

REVIEWING THE NEWS

The C. P. Convention Judging by reports in the "Daily Worker", ovations and the singing of the International was the main purpose of the C. P. convention.

Convention Highlights (Extracts from the Daily Worker's report of the Convention) "When we make mistakes let them be new ones."—A Delegate

"I don't know whether I have a parliamentary deviation or not, but I really have an ambition to go to Congress. I think we can find five or six who ought to be convinced of the necessity of making a really serious election campaign."—E. Browder.

Horse Thieves and Politicians Assemblyman Lawrence M. Hamilton, nephew of J. P. Morgan, denied last week that the legislators at Albany were "horse thieves".

LaGuardia—S. P.—C.P. Thanks to the leadership of the S. P. and C. P. the working class of New York is shown the edifying spectacle of the mayor being called in to settle disputes between these two "revolutionary" parties on the question of the use of Union Square on May Day.

Suicide "The problem of unemployment, the constant anguish of increasing poverty, the losing struggle to keep a home for his children ended today for Richard Fairservice. He had lost his job, his money, and saw his two children sent to live with relatives. Today he was handed an eviction order—He stretched himself on the floor and fired a bullet through his brain"—N. Y. Evening Post, April 3.

Another one in the endless stream of suicides, workers driven to despair by the insane capitalist system. Is it not about time that "the problem of unemployment, the constant anguish of increasing poverty, the losing struggle to keep a home for his children" be ended for us all? Not by stretching out on the floor and firing bullets into our own brains but by standing up on our feet and collectively blowing out what passes for brains in the insane head of rotting capitalism.

SEND A DOLLAR FOR FOUR PREPAID SIX-MONTHS SUB CARDS ON THE CLUB PLAN.

Letters to the Editor

The Furriers Again

To the Editor of the Militant: The majority of fur workers loathe the International not only because its leadership is (or was) corrupt, stupid and ineffectual, but because the Union was FORCED UPON THEM BY THE BOSSES.

Today, for the sake of argument, I'll grant Koenig that the leadership is more honest, but this does not negate the fact that once again the council had to depend on an agreement with the Association to FORCE workers into joining it.

The question, then, centers down to this: Should the Communist League be a party to herding workers into a union they correctly regard a bosses' agency? To do so, I think, would be a fallacy, for any group which proposes such a step, will be viewed with suspicion by the more class-conscious elements among the furriers.

With this premise, I think all factions, including the Party, will agree. Speaking of the Party, it is possible that from the current Cleveland convention, such an orientation will be more clearly developed. In that event, the troublesome situation among the furriers will be cleared up instantly.

Expulsion from I.L.D. To the Editor of the Militant: Following is a report on the expulsion of Sam Silvers from the Newark I. L. D.

Sam Silvers, one of the two I.L.D. delegates to the Newark branch of the League Against War and Fascism, was expelled from the I.L.D. for demanding that the party substantiate the false charges on which it excluded the Communist League of America from the L. A. W. & F.

At the first Executive Committee meeting of the League Against War following the exclusion of the Communist League, Silvers and others raised the demand that the party introduce evidence to support its charges. This demand was carried and referred to the next Executive Committee meeting.

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in the party's ranks spread Silvers was immediately withdrawn from the League and brought up on expulsion charges. The charges claimed that he had misrepresented the I. L. D.; supported an anti-Soviet group; sent a report to an enemy and used the I. L. D. to support an enemy's plans. Silvers in his defense pointed out that the party had been unable to substantiate its charges; that as an I.L.D. delegate he had every right to protest against injustice to another working class organization, and that the I.L.D. had no right to expel him for opposing a charge so false that even one party member on the League's Executive Committee had voted against the expulsion attempt and continued his opposition until the motion to refer to the credentials committee was passed.

A new member of the I.L.D. stood up and stated that when he had joined he understood that the I.L.D. was a non-partisan organization. The vote to expel Silvers soon convinced him that he was mistaken.

—NEWARK WORKER.

Los Angeles Milliners

To the Editor of the Militant: In their sectarian antics the Stalinists do not consider the interests of the workers.

Altho several hundred workers belong to the local of the International Millinery Workers Union, Local 48, the policy of the Stalinists has steadfastly been to estrange and isolate the handful of active unionists at their command from the workers of the International by maintaining the Millinery Branch of the N.T.W.I.U. in a sectarian form.

The criminal results of this policy came out most clearly in the one day general strike called by the International Millinery Workers Union, Tuesday, March 21, 1934. Instead of furnishing leadership to the workers on strike the members of the Stalinist union were in many cases excluded from shop-meetings of the strikers.

In the pen shop town of Los Angeles the conciliatory policy of Zartitsky did not arouse any enthusiasm among the bosses until several hundred workers walked out on a one day strike.

Disruptionist Policy The disruptionist policy engineered by Miller of the N.T.W.I.U. weakened the strike. The dragging of workers to the Industrial Union hall instead of strengthening the picket lines was the result of Miller's directives. Most of these workers joined the International and turned against the Industrial Union.

The settlement registers a slight gain for the workers that can be greatly improved upon by the workers in the shop if they will take a stand to enforce the provisions of the Agreement, which include: Equal division of work; Recognition of the shop committees, raises of from one to four dollars and

—JACKINSON.

Pledge Fund

AND MAIL TO US AT ONCE. NEW PLEDGERS

Contributions to the Pledge Fund came from B. Weisbroth, Coney Island, One Dollar; from Jos. Keller, Cleveland, Ohio, Five Dollars. D. L. of Bay Ridge, L. I. pledges 25c weekly.

G. Holly of Newark, N. J., pledges 50c weekly. J. W. of Manhattan, pledges \$1.00 weekly.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

- Brooklyn 1. Paul King \$.25 weekly 2. Subway Worker 1.00 monthly Manhattan 3. G. Wright .50 weekly 4. E. Konikow .25 weekly 5. M. Beardsle 1.00 weekly 6. F. Victor .50 weekly 7. J. Weber .50 weekly 8. S. Gordon .50 weekly 9. M. Kling .50 monthly 10. S. Bleeker .50 monthly 11. A. Kujawsky .10 weekly 12. M. Spithos .25 weekly 13. A. Tamas .25 weekly Harlem 14. Cochran .10 weekly 15. Beecher .10 weekly 16. Clay .10 weekly 17. Marsh .25 weekly 18. T. Smith .50 weekly 19. A. Teacher 1.00 weekly (paid in advance for 16 weeks) Bronx 20. A. Brandmarck .25 weekly 21. G. Saul .10 weekly 22. B. Ramloff .10 weekly 23. M. M. 1.00 weekly 24. S. Egstadt .25 weekly 25. I. Dryer .25 weekly 26. M. Lipsbitz .25 weekly 27. P. Shulman .50 weekly 28. E. Sher 1.00 monthly Boston 29. J. Chiplovitz .50 weekly 30. W. Henderson .50 weekly 31. C. Schechet .50 weekly 32. E. Wiener .50 weekly Newark 33. G. Kots .25 weekly 34. Nagy .15 weekly

MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION OR PLEDGE TO-DAY. SIGN THE BLANK BELOW

WAR AND THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL The First of a New Series of Lectures on the International Program with Special Reference to America By James P. Cannon At IRVING PLAZA HALL 15th Street and Irving Place SUNDAY, APRIL 22nd at 8 P.M. ADMISSION 15 CENTS QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION Other lectures to follow on successive Sundays: Fascism; the Trade Union Question; the United Front.

no black-list. These provisions will only be strictly enforced in those shops where there are a sufficient number of the union members to enforce them. —SAMUEL MEYERS

A Pacifist Morass

New Haven.—The New Haven League Against War and Fascism held an anti-war meeting on April 6th in Central Parish Church. This meeting, together with the entire program of the "anti-war" week, was endorsed by various ministers and rabbis of the town.

The usual Stalinist argument for the League is that it gives the Communist Party a chance to present the revolutionary program before a larger audience to the discredit of the pacifist program. Such an argument, however, would never suffice to justify this meeting as no "Communist" speaker was allowed to present his position.

The chairman, B. P. Murphy, a divinity student at Yale, opened the meeting and introduced the main speaker, Dr. Mendenhall of Columbia University. The latter gave a plea for anti-war activity, intimated that wars were caused by armaments manufacturers, and asserted that we could prevent war if we followed the program of the League. The concluding speaker, M. Sapir, chairman of the New Haven League, and a Stalinist supporter, reiterated the last remark. In short, the meeting was entirely a pacifist one.

In the question period, originally scheduled to be a discussion period, Murphy ordered a young worker to sit down because the latter had expressed disagreement with the tenor of the meeting and had said "what we need is a revolution." The audience, mostly Stalinists, did not protest the chairman's peremptory action.

A member of the Communist League then arose and asked Mendenhall if he thought that war could be prevented without the overthrowing of capitalism, the breeder of wars; and if capitalism could be overthrown by any other means than by a civil war. Refusing to give a direct answer, the speaker returned the questions and asked what our comrade thought. The latter answered his own questions in the negative and said that the spreading of the idea that war can be prevented without the ending of capitalism was harmful to the workers and should be condemned.

A C. P. war vet then stood up and urged that we take the capitalists' bullets and use them against them. Evidently he doesn't know the new Party line. He will probably be reprimanded for his tactlessness in embarrassing the C. P.'s new pacifist allies. After this, the chairman, red in the face, hastily adjourned the meeting.

The pacifist talk of the meeting which only served to confuse the class-conscious workers, was made all the more ridiculous by the fact that there were scarcely two dozen non-Stalinists at the meeting. —M. G.

Shachtman on Tour

Williston, N.D.

Williston, North Dakota.—Comrade Shachtman delivered a lecture in the courthouse at Williston, North Dakota, April - at 8 P. M. Over two hundred city workers and farmers listened attentively for more than two hours while he delivered his lecture on "America Heading Toward Another War." He also dealt with Fascism which has destroyed the workers' organizations of several countries of Europe.

He blamed the official Communist Party (Stalin group) for its false policy and indifference while the Fascist bloodhounds were organizing their forces to crush the workers. Comrade Shachtman showed how inactive the nationalistic Stalinists were in this fight. The next morning we heard he was hired by Wall Street to fight the American C. P. This of course came from a bit mind of the party. We want Comrade Shachtman to come back to Williston again in the near future. —A. G. MILLER

Minneapolis

Minneapolis.—The meetings arranged by the Minneapolis branch for comrade Shachtman were very successful. Three public meetings were held, two in Minneapolis and one in St. Paul. All three meetings were well attended and were followed by interesting discussions, testifying to the increasing interest of the workers in the program of the League.

The house party was attended by 70 people among whom were several new contacts. Comrade Shachtman gave a short talk on the history of the Communist League of America and its perspective for future developments of the labor movement as a whole, and the need for a new international party in America. The talk was well received; those present showing their sympathy with the work of the C.L.A. by contributing liberally to the collection.

Speech on "Austrian Events"

Sunday morning, March 25th, comrade Shachtman spoke at the Labor Lyceum. The subject of this lecture was the "Lessons of the Austrian Events". This meeting was sponsored by the Labor Lyceum Open Forum Committee. About 75 people listened attentively to the lecture. Shachtman traced the history of the Austrian Social Democratic Party and its leadership, showing how at the crucial moment it was unable to defend even the most elementary "rights" and the very existence of their organizations themselves which the workers had built up through many long years of struggle.

He also demonstrated how the pernicious theory of the gradual transformation of capitalism into socialism, when applied in practice, lead to the blackest reaction. Several S. P. members and sympathizers were in the hall but only one was so unaffected by the arguments as to defend and try to justify the Socialist policies. It was quite clear to the audience, however, that despite the heroism of a small minority of the Austrian leaders who stood beside them on the barricades the leadership and policy of the Austrian Social-Democracy stand condemned once again in the eyes of the world's working class for this colossal betrayal of 1934.

Downtown Meeting

At the downtown mass meeting comrade Shachtman addressed an audience of 250. Speaking on the subject of "Do We Need a New Revolutionary Party in America", he went into a detailed description of the birth, the life, and the death of the last two Internationals and gave the reasons for the necessity of building a new revolutionary 4th International. The lecture was followed by a question and discussion period which lasted till 12:30 A.M. with approximately 100 workers remaining in the hall until finally the caretaker threatened to turn out the lights and the meeting was forced to adjourn.

Once again, we had the good fortune to have with us a certain Walter Frank, who attempted to discredit the work of our comrades in the recent coal strike by some cheap demagoguery and factual dis-

Name Address City Amt. enclosed \$..... I pledge \$..... weekly or, I contribute \$..... monthly State whether we may print your name in full. The Militant 126 E. 16th St.

St. Paul Meeting

The St. Paul meeting was by far the best meeting yet held in that city under our auspices. An audience of 60 members, including several C. P. members, was visibly impressed by comrade Shachtman's speech on the "Lessons of the Austrian Events". Following the lecture several party members took the floor and made the most miserable defense of Stalinism that I have ever heard. After the meeting several of the workers left their names and addresses saying that they wanted to learn more about the Communist League and its program. A good collection was taken and a considerable amount of literature was sold at this meeting.

The Minneapolis branch intends to follow up this beginning in St. Paul with future public meetings and discussions with those workers who are interested in knowing more about our program with the hope that in the near future we can lay the base for a St. Paul branch of the League.

More About St. Paul

Last Sunday, April 1, comrade V. K. Dunne gave a lecture on the 4th International at the St. Paul Municipal Open Forum (non-partisan), making the first presentation of our point of view at this forum. The C. P. members on the executive committee of this forum spoke against allowing our comrades to give the talk, but the two hundred workers present voted almost unanimously to hear what comrade Dunne had to say.

It is interesting to note that almost all the objection and criticism offered—even those from the C. P. members—harped on the tune that the points raised by comrade Dunne were all maybe valid enough but of no immediate concern to us here, as we have our hands full with our local problems, that it is an inner Communist dispute, etc. However, in the limited time allowed comrade Dunne (45 minutes) he was able to convince a number of workers that both Internationals are bankrupt and that it is absolutely essential for the further progress of the revolutionary movement to build a new revolutionary 4th International, and also that it is vitally necessary for the American workers to draw the lessons from the recent experiences of the European workers in Germany and Austria. We hope to get another opportunity to address this forum on some of the most immediate questions of the day.

Wm. CURRAN.

Davenport Meeting THE COMING WAR Fascism or Communism?

Lecture by MAX SHACHTMAN Member of the N. E. C. at Unity Center Hall, 3rd floor Whitaker Bldg., 3rd and Brady Sts. Davenport, Iowa. on Monday, April 30, 1934 at 8 p.m. Admission 10c. Tickets obtainable from Betty Rowland, 2224 1/2 Rockingham Road, Davenport, Iowa.

Shachtman Tour Salt Lake City

Wednesday, April 18th 8 P.M. I. O. F. HALL Salt Lake City, Utah Subject: "THE FUTURE OF THE NEW DEAL"

On the following day, April 19th, Shachtman will address a group of Salt Lake City university students on the subject, "The Events in Austria."

Shachtman Tour Kansas City, Mo.

SUNDAY, April 22nd, 8 P.M. MASS MEETING Workers Modern Library 162 1/2 Grand Avenue Subject: "DO WE NEED A NEW REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN AMERICA?" Admission 15c Questions and Discussion

Salt Lake City.—Max Shachtman will speak Wednesday night, April 18th at I.O.O.F. Hall, 41 Post Office Place, Salt Lake City. The subject of his lecture will be "The Future of the New Deal." On Thursday, April 19th, comrade Shachtman will speak to the Student Group at the University on "The Events in Austria."

ST. LOUIS

Max Shachtman will speak in St. Louis Wednesday evening, 7:30 P.M., April 25th, at the Crunden Branch Library auditorium, 14th and Cass Avenues, on the subject: "Why We Need a New Revolutionary Party." On Thursday evening, April 26th, a banquet will be held with Shachtman, for the benefit of the Militant, at 1719 Lafayette Avenue for all sympathizers and friends of the Left Opposition.

UNDER THE NRA

Federal Unions and Company Unions

The two outstanding types of new organization forms developing under the NRA are the Federal Unions of the A. F. of L. and the Company Unions.

The labor agents of the capitalists are attempting to use the Federal Union to prevent the crystallization into genuine industrial unions. The Company Union is counterposed by the bosses to the trade unions of the workers. It is the instrument of the dominant capitalists who feel strong enough to reject the class collaboration program of the conservative labor leaders.

Dr. Wirt and the NRA The sensation mongers have found their "revolutionary plot" in Dr. Wirt's story to Bulwinkle's House Committee, which charges Tagwell and other members of the "Brain Trust" with conspiring to destroy the social order.

We know nothing about the conversations of these "Brain Trust" reformers and defenders of capitalism. But we do know that a social change, from decaying capitalism to a socialist order, cannot be brought about through the NRA and the other machinery set up under the "New Deal". We know that the working class will have to raze the bourgeois state to the ground, along with the class collaboration mechanism now being constructed under the codes, through a social revolution.

Talk of "revolution" by a few reformers and parlor pinks like Lawrence Todd has no significance in itself. But the investigation and ballyhoo about these conversations is good propaganda for the opportunists and social reformers who tell the workers that the NRA is an instrument that can be used by the workers for their own interests.

Open Shop and Company Unions

Already throughout the country signs indicate that the capitalists are taking full advantage of President Roosevelt's interpretation of Section 7a in the auto strike settlement. The interpretation guarantees the open shop and the company union. In the new period of labor struggles that we have already entered such a guarantee is a powerful weapon in the hands of the capitalists. Especially when this is coupled with the existing NRA straightjacket and the "outlawing" of strikes under the codes.

If the bosses can be assured of such a labor policy from the "liberal" Roosevelt for the coming period they will be satisfied. However, the workers have not yet spoken. When they do, the Roosevelts, Johnsons, Hillmans and Greens had better run for cover.

Mrs. Pinchot Says Wall Street Rules Johnson

Mrs. Pinchot says Wall Street rules Johnson and that the general is using his high office to thwart the workers and small business men.

We think it is best to tell the whole story. The NRA and all that goes with it is the attempt of the American imperialists to reorganize the internal economic structure, to eliminate the weak and small sections, to consolidate and centralize industry and capital through cartels and, at the same time, to hold the changing class relations in the straitjacket of class-collaboration.

The NRA is of, for and by the capitalists. Johnson and all the others, down to Green and Hillman, are their flunkies. The friction in the camp of these enemies of the workers, from Wall Street's direct representatives to the A. F. of L. leaders, is not over the question of exploiting the workers or not exploiting them. They disagree, rather, as to how to exploit the workers in such a way as to create as little friction and class war as possible.

The champion sub getter of the New York local, Harry Ross, is touring the country, on his way to California. He will continue his excellent work wherever he goes, and comrades are asked to cooperate with him, so that the Militant sub drive goes over the second thousand mark.

THE MILITANT

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