prominent beer baron, was charged with the robbery of a bank to the tune of \$60,000. He beat the bank officials to it. Infuriated over their loss, the bankers identified him, and the eminent Democrat was placed on trial. The identifiers learned that McGeoghegan was cleaning and oiling a machine gun for their benefit so they implored the state's attorney to dismiss the charges. Their request was complied with. Why not send McGeoghegan to restore law and order in Nicaragua?

REPS. AND DEMS. SEND RIVAL TO NUT WARD

Former Kluge Clark of the Ku Klux Klan, recently emerged from his cavern and announced that he was going to restore prosperity through the medium of a new organization of morons, membership in which was contingent on the ability of the sucker to come across with a sum ranging from \$25 to \$500. "From each according to his ability; to me according to my needs" was Clark's slogan. Plans for bed-sheet and night cap factories were drawn up and a corps of confidence salesmen organized. But the bourgeoisie would not have it. These are hard times and the Republican and Democratic parties will have a tough job on their hands trying to hold the masses in their corral with promises of prosperity and full dinner pails after next November. So they grabbed Clark and lashed him to a cot in the psychopathic ward of the County Hospital in Chicago. The head of the nut clearing house declared that any man who claims he can lead the depression is as mad as a bad bug. If that is so, and we are inclined to agree, why not isolate the leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties?

IS WILLIAM GREEN SEEING RED?

William Green, the pink-checked Baptist, president of the American Federation of Labor, who has waged a consistent fight against unemployment by holding the estimated number of jobless down to six millions recently took a wild leap to the left and started the country by stating that the workless army is now over ten millions. Following this announcement from his headquarters came another, charging the Hoover administration with non-feasance on the unemployment question. Bill believes that the money handed to the banks by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation should be loaned by the banks to the business men who in turn would use it to exploit the unemployed, and to paraphrase the Pullman smoking room yarn "that's the fellow Green wants to help." Look out brother Green! Brother Doak may get you and deport you to where you came from unless you stop criticizing the government. Only the Reds do that kind of thing.

ONEAL AND THOMAS IN TIT FOR TAT GAME

The assistant editor of the *New Leader*, official organ of the Socialist Party, was removed from his post because of his support of the so-called militants in the S. P. The board of directors of the *New Leader* declared that he was dismissed because of his inability to work in harmony with Hillquit's editor, James O'Neal. Norman Thomas, the liberal leader of the S. P. who took the 'left' militants into his maw and is digesting them at his leisure, protested against the assistant editor's dismissal. O'Neal came back with the dirty crack that Thomas fired him (O'Neal) from the editorial staff of the *New York Call* after Thomas took it over, baptized it the *Leader* and abolished the class struggle. This is tit for tat if yuh git what I mean.

DAILY WORKER BARES DIABOLICAL PLOT

The *Daily Worker* viewed with alarm the proposal of the Human Betterment Foundation that 18,000,000 mental defects be sterilized by a harmless process which is so popular with the experimenters that they write testimonials recommending the operation to others. It may be a modernization of the fable about the fox who lost his tail, but be that as it may, the *Daily Worker* suspects that it is a plan to sterilize the unemployed. The capitalists it is true, are dirty enough for anything but we fail to see what they could gain by encephalizing the unemployed unless they intend to legalize the harem industry. It is well to know however that the *Daily Worker* is on guard and if the capitalists think they can pull off anything like that without the diabolical motive behind it being exposed, they are due for disillusionment.

—RIDEW.

Ryan Walker, well known labor cartoonist, died a short time ago in Moscow. His cartoons appeared in many papers. He first became known thru the *N. Y. Call*, and since that time his drawings have appeared in the *Illinois Miner* (Ameringer's paper), the *N. Y. Graphic*, and the *Daily Worker*. No one can say that he did not have a colorful career.

Lausanne Conference Near Collapse

German Reaction Aggressive

The entire Lausanne Conference, looked upon with the greatest anxiety by a European bourgeoisie caught in the throes of impending convulsions, has so far stood under the sign of the Hoover proposals on disarmament. The power of the American colossus is more in evidence than ever. The Germans see in it the hand of a magnanimous benefactor against the adamant French enemy. The French in so far as they are inclined to view with favorably, hold it up as a prop for the maintenance of their cherished Versailles Treaty. As is known, the Hoover plan proposes the reduction of armaments by one third pressing for a reduction in the arms output of the Gallie rival for European domination and at the same time restricting German war preparations to the present limit.

As was to be expected, the Conference has yielded no results. The only positive thing it has achieved, is the indefinite prolongation of the Hoover moratorium which was to end on June 30. The French are holding out, using the old lever of "security necessities" and holding fast to their refusal to consider cancellation of German reparations. In the struggle between the Americans and the delegation from the Quai D'Orsay, the Von Papen jecker grasps a good opportunity to loyally position, with an eye on the requirements of foreign aid from all quarters in the event of a Fascist seizure of power in Germany and the prospect of bitter and protracted civil war that this envisages.

While the German reactionaries are negotiating for the best possible conditions for future domestic and foreign imperialist aims—they talk of revision of the Eastern frontiers—steering a course that against the generally approved aggression against the country of the So-

Closer to the Proletarians of the 'Colored' Races!

To the International Secretariat: Copy to the National Committee of the American League:

I have received a copy of the letter of an organization of Negro comrades from Johannesburg, dated April 26th. This letter, it seems to me, has a tremendous symptomatic significance. The Left Opposition (Bolshevik-Leninists) can and should become the banner for the most oppressed sections of the world proletariat, consequently, in the first place for the Negro workers. Upon what do I base such an assumption?

The Left Opposition represents at present the most consistent and the most revolutionary current in the world. Its sharply critical relations to all and every form of bureaucratic conceit in the labor movement makes it possible for it to pay particular attention to the voice of the most oppressed sections of the working class and toilers in general.

The Left Opposition has to suffer the blows not only of all the bourgeois governments of the world, but also of the Stalinist apparatus. This fact, which, in spite of all the slanders, enters gradually into the consciousness of the masses, the government at home proceeds with drastic force against all opposition forces at home.

The protests of the local governments—Bavaria, Baden—against the lifting of the ban on the Nazi Storm Troops have been of no avail. The Von Papen cabinet is sticking to its guns. In the meantime, the Fascist forces are forging ahead with full speed and with the best wishes of the present rulers. Attacks upon workers, organizations continue unabated. The toll of proletarian victims of Hitlerite attacks is mounting skyward. The Brown Shirts' pressure upon affairs—domestic as well as foreign—goes on in all openness and with remarkable success.

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es, will have to attract towards the Left Opposition the sympathies of the most oppressed sections of the international working class more and more. From this point of view, the letter to us from the South African comrades appears to be not at all accidental, but deeply symptomatic. In their letter, bearing 24 signatures (it further follows: "and others") the South African comrades expressed particular interest in the questions of the Chinese Revolution. This interest should be recognized as fully grounded. Precisely the working masses of the oppressed peoples who have to carry on the struggle for the elementary national rights and for human dignity, stand the greatest risk to suffer from the confused teachings of the Stalinist bureaucracy on the subject of the "democratic dictatorship". Under this false banner, the policy in the style of the Kuo Min Tang, that is, the complete deception and the unpunished crushing of the toiling masses by their own "national" bourgeoisie, may still do the greatest harm to the cause of liberating the toilers. The program of the permanent revolution based on the incontestable historic experience of a number of countries may and should assume the leading significance for the liberation movement of the Negro proletariat.

If the Johannesburg comrades did not as yet have the possibility to acquaint themselves closer with the views of the

Alexander Rosanoff

The sad news of a new victim is communicated in the latest correspondence received from Moscow. Comrade Alexander Rosanoff is dead in exile. Comrade Rosanoff, a party member since 1917, a heroic fighter in the famous Fifth Army (which crushed Kolchak), a militant Oppositionist since 1923, was arrested in 1928. Altho seriously ill with tuberculosis, running a fever of 105, he was thrown into Butirki prison together with common law criminals, and submitted to all kinds of torments. Then deported to Siberia, he was on the threshold of death. The Stalinist apparatus was obliged to transfer him to better climatic conditions. There condemned to death, he remained an intransigent Bolshevik revolutionist, combating Stalinism with all his power. After four years of exile comrade Rosanoff has perished, a victim of the Stalinist repression.

The same communication tells of the uninterrupted growth of the Left Opposition in the U. S. S. R.: Young Workers come to the Opposition from all new sections. The year 1931 unfolded under the sign of hundreds of new arrests and deportations of Bolshevik-Leninists. This year the same thing. We cite, among other things, the arrest and deportation, during March and April, of 80 oppositionists in Sverdlovsk (center of the Ural industrial region) 8 of whom were transferred to solitary. This continued arrival of new elements has a decisive importance. It gives courage to the old militants. And above all, it gives assurance to the future of the Left Opposition, which has great historic tasks before it. And it is just this growth that explains the blind hatred Stalin shows to the Left Opposition. The ideas of the Left Opposition, in spite of everything, are penetrating into all the sections of the working class and the Party, and in the entire Soviet Union.

Demand the release of the Bolshevik-Leninists in prison and exile, from the Stalinist bureaucrats.

Demand their readmission into the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The Worker Communists must not allow the physical destruction of these stalwart revolutionists. Their place is in the front ranks of the world proletariat.

Persecution of our Spanish Comrades

BARCELONA, SPAIN.—

Our comrade Luis Curiel has been arrested in Valladolid. His arrest is just another arbitrary act of the "democratic" regime. No reason was given to explain this arrest, outside of the fact that Curiel is an outstanding Communist militant, the former regional secretary of the official party in Castille and the national secretary of International Labor Defense (Red Aid).

It appears that it is the aim of the police to systematically jail all the members of the Left Opposition in Spain. At Perales de Tajuna, on May 30, comrade Henri Lacroix was arrested while engaged in a conversation with friends on the prison corner. The Civil Guards who perpetrated the arrest threatened our comrade at the point of a gun. They marched him through the streets with his hands up and warned that they had orders to act drastically upon any move on his part. Since there is no jail in that town they took him to a small rest-

aurant. Like a real bandit, never once withdrawing their gun points from the body of our comrade.

After passing the night there, they brought him to Madrid where he was later released.

—CORRESPONSAL.

As we go to press we receive the joyous news of the release of comrade Andres Nin and the other 20 comrades arrested with him on May 30. The last two issues of *El Soviet*, of which Nin is the editor and in the publication of which many of the arrested comrades had been engaged, were practically edited from the prison cells. Most of the articles bear the address of the Carcel Celular, the prison in which the editorial board of *El Soviet* was detained.

Comrade Luis Badaloz, after five months of prison in Rastoljo, has also been released. He is a member of the National Committee of the Spanish Opposition and has been arrested for leading the peasant revolt in Llerena.

Arrest W. Z. Foster in Los Angeles

Released Although Charged with Criminal Syndicalism

William Z. Foster, Communist candidate for president of the U. S. who was arrested on July 28th in Los Angeles, while attempting to speak in a protest demonstration, was released the next day on the grounds of lack of evidence to charge him with criminal syndicalism. The meeting at which Foster was arrested was called to protest the prohibition of a meeting where he was billed to speak and which was to protest the shooting of an unemployed worker by Captain Hynes police thugs. John R. Hynes, the notorious red baiter and persecutor of the Los Angeles workers, arrayed a little army of Legionnaires and bluecoats, armed with sub-machine guns, sawed off shotguns, blackjacks, etc., to see to it that the meeting did not take place. When the workers demanded to hear Foster, the police and the thugs proceeded to show them what California democracy feels like—over their skulls. When Foster began to speak, he was thrown into jail "on suspicion of criminal syndicalism."

But this move was too brazen, too crude. Hynes, who arrests, imprisons and holds Communists on far less evidence, had to let Foster go for the reason that he wanted to "keep peace in the city." The real reason is of course, that it is not so easy to arrest presidential candidates even though they may happen to be Communists. The wave of resentment that would follow, would certainly make it too hot for Capt. Hynes' liking.

The first move to block the Communist election campaign has been successfully crushed.

On with the campaign! Vote for Foster and Ford!
Vote Communist!

Demagogues and Bankers Clash in Chicago

What Is Behind the Clique Fight at the Democrats' Meet

If the Republican party confab gave the appearance of a graveyard with a couple of hired noise makers, the democratic convention looks like a veritable madhouse with the inmates acting their natural selves. A casual reading of the proceedings of the convention now in session in Chicago, gives one the impression of a field day of a lunatic asylum. First fights, a jig by the sedate William McAdoo, wild and idiotic cheering at the least mention of prohibition repeal, chorus girls applauding Jimmy Walker, and professional entertainers to fill in the dull moments, marked the highlights of the political convention of the "democracy."

The Republican convention insulted the intelligence of the people of these United States by putting up Herbert Hoover as the only nominee and candidate to squeeze some more profits out of the hides of the working class. But the Democrats are no pikers, they give us eight possibilities, all of whom have as much or less in common with the needs of the workers as the "great engineer".

Smith has the support of the Wall Street magnate, John J. Raskob. Newton D. Baker let go a couple of loose phrases about capitalist "internationalism", but his able service in sending American workers to the European slaughter house, to coin profits for the Morgan's Du Ponts, etc., makes him wholly acceptable to the big money bags. Ritchie is wholly innocuous since his only qualification and platform is his dumbness. Even Garner won't be objectionable to the industrialists—he showed his caliber in trimming the petty-bourgeois by a huge levy of taxes foisted upon them. And Roosevelt the most likely nominee, can be counted upon in a pinch to do his bit for his master—in spite of his dishwasher liberalism.

But Franklin D. Roosevelt, while he has a majority of delegates behind him, has no path of roses to trod on to reach the nomination. The biggest obstacle that stands in his way is the displeasure that the Wall Street bankers have shown over his liberal demagoguery. The Morgans, Fords and Rockefellers are well satisfied with the service rendered by Herdert Hoover. But if it is necessary to have another candidate in the field, for the purpose of deception, they want the most harmless one they can lay hands on. This is not the time to play around.

Roosevelt pretends to be the representative of the petty bourgeoisie. Behind him stands the powerful chain of the Hearst papers, that make it a policy to play on the heart strings of the small business man and the small manufacturer. But Tammany Hall stands in his way, because as presidential nominee he will of necessity, have to take drastic measures in his post of Governor of N. Y. against the Tammany crooks, to keep the South and West in line.

The Democratic party in its platform blames the unprecedented economic and

social distress on their blood brothers, the Republicans. It recommends, as a remedy "a drastic change in economic and governmental policies."

The most ignorant person should be able to observe that the tremendous overproduction of wealth and the glut of commodities, on the one hand, and the starvation and unemployment on the other, can be due to nothing else than the system that produces these things. The Democrats are heart and soul for the maintenance of the capitalist system. Their economic existence depends upon it. How then, can anyone hope for a change or a remedy to existent conditions by the election of the "democracy".

A federal relief to the unemployed. Federal relief to the states is a plank, provided "the diminishing resources of the states make it impossible for them to provide for the needy." Just how much money for relief is not stated. And just when the resources of the states are "diminishing", makes the whole business smell like another campaign promise that will be violated as soon as the Democrats assume office.

The Republicans have completely ignored unemployment insurance. Therefore, the Democrats, seeing a good vote-catching issue, declare for "unemployment and old-age insurance under state laws." But the very wording of this plank gives the lie to their "solemn promises". There are Democratic governors in several states, some of whom are now aspirants for the nomination. Has unemployment insurance been introduced in those states? No! In Illinois there are such laws (unless it is given to mean, insurance) in the future? Most decidedly, no! Unless, again mass pressure is brought to bear by the working class.

As was to be expected, the main issue for the Democrats is the repeal of the 18th Amendment. Raskob says that it is the "only economic issue of any importance in this election campaign". To a starving populace crying for bread these "representatives of the people" offer beer and alcohol. Where the money will come from to purchase these beverages, with industry prostrate, seems to be a grand mystery. Prohibition is, in reality, nothing more than a soap bubble issue. It will be exploded just as soon as the workers get wise to this smokescreen used, to cover up the burning problems.

This noisy, rambunctious convention can teach the American worker only one thing and one line of action. The capitalist system and all its representatives are rotten and bankrupt. The abolition and destruction of capitalism is their only hope. The piling up of a huge vote for the Communist candidates is their only course in this election.

—CLARKE.