

REVIEWING THE NEWS

Statesmen at Albany
Senator McNaboe and President of the Senate Dunnigan were debating.
Said Mr. McNaboe, "He (Dunnigan) went to City Hall and told that honest man of sterling character, John Curry, 'John I am with you against the world,' and then went out and worked for the Recovery Party. He has been a double-crosser ever since I knew him."

Tammany Gang Chief Dropped
"There are no charges against me. No one can say I have not been an honest man," complained John Curry, Tammany chief, as the sachems and other warriors sharpened their tomahawks for his scalp.

When the voting was over and Curry was out, he made a few remarks, "Mr. Keneally, didn't I call you up on Monday to tell you I was making you a sachem? 'Three laborers jobs would have suited me better,' was Keneally's scornful answer.

There was rejoicing in Washington. "Harmony" in the division of spoils by Federal, State and City Democratic leaders, will help in the fall elections. The hands of Roosevelt and Farley were seen in the ousting of Curry. Not the wholesale graft, robbery and banditry that went on under Curry's leadership was the cause of his removal. The reason was that he guessed wrong in 1932 and supported Smith against F. D. As Curry went out, the leaders in revolt, the ones who were not exposed as were the McNallys and McCormacks, prepared to double-cross each other in the struggle for first place at the public trough. Our Democratic institutions must be preserved, as the President said.

"History" by Sam Don

Sam Don has a simple recipe for success, that has worked well with him. Last week he mixed a fresh batch (two parts quotations from Stalin, three parts lies about the "renegades", a few lines from Marx and Lenin to make it palatable, place in the Daily Worker and then sit back and await promotion).

"In 1928-29 our party was torn by a raging, unprincipled factional struggle. The Lovestone-Trotskyists were singing hosannas to the almighty power of American capitalism. The party leadership was dominated by the opportunist now renegade Lovestone group. . . . It opposed the building of independent militant unions. . . . In 1929 our party received an open letter from the C. I. which cleaned our party of Lovestone-Trotskyite renegade elements" etc. That's history according to Sam.

The Facts

First, the "Trotskyite elements" were not in the Lovestone group. Secondly, in 1928-29 the Lovestone group, with the somewhat shamefaced cooperation of the Fosterites, were expelling the Trotskyites, burglarizing their homes, and with knives, black-jacks and lead pipes breaking up their meetings.

The Hosanna Chorus

If Lovestone was singing "hosannas to American capitalism" included in the chorus were not Trotskyites but such good Stalinists as Jack Stachel, W. Winestone, Robert Minor, I. Amter, Harry Wicks and Max' Bedacht, not forgetting Sam Don himself who sang with either Weinstein or Bittleman according to the wind blew on the Volga. No, the "Lovestone opportunist leadership" are not all "renegades", the most unprincipled of them are now in the party leadership.

The Revolutionary Unions

Another fact which both Lovestone and Sam Don would like to forget is that the "revolutionary unions", the N. M. U., the Needle Trades Industrial Union, the Textile Workers Industrial Union, etc., were all set up under Lovestone leadership and Lovestone direction.

The C. I. Open Letter

The open letter from the C. I. did not clean out "Lovestone-Trotskyite" elements. In the first place there were not any such animals and besides the "Trotskyites" were already publishing the Militant.

Cleveland Convention of the C.P.

The Eighth Convention of the official Communist Party and all its artificial ballyhoo is over. According to the Daily Worker it is to live in the minds of posterity, epitomized by the "excellent", the "masterly and historical", the "clear and forceful analysis", the "masterfully applied Marxian combination of clear and general statements with concrete examples", the "brilliantly outlined", etc., etc., report of Earl Browder, the "best report ever made at any time in the history of the Party", together with his "remarkable final speech".

This report, if we are to believe Sam Don, "influenced the work and the discussion of the convention from the first to the last session". And Jack Stachel, in recounting the "progress" made by the Party, testifies that it was all "made possible under the leadership of the General Secretary of our Party, comrade Browder". (enthusiastic applause).

The Events of Four Years
Our expectation grows irresistibly to its natural climax. What did this report say? What does this Party leadership propose?

Between the Seventh and the Eighth Party convention almost four years have elapsed. Four years of world-shaking events, chief among which, as far as revolutionists are concerned, must be counted the catastrophic defeats inflicted upon the proletariat in Germany and Austria. Four years in which the wave of reaction rolled on with a powerful sweep, crushing and smashing a working class movement in its wake. A period which more than ever exposed the perfidy and corruption of Social-Democracy, and also demonstrated the bankruptcy of the Comintern under the Stalin regime.

But, at the same time, a new and powerful ray of hope appeared in the very last of these events, in the magnificent battle of the Austrian Socialist workers, standing

out all the more in contrast to the dismal capitulation of the Communist Party and the Social Democracy of Germany. Who would dare deny that precisely in the events of this period is embodied the lessons to which a party, to be worthy of the name revolutionary, was duty bound to apply the most incisive analysis, the most critical examination, and draw a balance sheet.

They Learned Nothing

All that was entirely absent from the Stalinist convention. And as far as future history is concerned this convention can only denote an empty space. Marxism, as a living doctrine is a generalization of all working class experience, constantly drawing its strength from every new experience. A party calling itself Marxian, which fails to absorb into its very marrow the lessons of these recent decisive events, and fails to learn from them, can in no case escape the disintegrating tendencies that brought Social-Democracy into its stinking swamp of decay. It cannot at all be counted upon as a leader of the masses in a crisis. It will collapse as ignominiously as did the German Communist Party.

Instead of drawing a balance sheet from these great lessons the misguided workers at this convention were served the same "general line" which led to the catastrophic defeats. The delegates were told in the "magnificent" etc. speech that the New Deal "is not developed Fascism. But in political essence and direction, it is the same as Hitler's program". Thus is being prepared the same fatal disorientation as in Germany and the same justification for capitulation. In Germany the revolutionary workers had drilled into their minds the ideas of the Bruening fascism, the Von Papen fascism, the Von Schleicher fascism. When the real fascism, by

this disorientation, was able to ascend to power, they could not distinguish it from the previous regimes; they could not fight it; the Party was paralyzed. The German revolutionists were filled up with the spurious ideas of "social fascism"

Repeat the Old Errors

At the Cleveland convention this was not only repeated but glibly elaborated into various shades and degrees of right and left fascism. In such a maze of confusion the various working-class tendencies could never be properly distinguished nor could the false ideas be guarded against. But such an exposition of the question by the bureaucratic leadership is not merely a matter of confusion as far as they are concerned. It is a mirror of their own degeneracy. It is an effort to cover up their own failure to meet all other tendencies within the working class on the basis of a revolutionary program as real party leaders would do. Such covering up, however, becomes the worst form of disorientation and, in carrying it to its logical conclusion, the Stalinist leaders stoop to the lowest levels.

To shun the honest workers away from an objective examination of what the actual revolutionary current in the movement stands for, all the Browders, in their deadly fear of it, can only repeat their usual base slanders. Lumping us among their various brands of "social fascism", although they have previously pronounced us dead at least 27 dozen times, they say: "Too many of our members still do not understand that Trotskyism and the Trotskyists are not a 'branch' of the Communist movement, but rather a police agency of the capitalist class". What would they answer if any worker was to take them seriously at their word and say: Give us the proof so that we can properly substantiate the contention!

But this is all empty bravado handed out to cover up their own failure to meet our Marxian arguments. For the heavy blows of defeats suffered, due mainly to their own false political orientation and dismal incompetence, the Stalinists increase their slander of the revolutionary current. Simultaneously every possible measure is drawn upon to elevate a hand picked bureaucracy artificially to a position of infallibility with a Browder sitting on the very pinnacle.

—ARNE SWABECK. (Continued in Next Issue)

May Day

(Continued from page 1)

first test of strength were met by the proletariat call for a general strike. The French working class thus served notice on the Fascist scum that the road to power in France was barred by the working class. The movement for united action in France, which led to the general strike, if given leadership, determined and revolutionary, can lead to the crushing of the French Fascists. And, over and above that, in the further development of the struggle it can lead to the crushing of French capitalism and the founding of French Soviets.

Such a movement would again awaken the German and Austrian working class and change the whole world situation. Not reaction, but proletarian revolution, would be on the ascendency. It would arouse the international consciousness of the proletariat in the Soviet Union now stifled by the reactionary dogma of national socialism. Between a Soviet Union, again alive with the spirit of international solidarity on which it was founded, and the young Soviet France, the Fascist governments of Hitler, Dolfuss and Mussolini would go down like a house of cards.

The Road of the United Front

The road which opens up such a vista, is the road of the united front. The armed struggle of a united working class against Fascism in France is the first step on such a road. Socialist and Communist Party leaderships in France, instead of leading in such a direction, hung back, still chanting their defeatist slogans. Alone among the political forces one voice was raised for the united front, that voice was the Communist League of France, a voice that is gaining increased attention in the French proletariat.

Striking back at the danger which they saw clearly, the French reaction hit at the outstanding leader of International Communism, Leon Trotsky. The whole reactionary forces of the world united with the French reactionaries in the incitement against Trotsky. In this they had the support of the discredited organizers of defeats, the Stalinist bureaucracy.

Communism, Leon Trotsky. The whole reactionary forces of the world united with the French reactionaries in the incitement against Trotsky. In this they had the support of the discredited organizers of defeats, the Stalinist bureaucracy.

The Struggle in the U. S.
Not only in Europe, but in the United States, Fascism raises its head. Alongside of the attacks launched against the basic organizations of the working class, the trade unions, by the organization, with state sanction, of company unions, goes the rise of Fascist bands: Blackshirts, Silvershirts, Brownshirts, spring up like mushrooms. Fascist bands are organizing, arming and drilling. Mass meetings and demonstrations of Nazis are held in New York and other cities.

Against company unions; against the starvation of the unemployed; against the lynching of Negro workers; against the growth of Fascist movements; against the growing danger of imperialist war—now, as never before, the united front of all working-class organizations must be formed.

We of the Communist League of America call on the workers in all organizations, Communist, Socialist, Trade Union, to raise the demand for genuine united front action. Let nothing stand in your way. Be not put aside by the rehash of past errors, demand that the united front be built now!

For the United Front of labor against war and Fascism! For the defense of the Soviet Union!

For the defense of the workers rights!

For the right of asylum!

For unemployment insurance, the six-hour day and the five-day week!

For the new party of the Fourth International!

For Soviet America!

For the International Proletarian Revolution!

The open letter did cause some Fosterites who were privately expressing support for the Left Opposition but who understood "the secret of success", to see in the ousting of Lovestone, great prospects for themselves and, of course, for the party. They had a head start on the Minors and Stachels in the race for Stalin's favors. Maybe Don or some other would say a few words on this at the next Bedacht Birthday Dinner. It would be much more interesting to all than the eternal "hosannas" to Stalin and to Browder.

Sam's lies may go down with some of the 1933 recruits who are passing through the party. The old timers, however, will understand that Sam is writing with an eye on the higher and better things such as the editorial chair now occupied by the Martyr of Madison Square.

—BILL.

400 Hail Move For New Defense At Bellussi Meet

A cheering, singing, wildly enthusiastic gathering of more than 400 people converted the simple occasion of a farewell dinner to Comrade Anthony Bellussi, at Stuyvesant Casino, into a demonstration for honest non-partisan labor defense that heralds the early launching of a new defense organization. The dinner was to honor Bellussi, anti-Fascist victim of the Federal Government's vicious deportation policy, and to raise money for his fare to another country in order to prevent his deportation to Fascist Italy. The right of voluntary departure, granted by the U. S. government being contingent on his fare being paid.

As speaker after speaker raised the broader issue of a united front against Fascism, however, the gathering, a mixed crowd of workers and working class sympathizers of varying shades of political belief, began to sense the genuineness and importance of the appeals.

Here was no fake call for unity, issuing from the tongue of sectarian bureaucrats, and prefaced by slander and abuse of the people appealed to.

Speakers Warmly Received
The speakers, by their example, by their earnestness and honesty, were putting the Stalinist labor fakery to shame. The gathering sensed this and responded, opened their hearts out to the speakers, cut loose with cheers that contained a note of relief. Here was the message that has long been awaited.

The speakers were Carlo Tresca, editor of Il Martello; Quincy Howe, editor of the Living Age; George Novak, of the Provisional Committee for Non-Partisan Labor Defense; A. J. Muste, of the American Workers' Party; James P. Cannon, of the Communist League of America, and Bellussi. Comrade Cannon acted as toastmaster.

Tresca opened the meeting with a militant call for a fight—no mere newspaper campaign, no debates, but a fight—against Fascism, the common enemy. "You can't editorialize Fascism out of existence," he said. "You have to fight it with your own weapons, on the street, with your lives. It is war!"

Quincy Howe reviewed the history of deportations, and the transformation of this country from a haven for political refugees into one of the most forbidding and reactionary of all lands. He called for a fight to regain the right of asylum.

Simply, quietly, earnestly, Comrade Novak explained the circumstances that had led to the formation of the provisional committee. The group of intellectuals that formed this committee were formerly active in the I.L.D. and the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners. One member of the group was former secretary of the N.C.D.P.P. Three were ex-members of the National Committee of the I.L.D. Another was ex-secretary of the League for Professional Groups.

All had arrived, in the course of their work, at the same conclusion. The crying need in the labor movement was united action. Not only did the I.L.D. and the other groups affiliated with the Stalinists, not want genuine unity of action, but they blocked the efforts of all who sought it.

Advocate Non-Partisan Organization

Slandered, abused, and shut off from active work because they dared raise the issue of a genuine united front against Fascism, the group had abandoned the Stalinist camp in disgust. Now, since their experience and capacity was primarily in the direction of defense work, they were seeking a non-partisan, mass defense organization.

They were under no illusions that they, themselves, could or should form such an organization. It was primarily the task of working class bodies. But they had taken the initiative in inviting working class organizations to form a united defense body, and they would promise their cooperation to the utmost.

Muste and Cannon, following the speaker, at once pledged their support, and the support of their organizations. It was their stirring response to the call, their generous waiving of rights, priorities, precedent, their palpable sincerity on the issue, that drew the cheers of the crowd, and set the tone of the gathering.

In the same spirit of solidarity, the gathering unanimously passed a resolution protesting the expulsion of Leon Trotsky from France, and demanding right of asylum for him here in this country. This resolution also drew enthusiastic applause. The sum of \$226 was raised for Bellussi—a large sum for the comparatively small, and predominantly working class crowd.

SEND A DOLLAR FOR FOUR PRE-PAID SUB CARDS, EACH GOOD FOR A SIX-MONTHS SUBSCRIPTION ON THE CLUB PLAN

Stalinist Hoodlums Attack Shachtman L. A. Meeting

Los Angeles—The Stalinists scored another one of their "victories"—they broke up the Shachtman meeting last night. But we got two new members on the spot. These two are really promising workers. They're not new to the movement and only needed this emotional push to send them to us. Undoubtedly the branch will be a much bigger one because of last night. The success of our first Shachtman meeting (a little over two hundred were there) probably inspired the Stalinists to attack the second meeting last night.

A gang of Y.C.L.'ers and local hoodlums—pugs and even gangsters—were rounded up and brought down by truck. They congregated outside the door, waiting for the signal that Shachtman had started to speak. They were noisy and tried to argue, and of course they tried to get in on their usual plea—"unemployed." One big fellow whose nose was flattened and ears cauliflowered, told Harry Ross: "The trouble with you guys is that you don't believe in God." You can judge how close to the labor movement these young lumps were.

We were only about six on the outside of the door. Around us was this mob of about thirty-five, led by Olsen, the Y.C.L. District Organizer.

Shachtman arose to speak. Olsen forced himself to the door and yelled out: "We're unemployed, and we want to get in." They shoved on masse into the door. Then we started, mostly with bare fists. We sent them down the steps, but not without casualties on our side. They ran for the lavatory, and pleaded: "You won't hit us if we walk out."

We let them go. Two minutes later we were sorry. They got one of our members (a young kid) and beat him into practically insensibility. He was down on the floor and they sapped him and kicked him, the whole damned gang. At this writing he's still resting in bed at home. Another of our young fellows was taken to the hospital. Six stitches were taken over his eye where somebody had struck him with a heavy jagged stick.

They weren't discriminating at all. They struck our women with rubber hose. One woman member of the Proletarian Party was mixed up in it. They raised great big welts on her arm. A most active woman member of our group took quite a beating.

A few of the Stalinists tried to

Militant is Barred From Canada

Coming on the heels of the international fury against the ideas of the Fourth International and its leader Leon Trotsky is the receipt of a memorandum at the offices of the Militant notifying it that the Department of Revenues has prohibited its importation into Canada.

The reactionary Canadian government, rabid in its persecution of militant workers and revolutionaries, has struck another blow at the ideas of internationalism by the prohibition of its outstanding exponent in the English language.

While no reason is attached to the banning of the Militant from Canada, we wish to call to the attention of our readers that every piece of literature issued by the Internationalist Communists is now banned from the Dominion of Canada.

YOUNG SPARTACUS

YOUNG SPARTACUS, published monthly by the National Committee of Spartacus Youth Clubs of America, April 1934.

Appearing in late April, the current issue of the organ of the S. Y. C. s features the recent world youth conference and the protest against the deportation of the four German youth.

Articles on the strike wave, the dental mechanics strike, the student anti-war strike, the Dr. Wirt "expose", and on the recent Philippine "independence" law cover the outstanding current events. The problem of unionizing the young workers and the revolutionary attitude towards the proposed child labor amendment are treated in editorials. Activities among the students are covered in "Student Notes".

The preparations for a new war are covered in the feature "I Cover the War Front", an article on American munitions production and items on the C. C. C. An article on the Silver Shirts is printed as the first of a series on the growing Fascist movement in the United States. The lessons of the Austrian events are treated in popular form. Finally, the activities of the Spartacus Youth Clubs are included under "organization notes".

The May issue is planned for the early part of the month.

carry on the fight on the inside of the hall, but they they were adequately taken care of. One came half way up the steps, put his hand on the inside pocket and yelled that if we moved down on him he'd pull his gun. Right on top of that they sent one of their husky women, and right behind her they were in a mass. They outnumbered us by six times at least, and swept us to the door. Not numbers alone did it. They had acquired many new weapons, sticks, crowbars. They had everything there. We barricaded ourselves against them. They tried to throw broken chairs at us through the door—but that was the end until the cops came (the radio car). That finished the meeting.

After that we gathered at a comrade's house. Sympathizers were there and also some members of the different labor groups. Plans were immediately drawn up for a united front protest meeting against C.P. fascist hoodlums. Shachtman drew up the leaflet and a committee was appointed to go around the different organizations. They are now at work at it.

Shachtman's coming here put plenty of life into the League branch here. It had a tonic effect on everybody. Especially after the first public meeting, the effect on outsiders was surprising. The most important thing is that he certainly cleared up a lot of things, notably the Austrian question.

San Francisco Meeting

San Francisco.—Comrade Shachtman's meeting in San Francisco was a huge success. Held at the Labour College, a known labour meeting-place and headquarters of the Proletarian Party, the meeting was singularly well attended with 275 workers of all tendencies present.

Comrade Shachtman in his talk very ably pointed out the bankruptcy of the 2nd and 3rd Internationals, demonstrating their impotency in the face of world-wide crisis and concluded by calling for the formation of a new revolutionary international.

During the discussion period a C. P. leader got up and announced the meeting of the C. P. was holding to "answer" "Mr." Shachtman. Around this arose a strenuous discussion of various policies, at the conclusion of which Comrade Shachtman challenged the Communist Party to debate and after remarking that for five and a half years they had refused to do so, he dared the C. P. to answer our challenge.

At the Communist Party "Answer to Mr. Shachtman" meeting, Comrade Shachtman was called "Trotsky's lackey", "leader of the Lovestones", and violently accused of "never having worked for a boss" and Comrade Trotsky was said to be "politically dead," "opposed to collectivization of the land in Russia" and for "taxing the poor peasantry to industrialize Russia." No attempt was made to answer in detail any theoretical arguments advanced by Comrade Shachtman. To their slanders, we reiterated our challenge to debate and called upon the membership to watch whether or not the C. P. would answer.

At Comrade Shachtman's meeting a great deal of literature and all available Militants were sold and, contrary to popular custom which ends most radical meetings at 10 o'clock, the meeting continued until 12 o'clock when the landlady turned off the lights.

Comrade Shachtman's meeting was the needed impetus to the further growth of the local branches. Already, as a result of the enthusiasm raised at this meeting, and the farce of the Stalinists' "answer", our prestige and influence among the working class has been strengthened and we are making headway in winning over many worthwhile elements to the position of the Left Opposition.

—FLORENCE WYLE.

SHACHTMAN TOUR SCHEDULE

- Fri., April 27—Staunton or Gillespie, Ill.
Sat., April 28—Springfield, Ill.
Sun., April 29—Davenport, Ia.
Mon., April 30—Davenport, Ia.
Tues., May 1—Chicago, Ill.
Wed. May 2—Chicago, Ill.
Thurs., May 3—Chicago, Ill.
Fri., May 4—Waukegan, Ill.
Sat., May 5—Detroit, Mich.
Sun., May 6—Detroit, Mich.

WILL FASCISM COME TO AMERICA?

Lecture by JAMES P. CANNON
Friday, May 4, 1934
at 8:00 P.M.
Elm Hill Building, 532 Warren St.
Opposite Waumbeck St.
Roxbury, Mass
Admission 15 Cents
Auspices: Boston Branch Communist League of America

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 29th at 8 P.M.
ADMISSION 15 CENTS QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION
Other lectures to follow on successive Fridays: Fascism; the Trade Union Question; the United Front.