

Notes of the Week

MR. REVERE REVEALS

If you're in the working class or if you're bound to get a headache wading through the boss press. Especially now—under NRA. The high pressure salesmanship methods of the recovery administration—always profuse with their great, passionate love for the laboring masses—are simply overwhelming.

When you're lucky enough to survive the intoxicating ballyhoo of the front page and the stultifying hypocrisy of the editorials, you will, however, find a good sobering bromide in the financial columns. They usually tell the unadorned truth. They're got to. Because they constitute the only part of the paper that's actually written for the boss—minus the ballyhoo and minus the embellishments.

And here is what we found on the financial sheet of the N. Y. Herald-Tribune recently:

"With the strong arm of government around the wage earner," says a certain C. T. Revere (of the firm of Munds, Winslow, and Potter), "the labor unions are displaced as guardians of the toiler.... The basic reason for the labor union as we have known it in the past no longer prevails."

This is Mr. Revere's government. He speaks of it knowingly. And he is addressing his kind, on the forum of his class. He has no need for camouflage and subterfuges here.

The Herald-Tribune, appropriately enough, sums up his remarks in the headline, "How to Unions Seen by Revere in NRA Plans." That tells the whole story in a nutshell. And as if he were anticipating the argument of the recent strikes and the big, successful unionization drive, the gentleman from Wall St. adds:

"Economic forces (?) work out their solution in inexorable fashion even against the intimations of the working masses.... If we know anything at all of economic forces (sic) and of the present widespread and far-flung testimonial of strike militancy mean anything, Mr. Revere may yet discover that there is nothing quite so inexorable as the workers' march to power, as the economic solution of the working masses. We might add... even against all the pious 'class peace' wishes of the labor fakery and all their persistent servility.

Mr. Revere knows what his class wants and needs, and so does the awakening worker. The proof? The first plank of nearly every strike action in the growing working class upsurge and the major objective of nine tenths of them has been—union recognition!

That's what the workers think of the "strong arm of government!"

LET HIM WHISTLE

"In Pittsburgh, 3,000 to 5,000 miners, singing as they go, request Carnegie steel workers to join a 'holiday movement' with 85,000 other steel and mine workers in three states.

"Carlyle said: 'Give me the man who sings at his work!'" "A strike seems hardly a thing to sing about!"

—ARTHUR BRISBANE.

For all of our sympathy with Mr. Brisbane's outraged... esthetics, and in spite of his rather impressive appeal to Carlyle's authority, we cannot nevertheless understand why he should begrudge the workers a "holiday"—the bankers only had one of their own not so long ago.

It is only just, and even Carlyle had a warm spot for justice. Still, if the eminent sage of Hearstodon finds strike holidays "hardly a thing to sing about" in his capacity as major shareholder of a profit-mad enterprise, he ought to compose himself as a member of the Fourth Estate.

We can well understand that he cannot sing over a strike. Just let him whistle....

THERE'S GOLD IN THEM THAR HILLS

"Green Backs Plan for U. S. to Assist Jobless Mine Gold"—Newspaper Headline.

Having clad the employed working class in codes of emerald and led them into the promised land of the New Deal, the great American Labor Leader prepares to bring down a shower of gold manna (or are we getting it mixed up with NRA?) upon their less fortunate brethren, left behind in the wilderness of unemployment.

PITTSBURGH MASS MEETINGS

ARNE SWABECK will speak at WEINSTEIN'S RESTAURANT 1830 Center Ave., 2nd Floor on Friday, October 13 at 8 P. M. THE FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM Saturday, October 14 at 8 P. M. THE ROOSEVELT PROGRAM AND THE WORKERS

FROM THE MILITANTS

St. Louis Needle Trades Strike

St. Louis.—On August 10th 3,000 needle trades workers went on strike in protest against the sweatshop conditions prevailing in St. Louis and their low wage standards of \$5 and \$6 a week. The strikers rallied under the banner of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union because of the impression of strength and support it could give them in their struggles against the bosses.

The ILGWU, although in the A. F. of L. for 25 years, boasts of one of the most progressive preambles of any A. F. of L. union. The preamble to the constitution recognizes the fact that the workers must organize industrially as well as politically in order to effect "the abolition of the capitalist society" before the workers will be in a position to "secure their rights as producers."

Accordingly the garment workers were under the impression that the ILGWU leadership, nationally as well as locally, would give them all the moral and financial support possible, in order to enable them to win their strike. These hopes were soon shattered. The local leadership attempted to settle the strike three times without any concessions from the capitalists. Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, said that the national union was "off the Gold Standard" and would be able to give "normal support" to the strikers, but "not much financially." The small amounts of strike relief finally paid out were gained as the result of continual and vociferous demands by the rank and file.

The only reason the silk dress workers didn't get as good a contract in St. Louis as elsewhere was because the local union didn't get funds enough to hold out for our demands. It was due to the militancy of the rank and file and the support given by Bialis, national vice-president, AND NOT THE LOCAL OFFICIALS, that we finally gained the following demands: shop committees in each factory; 10 percent increase in wages; no discrimination in re-employment of strikers; equal distribution of work; arbitration of all disputes. Although the contract doesn't call for a closed union shop, this demand could have also been gained, if the St. Louis local had the right kind of union leadership fighting militantly in their behalf.

—ROSE CASANO.

Organizing the Greek Painters

New York.—The most exploited section of the American working-class is that of the unorganized. This section is largely composed of foreign workers, and especially of those that come from countries industrially backward. The Greek painters undoubtedly belong to this section. Although their trade is skilled they remained outside of their trade organizations, with the exception of a few who are in the A. F. of L. because of the fact that they have no tradition of any sort of trade unionism. Another reason could be that workers when coming to this country intended to leave as soon as they made a few dollars. The long years of the crisis however has taught them to realize the idea of returning home rich was an illusion, and they had to remain here as a part of the American working class. As a result of all this they began to see the necessity of organization.

About four weeks ago a few of the more progressive ones assembled in the cellar of the Santa-Barbara Greek Church to discuss their problems. They elected a committee which decided to call a meeting the following Sunday at the same place. More than 350 were present at this meeting. Several Greek Stalinists were mobilized from the Greek Spartacus for this meeting. When their spokesman (Harrison) was presented to address the meeting as a representative of the TUUL the crowd arose en masse and shouted, "We don't want him!" "No Communists here, he's a Communist." (How clearly it could be seen how the Stalinist bureaucrats have discredited the name of Communism.)

This however did not prevent Hargelas, when finally given the floor, from giving orders as though he were in a unit meeting of the Communist party. He stated that unless they remove from their temporary committee the "disrupters" (Katsikis, Poulos) the movement cannot go forward. He said the Greek painters must organize themselves independently as a Greek Club, and that later they could decide where to affiliate.

Undoubtedly he meant to take them into the TUUL. But why didn't he clearly state this and point out facts to convince the workers of the advisability of such a step instead of maneuvering with the proposal to form a club? Simply because the TUUL is no less discredited in the eyes of the workers than the official Communist Party.

The policy of the Left Opposition

proposed by the writers, was that as soon as they are organized the Greek painters immediately ask for a charter from the A. F. of L. painters' union, as one of its locals, with provisions suitable for the organization of the Greek workers. We took the stand that the Greek painters needed union organization in direct association with the other workers of the trade, not isolation from them in a club.

Just due to the Stalinists' maneuvering in dragging out the meeting points of order, etc., more than two-thirds had left the hall when a vote was taken as to whether they should remain independent as a club or go to the A. F. of L. In spite of that 77 voted for our proposals and 54 for that of the Stalinists. They then authorized the committee to investigate the ways and means of getting into the A. F. of L. and present a concrete program.

The following meeting, however, the Stalinists mobilized twice as many of their supporters as were present at the previous meeting and, instead of bringing a program according to the previous decision of the members, they presented their old program. The workers present protested and, although less were present than at the previous meeting, they walked out in protest and only about 30 Stalinists and about 15 workers remained. The remaining voted anew whether to go to the AFL or remain independent. 25 voted for the Stalinists and 15 against.

Once more the Stalinist policy helped to disorganize the awakening Greek painters. But we will not allow them to carry out their policy of "Rule or Ruin". There are more than 200 Greek painters in various A. F. of L. locals who are willing to support our program in organizing the Greek unorganized painters. With their help we will carry out this plan.

—KATSIKIS. POULOS.

The "United Front" in California

OAKLAND, CALIF.—

On September 25, 1933 a meeting of the United Front Conference to aid the victims of German Fascism was held in Oakland, Calif. 12 people were present. Outside of one delegate representing an unemployed organization, one observer from the Sheet Metal Workers' Union and two delegates from the Communist League, the other eight people represented the Communist Party and such independent organizations as the "Friends of the Soviet Union". The majority of them represented nothing even of this sort. This was the result of several months of muddling on the issue, of muddling on the united front tactics, of putting up a paper screen of paper organizations.

That this result was considered by party people as fully representative of their "leadership" is the fact that this meeting of the "united front" Conference considered it perfectly in order to expel the Communist League of America as an organization from the Conference. The motion for expulsion was not motivated in a new way. It called for expulsion of these "disrupters, counter-revolutionary Trotskyites". Otherwise, the "conference" looked more like a unit meeting of the Communist party turned inside out than a meeting of a genuine united front.

"absence" of comrade Moss was given as a proof of the "disruptive tactics" of the Communist League.

The rule, mechanical expulsion of an organization from the mock united front, by people loyal to the corrupt Stalinist machinery, who shamefully play with the issue involving the victims of Fascist gangs, and their inability to organize a movement which, at the first stage, promised a better result judging by the first response, obliges the Communist League of America to organize a genuine, representative movement of working class organizations to fight against Fascism.

It must be clearly stated that only one genuine attempt to put life in this still born "united front" was made and it was made by the Communist League, in the way of Jimmy Higgins work and in an attempt to present a program of action. The Communist League of America became active here lately. A branch was organized and good forces are rallying around it.

L. LOGAN.

Mirror Workers Strike Ended

NEW YORK.—

The general strike of the novelty mirror workers, is now definitely and tragically at an end. The strike that was declared on September 12th with so much enthusiasm and hope for the establishment of some decent working conditions, and involved some three hundred and more workers, with the most militant determination to struggle and "stick it out to the end" has been allowed to peter out without the least fault of the workers themselves.

The organization of the union that was originally begun by a number of young but energetic workers, was steered away from its correct path, from the moment it came in contact with the stupid Stalinist bureaucrats in the shape of the T. U. U. L. At one point, when the general strike was still solid, the Bosses' Association offered to grant most of the demands if the union affiliated to the A. F. of L. The Stalinists, concerned far more about the fortunes of the T. U. U. L. than about the interests of the workers, stood out for a "revolutionary" union. Caught in between the two forces, the bosses and the TUUL, the consequent result was, as was forewarned by the original organizers, the workers got no union at all, notwithstanding the victory scored by the settlement of two shops upon more or less favorable terms.

The Left Oppositionists, sensing the mood of the workers, seeing that they were beginning to lose hope and their former determination, tried to bring the strike to a speedy settlement, by demanding affiliation to the A. F. L. But Sam Nesson would hear nothing of it. Instead he violently attacked the worker who made the proposal, calling him all sorts of names in the best Stalinist manner, even going so far as to call him a spy for the bosses. It is interesting to note that not one worker believed that, and later they confided in the Oppositionist that they believe all of Nesson's slander holds for Nesson himself. The workers seeing that victory was almost within their reach, and yet not being able to obtain it, became demoralized and began to go back to work, at first singly then doubly, until there was literally a stampede to rescue whatever was possible.

The stupid Stalinist can explain the loss of the strike very easily. If it had not been for a couple of "skunks" going back to work all might have been well yet. The bureaucrat does not realize that it was precisely because of his blind leadership that several "skunks" went back to work. Needless to say many workers are totally disgusted with Nesson, the TUUL, the Party and everything else that is "red". The Stalinist contribution in the mirror workers' strike, as elsewhere, was demoralization and defeat.

—MIRROR WORKER.

PUBLIC LECTURE YORKVILLE LABOR TEMPLE

(84th St., bet. 2nd and 3rd Aves.) Thursday, October 12 at 8 P. M. ROOM 16 Subject: CAN THE N. R. A. SUCCEED? Lecture by CARL COWL

printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher: The Communist League of America (Opposition) New York, N. Y. Editor: Arne Swaback Managing Editor: Arne Swaback Business Manager: Thomas Stamm Post Office Address: 126 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of

each individual member, must be given.)

The Communist League of America (Opposition); 126 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y.; Martin Abern, 126 East 16th Street New York, N. Y.; James P. Cannon 126 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y.; Max Shachtman, 126 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y.; Maurice Spector, 126 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y.; Arne Swaback, 126 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security

holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the names of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

THOMAS STAMM, Business Mgr. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of October 1933. RITA M. WOLF, Notary Public (My Commission expires March 30, 1935).

LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

Swaback Opens Tour at Newark

At the meeting of the Left Opposition on the 29th of September, the workers of Newark had an opportunity to hear comrade Swaback give the first lecture on his national tour. He spoke of the causes of the drawn consequences of which forced the Left Opposition to change its policy and concentrate its forces and activities towards the establishment of a new party and a new International.

The degeneration and final collapse of the Communist International and its national sections facilitated the danger of a counter-revolutionary overthrow of the Soviet Union. Our hope as a faction to reform the party and the International is completely exhausted, leaving the only other road: the formation of a new party and a new International.

The meeting impressed the workers gravely. Queries penetrating the smallest particle of the vital question were launched at the speaker, the answers to which made it increasingly clear, that the Left Oppositionist path is the only positive one.

So great was the demand for our literature that our supply was exhausted before all those eager to receive it could be satisfied. This will be remedied at our next meeting in the near future, to which we shall go well equipped. Workers crowded around comrade Swaback after the meeting and were eager to have him explain the things to which they received no satisfactory answer at the meetings held by the official party. We gained a few new members and numerous sympathizers thus making us stronger for the gigantic task ahead of us, which we shall not shirk but continue on unflinchingly in the interest of the world proletariat.

—LOUIS NAGY.

Other meetings on comrade Swaback's tour are as follows:

Sun., Oct. 8th....Rochester, N. Y. Mon., Oct. 9th....Buffalo, N. Y. Tues., Oct. 10th....Toronto, Can. Wed., Oct. 11th....Toronto, Can. Fri., Oct. 13th....Pittsburgh Pa. Weinstein's Restaurant 1830 Center Ave., 2nd Fl. Sat., Oct. 14th....Pittsburgh, Pa. Sun., Oct. 15th....Pittsburgh, Pa. Mon., Oct. 16th....New Castle, Pa. Tues., Oct. 17th....Youngstown Wed., Oct. 18th....Youngstown Thurs., Oct. 19th....Cleveland, O. Fri., Oct. 20th....Cleveland, O. Sat., Oct. 21st....Chicago, Ill. Sun., Oct. 22nd....Chicago, Ill. Mon., Oct. 23rd....Chicago, Ill. Tues., Oct. 24th....Chicago, Ill. Wed., Oct. 25th....Springfield, Ill. Thurs., Oct. 26th....Stanton, Ill. Fri., Oct. 27th....St. Louis, Mo. Sat., Oct. 28th....St. Louis, Mo. Sun., Oct. 29th....Kansas City, Mo. Mon., Oct. 30th....Kansas City, Mo. Thurs., Nov. 2nd....Minneapolis Fri., Nov. 3rd....Minneapolis Sat., Nov. 4th....Minneapolis Sun., Nov. 5th....Minneapolis Thurs., Nov. 9th....Davenport, Ia. Fri., Nov. 10th....Davenport, Ia. Tues., Nov. 7th....Chicago, Ill.

With the 'Militant' Builders

NEW PRICE

Beginning with this issue the new price of the Militant will be 2c a copy. The idea behind this reduction in price is to give the paper a wider circulation.

NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

At the same time and for the same reason the subscription rates have been reduced as follows: 1 year, \$1. (Canada and foreign, \$1.50); 6 months, 50c (Canada and foreign, 75c).

TO NOVEMBER 15th.

The sub drive which opens with this announcement will run until the 15th of November. That gives us about 5 weeks in which to materially increase the number of subscribers on our list.

HISTORY OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION.

To the three Militant builders getting the most subs from now till November 15th we offer the following (or equivalents in other books): First place—the three volumes of

the History of the Russian Revolution by comrade Trotsky; second place—two volumes of the History; third place, one volume of the History.

DOUBLE THE CIRCULATION. We are so confident that the new orientation of the League and the more popular price of the Militant give it possible to extend the circulation that we have set as our goal a 100% increase in the number of subscriptions. If you are a innum share by getting a sub from a fellow worker. If every subscriber sets that as his minimum goal it will be no job at all to double the circulation.

Then, there are some irrepressible comrades who go out and gather in anywhere from 6 to 30 subs. So all in all the work we have set is not beyond our abilities.

Shachtman Speaks at Philadelphia

Philadelphia Pa.—The discussion on our new course was met in Philadelphia by the largest turnout for an Opposition meeting here. Comrade Max Shachtman spoke on "The Second and Third Internationals after Hitler's Victory" before an audience of over 100, most of them Communist workers.

Our speaker analyzed the traitorous role and second breakdown of the Social Democracy. He followed by tracing the tragic course of the C. I. leadership, capped by the German capitulation and a cowardly whitewash of the whole policy of defeat. Forces of regeneration for a new Communist movement are marshalling. This movement will have a really revolutionary defense of the workers' state. This movement bases itself on the Lenin Congresses of the C. I. and Marxism. The cadres, the policy of the Left Opposition is its guide.

Comrade Tom Holmes, a young militant whom the Young Communist League expelled a week ago for "Trotskyism" was chairman. He spoke on the YCL practice of "party democracy." Sol Thomas, whom the C. P. also expelled for the same crime of holding views favorable to the Left Opposition and who openly demanded that the Party recognize its errors on Germany and the trade union policy, spoke on his experience in and defense of our trade union policy.

A lively discussion followed; about ten people taking the floor. Most of the discussion was from Stalinists present, who tried in their argumentatively weak but nevertheless loud manner to defend the "leadership" and the "line." Against us they prepared to quote the N. Y. Times; to tell us they were not responsible for not calling the 7th World Congress of the Comintern because they weren't in USSR; and insinuations and outright slander to the point of trying to incite members of a union against a comrade on a trade basis. A member of the C. P. district bureau who was present took the floor but evaded an offer of equal time with our speaker—a debate.

The clarity and boldness of our revolutionary position put forward by our speaker's brilliant speech made a deep impression on the crowd. They remained till after midnight, contributed generously to a collection (after paying admission), asked many questions, and among the youth asked for information about the "Spartacus Youth Club" which was organized the following Wednesday.

This meeting is the latest series of meetings the Philadelphia L. O. branch has been holding, revolving around the world shaking events in Germany. In early August comrade Arne Swaback soon after his return from abroad, came here and spoke on "Germany Under Hitler" to a good audience.

The Philadelphia branch has rented 524 W. Thompson Street which will become a center for our activities. Those interested in our activities, study classes and the Spartacus Youth Club communicate with the Secretary at the address given. The branch is experiencing a steady growth and strengthening of its work. New contacts, particularly C. P., Y. C. L. and Y. P. S. L. members, and workers attracted by our street meetings, are being made continually.

—L. G.

Labor Fakers at Work

Roosevelt, General Johnson, the U. S. Steel and Lewis, Murray, and Co. of the United Mine Workers are united in a typical N. R. A. victory. The victims, as usual, are the workers, in this case the strikers at the Frick mines of the Steel Trust.

The mutual triumph of all parties concerned (except, of course, the workers) had been recorded by the signing of an agreement, promising "union conditions" in the captive mines, by Thomas Moses, for the Frick Coke Co. and by Philip Murray, vice-president of the UMWA. The business sneels to heaven with the hypocrisy of the labor fakery and with the ballyhoo of the NRA in operation.

What have the workers gotten in this settlement of the strike? A minimum wage for inmate miners in Pennsylvania of \$4.60 for an eight hour day. If the miracle happens of the miners getting five days a week of work and having no deductions from their wages made for powder, etc., they will get \$23. In the face of a dollar that is less than \$16. When the mine company is through making its deductions, the rest will be swallowed up by the rent for company houses and the robbery prices at the company stores, leaving the miners in their usual state of peonage, and debt to the company. And in the captive mines, where the workers have already fought through two bloody strikes, the union will not be recognized.

No Union Recognition

Although the New York Times calls it "recognition in everything but name" the operators of the captive mines have already indicated during the strike, that is now raging, that they had no intention of dealing with any union representatives. And they mean what they say. Thus the workers are left with conditions almost as before, with every assurance in the world that the bosses will brutally crush their union as soon as the strike is ended.

Some very significant statements have been made by General Johnson and Murray about the settlement. On Oct. 2nd Johnson came out with a statement that he had practically ordered the UMWA to accept the settlement. Already the cold steel, hidden behind the NRA ballyhoo, begins to show itself. We can be certain that General Johnson's order was a very real order. And did the bureaucrats of the Union protest? Far from it. Gracefully taking their cue, like the well trained capitalist flunkies they are, they obediently signed on the dotted line, and now are busy trying to break the strike.

Says Murray in calling the miners back to work:

"The President then said to me, 'Philip, I want you to get these men back to work.' I replied 'If there is anything in God's world that I can do for you, I will be glad to try.'" —N. Y. Times.

And while you were engaged in this loving conversation with the President, Mr. Murray, what about the workers on the picket lines of Pennsylvania and Kentucky? But Murray did think of them. Concerning the President's command he states: "Any union or union officials who refuse to obey their command will not live long." Thus Murray assumes his masters that the UMW A gangsters will be ready to help the bosses in killing off rebellious workers.

The Miners Are Fighting For A Union

And yet with all of this treachery among the leadership, the workers are fighting for their union, and their union is still the United Mine Workers. Although Martin Ryan, the Pennsylvania strike leader, asks when were Lewis and Murray on the picket lines, at the same time he calls upon the workers to get every mine under their union, the UMWA. The workers who are fighting in the mine fields are beginning to realize that the leadership is rotten with corruption.

The workers know that the "settlement" is a sell-out. They are still fighting. Martin Ryan calls upon them to continue the strike until the H. C. Frick Company recognizes the union and signs the code. And now if this revolt is not to be crushed as so many revolts have been in the past, there is the greatest need for a real, organized Left wing in the UMWA.

—PETER MORTON.

NEW SUPPLY OF "MY LIFE"

Pioneer Publishers has obtained an additional supply of "My Life" by Leon Trotsky, which it is offering at \$2.50 (publisher's price—\$5.00). It is also offering the German edition of "Fontamara", by I. Silone, a novel of Italian peasant rebellion against Fascism, highly praised by comrade Trotsky in a recent book review in the Militant—Price \$1.50.

YOUNGSTOWN MASS MEETING

ARNE SWABECK

on "THE N. R. A. and the WORKERS" CENTRAL AUDITORIUM 225 West Boardman St. TUESDAY, OCT. 17, 8 P. M. ADMISSION TEN CENTS Unemployed Free