Comments

On Life, Liberty and Pursuit of **Happiness**

By BILL REICH

PEACE ON EARTH: In June 150 U. S. battleships and 500 planes will maneuver over 500,000 square miles of Pacific Ocean in the most extensive naval "games" in peacetime history. The government estimates the cost at \$1,250,000. . . In July the Japanese navy will play "games" over the same area. . . . "The physical and material impossibility of war in the present actual grave circumstances appears manifest to all of us," states Pope Pius XI in the latest encyclical. . .

GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN: Dr. Clarence A. Barbour, President of Brown University, asserts: "Such a thing as the crucifixion could not happen today. The influence of Christ's life has had an elevating effect on the moral life of all mankind." . . . Says Julius Streicher, Nazi Churchman: "If I should stamp Christ as a Jew I would stamp him as a criminal. Christ was just as nu-Jewish as Kelly in loving-kindness at Calvary | ter. Baptist Church, New York. . . While on the west coast Sister

Semple MacPherson anin a crusade against Communism." HOME SWEET HOME: Since the depression at least 83.484 familles have been forced to "double up,' in Pittsburgh according to a

recent survey. . . . Cinemactress still live in miserable tenements ments to the A. F. of L. leclared illegal since 1902. . . Land-

produce 250,000 children annually. . . . Jean Leopold Duplan, head of triotically beasts: "I founded my company in 1898 when I saw hundreds of healthy children coming out of the doors of schools. In less than two years we had two thousand of the finest young girls at the looms. 1 brought occupation for the hands of girls and womenfolk." . . . The National Education Association reports that 3,000,000 children, one eighth of the total school population, suffers from defective eyesight. . . . Malnutrition among school children has increased 30 percent since the beginning of the depression. At present 18.1 per cent of American school children are undernourished. . . .

LABOR: Chevrolet Motors is rewarding 24 loyal and faithful workers averaging 71 years of age with free trips to Washington, D.C., to visit patriotic shrines. . . . The results of all NIRA Labor Board elections up to March 15 show 67 percent of the workers in favor of bona fide trade unions and only 30 percent in favor of company unions, . . . "Majority rule in collective bargaining is un-American and unethical," states H. l. Harriman, President of the United States Chamber of Commerce. . . . Ministers' Union. Local No. 1, has applied for membership in the A. F. of L. . . The city of Bethlehem, Pa. recently purchased three armored police cars. . . .

THE STATE OF THE NATION: Relief workers in Lee County, Ala., receive \$5 weekly. . . . Francis B. Davis, chairman of the United States Rubber Co., receives a salary of \$125,000 annually, an increase of \$18,000 over his 1931 salary. . . . One year ago Jay Pugh of Lincoln, Nebraska, was sentenced to serve two years for stealing bread to feed his children. Upon being frice heiross, has an income of Kentucky the average is only \$2.45 of 1932. . . . Edward Rybicki of died of starvation, being too proud cotton pickers in the South. . . o ask for relief. . linois Glass Co. increased his sal- Schwab upon returning from a

Mass Picketing is Effective in FERA Workers Strike in Ohio

Radio Workers Are Fighting For One Nation-wide Union

PHILADELPHIA. - Some time last year the membership of Radio and Television Workers Federal alike—is illustrated by conditions Labor Unions 18368 and 18369 suc- in the Victor plant in Camden, cessfully prevented the A. F. of L. from breaking them up into craft groups and by their determined stand succeeded in getting federal

Both unions are organized strictlegheny Avenue, the former having the field on a national scale, that reluctant scabs, approximately 1,500 and the latter about 6,000 members. The healthy spirit and sound judgment among the membership has manifested itself repeatedly in questions of saiaries, etc. Later in the year they realized that in order to be and remain effective it would be necessary Hitler." . . . "Karl Marx, the rene- to create a national organization on gade, who never did a tap of work an industrial basis. So they asked in his life; who never believed a the A. F. of L. for a national con- for the needs of the day would be word he wrote; Karl Marx the ference of all radio workers' un- far less pliable to the maneuvers of plagiarist, who stole all his ideas, jons, including the various indepen- the top officials. As a matter of as you know if you have read his dent groups that have sprung up fact, this new blood might become words," decries the Rev. John J. in other places, to discuss the mat-

A. F. of L. Fakers No Help

but those unions not yet affiliated nounces: "I had a dream direct with the A. F. of L. were left out, from God directing me to engage thereby undermining from the outset the very aims which the union wanted to accomplish, namely unification of organizations in the radio industry through ONE indus- John L. Lewis, etc.? Once the trial union.

The conference, which took place in December in Buffalo, decided to their work by the A. F. of L. offi-Colleen Moore's doll house cost apply to the A. F. of L. for a char-\$435,000 to construct. It is fitted for a National Organization and clear for further and even more dewith every convenience known to to make a decided effort to organ-More than 10,000,000 lize the industry. Again the great homes in the U. S. are not equipped | moguls of the A. F. of L. showed with baths. . . . John D. Rockefeller | their backwardness when they oprecently donated \$2,500,000 to erect posed such a move on the grounds a gothic edifice in New York to that the radio unions had not suffihouse historic relies of the D.A.R. | cient funds. But they were very . . . 1,800,000 people in New York quick to ask for the regular assess-

lords in Wilmington, Delaware shut wonder what affiliation with the A. a charter for a national organiza- slashed from the payrolls as the off the water of 72 destitute fam- F. of L. is good for if they cannot tion must be pressed with all means strike has left them with nothing ilies when relief authorities refused get any aid from it in organizing at the disposal of the unions. The to do. All those fired had been to appropriate money for rent. . . the industry. Why could not the industrial character of the union holding down their jobs as a result BLESSED ARE THE LITTLE funds to undertake such a drive? ship must guard constantly against CHILDREN: Families on relief The notion of the A. F. of L. bu- introduction of customary A. F. of and unemployed were in need of restricted that the unions must go L. "methods" of collaboration with out and organize on their own mea- the bosses, of building a reaction-Pennsylvania's largest silk mill pa- ger resources and after which the ary machine inside the union. A. F. of L. will graciously deign to There is only one way that will let them pay their per capita dues | lead the workers to victory-deteris rightfully looked upon with scorn | mined, militant ACTION.

by the union. Repeatedly sentiment has been voiced that might-if the present policy of the A. F. of L.

continues-lead to dissention. Three Unions in One Plant How correct the position of the Phileo unions is in their demand for a unified national organization -which by the way is shared by officers and members of the union where three groups are trying to function: a so-called independent union; the Radio and Metalworkers organization would represent a real power that could not so easily be boodwinked by the radio interests -nor by the A. F. of L. officialdom either, and the latter is perhaps the real reason behind the opposition

against such a move.

This new and unspoiled blood in the radio unions, as well as in other groups, with their sound instinct the instrument (especially if other industries would experience similar developments) to instill new life in-At last a conference was called, to the organization, make it a real fighting instrument of the workers and incidentally unseat the swivelchair "labor leaders" from their coveted positions. And what could be more obnoxious to those great men like Bill Green, Matt Woll, workers recognize these deeper reasons for the constant sabotage of cials, they will also see their way termined action.

> Fight Inside the A. F. of L. Any attempt to secode from the A. F. of L. is wrong and must be opposed by all really progressive and militant forces. Rather a determined fight must be put up by which it started. The demand for

First Regional Conference of SYL Marks Real Progress

By BILL STREETER

the Spartacus Youth league con- work. cluded its sessions last Sunday night with a hotly contested elec-Streeter to the adjournment and the singing of the International, the central note of the whole conference was an enthusiastic recoal Secretary, reported that in the in the discussion four months since our first national jumped from 175 to 420; an in- ive localities. crease of 144%.

Comrade Gould, National Secretary, S.Y.L., explained how the N.C. had taken hold of the organizaion from the first day, how the first month had been spent on developing and consolidating a national apparatus. The National Committee then proceeded to turn itself into a "bureau of publications" for internal information and the building up of an organizational understanding among the mem-

bers. He went on to present the years. . . . Hungry, William Ackers of Syracuse, N. Y., stole two chickparolled he stole 100 lbs. of coal to ens. He was given a 24 year prison heat his home. He must return to sentence. . . . George Horace Loriprison to fluish the first sentence. mer receives \$100,000 per year for . Hazel Forbes, 24 year old denti- editing the Saturday Evening Post. . . . The Metropolitan Life Insur-\$3,000 a day. . . . The average ance Co. paid nearly \$5,000,000 in amount of direct relief in the U. S. suicide claims in 1934. This was is \$6.66 per family per week. In \$2.500,000 less than the peak year per family. . . . On April 15 the the New York Department of Labor U. S. Treasury paid \$375,000,000 has drawn up plans for transportinterest to holders of 41% Liberty ing destitute Harlem Negroes back Bonds, . . . Prof. Giacchino Palom- to the South. . . . Mechanical cotba, honor graduate of the Univers- | ton pickers are developed to such ity of Milau and former teacher in a stage that they could efficiently the Union City, N. J., high school, displace two or three million human . . William E. "Things seem to have gone back Lewis, president of the Owens-II- since I went away," says Charles

ary from \$59,000 to \$100,000 in two month's stay on the Riviera. . . .

plans of the committee for still The first regional conference of further expansion and summer

The report on New York City by Comrade Streeter took up the acttion of a district committee for vity of the five New York branches the New England district. From in relation to the decisions of the the opening remarks by Comrade National Convention on Building ployed by the News-Bee. a broad revolutionary youth organization. It was pointed out that the New York membership has grown steadily and that it is now gnition of the phenomenal growth predominantly composed of young of the League and of our prospects workers: 74% working and unfor the future. Delegates from out employed, and 26% student. The of town branches and from New industrial, educational, cultural York atike listened with real sat- and other activities were dealt with. isfaction as Comrade Gould, Nation- and were elaborated by delegates

Reports were heard from Newconvention in December the number | ark, New Haven, Allentown and of branches had grown from twelve | Philadelphia on the problems and to twenty five and the membership activities confronting their respect-

Comrade Larry Cohen, representing the New York District of the Workers Party reported to the conference on the work and functioning of the party. He dealt extensively with the relations of the Party to the Spartacus, and answered many of the questions raised by the delegates. His report was very favorably received.

healthy and active character of its discussion, by the promising reports down, makes a determined and de- man who was beaten up, and to reyouth organization.

Newssellers Picket Press; Organize Union ; Make Gains

On the FERA strike front, the past week has been one of militant mass action. Thursday and Friday saw "flying squadrons", organized by Frank Buck of the W. P. and Lucas County U. L., descend on Union (probably the strongest) and three major work-relief projects the A. F. of L. The latter, however, and 2 open shop construction jobs seems to be content to wait until on which scabs were being emly on an industrial basis, No. 18368 in the various departments 51% of ployed, and shut them all down for the Phileo plant at Front Street | the workers have decided to affili- tight. On two occasions the pickets | ranks of the official C. P. I am of and Allegheny Ave. and No. 18368 ate with it and then taking them defied police interference and re- the opinion that the official C. P. for the plant at C Street and Al- in. With one industrial union in moved shovels from the hands of cannot be reformed and cannot be

> No action toward a state-wide FERA strike was taken by the emergency conference of the state Federation of Labor held in Columbus, Ohio, April 7. Discussion on the moor of the conference on all matters concerning social legislation was limited to two hours, which prevented the strike from being discussed. A conference with C. C. Stillman, federal administrator in charge of Ohio relief, and a committee from the Joint Action Committee of the FERA strike, reyealed that the new works relief program would not go into effect in Ohio until June or thereafter.

Widespread disorganization and confusion has been revealed in the Ohio relief administrative machinery by Stillman. Substantial increases in direct relief promised by Clarence Benedict, new Lucas County relief head, on April 1 during a demonstration of 1,200 workers massed inside the relief headquarters, have since been denied. Benedict stated on the following day that he had "misunderstood" the new regulations and that increases will go into effect only for work relief. This increase is a bribe to some of the unemployed to get them to return to FERA jobs and break the strike.

Announcement was made today the progressive elements to keep that 156 salaried flunkies, attached the union on the militant course on to the Lucas County work relief, administrative staff, have been A. F. of L. use some of its ample must be preserved. The member of political tic-ups, while tens of thousands of worthy relief clients

News Boys Organizing

The Joint Action Committee, following a mass meeting held in the Central Labor Union hall Saturday afternoon, April 6, of which Art Preis, organizer for the Toledo branch of the W. P., was chairman, threw a mass picket line of 200 about the offices of the Toledo News-Bee and Toledo Blade, leading capitalist dailies here. Occasion for this was the report to the meeting that members of the News Merchants Union, employed by the publishing concerns for street selling, had been fired by both papers that morning for union organization and one member had been severely beaten by two thugs em-

Efforts of street corner news paper sellers, the most exploited group of workers in the city, to organize into a union have been met by all types of victimization and terror in the past two weeks. Commissions and bonuses from sales paid to these men average not more than \$4 per week. The A. F. of L. has refused a charter to the news merchants on the grounds that no provision has been made for this particular type of worker, and "besides" they could not afford to pay dues. Bill Prior, W. P. member, who is organizer and representative for the news merchants, spoke before the Central Labor Union delegate meeting last Thursday night and secured a unanimous vote of the C.L.U. to back this new newsselfers union 100% "physically, morally and financial-

As a result of the picket line The first regional conference of Saturday, April 6, the circulation the Spartacus Youth League, by the managers of both papers met with Bill Prior and the News Merchants Union committee today, and made of the delegates, and by the election an agreement to reinstate at once of a district committee to carry all union men fired, to pay medical out the plans and perspectives laid bills and compensation to the union finite step towards its goal of be- | frain from any further victimizacoming a broad, mass revolutionary tion or discrimination against union

Spring Frolic and Chess Contest

Saturday Evening, April 20th

2 WEST 15th STREET (Third Floor)

Auspices: New York District Membership, W. P. of the U.S.

DANCING

Admission 25c

Militant Joins **Workers Party** in Fort Wayne

To the N.E.C. of Workers Party Dear Comrades,

After careful study and consideration of the principles and policies seeing these policies in action. I am convinced that the Workers Party is the force that will really organize the workers of the United States into a powerful revolutionary movement.

The Lovestone Group's position for the reform of the official Communist Party and the Third International leaves only one road open to them and that is the road that must, if the line is principally adhered to, lead them back into the the agency for rallying the workers for revolutionary struggle.

The Workers Party is the necessary force to unite the revolutionary forces for positive revolutionary work and action. The purely opposition groups have outlived their usefulness.

of whole states (Indiana and Oregon) plainly shows the reformist position of the S.P. It is impossible for revolutionists to carry on work as revolutionists in the S. P.

It is for these reasons that apply for membership in the Workers Party. I hope through the Workers Party in Fort Wayne to do my share to unite the revolutionary forces in the Workers Party and to carry on work among the masses for a revolutionary program. With Communist greetings,

HARRY H. CONNER Fort Wayne, Ind.

Spartacus Starts National Tour

The following is the itinary of Nathan Gould, National Secretary of the Spartacus Youth League:

Philadelphia-20, 21, 22. State College-23 Pittsburgh-24, 25 (Regional Conference 27, 28).

MAY: Columbus-2, 3, 4.

Cleveland-30, May 1.

Toledo-6. Detroit, Mich.-7, 8. Chicago, 111 .-- 10, 11, 12, 13 (Regional Conference 11, 12).

Gillespie-15, 16. St. Louis, Mo.-17. Kansas City-18, 19, Phoenix, Ariz.-22, 23

Los Angeles, Calif.-24, 25, 26, 27 (Regional Conference 25, 26). Fresno, Cal.-28.

San Francisco-29, 30, 31, June 1. HUNE:

Salt Lake City, Utah-3. Minneapolis, Minn.-7, 8, 9. Chicago, Ill .-- 11, 12, 13. Detroit, Mich.-29, 30. JULY:

Toronto, Canada-2, 3, 4.

Buffalo, N. Y .- 5.

MAY DAY RALLY and SOCIAL

Dancing - Skits - Refreshments Saturday, April 27, at 8 P.M. Presentation of May Day Banner by Workers Party to S. P. L. at 2 West 15th Street, N. Y. C.

ADMISSION 15c Aus : Spartacus Youth League

Just Off the Press The Suppressed

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IN THE UNIONS

with us again. It is the organ of submit, is in the negative. the American Flint Glass Workers Union. The organization was losing membership steadily and the of the Workers Party, and after few thousand who remained in the ranks were unable to bear the burden. Improved conditions in the union and in the industry generally caused the come-back.

> Unionism in glass has contribnted interesting and valuable pages to the history of American labor. Glass workers were among the first to hoist the banner of organization. And nowwhere has the complete futility of craft unionism been as conclusively proven as in this industry. The National Window Glass Workers which at one time completely dominated its trade wwas forced to disband in 1928 because the introduction of new machinery rendered its highly skilled membership nnnecessary.

GLASS . . .

The American Flint Glass Workers Union is also a craft organiza-The recent capitulation of the tion. It's failure to grow in this N.E.C. of the S.P., the withdrawing last period is a reflection of that fundamental weakness in its structure. It is one of the last of the old type of labor unions which regard themselves more as social and fraternal clubs than fighting economic organizations of labor.

. . .

Early in 1934 when a number of Pederal Labor Unions merged with the Window Glass Cutters League to organize the Federation of Flat Glass Workers, the Flint Glass Workers refused to go along in this attempt to build a real industrial union in the industry. The Federtion is the most promising development that has appeared in this field for a long time. Its roots are in the giant plants of the industry and its spirit seems to be militant.

LUMBERMEN . . .

There is a good deal of loose thinking in the labor and radical movement on the subject of industrial unionism. The result has quite often been to create structures that were so unwieldy that they broke down of their own weight. Industrial unionism does not mean to Youngstown, Ohio-26, 27, 28, 29 merge organizations which have no real reason for being together.

> can Federation of Labor pulls a has won a reversal of his convichave shown themselves, in the past the defunct Standard Trust Comfew months, to be anything but pany. He was Chairman of the friendly to industry organization. Board. . . . The United Textile The whole trend, in fact, has been | Workers is sending a truck equipin the other direction. Why there- ped with loud speaking apparatus fore, did the last session of the ex- through the Southern states to ald ecutive council grant the Brother- their organization campaign in hood of Carpenters and Joiners jur- Dixie.

The "American Flint" which sus-, isdiction over loggers, lumbermen pended publication in 1932 after and sawmill workers? Is there any 23 years of continuous activity, is logical connection? The answer, I

Practically the entire membership of the Carpenters Union is in the building trades. Realistic industrial unionism for the Brotherhood means the unity of the building workers. Lumberjacks have no more place in the carpenters union than the Sheet Metal Workers, for example, would have in the organization of the steel workers.

. . . HUTCHESON . . .

We need not look too far for the executive council's motive. The Carpenters have two representatives on that august body. Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters is a staunch old-guarder, and this is an obvious move to strengthen the hand of the die-hards in the Federation. And those elements who see the need for industrial organization have gone along on the basis of another horse-trading arrangement.

This development is all the more important because it comes on the heels of a report that lumber workers in five western states are preparing to strike. Has Hutcheson been given the job of "controlling" the situation?

The lumber workers need a national union of their own. Back in 1920 the Timber Workers Union which had been organized during the war, counted ten thousand members. But it collapsed in 1922. In the last year and a half spon taneous organization has taken place in many sections and the workers have organized into Federal Unious. At the present time about 30 such locals exist. If the Federation really wants to do the job it will organize again on the war time basis with a leadership chosen by the workers themselves.

The Brewery Workers Union of Portland, Oregon has been barred from membership by the Central Labor Council on the ground that the union has refused to abide by the jurisdictional decision of the last two conventions of the A. F. of L. The Brewery Union, they charge, has boycotted breweries which maintained agreements with other labor organizations. . . . Alvaney It is even more puzzling when Johnson, grand mogul of the Broththe executive council of the Ameri- erhood of Locomotive Engineers, stun! of this kind. Those gentlemen | tion of having misapplied funds of

Youngstown Br. Leads Sub Drive

YOUNSTOWN has made excellent progress in the past week. With a score of 90% at this writing and the prospects of 100% by the time this is printed it puts to shame such "active" centers as New York, Chicago, Boston, Toledo, Detroit! These latter are still "active" in bringing up the rear.

Allentown has also forged ahead and now stands at 44%.

The list up to date follows:

GOOD 90% Youngstown Plentywood 50% FAIR Allentown 44% Akron 40% Cincinnati Davenport 40% E. St. Louis 40% Louisville 40% Minneapolis Worcester 30% Salt Lake City 30% POOR Philadelphia Charleston 20%New Haven 20% VERY POOR San Francisco 15% New York 121% Boston 12% Gulfport 21% Toledo 12% Newcastle 10% 10% Paterson 91% Los Angeles Chicago Cleveland 75% St. Louis 73% 6% Newark KaKnsas City 6%

EVEN WORSE None of the following have been

5%

4%

Pittsburgh

Columbus

Detroit

heard from: Biloxi, Buffalo, Dickson City Fort Wayne, Mineola, Mount Carmel, Oakland, Springfield, Stannton, Throop, Washington, Winston Salem. Waukegan, Champaign,

There is no excuse for such neglect and it is about time that all free. those from the top of "very poor" down should get busy measuring up | at the top of the list.

members and friends to take this task of augmenting the New Militant circulation as one of the first and most important ones. He called for increased circulation by thousands. Only you in the field can make this plan a reality. The ground work must be done nowquickly. This time next week should see hundreds of new subs and pledges in the business office. To the branches which are ahead

on the drive-keep up the good work. Effort is needed every day of the week. To those which have been behind-wake up!

WHAT TO ATTEND

New York City

April 20, Saturday 8 P. M .--2 West 15th Street, (third floor). Spring Frolic and Chess Exhibition. Jazz ! .. hot drinks. If you don't dance, there will be an exhibition of simultaneous chess by a well-known player. All who wish to participate should reserve boards immediately by calling Fred Nash, ALg. 9058, April 26, Friday, 8:30-"Ameri-

ca's Role in the Coming War." Speaker: Max Shachtman. Sunnymaid Auditorium, 277 Kingston Ave. (near Eastern Parkway), Brooklyn, Auspices: Flatbush Branch W. P. April 27, Sat. evening-Dance by

the Flatbush Branch at Cordoba Hall, 12 Crown St., Brooklyn (near Franklin Ave.). All Brooklyn comrades urged to attend and bring their friends. April 26, Friday, 8:30---Open For-

um: "The Danger of War and the European Arms Situation." Speaker: Ludwig Lore, Branch 1 at its new headquarters, 420 E. 19th St. May 4. Sat. 8:30 P.M .- Branch 1 Housewarming and Dance. At new headquarters, 420 East 19th Street. Everyone invited.

Minneapolis

May 1, Wed, 8 P.M .- May Day Celebration at Branch Headquarters, 631 3rd Ave. S. Grant Dunne, principal speaker. Social hour and refreshments to follow. Adm. 15c. Wednedsay evenings at 8 P.M .-Regular Public Lectures on working class problems at Branch Headquarters, 631 3rd Ave. S. Admission

New Haven

April 24. Wednesday 8 P.M .- A. to the standards set by the branches | J. Muste will speak on "Coming Labor Struggles and the W.P." Also In last week's issue Comrade Julius Bertman on "Why I Left the 714 Seneca Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. Muste directed an appeal to all S.P." At Fraternal Hall, 19 Elm St.