

# LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

## Hundreds Hear Mac-Donald at Toronto

Toronto.—With over 700 workers in attendance at the Labor Temple last Sunday, Jack Macdonald spoke on "The Need for a Fourth International". The meeting was composed of a large section of Left wing socialist workers, about 250 Party adherents and sympathizers and a number of I. W. W. members.

The speaker pointed out the international significance of capitalism and showed how the greedy parasitic hand of capital must of necessity expand beyond its own national frontiers. This led up to the famous Stalinist revisionist theory of "socialism in one country". Comrade Macdonald here stated it was the opinion of many workers that this was purely an academic question. He shattered this opinion in the minds of many by showing the significance of this theory in practice. He quoted from Stalin and Lenin to show wherein the difference lay. He pointed out that from this theory came the diplomatic gestures that now leads to confusion and would inevitably lead to disillusion. He challenged the Stalinist to show wherein the Internationalist character of the present Party lies.

In comparing the Red Army at the present time and the Red Army of 1923 he stressed the fact that in 1923 it was an international Army that at the present time it had degenerated to a national army. He showed that in 1923 the Red Army was mobilized for the assistance of the German proletariat in case a revolution broke out. This was contrasted with the present policy when not a single word came from the leader of the C. I., for 18 months prior to Hitler's seizure of power.

No word came from the Kremlin through official sources but it was left to a bourgeois correspondent, Walter Duranty, to make a comment in the N. Y. Times that Moscow hails with unconscious the growth of the revolutionary proletariat in Germany. Comment on this was unnecessary. Not only was the Red Army not mobilized for the defense of the German working class but not a single demonstration to protest against Fascism has taken place in the Soviet Union since the day Hitler took power. It is perfectly alright for the workers in capitalist countries to protest against Fascism but in the name of diplomacy this must not be done in the Soviet Union. These are not only the works of Stalinist spokesmen but also the deeds.

At this justice comrade Macdonald quoted from Litvinov's speeches against the Soviet diplomat continually assures capitalist countries that under no conditions will the Soviet Union intervene in foreign affairs. He then ended up with stirring appeal to all revolutionary workers to study the problems honestly and objectively and emphatically stressed the need for a Fourth International based on the teachings of Marx, Engels and Lenin.

In the discussion that ensued a few party adherents attempt to pin comrade Macdonald's reference to the Red Army as meaning that the Red Army should have walked into Germany before and as Hitler took power. This speaker in reply stated that this was not so; that the question of intervention is decided by objective conditions and that in case of Germany he blamed the Party for refusing a genuine Leninist united front with reformist organizations and so building up a solid front against Fascism; that since the proletariat in Germany did not fight it would have been both futile and adventurist to do so under such conditions but that in spite of this, the Red Army should have been mobilized to offer every possible assistance in case civil war had broken out. Many other questions were asked which had no direct bearing on the topic but which were nevertheless answered.

That the meeting from our point of view was successful was proven when many workers expressed themselves favorably after the meeting.

—P. S.—

## Minneapolis Branch in Action

Minneapolis.—The renewed activity of the American Labor movement is also quite well reflected in Minneapolis. Hundreds of workers have joined the various A. F. of L. local unions and a vigorous campaign of organization is still in progress. Unions that were formerly dormant, and in some cases practically non-existent, have suddenly sprung to life and already occupy a commanding position in the local labor movement. I speak specifically of such unions as the Upholsterers and the General Drivers. The former at the present time is conducting an effective city-wide strike and the latter is putting on an organizational drive that has practically quadrupled its membership in the last 8 or 10 weeks. All local unions are reporting substantial gains with the exception of the building trades. Due to the low ebb of the building industry the basis for organizing these workers into bona fide trade unions has been narrowed down almost to the vanishing point.

The Minneapolis branch has not been slow to take advantage of this revival in the labor movement. Several of our comrades have been

successful in getting into the various A. F. of L. unions and in several instances are already playing leading roles. In fact it can be said that almost the entire activity of the branch is devoted to mass work at the present time.

In addition to the trade union work several comrades are engaged in unemployed activity. Working with a group of trade unionists and unemployed some of our comrades were instrumental in setting up the Councils for United Labor Action, an organization for the unemployed. As a result of working in this organization two League members were invited to join the Volunteer Committee for the Reorganization of Minneapolis Public Relief; a committee composed of professional men, Socialists, Farmer-Labor figures, co-operators and liberals of various shades. At the first meeting of the committee which our members attended, an elaborate plan of decentralizing Minneapolis public relief had already been worked out. The plan was ideal, everybody agreed, but when one of our comrades raised the question on how the committee proposed to put this plan into effect it revealed only the haziest ideas on the matter.

It remained for our comrades to propose the calling of a representative conference to be composed of delegates from the trade unions, and the entire labor movement if possible, to sponsor a program of action to organize the unemployed and by this method get, not only decentralization of relief, but other demands of the unemployed such as unemployment insurance, stoppage of forced labor, etc. This idea was finally adopted. A call was drawn up and signed by fifteen or eighteen prominent individuals; labor leaders, co-operators, liberals, etc. Through considerable work on the part of the League comrades on the committee the call has been sent out to about 150 organizations for a conference to be held at the headquarters of the Central Labor Union, Sunday, October 29, at 1:30 P. M. Through our special efforts, all working class organizations; political, economic, fraternal, cooperative and unemployed are being invited.

But the crowning achievement of our whole work in the Volunteer Committee is the fact that the committee picked one of our leading comrades to make the 30-minute "Report on Unemployment Conditions" to the conference. He is also to submit some well formulated resolutions on the organization of the unemployed in the name of the Volunteer Committee.

There will be more about this conference in a subsequent issue of the Militant.

In spite of the mass activity that the Minneapolis comrades are involved in at the present time, we are still able to carry on considerable League activity. The membership of the branch has been divided into two teams in order to whip up a spirit of rivalry in the present Militant sub drive. This tactic has been applied before in the Minneapolis branch with good results so we are trying it again.

—Cee-Kay—

## 300 at Montreal Rally

Montreal.—The Left Opposition is becoming a factor to be reckoned with in the class conscious labor movement of Montreal in the I. L. G. W. U., at the anti-Fascist conference, on the issue of Joe Derry and the possible illegalization of the Young Communist League, the L. O. is making its influence felt. The Stalinists are especially frantic because of its honest and clear Marxist position at the anti-Fascist Conference, the L. O. is getting a foothold in Verdun, which has the only militant unemployed organization in Montreal.

Instead of producing ideological arguments, the bankrupt Stalinist bureaucrats do not merely, without further ado, declare the Left Opposition counter-revolutionary because it dares to reveal them as the organizers of the greatest defeats, but with irresponsible and outrageous shamelessness they spread the downright lie that the L. O. is consciously working hand in hand with the police.

Max Shachtman, member of the National Committee of the Communist League of America (Opposition) and of the editorial board of the Militant, setting out on a tour to Montreal, Toronto, Boston to speak on the 16th Anniversary of the Russian Revolution was arrested at the Canadian border and deported to New York. The Left Opposition in Montreal was formed to replace comrade Shachtman by comrade W. Krehm as speaker.

The meeting was patrolled by the Red Squad and everything said was recorded by a police stenographer. The Stalinists attempted to break up the meeting and succeeded only in getting the police on the spot, who were probably called in by the detectives. The measures obviously taken by the authorities against the Left Opposition as a militant workers organization, did not prevent the inspired "socialists in one country" from hurling the contemptible accusation that the L. O. had called in the police to the great indignation of the audience (some 300).

Stalinist hooliganism reveals itself.

**BROOKLYN MEETING**  
Diego Rivera will speak on "REVOLUTIONARY ART AND NATIONAL MINORITIES" at MILITANT HALL, November 25th, 8 P. M., 154 Watkins St.

self time and again as conducive to police interference in workers meetings. Hooliganism is an aid to the activities of the police against the class-conscious workers. Only their bankruptcy forces the miserable Stalinist bureaucrats to resort not merely to misrepresentation of the theoretical position of the L. O. but to the combined method of attempting to break up its meetings and hurling the vilest and most despicable slander.

At the same meeting the stupid Stalinist denial of non-party class organizations of the workers was openly proclaimed. The Canadian Labor Defense League, declared its district secretary, believes in freedom for "working class propaganda but not for counter-revolutionary Trotskyist propaganda".

To comrade Krehm's analysis of the collapse of the Communist International, through internal bankruptcy and as a result of the reactionary and utopian theory of "socialism in one country" foisted upon it, in lieu of the perspective of the world revolution, by the petty bourgeois bureaucracy in the Soviet Union; to his incontestable contention that the German catastrophe marked the necessity for the creation of a new (Fourth) International as the only guarantee for the preservation of the workers fatherland, now in the most precarious position, the Stalinist spokesmen could only reply with abuse and with the gratuitous and absurd assertion that the Communist International are now stronger than ever.

The advanced workers of Montreal are learning to see these unscrupulous and impotent "leaders" in their true colors. —J. G.

## Swaback Meetings in K. C. Successful

Kansas City.—Arne Swaback's three day visit to Kansas City—October 29, 30, 31—showed the rapid strides the branch has made under the banner of the Communist League of America (Opposition).

The address of comrade Swaback—"The Roosevelt Program, the NRA and the Need for a New Communist Party", was enthusiastically received by a crowd of a hundred workers who attended his lecture, Sunday, October 29th.

Swaback pointed out to the audience that the ballyhoo of the liberal messiah, Roosevelt, and his quasi-Fascist assistant, Johnson, meant nothing but added misery for the American proletariat. The efforts of the "middle-of-the-road" scoundrels, the "Brain Trust", to prove that capitalism can plan will end in nothing but privation and loss of the worker's rights—if their conniving efforts are not halted by a genuine united front of the workers.

The speaker also showed the hopelessness and blundering of the bureaucratic C. P. under the present favorable conditions resulting from their theories of "social Fascism" and "socialism in one country".

The need for a new Communist International, a live and fighting one, and not the one buried in the Moscow archives, was clearly pointed out to the worker-audience as the next forward step of the world proletariat.

And to prove to our comrades that the workers in this part of the world are fired with the idea of a new party—the collection at the conclusion of the meeting was the largest ever received by the K. C. branch at any of its public meetings.

The meeting the next night for members of the branch and class sympathizers only rivaled our public gathering. Aside from laying the basis for the new Militant drive, a substantial amount of contributions and pledges were made. The branch feels sure it will meet its quota in the expansion and either win the Militant sub-drive or give the winner one hell of a battle.

The last day of comrade Swaback's stay was occupied in renewing old contacts and solidifying the position of the League among its many friends and sympathizers—an urgent need since the Stalinists, like the proverbial Arabs, folded their tents and stole away silently to the oasis of Omaha. —A. C.

## Mass Turnout to Hear Cannon at Toronto

Toronto.—On Nov. 3rd a gathering of more than 900 Toronto workers heard comrade J. P. Cannon deliver a stirring address on "The Sixteenth Anniversary of the October Revolution and the Fourth International". The notices announcing the lecture had informed the Toronto workers that comrade Shachtman would speak but the Canadian immigration officials, who apparently, do not feed on Stalinist tripe, would not believe that he was a counter-revolutionary and warned him to keep out of Canada. Comrade Cannon came in his stead in order not to disappoint the Toronto workers—and they were not disappointed. Comrade Cannon spoke a second time on Sunday, Nov. 5, at the Labor Temple on the subject of "The World Crisis and the Labor Movement." Both meetings were highly successful from a political and propaganda point of view and marked a further advance of the Left Opposition in Toronto.

**READ AND SUBSCRIBE TO THE MILITANT**

# Militant Builders

Thirty-three subs last week! That brings the total up to a hundred and thirty-five. That is something, but very far from the possibilities that are presented by the reduced prices of the Militant.

One reason for the slow pace is the fact that our comrades have delayed organizing their participation. The New York units, the Kansas City Branch and others have only now begun to swing into line in a drive to get subs. That means that the results they get will show up only after the drive closes. We will report these results as they come in. But they will not count in the race.

**The Youngstown Branch**  
It seems that we blundered badly in the question of the Youngstown Branch and the sub drive. They

said some time ago that they want the subs sent in from them credited to the branch and not to individuals—except in special campaigns like the present one; in which case they want the individuals credited. Our mistake lay in overlooking the proviso.

The branch has sent us a detailed list of the subs sent in since the beginning of the drive and the comrades who sent them in. According to the list one comrade accounted for all of them. Since the list is large he appears at the head of the list below.

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| L. Goodman           | Philadelphia 3  |
| J. Carter            | Brooklyn 3      |
| W. Konikow           | Boston 3        |
| C. Shechet           | Boston 3        |
| <b>The Standing:</b> |                 |
| M. Koehler           | Youngstown 27   |
| S. Hardy             | Philadelphia 13 |
| S. Jourard           | Toronto 8       |
| A. Kaplan            | Kansas City 7   |
| M. Abern             | Bronx 6         |
| N. Satir             | Chicago 6       |
| V. R. Dunne          | Minneapolis 6   |
| C. Hedlund           | Minneapolis 4   |
| J. Ruby              | Chicago 6       |
| M. Krupka            | Pittsburgh 3    |
| J. Ruby              | Chicago 3       |

## Philadelphia League Members Repel Stalinist Hooligan Assault

Philadelphia.—The scourge of hooliganism received another setback as the Party and Y. C. L. leaders: Mills and Hathaway called for the Philadelphia Police force to bar the Left Opposition from the 16th Anniversary celebration of the Russian Revolution at the Broadway Arena on Tuesday night.

Precipitating a gangster attack upon comrades of the Left Opposition engaged in the distribution of leaflets calling upon the workers for a protest meeting in the defense of Antonio Bellussi, this reprisal comes, as another in the series of crimes perpetrated by Stalinist hooliganism.

Last week, after a few of our comrades had participated in a United Front anti-Fascist demonstration, Mills the district organizer made a malicious attack upon the Left Opposition and incited a lynch spirit among the Stalinists gathered after the demonstration in a hall at 1208 Tasker St. He instructed the party and Y. C. L. members to attack the Trotskyites and beat them up.

Tuesday Night we were prepared to defend ourselves and our democratic rights as workers to distribute our leaflets and to sell the Militant, despite the repeated attacks and threats of the organized hoodlums.

At one side of the entrance comrade Tom Holmes boldly displayed the Militant and proceeded to sell a few copies. At the other side of the entrance comrade Grant, recently expelled from the Y. C. L. was distributing the Bellussi defense leaflets.

The tools of the petty bureaucrats began to flutter about and cackle like hens.

They saw we were in a group and prepared to defend ourselves. For the first half hour we were unmolested as several abortive attempts by individual hoodlums were made to break through our ranks.

"Separate them and beat them up individually", was the first order sent out.

One of the well known bureaucrats, not seeming to realize Grant had been expelled for Trotskyism saw him with a group of our comrades and mistook them for Y. C. L.ers.

"Don't you know what Mills said," he directed them. "When you see these Trotskyites knock them on their ear." Just then Goodman stepped forward. He walked away hastily.

Mills, the party organizer was seen reading one of our leaflets. He gave the signal for attack and walked inside of the hall.

Roselle and Miller approached comrade Thomas who was also distributing leaflets. Thomas gave him a leaflet. He tore it up. He snatched at a few more Thomas has in his hand.

"Is that all of them," he asked. Thomas ignored him. "Keep distributing the leaflets," he told the other comrades. The comrades continued with the distribution of the Bellussi leaflets.

"British Communist, Thomas Mann, speaks for the defense of Chinese Trotskyite. Read all about it in the Militant." Holmes was selling his papers.

"Beat up the Trotskyites," the petty bureaucrats shouted as they jumped at our comrades.

The hooligans jumped the comrades with the leaflets. Holmes was selling the Militant. Comrade Roberts and a few others went to the aid of the comrades with the leaflets. The I. L. D. had repeatedly called Bellussi meetings which did not materialize. Now the party and the Y. C. L. was paying the same sabotaging role attempting to stop the distribution of leaflets calling for such a meeting.

Bellussi was a Trotskyite sympathizer!

Our comrades fought back hard giving blow for blow. For a few minutes the struggle was fast and furious.

"Read the Militant", Comrade Holmes was still selling our organ. "Why is the creation of a Fourth International the best defense of the Russian Revolution!"

Roselle and Miller the same bureaucrats who provoked the fight now suddenly became ardent pacifists. They did not want the workers to

see the manner in which they treated workers of other political organizations.

It was past nine o'clock and we called our comrades together and decided to enter the meeting. Bender was at the door. He told Goodman and Thomas he would not permit us to enter the meeting.

In order not to be accused of breaking up their meeting we sent another committee to talk with Bender. While this was going on Mills and Hathaway had entered the managers office and used the phone.

Our committee came back and reported. We had been refused admission. We decided to remain outside until the close of the meeting. While Bender was regarding us with a cynical stare, up drove the Philadelphia Police patrol with a squad of cops.

At first our comrades could scarcely believe this was possible. But after the bluecoats walked over to the entrance and were directed at us there was no other conclusion possible. The cops ordered us from the scene.

Insurgent Yipsels and other workers who was what was being perpetrated by the Stalinist bureaucrats showed what they thought of such conduct by actively participating on our side.

At the present moment we call on these elements and all workers organizations for a united front to protect the democratic rights of free speech in the labor movement.

—MEYER HIRSH.

# FROM THE MILITANTS

## A New Method of Expulsion

New York.—Every C. P. member knows that there is bureaucracy "in the party", and it must be admitted that if this bureaucracy does not grow beyond certain limits it can be a basis only for criticism but not opposition. But every few party members are conscious of the fact that there exists a bureaucracy "over the party" which considers itself beyond criticism.

The Upholsterers section of the Furniture Workers Industrial Union, of which I am a member, contains within it the former Left wing of local 76, A. F. of L. Towards the latter part of July local 76 called a mass meeting of all the upholsterers. It was rumored that this meeting would call a general strike of the upholsterers for the next morning but no one was certain.

On the same night of this mass meeting the C. P. leadership of the Industrial Union called together its party fraction and a few who were close to the party for a meeting. This meeting opened by baptizing those present as the "strike committee of the union" which began to lay plans for a general strike of its own about two weeks later.

During the discussion a party member who has since dropped out asked about the possibility of a joint strike of the framemakers and the upholsterers. The framemakers were then, as now, controlled by the Industrial Union. The reply was, that if Mr. Thiez, the business agent of local 76 A. F. of L. would sign an agreement with the Industrial Union to keep the upholsterers out on strike in sympathy with the framemakers then the Industrial Union would keep the framemakers out in sympathy with the upholsterers. I argued his point further saying that the unity of a strike is not a matter to be left to Mr. Thiez and I was so evident in effect: that nothing else could or would be done about it. Unconsciously the C. P. leadership was admitting that the upholsterers would overwhelmingly follow local 76 A. F. of L. in the strike. Yet when I made a motion to elect a committee to go to local 76 for the forming of a united front, the motion wasn't even ascended.

The policy which was to be carried out, as expressed by comrades Pizer and Hirsch, was so evident that no one dared to second my motion. (Since this time Hirsch has quit the leadership of the union and is now a foreman in a shop.) We then received information by phone that the meeting of local 76 was discussing the general strike for the next morning with demands of \$1.40 an hour and a thirty hour week and that it was a certainty the membership would accept them.

The C. P. leadership had been caught unawares. It also was now forced to call their strike for the next morning without consulting their membership.

It was decided to call the strike for 10 A. M. the next morning in order to give themselves two hours time in which to collect the strike tax passed upon at a previous membership meeting. Then they proceeded to pick the full-time workers for the conducting of the strike. When I reminded them that they had forgotten to formulate their demands, they adopted demands of \$1.00 per hour and a thirty-five hour week in the slack time and a forty hour week in the "season" which was considerably lower than those of the A. F. of L. My objection to this was not supported. A recess was called and I was not allowed to remain when the meeting was resumed. I was informed that there would be charges against me but I was not informed of the nature of the charges.

Since then I was not allowed to attend fraction meetings. After a long delay I was finally called to the District Discipline Commission of the C. P. The hearing was postponed and when I demanded to know what the nature of the charges were I was told that at present there were no charges. After another delay I again was called to the District D. C. and the hearing was held.

I was charged with giving information to the "Trotsky faction", breaking up the Tremont Workers Club a year ago where I worked with the party fraction of the club in fighting a financially corrupt opposition and that later when I applied for membership in the C. P. there was a charge of "Trotskyism" against my application of which I knew nothing about. Upon questioning I admitted my disagreement with the party on the trade union question and that I thought it was ridiculous to speak of Trotsky as a "counter-revolutionist". I denied everything else. The makers of the charges were not present at the hearing. No decision was reached, however, and I was told that I would be informed of a decision in about two or three weeks.

Months have passed and I have not yet been informed of any decision and I have not been allowed to attend either fraction meetings or party unit meetings. Neither my fraction nor my party unit was allowed to take up my case in my presence where I might defend myself.

The policy of the Stalinists, as carried out in my union, the bureaucratic handling of my case, the defeat of the C. P. in Germany, and the fact that no congress of the Third International has been called in almost six years proves to me that I belong in the Left Opposition where I can express my opinion without charges being made against me.

—ARTHUR BRANDMARK.

Something that crowned the glory of his whole demagog. Said he: "...the Union conditions will be forced on whole industry, if necessary." "If necessary!" That reminds us of the br-r-rave general who, lacking both guns and ammunition, ordered a furious beating of drums to scare the enemy and hearten his followers. It is laughable especially when one notices how the "enemy"—the master-painter, the independent and the cockroach—does not put his tail between the legs and hike, and how some of the "brothers" do cheer the br-r-rave Phil. "Atta boy Phil! Tell it to 'em." The poor simps, who paid or were forced to pay \$3 and extra for admission, actually believed they were going to get something.

"If necessary!" What deliberate and calculated mockery. There never was a time when it was not necessary. Phil "threatens" "by force" "if necessary" to unionize the whole industry. In time when Local Secretaries are encouraging painters to work for \$5-\$6 a day instead of \$9 scale, in order to get that 50c a day tax, of which more than \$3,000 runs daily into the Union treasury at present. How the spirit of 1933 unconceal reverberates in those imitation-artillery drum beats!

And Phil standing heroically erect at the honor table, faces the enemy, some of whom are sitting right at the tables in front of him, and wig-wag his approval and congratulations in his noisy and harmless bluff. And Phil, in reply, with his back to his "brothers", solemnly winks the other eye.

Will the industry ever be sufficiently organized, to dictate terms to the bosses?

Yes, when "necessary"—which is to say, when painters and all other workers in other industries compel it to be done whether the Zauserns think it "necessary" or not.

## Canned Comedy at the Painters' Banquet

"In honor of Philip Zauser, and further—to celebrate the Rebirth of the Brotherhood of Painters!"

The affair took place Saturday, Oct. 28 at Beethoven Hall, as advertised, with the exception of the starting time, which was changed from 8 to 11 P. M., due to the arrival of the celebrities. At four in the morning it was still in full swing.

The gathering was one huge conglomeration of painters who still had paint-spots behind their ears from previous days toil, of labor leaders in dashing tuxedos and black low-ties, and their ladies in gorgeous evening gowns and sparkling jewelry. It was one great melange of baggard faces and dirty fingernails, of hates and disappointments and hopes and aspirations, of booze, beer and perfumed cigarettes.

Shortly after the "soup" and the "Star Spangled Banner", the speech-making monstrosities began. The orge of inordinate feeding instantly succeeded by an orge of inordinate monologues. First came the string of clever labor-leutenants and invited guest politicians, who delivered themselves of much clever talk of complicated nature, of learned disputations. But the practical painters, who composed a good half of the crowd of almost one thousand present, did not seem to like them. At times this disapproval manifested itself in that impromptu musical performance of barbaric nature, as is produced by spoons and chinaware. If the painters were seeking amusement, well and good. Unhappily, they were seeking truth. The speakers all claimed to deal in painters welfare, but they found that they could not stop contradicting one another long enough to satisfy the workers. So they all took to general appraisal and clarification of Mr. Zauser himself, as a solace, and, having a sense of humor, tried to shock the congregation present into believing they had taken to drink. It was all canned comedy that passed for wit and reason.

Superior mortals, these labor-fakers! Near superman! They don't consider themselves part of the working class—and they are not, if we mean by that the producing class. They are merely funkies, lackeys and valets of their superiors. And what's a valet to "produce" besides a well-groomed master!

Zauser is the greatest leader in the country. Long live Zauser! shouted somebody. The poor simp

actually imagined he had said something in that borrowed bon-mot. The silence which ensued was broken by the a-propos remark of another near-gentleman, who piped "He is doing his best..."

"Zauser is a crook", somebody yelled with the top of his voice. Bang . . . whizz . . . boom . . . boom . . . General Bedlam: men rushed towards the centre of the trouble: bare-backed ladies stood on the chairs. "What is it?" "Who are the Communists?" "Who wants to fight?"

It took several minutes before order was restored. A little later two men with blood streaming down their foreheads were led down the stairs. The orchestra started "East side—West side..." Those nearest to the stage and furthest from fight were emotionally following the tune by singing and swaying.

As time went on, it became evident that the crowd really wanted to hear their leader. Zauser's mug-face on the Menu-card wasn't enough for them. They wanted to hear what he's going to say. It has been a poor season, and thousands of painters had spent the peak of it in the picket lines. What have been the results of the strike so far? How much strength has the Union gained during this organizational drive? What about "after season"? etc.

Finally the dignified gentleman was introduced. He rose, threw his cigarette aside and unfolded his prepared speech. Many workers in far corners of the hall stared at his direction, humbly, hopefully, expecting any moment to hear something worth-while from the lips of the great leader. It was noticeable that the average, frail, vanity-filled worker was tremendously impressed by the commanding personality of the secretary-treasurer, and he waited like a blind fledgling for something to be dropped his mouth.

But nothing happened. The same old demagoguery with which all class-conscious workers are familiar. He started with that great American delusion, the NRA and its benefits to the painters. Working upon the susceptibility of crowd-psychology, he even used, at times, some very radical phrases. But nothing concrete, nothing definite slipped from his lips that would benefit the worker. As for example of exempting the members of excessive dues-payment during the unemployment, of dividing of available work more equally amongst the members, of proposing an insurance system during the slack months, etc., not a word.

Yet—finally he said something!

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