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

By BILL REICH

Wisdom in Washington .

The New Deal is "delicate social surgery," a "third economy somewhere between Individualism and Socialism." declares Professor Tugwell to a New York group of teachers. . . . As a result of acquiring thousands of farms through mortgage foreclosures, the Metropolitan Insurance Company is the farmer who benefits most from AAA crop

restriction. On March 1 it received 500 checks for corn, hogs, cotton and wreat destroyed or not raised. . . . The Sao Paulo (Brazil) cotton crop was 450,000 bales last year. A crop of 850,000 bales is estimated for this year due to the "plowing under" policy of the United States. Millions of dollars of American capital have been invested in the Brazilian cotton-ginning industry. . . . The House of Representatives approved \$400,000,000 for the Navy The support of the gas cosuming which will make it the strongest public." in the world. "This is purely at defense measure," declares Representative Cary of the Navy Appropriations Committee. . . . A special appropriation that would keep off in many parts of the city. The 3.500,000 children in school was company is becoming desperate. turned down. . . . The first victims of HOLC foreclosures were Mrs.

lock, widows of Kansas City. . \$60,000 of PWA funds were used in the construction of a "mechanical brain" at the University of Pennsylvania. . . . 300,000 citizens of Switzerland petitioned for a New Deal for that nation.

Grace Baker and Mrs. Mary Whit-

America the Beautiful . . .

Bayonets glistened, bands blared patriotic airs and six army planes rested for panhandling on the in Pennsylvania live in constant danger of being cut off while the legislature plays football with relief funds.) . . . America's Good Will Union is launched to fight anti-American agitators. Says leader Joseph P. Day: "Americans will do the talking on the subject of America; not only in public halls but in the streets from soap boxes Chicago relief recipients are cut off from emergency rations while politicians play football with relief

The State of the Nation . . .

The motion picture "Black Fury" for the corresponding period in derstanding on both sides." 1929. . . . Though Jacob Pulansky, project worker of Allentown, Pa., pliment by a blast in the next mornwas stricken two months ago while ing's paper calling the strike an on the job, relief officials forced "arbitrary and lawless act," charghim to return to work with threats ing that the strike committee was he died. . . . \$200,000 in bonuses workers, and asserting flatly that were distributed to five officers of the G.M.C. would sign no contract the McKeesport Tin Plate Co. Many with the union nor even meet with workers in the mill receive 30c an a union committee "until the men hour. . . . More than \$7,000,000 was returned to work." spent by 13,500 divorce seekers in Reno during the past four years.

. . . Condemned diphtheria antitoxia was used for charity cases in the government, the strike commit-Pennsylvania. . . . An airplane was tee and the strikers are insisting on plants in Toledo for bundle orders used to rush fresh serum to the nothing short of genuine union rec sick cows of a wealthy Pennsylvania dairyman. . . . F. H. Prince, direct negotiations with the com-Boston industrialist, condemns Hu- pany. It is generally admitted ey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. "Great fortunes are a trust and has the approval of Roosevelt and responsibility. I don't know that there is a man in the United States into the Automobile Code the nowho has done more in building torious "merit" and "proportional America than Mr. Mellon. He had the courage to take risks. His only . . . All Huey Long meetings are of the Auto Code against the uni- of the strike, the strikers are repu- to being searched before leaving the now opened with the new song. "Every Man a King."

State of the World . . . Sir Herbert Lawrence, chairman of Vickers, Ltd., munition-makers, machine-man, has been here for the states: "Orders on hand are satis- past week trying to usurp the leadfactory," as he announced an in- ership of the strike and localize it. crease of 23% in the number of He had been in Toledo previously the strikers to their elected leaders, them through the fence by a special essity for vigilance and revolutionworkers employed. . . . Led by pre- for five months attempting to divide who proved their ability and integlates in red and purple, 50,000 pil. the solid and powerful union here rity, forced Taylor in the meeting the strik committee. In this way the Soviet Union. Only an aroused grims prayed for peace for three into many different locals in each tonight to make an elaborate speech the strikers avoided returning on days and nights in the famous plant, the divisive and ruinous craft of endorsement of the strike com-Lourdes Grotto. . . . Four and a policy of the old-line A. F. of L. mittee as he is trying desperately half million starving Chinese are bosses. The local union would have to stand in the good graces of the onstration will be held here tomorreported living on roots and bark. nothing to do with his policies be- strikers. . . . American missionaries are per- fore. His efforts here now are plexed what to do with \$9,000,000 dangerous in view of the lack of sent throughout the country to all Building Trades Council, Unem-

FOLLOW THE NEWS IN THE NEW MILITANT

school of 59 students. . . .

St. Louis Gas Capitol News Letter

Second Month of Fight Finds Picket Line Solid

ST. LOUIS .- It is now more than a month since the Gas House workers went on strike. Demanding as one of their major demands the closed shop they are determined to stay out until that and all other demands are granted.

"Among the things that have contributed to the successful carrying on of the strike," we quote from one of the issues of the Daily Strike Bulletin, "are: 1. The solidarity of the strikers themselves and the spirit of the rank and file. Not a single union man has gone back to work since the beginning of the strike. 2. The splendid action of the St. Louis Central Trades Countrades to be utilized by the company and thereby presenting to the public the spectacle of one set of union men scabbing on another. 3.

The distribution of gas is being seriously hampered. Water has seeped into the gas mains to the extent that the gas supply is cut One of the most heartening features of the strike to date was the resolution of the St. Louis Central Trades voting financial support to the Gas House workers. The local unions have agreed on a voluntary assessment of 1 cent a day from each union member in the city. A delegate from the Carpenters union offered an amendment to the effect that all union men have their gas shut off until the strike is settled.

The amendment was carried. "The Gas Company is fighting a losing battle," says the Gas House whirred over the City of Brotherly Worker, the Daily Strike Bulletin, Love as 10,000 soldiers marched in in one of its issues. "It has tried observance of Americanization Day. to carry on its business by employ-The 103rd Field Artillery, the City ing scabs. It has employed thugs Police and State Troopers were in to terrorize the strikers. It has the line. . . . (6,261 people were ar- tried to frame up our union on a orude 'bombing' gag. And finally streets of New York last year.) . . it has resorted to mass arrests of The State Commander of the Am- pickets. But all this will avail erican Legion and Ass't Sec. of War them nothing. . . . the ground is Woodrin will be the principal being cut away from under their Suppose the further miracle that President to batter down wage-rates miner to die in the long mine war. speakers at a May Day American- feet. The fight is not yet over, the bill is enacted in the face of wherever convenient to do so. The ization celebration in Uniontown, Victory still depends on our future the President's tacit opposition. bill defines \$50 a month per family Pa. . . . (1.700,000 relief recipients struggle. . . The Union will fight What of it? What the bill does is as a living wage. That is "econo- Ten hours a day in the cotton-chopon till the company is brought to to create the equivalent, for "un- mic security" enough for any wageits knees-till our battle is won and fair labor practices", of the Federal earner who can eat the fancy so are demanded by the Share Cropour demands are granted. The Trade Commission for "unfair ciological principles of the New pers Union of Alabama, Georgia Union stands firm."

Workers Stand The Meaning of the Wagner Slain Fighter In Firm in Strike Bill — A Noose for Labor

ate Committee on Education and Labor has just concluded its prolonged series of hearings on S. 1958: Wagner bill to "outlaw" company unions. No doubt the Com-

By JACK ELDER

mittee will report the measure out favorably; but that should hardly be a cause for rejoicing among the rank and file of the labor movement.

First, the bill as written is an invitation to the A. F. of L. to entangle itself more thoroughly than ever before in the complex arbitrational machinery for which Section 7a is responsible. The A. F. of L. has plunged into the present network of boards head-over-heels. To the accompaniment of one "morcil in not permitting the union pipe al victory" after another, Green and Co. have succeeded in suppressing all strike movements to date: steel workers, automobile workers, aluminum workers, soft coal workers, and so forth.

Second, although the bill as written is prima facle innocuous, it is likely to be deadly poison to the right to strike before the Senate Committee gets through rewriting it. Do not forget what happened to S. 2926 in 1934. The original draft of the Labor Disputes bill expressly safeguarded the right to more. This draft contains Section strike. The rewritten version-the 7a verbatim, nothing less, nothing

Third, the Labor Relations Bill (in its present form) is not an Adwishful thinking of A. F. of L. sympathizers, President Roosevelt ers. is not in favor of outlawing company unions. It may suit the President's convenience for the time being to let it be supposed that he looks on the measure with a kindly eye. But if the President does this, he does so because it is another

Suppose, however, that the Sentrade" practices. The Federal Deal.

tic, incapable of getting its orders enforced by the courts. There is no reason to suppose that the National Labor Relations Board would labor is concerned.

Those who get enthusiastic about the Labor Relations Bill forget that, in the last analysis, all the orders of the Board would be "enforceable and reviewable" by the board, would finally decide whether or not an employer was forcing hall. company unions on his hired hands. And there are no more thoroughly convinced enemies of the labor Weirton and the Belcher cases, they will also do to S. 1958-if, as, and when enacted.

The official Administration attitude on collective bargaining is revealed by the present draft of the measure to renew the National Industrial Recovery Act for two years National Industrial Adjustment Bill more. It leaves the field clear for -called for compulsory arbitration. company unions, works councils, proportional representation, and all the other devices which Richberg, Johnson, Perkins, Wolman and ministration measure. Despite the Roosevelt were able to contrive with the help of anti-labor employ-

ECONOMIC SECURITY . . .

Meanwhile, the whole ambitious program for guaranteeing "economic security" (for which the workers of course are expected to pay) neat device for bamboozling the has come to a standstill. The enrest is headed for the scrap-heap.

Miners Honor IN THE Mass Funeral

Trade Commission throughout its Swarm into Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.-Five thousand pickets, members of the Progressive Miners union, retreated be anything more than a like para- from this city after they had failed lytic, except where hamstringing of to stop the Woodside mine of the Peabody Coal Co. from operating. The sudden swarm of pickets was precipitated by the murder of Edris Mable, a Progressive miner. Mable and several other miners were hot down by Ray Edmundson, U.M.W.A. state president, and two other comfederal courts. The courts, not the pany gunmen, who broke up an Easter day affair at the miners'

Hundreds of miners came from county to join the picket army. For movement, no more ready puppets days they swarmed around Springof the union-busting, open-shop field, sleeping on floors, eating up sentiment for a city-wide walkmasters, than the federal judiciary piece-meal here and there, until in the United States. What the finally misleadership on the part of judges did to Section 7a in the the right wing caused them to leave in disgust.

The miners had a splendid oppor-Keck leadership. From the outset of the march Keck's second lieutenants were telling everyone not to mention the officers of the union in connection with the picketing as it might result in their arrest. The miners were flabbergasted at such tactics and they wanted to know

Auxiliary members marched sulenly for three miles as an escort to the cortege. A sixty-five piece band goods proceeds merrily. from Gillespie, Wilsonville and Benld played at the rites. It took Weakness . . . over an hour for the huge funeral procession to pass one given point.

Mable was employed in one of the Progressive mines. He was the father of five children. Although an avowed right winger he had great courage and most all the hot "innocents" of the A. F. of L. lead- tire melange of unemployment in- struggles found him in the heat of surance, old age pensions and the the fight. The Left wing miners came from many parts of Illinois ate Committee reports the bill out After all the Works Relief bill has by the hundreds to pay tribute to without rewriting it substantially. gone through, empowering the this worker, the 18th Progressive

> MONTGOMERY, Ala. (FP). ping season, instead of 14 and 16, plant council was set up. Poors to get out from under its agreement and Mississippi.

The Workers Party in Toledo and pated in a May Day celebration. A

We refer to the series of articles or should we rather say filthrunning in the N. Y. Evening Journal. Not even a lurid minded editor of a Hearst Sunday magazine supplement could have conjured up so much horror and indecency to satisfy the depraved tastes of his thrill-seeking clientele.

A sense of respect for the tastes

This hysterical yapping at the first workers' state, the Soviet Union, will undoubtedly defeat its own ends. But it marks again the necary mobilization for the defense of international working class can fulfill that defense!

The national committee of the left by Ella Wendel to a Chinese experience of the Chevrolet work- other G.M.C. locals for a nation- ployed League andd Workers Alli- Lan's expulsion from the party. As wide conference of representatives ance. The Toledo Central Labor a "preventive" step James Oneal The local press, always anxious of all strike committees and groups Union has endorsed the demonstra- has preferred charges against his to select labor leaders for the planning strike to be held as quick- tion, the first time in many years colleague so that they could pass

labor battles that have come up the pike in some time. Its great imthorization to go ahead has already the unity movement. been secured from the state Federation of Labor. No strike in some time has received the financial support from unions in Connecticut and Massachusetts in particular, that this struggle has called forth.

The issue is the basic one of union recognition. Months of negotiations left the union just as much in the soup as ever. The company would not recognize the right of its employees to organize into unions of their own chosing. A powerful and as far south as Saline and Franklin ruthless Manufacturers' Association is very much on the job and has done more than its share in stirring

A particularly interesting angle to the Colt strike is the revealing picture it paints of the NRA swindle. Most of Colt's business is with tunity to see the bankruptcy of the the government and if Uncle Sam No Fights . . . were to withdraw its orders, the company would be in a bad way. The strikers demanded that the firm's Blue NRA Eagle be taken away for violation of Section 7a. The National Labor Board ruled to that effect and, according to the rules, government buying of Colt what officers in a union were for products should have automatically besides drawing handsome salaries. ceased. But Donald Richberg rushed Edris Mabie's funeral was truly into the breach to act as the manuan impressive affair. Fully ten facturer's fair haired boy once thousand miners and the Women's more. He has refused to notify government departments of the facts and U.S.A. purchase of Colt

The strike is a militant one and the labor movement seems remarkably well united behind it. But there is a serious weakness in the situation which, though not appar- No Gentleman . . . ent as yet, may do great harm before the last chapter is written There are four unions in the Colt

plant which are conducting the strike jointly. Two of them are Federal Labor Unions which take in the mass of the workers. The others are craft locals affiliated to American Federation of Labor internationals. In order to coordinplant council was set up. Representation on this Council, however, is not on the basis of proportional the Colt workers, nevertheless have a vote equal to that of the two Federal Unions which embrace the unskilled, and production workers. There seems, at present, to be no conflict among the unions. But this punk imitation of industrial unionism must be shown up for what it really is. Inevitably it will produce division and weakness in the ranks. The issue must be squarely faced and fought by the progressive and militant elements

It has been the goal of all intel- industry at least. May its tribe inligent unionists in the industry for crease. . . .

WASHINGTON (FP) .- Employ-

ment gains this spring have been are "so slight as to be of little consequence in putting the unemployed to work," says Pres. Wm. Green of the American Federation latest tob statistics May 1. "Only 123,000 persons went back

to their jobs from February to March while the number still out of work approached 11,500,000," he reports. "In April trade union reports for the first part of the month show a decrease in unemloyment affecting only five-tenths of one percent of the membership." Last year employment increased by 590. 000 in March, and April gains were greater than those of this April.

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The fight at the Colt's Patent | years. A long step toward the Firearms Company of Hartford, achievement of the goal was the or-Conn. is one of the most significant ganization of the United Shoe and Leather Workers, brought into beportance is widely recognized in the tag by amalgamation of 5 independ-WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Sen- history has been a notorious paraly- to Protest Mabie Murder trade union movement of New Eng- ent unions in the industry. But land. The strategy board of the some organizations stayed outside. Hartford Central Labor Union has And the A.F. of L. Boot and Shoe threatened a general strike and au- Workers would have no part in

Early in the year a conference held in Washington of every important labor group in the industry and including the Boot and Shoe agreed on the necessity of unification. The United Shoe and Leather Workers posed three points as a minimum basis for amalgamation. They called for a progressive union democratically controlled by its membership; the right of referendum and recall with officials elected by referendum and regular conventions.

But the Boot and Shoe couldn't take it. A later meeting of their Executive Board called off the negotiations for the unity and, in effect, invited the membership of the other groups to join them as a substitute for amalgamation.

An attempt was made to at least come to an understanding which would end the bitter fights between the various organizations. 'At an informal meeting held on March 15 at which several officials of the B. & S. and the heads of the Independent Unions were present," reports the United Shoe and Leather Worker, "a sort of gentleman's agreement was suggested whereby each organization would undertake not to interfere with the organization activities of the other." Mr. Mara (chief of the Boot and Shoe) even sent a letter to all his locals in which he declared that where there was evidence of an organizing campaign by an independent group, no special efforts be made to discourage or disrupt them.

But Mr. Mara turns out to be no gentleman. The United now charges that the A. F. of L. union, with the approach of the slack season, is busily engaged in trying to persuade manufacturers to break their agreements with the independent and sign up with the Boot and Shoe. In Haverhill, Mass. they have induced the Emerson Shoe Company by reorganizing and discarging the United members. Other bosses are bein coaxed to move from their which represent a mere handful of present locations for the same purlower wages and more docile labor. It has always relied chiefly on the union label to get contracts with manufacturers. Instead of genuine organization work, they have used the prestige and the buying power of the organized labor movement to set up a neat little racket all of their own. The movement for unification is proceeding, however. The various independent groups are continuing negotiations. It is probable that a real united organization will be too strong for the bureaucrats of the Federation union to withstand. The amalgamation movement seems One union of the shoe workers, to have taken real hold in this one

Greetings TO THE

New Militant

FROM

Harlem Branch Workers Party of the U.S.

Flatbush Branch

Greets

THE

New Militant AND Workers Party

of the U.S. PAUL LUTTINGER, M.D.

DANIEL LUTTINGER, M.D.

5 Washington Square North

1-2 and 6-8 Except Sundays and Holidays

'Settlethe Strike on Picket Line and from any vehicle around which a crowd may assemble. . . . (600,000 Chicago relief recipients are cut off NotinWashington, SayStrikers in the strike, employed League and W. P. mem-

(Continued from Page 1)

with his usual class-collaboration line spoke in glowing terms of the leaders" of the strike. This is not vice-president of G.M.C., William S. true. Although these individuals was barred from Chicago because Knudsen, declared that Francis have a certain influence and are the strike scenes might "give people Perkins and President Roosevelt doing all in their power to gain centers to keep news of the Toledo the present avowed policy of the Shoe Workers . . . ideas." . . . Ten St. Louis PWA were "behind labor," that the memworkers were seriously burned bers of the Auto Labor Board had when gas ignited in a sewer in merely "tricked and betrayed tee which is increasingly strengthwhich they were working. . . . Or- Roosevelt," and termed the strike chid sales for 1935 are greater than an "action," "protest" and "misun-

Knudsen returned Dillon's com-

Despite Dillon's attempt to influstatements to rest their case with ognition, a signed contract and here that the Auto Labor Board that it was he who personally wrote

Auto Board. Tries to Divide Workers

T. N. Taylor, Green puppet and

trust, have played up Taylor and meeting of the strikers here and Fred Schwake, business agent of the union, as the "acknowledged and militant tactics.

Strikers Demand Strike Paper

"Strike Truth," the official bulletin of the Chevrolet strike committee, was temporarily suspended after the first edition due to the pressure exerted by Dillon, Taylor, perienced members of the strike committee by spreading rumors that it was "communistic," etc. By unanimous vote in mass meeting of "Strike Truth." There is talk of publishing "Strike Truth" as a national auto strike paper.

Rousing applause at the mass

workers whom the employers can ly as possible in Toledo.

Detroit held mass meetings Sunday J. Muste has received a special inand Monday nights respectively, vitation from the Joint Action Comaddressed by A. J. Muste. A clear mittee to address the demonstrapresentation was given by Comrade tion. Art Preis and Bill Kitt, Units national significance and the course to be pursued in order to achieve victory. His warning on the dangerous influence of the A. F. of L. bureaucracy has had a powerful and responsive appeal.

Despite the efforts of the capitalist press in Detroit and other auto rect tactics are carried though, if control, the definite authority lies strike from its pages, word is strikers to settle "this thing on the in the hands of the strike commit- spreading rapidly. Toledo strikers managed to evade Michigan state ening its influence by its correct police and Detroit police for a sufficient length of time last Friday to place a brief picket line before the General Motors office building in Detroit and spread copies of "Strike Truth" in various G.M.C. plants. Further action in Detroit was halted by the arrest of 19 picketers, of deportation. On the second day acting against the wishes of the Schwake and Co. on certain inex- who were later released. Word has Detroit district organizer of the Mechanics Educational Society, that the M.E.S.A. has passed a resolution to refuse to handle any maed that "Strike Truth" be published terials sent from struck plants and ence the strikers by his misleading from now on. Already demands companies. This followed the acare coming from all parts of the tion of the Toledo local of the M.E. country and from workers in other S.A. in adopting a resolution to man the picket-lines if they are called.

So militant are the Toledo strikers that not even the management is permitted to enter the plant. The plant manager, A. J. Gulliver, was meeting tonight greeted the tele- forced to appeal to the strike comgram from the Workers Party in mittee to get permission to enter New York that its members were the plant. Nine company police, picketing the G.M.C. office building who had remained inside the plant in New York. Telegrams from the at the time of the walk-out, were representation" clauses. Strikers Ohio and National Unemployed starved out by the refusal of the themselves point out that it was Leagues pledging support also met strikers to permit food to be sent Roosevelt who forced the renewal a hearty response. With the spread into the plant. They had to submit inkling as to the tripe Mr. Lang versal protest of organized labor diating all efforts on the part of plant and speeding back to safe and who could, if he would, remove Taylor to deny useful and sympa- territory in Detroit. For the first the so-called "traitors" from the thetic support from other unions time in labor history, strikers were and workers' organizations. For paid while marching on a picket several days Taylor and Schwake line when on the insistence of the tried to start a "red scare" in an strike committee pay booths were effort to undermine the progressive set on one side of the company leaders of the strike. The over- fence and as the strikers marched whelming devotion and loyalty of by their pay-checks were handed to company property.

A May Day United Labor Demrow called by the Joint Action A further call is expected to be Committee, composed of the Toledo that organized labor has particl- a light sentence.

So far, the predictions of the

New Militant are coming true. It appears that Toledo and the Chevrolet strike will indeed be the spark for the 1935 national strike wave. If the present militancy and cor- in the unions everywhere. picket lines and not in Washington" is maintained, there is the strongest possibility that the strike will finally engulf the entire auto industry, spread into other major industries and lay the basis for a EMPLOYMENT GAINS LESS drive of national militant labor action which no power of the bosses and their government will be able less than those of last year and to halt.

LANG-HEARSTIAN SOCIALIST The latest exhibition of one of the Forward gang, a leader among of Labor, reporting the Federation's the Old Guard of the Socialist Party is enough to make any worker in or outside of the Socialist ranks turn sick with disgust.

of our renders forbids us to quote at length from these atrocity storics. Just a scanning of the heads and sub-heads should give one an is dispensing with the good wishes of his editors, Abraham Cahan and Willy Randolph Hearst. "6,000,000 Dead in Ukraine," "Eat Children," "Graves Opened," "Red Army Soldiers Turn Bandits," etc., etc.

Socialist Party has issued a statement criticizing Lang and disclaiming responsibility for the articles. The "Militants" have called for