OHIO UNIONS TO

**DEMAND BETTER** 

Monday night meeting of the De-

troit District Auto Council, S.P.

members fought against the call-

ing of a special convention and

condemned the attempts of the

Stalinists to stop payments of

per capita tax to the Internation-

al. The S. P. has not yet achieved

a complete break with the Sta-

linists and their program, but the

# Gang Disrupts Astoria SWP Rally; Cops Look On

Harvey's Police, Like Hague's, Condones Fascist Tactics Against Labor Meetings; Workers Need Own Defense Guard

By FRANK GRAVES

NEW YORK .- A mob of hooligans, inspired with fascist ideology, succeeded in breaking up an open-air meeting of the Socialist Workers Party on July 14 at the corner of Second and Ditmars Avenues, Astoria, in the heart of the bailiwick of George U. Harvey, reactionary president of the Queens Borough, well-known for his red-baiting and hatred of the labor movement.

As soon as the meeting commenced, the rowdies, thirty or forty of them, closed in from all corners of the street intersection and set up a chorus of yelling and singing which made it impossible for the speaker to be heard.

"handling labor"-the method of

outright proscription and sup-

Stalinists Also Attacked

Not only the S.W.P. but the

Stalinists, too, are finding it im-

possible to obtain a hearing on

the streets of Astoria, A Commu-

nist Party meeting, despite the

patriotic sooth-saying of its pub-

lic representatives, was broken

meetings are "suspect" as being

people, i.e., capitalist politicians,

of unemployment each year, is

The Contagion Spreads

low Hague and Harvey.

Right now is needed a work-

tail the rights of free speech any-

where - and workers' defense

the black plague of fascism.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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the coolest thing you own or

can borrow. Refreshments for

pennies. Entertainment for

nothing. Start saving your pen-

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gogue-a Hitler.

hold their meetings in halls.

In accordance with the custom-{ Jersey City, and his method of ary procedure, the Astoria party branch had given advance notification to the police that the pression of labor's hard-won meeting was to be held and sev- rights. eral cops were on hand, presumably to preserve "law and order" and the democratic right of free

Police "Protection"

But they permitted the hooligans to carry out their disruptive tactics unhindered, without even a mild warning. Nor did they intervene when the barrage of catcalls, yells and snatches of patriotic songs was supplemented by a barrage of over-ripe fruit.

After twenty minutes of vain effort to gain a hearing, during which the mob worked itself into a frenzy bordering on real violence, the handful of Astoria comrades were obliged to abandon the meeting.

While preparing to move from the spot, our comrades heard such characteristic remarks as, "Go back to where you came from," "Reds are not welcome "Don't come back to Astoria." One youth was heard to say that the breaking-up of meetings was his favorite pastime.

Object Lesson in Democracy On their way to the elevated station a block away, we were followed and "protected" by a solitary policeman who had watched the rowdies assail our meeting without attempting to put a stop to their hooliganism. Walking between our comrades and the yelling mob which followed them, he kept the hoodlums at a distance of a few yards, but this did not discourage them from burling fruit missiles at the departing S.W.P.'ers.

This guardian of "law and orshowed by his whole attitude that he was in sympathy with the aggressive mob and was doing only the minimum necessary to prevent an outright mob attack on our hopelessly outnumbered comrades. At the commencement of the meeting the mob displayed its cowardice when one of its more vociferous members asked another "How many are there?" referring to our party comrades.

A show of real resistance to the hooligans would have put the latter instantly to flight. It was not forthcoming from the police because they, and their inspirer, George U. Harvey, are fascist-inclined and hostile to the workers' movement.

Defense Guard Needed

Which points the need for t well-organized, disciplined and sufficiently numerous defense guard to protect our meetings. The hooligans are bold and aggressive because they know or sense our weakness. They could easily be put to flight by organized, physical defense and given a lesson which would discourage them from repeating their July 14 performance.

This was not the first S.W.P. meeting disrupted in Astoria. A week previous, at the corner of Steinway Street and Jamaica Avenue, some distance away young hoodlums inspired and egged on by Legionnaires and known members of a local fascist organization had carried out precisely the same tactics. The conduct of the police in this precinct, too, was the same as at the July 14 meeting. One of the cops on duty there told us plainly that he had no sympathy with our ideas but that nevertheless we had the right to expound them

at negetings. He permitted the hoodlums to disrupt the meeting and pelt our comrades with fruit and vegetables, and finally escorted the local comrades to their homes to protect them from threatened violence. Thus he performed his duty of "protecting" the democratic right of free speech.

Material for Fascism

Who are the rowdies? They are, for the most part, youthful people of both sexes, but a majority of them are young men in their 'teens or early 'twentiesthe type of youth which has not known the taste of a job since leaving school. They are the New Deal unemployed, fast degenerating into declassed slum proletarians of the most vicious type.

This is the social material upon which fascism draws for the creation of its storm troops. The Astoria hoodlums show by their conduct that they have already fallen to a considerable degree under the ideology of fascism as expounded by George U. Harvey, who proudly boasts of his admiration for Mayor Frank Hague, the embryonic Hitler of

Skoglund Elected President of 544

MINNEAPOLIS .- Carl Skoglund, veteran of Minneapolis labor struggles, was formally installed in office as president of General Drivers Union Local 544, after returns of the election were reported to the membership.

The official tabulation, reported by the union's election board, gave Skoglund 788 votes, with Tom McCue polling 596. Two other candidates, Peter Harris and Frank McArdle, received 26 and 19 votes, respectively.

The election was held to fill the post left vacant by the death of Bill Brown, long-time leader of the Minneapolis team-

## TRIP ACROSS COUNTRY HAS POLITICAL AIM

(Continued from page 1)

up by the same hoodlums at the ing care not to stick his neck out same spot (Second and Ditmars too far, but to phrase his re-Avenues) the night previous to marks in such a way that-a victhe S.W.P. meeting. To the fastory for the 100 per cent New cist-minded hoodlums ALL street Deal faction in a given State could be interpreted as a personal of foreign origin. Respectable triumph, but a defeat could be passed off as no concern of the President's.

The experiences in Astoria At the same time the timepoint to the growing danger of an advancing fascist movement in directed over the heads of the lothe United States. The continuing cal politicians to the workers and and deepening social crisis, farmers. His wayside speeches throwing hundreds of thousands were crowded with the glittering of the youth on to the scrap-heap generalities of "the more abundant life," with social insurance providing fascism with its human and dams and conservation and material, its army of the future. wages and hours and the praises This army awaits only an orof "the people." Since the only ganizer with the gifts of a demalarge-scale and organized national opposition to Roosevelt is pro-If the labor movement proves vided by the Republican Party, of wages received by W.P.A. den on the rich. unable to organize these elements and since the policy of the Re- workers and by part-time indusand draw them into the class pulican Party promises only to trial employes is not sufficient to war for the overthrow of capireduce the miserable relief and meet the minimum standard of allowances, and of permitting talism, which has reduced them pitiful wages and hours standto their present social plight, they ards and shamefully inadequate will become recruits in the army conservation and social insurance provisions, the generalities of Roosevelt still have power to The fascist peril is here right move the masses in spite of the now. Jersey City-Newark-and glaring and brutal conflict benow Astoria! Hague and Harvey! tween them and the realities of

Only last week the Flatbush the current crisis. (Brooklyn) Chamber of Com-One other important card was pulled from the Roosevelt hat leaflets not approved by the fiee the town. merce addressed a letter to Mayor LaGuardia and Police Comduring the course of this tour, missioner Valentine "respectfully and we may be certain that we demanding" that future outdoor have not seen the last of this one. mass meetings scheduled for At Pueblo, Colorado, a petition Thus Brooklyn is in line to folmons.

Third Term Talk

ers' defense organization to defy Roosevelt will find this thirdand contest every attempt to curterm talk a handy weapon, whatsquads to protect working-class meetings from fascist assaults. concession.

But it was the final continental speech, made in California just before the review of the fleet, that set the high mark in demagogy. There, preparing to survey NOCHE DE LA FIESTA, Span- the tremendous naval armament, ish Dancing, Entertainment, for the maintenance and expan-Beer. Saturday Eve., July 23, sion of which he more than any Terrace Beer Garden, 1110 Sec- other one man has systematically ond Ave. (58-59th St.) Aus- devoted his most strenuous efforts, Roosevelt called piously for disarmament. The disarmament, he hastened to make clear, PENNY? Rivington St. adapts was to be started by the other itself to the accelerated decline fellow. Thus, as always, pacifism of American capitalism. Merely serves as the moral covering for super-imperialism.

онио

OHIO DISTRICT Y.P.S.L. CAMP. The Ohio District is making extensive preparation for the Y. P.S.L. Camp to be held at Lake Milton, July 31 to August 7. This is to be the District school and Organizer training camp. Plus camp life, classes are being organized on technical instructions for newspaper and leaflet work, and principles of Marxism. There are still vacancies for a few more comrades. The total charge for the week is five dollars. For further information write at once to Sam Silvers, care of London, Box 396, Youngstown, Ohio.

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BUILD THE SOCIALIST APPEAL!

FORWARD TO CIRCULATION OF 10.000!

# RELIEF SCALES Example of Minneapolis Unions' Fight for

# Adequate Unemployed Relief Inspires Akron Workers

has been solved mainly in one

city, Minneapolis, as indicated in

relief for any company or W.P.A.

employe whose wages were in-

sufficient to permit a family to

have a minimum standard of liv-

ing whose cost was determined by

Whereas, Under the system of

Ask Supplementary Relief

The campaign is not being made

it as a good supplementary move

to fight against the effects of the

social crisis and to place the bur-

Already, relief officials have an-

nounced giving of more liberal

a union survey, and

By B. J. WIDICK Labor Secretary, S.W.P.

AKRON, Ohio.-A campaign to provide for supplementary relief Council publication, and for W.P.A. and industrial employes along the lines of the "Minneapolis plan" was begun here this week by the Akron C.I.O. council and Goodyear Local, United Rubber Workers of Amer-

By mobilizing the labor movement behind this fight, union leaders seek to revitalize the unions and to alleviate the suffering of thousands of families living on sub-existence levels.

Praise Local 544

The campaign was announced in the Summit County Labor the minimum standard, as shown News, which gave much credit to by the attached clipping from the the Minneapolis Teamsters Unions | Northwest Organizer, therefore, for initiating the system of supplementary relief on a sound

Over 110,000 of the 225,000 in- of supplementary relief, and that habitants of Akron are on one we seek to institute a similar syskind of relief or another, and tem in Akron, in conjunction with tested Roosevelt demagogy was thousands of rubber workers are the proper authorities, and that working less than two days a we urge the entire labor moveweek, thereby making a system ment and the Workers Alliance to of supplementary relief indispens- join with this union in the camible for the sheer existence of the paign.

> The plan of the Akron unionists was indicated in a resolution as a substitute for jobs, or adpassed by Goodyear Local and equate wages. Union leaders see the C.I.O. council. It reads: Text of Resolution

> Whereas, The present amount living needs, especially of large part time industrial employes to families, and Whereas, This grave situation holding down their regular jobs.

obtain W.P.A. jobs or relief while

Fight C.I.O. Unions Workers from Homes (Continued from page 1)

arrested. He announced that no C.I.O. union. All were forced to Mayor would be permitted dis

Cops are busy at their usual Flatbush Avenue and Albemarie signed by 4,000 workers called strike-breaking tasks, with scat-Road be held elsewhere. "Com- upon Roosevelt to get ready to taxies accompanied by police as the streets, manned by a group of Workers Union every day as well munists, Nazis, Friends of Spain, run for a third term. A few days guards. New Orleans is almost Catholics and non-Catholics draw later, a similar sentiment was completely without routine police as many as 2,000 spectators who publicly expressed by a group of services, such as traffic direction, create a nuisance and hinder the C.I.O. leaders in Ohio. Roose- as the whole department is conbusiness." the letter declared. velt has carefully avoided com- centrated on the brutal business ment upon either of these sum- of crushing the C.I.O. union movement.

Fight Legal Battles

With many of the strike leaders ever his actual intentions—and it in hiding or in fail, and rank and decided whether or not to make a the streets because of the certheir "legal rights."

In the face of the lawless activity of the police, acting on inhabitants. the direct orders of the bossowned city and state government, sive document listing the specific the legal-minded defense attor- violations of the law by the offineys are preparing a comprehen- cial thugs of New Orleans.

Philadelphia

New Orleans Police Mob Drives Mill

(Continued from page 1)

of the union, or resentful of the humiliation heaped upon them. they and their families were

ordered to get out of town. During the early morning battle seems clear that he has not yet file strikers afraid to appear on a call for National Guardsmen b.d to break the precedent. For tainty of arrest, defense of the platoon of 30 guardsmen started eting. To assure the movement There is no other way to halt the fear that he may run for a workers has been conducted al- to the lumber town, but were against the injunctions of the third term will serve to soften most wholely on the judicial turned back at Sacramento when greatest success, especial stress his inner-party opponents, and to plane. Two attorneys are busy Sheriff Olin S. Johnson informed make them ready for almost any night and day, attempting to pro- the governor that order had been eting. Every labor union should tect the strikers according to restored. "Order" was restored by be involved in mass picketing Second Ave; Biederman's Book

a recent issue of the Northwest Organizer, official Teamsters Joint -DOWN AGAIN ON Whereas, The solution was N. Y. STRIKERS achieved through the introduction of a system of supplementary

must be abrogated.

supplementary relief, the emdecisions, the workers affected ploye of either a private conwould be contesting decisions in cern or of the W.P.A. obtains in a game in which the bosses have cash the difference between his made all the rules for their own wages and the amount needed for benefit. Obviously, the only way the Busch workers as well as all the others involved in these recent court decisions have of assuring themselves against the ravages of with the C.I.O. and that the lat-Be it resolved, That we go on boss class "justice" is by implementing the lawyers' brief with vene into any International's inrecord in favor of such a system strong doses of militant, mass action. That is also a means of must repudiate the calling in of obtaining a quick decision and of Lewis or any other high mediator preventing their cases from dragging on and on until the union treasuries have been exhausted reduce it to the pitiful status of and the spirit of the militants some of the C.I.O. organizing sapped.

> It is gratifying to see that the Cotillo injunction has not stopped the Busch strikers. Their solidarity remains unimpaired. Picket lines continue to roam through the streets of New York's business

That responsible labor representatives are aware of the implications of the Busch workers' The extent of the preparations movement is concerned, is infor the "purge" was revealed dicated by the expressions of when a sound truck appeared on solidarity coming into the Optical the vigilantes. Names of suspected as by the conferences called by union members or sympathizers the union and attended by more were called out over the loud- than 200 union delegates last speaker. When the men could be week. In line with this spirit of found they were forced to state solidarity, a Labor's Anti-Injunctheir position. If at all in favor tion Committee has been formed.

At a meeting of this Committee, was sent to Governor Merriam. A by meetings, radio and mass pickthe simple expedient of having the demonstrations. Only by a powersheriff deputize the 800 vigilantes ful show of labor solidarity in engaged in terrorizing the town's action can the bosses and their

ASK FOR THE APPEAL

Membership Meet

A general membership meeting of the New York District of the Young Peoples Socialist League, to be held Friday evening, July 22, at 916 Ninth Ave., is announced by the District Committee.

Yipsels Announce

As the meeting is to be held for internal discussion, admission is by red card only. The meeting will be called to order sharply at 8:30 P.M.

# COURTS CRACK

(Continued from page 1)

By restricting themselves to

course that the workers' rights

merely legal contests against these

The surest way to protect the workers from the damage the capitalist courts intend to inflict upon them, is to bring the bosses to terms as rapidly as possible. While the lawyers engage the court in argument, the workers must resort to mass picketing that will break the injunctions in effect and hurl back the employers in actual practice.

addressed by Alan Haywood, regional director of the C.I.O., and other leading unionists, a resolution was adopted calling for agitation against the Cotillo writ will have to be laid on mass pickjudges be brought to their knees.

AT YOUR NEWSSTAND

### first moves have already been Independence Threatened made. The path is now cleared The intervention of John L for the creation of a broad pro-Lewis into the auto union battle gressive bloc standing on the prowould mark the end of the augram of democratic and militant tonomous and independent existunionism and fighting the reacence of the most militant union tionary policy of the Stallnist organization in this country. Lewis would only act as a receiver, in order to turn the union

Auto Union Threatened

. (Continued from page 1)

to step into the Auto situation

and bring about peace between

the two warring factions. On this

point, the S. P. program, insofar

as this group has a program, is

identical with the program of the

Stalinists. What significance has

this request for the Auto Union?

ternal affairs. All progressives

from the outside, who will only

throttle its autonomy and either

committees, or else hand it over,

lock, stock and barrel to the Sta-

linist wrecking crew. The prob-

lems of the Automobile Union

must be solved by the Automobile

workers themselves, or they will

Stalinists Prepare Spllt

After the Addes expulsion, the

Stalinists began active prepara-

tions for a rump convention of

the Auto Workers Union. Such

reckless proportions did their

splitting campaign assume that

great dissatisfaction arose in-

not be solved at all.

With Split By Wreckers

It must be freely admitted that the 'Martin administration has over to the Stalinists at the first not facilitated the path of the favorable opportunity. That S. P. or other union groups. Ever Lewis is not averse to turning since the present battle in the unions over to the Stalinists, union, the Martin leadership has when he thinks that they are in a position of power, is attested to remained, by and large, unmindful and ignorant of the actual deby the fact that he did not hesisires and wishes of the rank and tate to hand over the West Coast file membership. It has never C.I.O. movement to Harry Bridclearly stated and certainly never ges, who has since been wreckclearly demonstrated, what kind fing and discrediting the C.I.O. of unionism it stood for and was organizations on the Pacific prepared to establish. It has never put through a bold cam-Martin was completely right paign to win the membership to when he stated that the Auto its program and to condemn the Union was an autonomous body, reactionary program of the Comthat had voluntary affiliated munist Party, but has tried to solve this complicated task by ter had no authority to interpremature and unexplained dis-

Martin Begins Campaign

opposition.

ciplinary measures against the

The fact is the Martin group is not only composed of the most variegated and heterogeneous kinds of people, but includes red baiters as well. Only during the past few days has Martin begun an educational campaign to expose the Stalinists to the membership and to explain what kind of a union he proposes to build. He has already spoken at some major local union meetings and made several radio addresses explaining the position of his administration. But one swallow doesn't make a summer. Surounded as Martin is, by many opportunists, job-seekers and reactionaries, his speech will bear side the Socialist Party against no relation to the acts of his adcontinuing the bloc with the Sta- ministration, unless he makes a genuine attempt to unite all pro-Recently S. P. members have gressive elements around his registered a sharp change on twenty-point program concretized their previous policy. At the to the present situation,

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EXAMPLE AND SYMPTOM

In the face of economic decline and rising reaction, the militant unity of the labor movement is imperative. The example of Philadelphia, therefore, should inspire workers every-

When the city councilmen of Philadelphia persisted in playing ghoulish politics with the suffering of the unemployed, the C.I.O. and the A. F. of L. leadership buried their differences. Together, they led hundreds of workers on the City Council last week. Together they brushed aside the police. And together with the workers they "stormed the City Council Chamber-with demands for jobs for Philadelphia's unem-

Once there, the workers denounced the councilmen. Before they left, James L. McDevitt, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and head of the joint committee of the C.I.O. and A.F. of L. set up to get prompt action, warned the councilmen, "Continued refusal to take action to safeguard the 50,000 WPA jobs available to this city might have unfortunate

Symptom and Example Philadelphia is both a symptom and an example.

It is a symptom that the workers cannot tolerate a split labor movement. Pennsylvania, the most industrialized state in the country, has the greatest proportion of unemployed, due to the economic decline. It is no accident, then, that the unity of the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. should take practical form in the struggle against unemployment. In the face of the suffering jobless, all other quarrels are trivial. Only the unity of the labor movement can wrest jobs for the jobless from the government. Any bureaucrat who stands against this unity

will find himself isolated and soon forsaken. This unity can be forged today-now, Philadelphía stands as an example.

Unemployment is not a local problem. It is national in its scope. In each city, the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. must set up joint committees to demand W.P.A. jobs for the unemployed. These should then be organized on a state-wide scale, and the state committees should be or-

The aim of the committees must be a great, long-range public works program, paid for by taxes on capital and incomes of the speculators and financial and industrial dictators. The public works should be planned to expand as the depression deepens and unemployment increases. Private industry and public works must give jobs to all jobless. And workers should be able to shift freely between public works and

Union Heurs, Wages

Public works for all unemployed will also strengthen union conditions in private industry, if the fight is accompanied by the demand for "Union hours at union wages on all WPA jobs." In addition, all unemployed who are on WPA and who are not members of unions should be admitted into their appropriate trade or industrial union.

Thus only can the unemployed get jobs and the union standards in private industry be protected. Thus only can the unity of workers and unemployed be cemented against the demagogic promises of the fascists. Thus can the militant unity of the labor movement be forged in the

Against the reactionary attacks on the labor movement and the unemployed, there is only one answer: the Unity of the C.I.O. and A.F. of L. Unity of the workers and unemployed! Unity of the working class as a whole against capitalism and its decay!

Joint Committees

ganized on a nation-wide scale.

private employment.

fire of anti-governmental struggles.