

THE WORKERS' FRONT

N.Y. Optical Workers Out on Strike

Five hundred optical workers in New York City went on strike Oct. 23, 1933, under the guidance of the International Jewelry Workers' Union with which they are affiliating.

Organizational activities in both the metal frame and celluloid sections of the trade were begun the middle of August this year, neither section knowing of the activities of the other at the time.

Their demands are for the 1929 wage level which ranges from \$18 per week for glass fitters \$25 per week for sample makers with \$40 to \$50 for the majority of workers.

-GEO. J. SAUL.

Stalinist Unionism in Philadelphia

Philadelphia.—The T. U. U. L. has just completed two of their light-hearted adventures in trade unionism here in the northeast section of Philadelphia.

They were successful in organizing and taking out on strike for 6 weeks the Feltzer Rope Co., a shop with several hundred workers, and the Hellwig Silk Dyeing Co., a shop with over 400 workers.

When the so-called Independent Unions were starting to win over the workers on the basis that they could get them the same increases the N. T. W. was fighting for.

The organization of these two shops was loudly hailed by the T. U. U. L. as a vindication of their absurd policy of "new revolutionary unions" in this third period of post-war capitalism.

that the workers are ready for revolutionary unions. And the dead weight of the workers' undevelopment in the class struggle gives lie, time and again, to their absurd policies.

To sum up briefly the blunders of the N. T. W. U. on the Hellwig strike particularly: (1) Calling the strike adventuristically, after only a couple of weeks of organization with only about 150 to prior to going on strike.

Striking Cotton Pickers Murdered in Cold Blood

Deliberate cold-blooded murder is the description given by attorney A. L. Wirin of the Civil Liberties Union after a four-days' investigation of the shootings in the San Joaquin Valley, Calif., during the cotton pickers' strike.

Violence was carefully planned before the strike was called, according to attorney Wirin. Ranchers, anticipating trouble organized vigilante groups, "committees of protection," which had for their object the breaking of the threatened strike.

JUST RECEIVED! OCTOBER RUSSIAN BULLETIN OF THE RUSSIAN OPPOSITION has just arrived. It contains a very important article on THE CLASS NATURE OF THE SOVIET UNION.

Comrades out of town are asked to get in touch with bookstores and newsstands selling papers in the Russian language and see whether they can get them to sell the Bulletin. Please get in touch with comrade Spiegel. —R. S.

Swabek Tour Itinerary

Successful and rousing meetings have greeted comrade Arne Swabek on his national tour. Reports from Springfield, Staunton, Ill., St. Louis, Kansas City and Minneapolis will appear in subsequent issues of the Militant.

WORKS by TROTSKY

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Militant Builders

As we approach the close of the week twenty-two more went to swell our list. That is less than the week before.

Table with 3 columns: Name, City, Count. Includes S. Jourard (Toronto, 8), S. Hardy (Philadelphia, 7), M. Abern (Bronx, 6), etc.

In addition to the comrades listed above who have sent in two subs there are nine listed in previous reports.

DOUBLE THE RECORD In the time remaining we want to double the record made so far in the drive.

When our manager Stein gave his report and tried his best to show what wonders he and his gang are doing for the workers in one town after another.

CHICAGO Celebration of the 16th Anniversary of the Russian Revolution, Tuesday, November 7th, 8 P. M. at International Labor Center

"A Century of Progress"

The mental poison of the propaganda that the last 100 years has been a century of steady, visible improvement in the lot of humanity is paralleled only by the real poison that has killed workers in industry

"Miss Fryer, along with the other victims of the poisoning, was employed in the watch dial painting department, where many of the workers contracted the poisoning by painting luminous paint brushes with their tongues.

"Miss Fryer contracted the poison about fourteen years ago. However, until five years ago she was able to continue working, but she had to wear a brace on her back because the poison affected her bones...

"The manufacture of lucifer matches dates from 1833, from the discovery of the method of applying phosphorus to the match itself.

"The next day the 'Yellow Forward', which defends all labor racketeers came out with a three column headline 'Communists Break Up Pocketbook Workers Meeting.'

"Taken from 'Capital' by Karl Marx; Vol. I, pages 721 and 272.

An Open Letter to Browder: On Hooliganism

HOOIGANISM IN CHICAGO

To the Central Committee Communist Party of the U.S.A. Earl Browder, Secretary

Dear Sir: Last Sunday afternoon, October 22, I attended a meeting of the Left Opposition in their own headquarters, called under their own auspices, at which comrade Arne Swabek was scheduled to speak on Germany.

Militant Resentment Against Fakers in the Pocketbook Union

In October 14 issue of the Militant the writer gave an analysis about the present situation in the Pocketbook Makers Union.

A heated discussion on the \$10 tax followed. Rank and file speakers, one after another, attacked the administration. They showed that the administration is not doing anything to improve the conditions of the workers in New York and out of town.

The rank and file must concentrate all its energies on ousting the "Fraternal Club" administration.

"Five Cents a Bar..."

The next time you stop to buy a bar of Hershey's chocolate stop to think a minute about the Cuban workers slaving on Hershey's plantations, railroads and mills.

"The Hershey sugar refinery is the largest on the island (of Cuba) and is one of the most modern and best equipped in the world.

"The Hershey Cuban Railway is a modern public service line between the cities of Havana and Matanzas. It is electrified throughout.

BRONX OPEN FORUM FRIDAY, November 3rd: THE NEW YORK ELECTIONS - How Should the Workers Vote? Speaker: TOM STAMM

FRIDAY, November 10th: LYNCHINGS: The Problem of the Negro Worker. Speaker: GEORGE SAUL

movement all my life and have participated in many demonstrations, some of them bloody and brutal, but I have never felt that I was facing so vicious and irresponsible and anti-social a mob as the one which came last Sunday under the banner of the Communist party.

I wonder if you as a leader of the Communist Party realize all that such a thing means? A party which conducts itself in the manner of the most degraded section of the very lumpen-proletariat—plus from the decayed and degenerate body of a rotting social system—can neither win healthy elements to its ranks nor lead the revolution when the moment arrives; on the contrary, it must become a feeder of Fascist forces.

Is it too much for you and your party to learn that a meeting of workers, come together to hear anyone at all, must not under any circumstances be physically attacked

ed and broken up? Or is the anticipated by you can only hope to impress the American proletariat this way since you have so signally failed to impress them ideologically?

Several months ago, I severed my connection with the Communist party (after twelve years of membership) over occurrences in Germany. At that time I stated that the excuse offered by the C. I. that the German party was not rooted in the factories needed further explanation because a party can only be a really functioning Communist party when its composition is mainly of the working proletariat.

Sincerely, LYDIA BEIDEL.

Rousing Meeting Aids Drive to Organize Restaurant Workers

New York.—The Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, Branch of the Amalgamated Food Workers of America, has intensified its organization drive during the last two weeks.

As we reported in the Militant for October 21, the bosses are eager to defeat this drive by resorting to the well-known scabbing machinery—that is, the formation of a company union. Besides the Geneva Club, they have attempted, quite unsuccessfully, to line up through their agents, the chefs, the Vatel Club.

Our union immediately issued a leaflet to the International Cooks Association (German Cooks) informing its members what took place in the Vatel Club and warned them that a similar attempt will be made by their Executive Committee.

In view of these developments the Executive Board, the Organization Committee and the Officers of the Union are working in full speed in educating the members of the Union and activating them in order to bring to its ranks every worker employed in the Hotels.

For the benefit of those Hotel and Restaurant Workers who were unable to attend the three afternoon mass meetings the Union held an Evening Meeting last Friday, October 20th at Bryant Hall.

Due to lack of space we have been forced to withhold several important articles. One by Albert Giotzer on the "Two Internationals", a communication from comrade Harry Strang on the "Boycott of Hitler Germany," as well as a story by comrade Kogan of L. A. on Soviet diplomacy.

CHICAGO FORUM LECTURE: CONTEMPORARY REVOLUTIONARY IDEAS IN THE ORIENT AND OCCIDENT by Comrade B. W. Lichtman

International Labor Center 2557 West North Avenue Admission 10 Cents Unemployed Questions & Discussion

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League Activities

CANNON SPEAKS AT NEWARK

Newark.—On Thursday, Oct. 26, comrade Cannon spoke in Newark on the need for a new party and International.

Early in the day one of our comrades reported that party members were ordered to boycott our meeting. Comrade Cannon's talk was unusually well received and the numerous questions kept the alert and nice intact until 11:45.

STATEMENT ON THE UNITED FRONT ANTI-FASCIST DEMONSTRATION

At a time when Fascism is commencing its brazen recruiting campaign in America, when the degenerate elements of a capitalist system torn by four years of crisis talk of instituting here the same bloody regime that has conquered Italy and in Germany, it is extremely urgent that every working class organization learn the importance of participating in force in every single anti-Fascist action or demonstration.

The sabotage of the official Communist party must be vigorously denounced. It is in line with the Stalinist tactic of ignoring any working class action not under its direct and immediate control.

The Socialist party follows its usual conduct of avoiding any militant intervention in this or any other phase of the class struggle.

We cannot over-emphasize the gravity of the situation unfolding in the C. S. It has every potentiality of danger for the working class in the rise of Fascism.

—New York City Committee Communist League of America (Left Opposition).

YOUNG SPARTACUS SUB DRIVE

The subscription campaign for the YOUNG SPARTACUS is on! Our goal is the doubling of our subscription list.

The YOUNG SPARTACUS has proven to be our best organizer. We must save the paper so that we can go ahead with our work. The paper was unable to appear regularly and this was a great shortcoming in our work.

YOUNG SPARTACUS lays down the challenge to the Spartacus Youth Clubs. It is up to you! You can decide whether we are going to expand our paper or not.