

# Now's the Time For A Labor Party!

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# LEWIS-FDR SPLIT REFLECTS MASS FEELING

## Lay Offs Stopped In Flint

### Militant Action Checks Attack On WPA Workers

FLINT, Michigan, Jan. 24—Militant action stopped in its tracks an attempt to begin mass layoffs by the WPA Administration when, after an all day demonstration at the district WPA office, the UAW-CIO WPA and Unemployed union succeeded in getting 120 workers put back to work.

A fine example of what determined action can do, the demonstration began early in the morning, after an entire project with the exception of a handful of men had been laid off. Although 403's had already been sent out by the WPA office, the sight of a couple of hundred union men, and the roaring strains of "Solidarity" which echoed in the office corridors, changed the officials' mind sufficiently to cause them to tear up all 403's and put all the men back on the job without exception.

**Makes the Difference!**  
WPA cuts have been very slow in coming to Flint, and are generally lower in Michigan than elsewhere, since WPA administrators know very well what dynamite lies ready to blow up in the ranks of the workers of this section.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Minneapolis Teamsters Latest Victims of Court Drive

### New Ruling Opens Union Books to Agents of Finks

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 30—While the federal district attorney and judges pause for breath in their campaign against the labor movement here—with 33 convictions and the rest of the 162 indicted WPA workers still to be tried for last summer's WPA strike—the state courts are taking up the battle against labor.

District Judge Carroll last week ruled that the books and records of General Drivers Union Local 544 are to be open to the inspection of five finks, their attorneys and accountants. This ruling came after three weeks of testimony by a score of union men, who testified that the five plaintiffs were organizers or members of a boss-initiated "Associated Independent Unions," which has been warring against the bona fide unions here for over two years. The plaintiffs presented themselves as ex-members of Local 544 who had been discriminated against.

A dead give-away was the plaintiffs' charge that the union officials had forced the city to disburse more funds than necessary for relief, through the activities of the Federal Workers Section of the union.

The International Brotherhood (Continued on Page 2)

## Anti-Lynch Bill Passage At Stake

### BUT OF COURSE!

J. Edgar Hoover was telling a mystery story writer recently about the widespread efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to combat subversive activities. After a long exposition of the bureau's efficiency in spotting Nazi agents, the writer said:

"And now, Mr. Hoover, tell me something about your work on British and French agents."

"Oh," said Hoover, "we've got nobody working on them. The State Department won't let us."

## WPA UNION WORKERS OPEN NEW DRIVE

### Campaign Launched At Spirited Mass Meeting in Mpls.

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 22—The Federal Workers Section of Local 544 held a spirited mass meeting last Friday, marking the beginning of a new organizational drive, coming on the heels and in spite of the campaign by the federal and city governments to smash this militant unemployed organization. The attendance at the meeting was significant and heartening, in view of the government drive, through its WPA prosecutions, to terrorize all relief workers.

Carlos Hudson, acting editor of the Northwest Organizer, was the main speaker, analyzing Roosevelt's latest budget, and calling for the appropriation by Congress of a \$10,000,000,000 public works fund and a \$3,000,000,000 fund for the unemployed youth.

Others who spoke were Max Goldman and Oscar Shoefeld, both convicted on conspiracy in the recent third WPA trial. Shoefeld spoke on the situation among the youth, pointing out that the so called "war boom" had not assimilated any youth into industry and that Roosevelt's proposed \$72,000,000 cut in NYA and CCC leaves the youth in a worse position than at any time in the last decade.

Karl Kuehn, recording secretary of the FWS, indicted but not yet tried on a conspiracy (Continued on Page 2)

## Discontented Workers Are Looking Toward Independent Labor Action

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### UMW Convention Denounces FDR for Slashing Relief

Speeches from platform and floor at the United Mine Workers convention have served to focus national attention on the problem which Roosevelt and Congress are trying to relegate to the background—the unemployment problem, characterized by resolution of the convention as the nation's "No. 1 economic problem."

John L. Lewis told the story how a committee of miners spent two and a half hours with Secretary Perkins only to be told that their fears of the consequences of unemployment were "exaggerated." "Woody in the head" was Lewis' pithy characterization of the lady.

Ten Billions  
Vice President Phil Murray, after describing new processes in steel which are throwing 90,000 men out of work, said he preferred to see the government spend ten billion dollars if need be "to put the idle to work rather than to spend one dollar for American-made bullets to be used to kill someone."

However, the only proposal for action on unemployment so far proposed by the UMW leaders has been a demand that Roosevelt initiate a conference of business, labor and the government on the question. What this "round-the-table" talk could do is not very clear.

The convention is continuing the half century old fight of the miners for the introduction of safety devices in the mines and the passage of safety laws to protect the life and limb of those engaged in "the most hazardous occupation." Thousands of men have been killed in the last half century of coal mining because the mine owners did not want to spend money on safety devices and because the federal government was totally indifferent to the welfare and the lives of the coal miners.

### Negro Tells of Tragedy

Wilfred Dickinson, a young Negro delegate from Bartley, West Virginia, brought the convention to its feet by his moving description of the mine disaster which occurred last month in his home town resulting in the death of 92 miners. He told the harrowing experience of the "wives waiting for their husbands," the mothers waiting for their sons.

Lewis took the floor under this (Continued on Page 3)

## No More Deals With Boss Politicians!

AN EDITORIAL

John L. Lewis has painted a vivid picture of the way in which Roosevelt has spat upon the working class. To get the workers' support and their votes, Roosevelt promised much, and gave as little in return as he could get away with. And he got away with not giving practically everything that he promised.

Then how can Lewis seriously propose to the workers that they should repeat the same merry-go-round with another Democrat? By what logic can Lewis argue that, if the labor movement repeats "an accord between the Democratic party and organized labor," the same thing won't happen again?

Did it happen because Roosevelt was a "bad" man? Did Roosevelt change his mind? Not at all! The labor movement got nothing out of its "accord" with the Democratic party under Roosevelt because, as August Bebel said more than fifty years ago, there is a law that in every coalition between a capitalist party and the labor movement, the workers get the dirty end of the stick. Roosevelt was no better or worse than any other presidential candidate of any capitalist party; it was part of his job for those he represents—the big bosses—to take the workers into camp. He did it—with the help of John L. Lewis.

Lewis doesn't try to analyze why what happened did happen. As an accessory to the deed of tying organized labor to Roosevelt, he isn't in the best position in the world to explain what happened.

The rest of us, however, have no reason to hide from ourselves what happened. Labor got taken for a ride by Roosevelt. The next Democrat (or Republican), if he wanted the labor vote bad enough, would give Lewis all the "guarantees of good faith and fulfillment of party promises" that Lewis is asking for—and then take the workers for the same kind of a ride that we got from Roosevelt.

The American labor movement has come of age! There isn't one argument for remaining a poor relation in a boss party.

The workers, together with the white collar workers, the agricultural laborers and working farmers, and their families, constitute the overwhelming majority of the country. They ARE this country. If the CIO, representing the most important section of the industrial working class, would step out and take the lead, the others would follow.

For an Independent Labor Party!

## Otherwise Break Will Help Only Boss Politicians

By E. R. FRANK

John L. Lewis dramatically broke with Roosevelt and his administration at the "Cross Roads of Destiny" Golden Jubilee convention of the United Mine Workers of America, meeting this week at Columbus, Ohio. In scathing terms he denounced the New Deal and its recent attacks on the labor movement.

Reading a prepared statement at Wednesday's session of the convention, Lewis stated: "As the current year opens the Democratic Party is in default to the American people. After seven years of power, it finds itself without solution for the major questions of unemployment, low national income, mounting internal debt, increasing direct and consumer taxation and restricted foreign markets. There still exists the same national unhappiness that it faced seven years ago."

"... I am convinced that, with conditions now confronting the nation and the dissatisfaction now permeating the minds of the people, his (Roosevelt's) candidacy would result in ignominious defeat."

Lewis accused Roosevelt of breaking "faith" with organized labor and complained that "in the last three years labor has not been given representation in the cabinet, nor in the administrative or policy-making agencies of government."

"In the Congress," Lewis pointed out, "the unrestrained baiting and defaming of labor by the Democratic majority has become a pastime, never subject to rebuke by the titular or actual leaders of the party."

### Where is Bread?

Speaking the following day to newspapermen at the Neil House, Lewis remarked: "I see by the papers that William Green hauled a cake over to the President on a truck. While the people are crying for bread, Mr. Green hauls a cake over to the President. If the President eats the cake that Mr. Green provides him, the common people feel entitled at least to have bread."

"Those democrats who are good historians might see an historical allusion and say 'Let them eat cake.' Rather than spending my time toadying to the President with cake, I'm going to spend my time and efforts trying to get bread for the people who are crying for it."

### Lewis Reflects Masses

On more than one occasion, John L. Lewis has revealed his sensitivity to the feelings and needs of American labor. Lewis knows that the existence of a permanent economic depression with ten to twelve million workers doomed to unemployment and insecurity, and the Roosevelt policy of steering America headlong into the European blood-bath, is storing up tremendous dissatisfaction, bitterness and hatred, that is bound, before long, to explode in the face of the New Dealers.

The CIO is based on the mass production industries, steel, coal, (Continued on Page 3)

## Behind the Lines

By GEORGE STERN

Winston Churchill, England's No. 1 warlord, made a speech at Manchester last Saturday in which he unexpectedly introduced the notion that the Allies might terminate their waiting game, take the initiative into their own hands and leave to Hitler the job of worrying where the next blow will fall.

"We do not wish indefinitely to continue merely awaiting the blows..." Churchill said. "We hope the day will come when we shall hand that job over to Hitler, and when he will be wondering where he is going to be struck next."

This was supplemented for special consumption in this country by Augur, journalistic mouthpiece of the British Foreign Office, in a special dispatch to the New York Times on Jan. 29. Augur's version is that the masses in England and, indeed, throughout the Empire, are beginning to get impatient for more blood. "This country's demand for resolute action is growing all the time. Resistance to German attacks, however stout, ceases to satisfy..." The Allies cannot achieve victory if it is irrevocable that they remain on the defensive.

Since the beginning of the war every responsible leader on the Allied side, including Churchill, has repeatedly stated that the Allied victory will consist in sitting tight and compelling German submission largely through the blockade and other forms of economic warfare. This has been only in part the real basis of Allied strategy.

Actually the twin line of massive fortifications on the Western front makes any offensive there prohibitively costly to either side. Any offensive, if one is to be undertaken, must of necessity take place across countries now des-

perately striving to remain neutral—Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Scandinavia, and on the other side of the map, the Balkans.

So far the Allies have been content to wait and leave up to Hitler the heavy risks involved in starting an offensive at any one of these points. Then they could march across these frontiers as "saviors" and not as "aggressors."

For in their reaction to Churchill's open bid of a few weeks ago to all neutrals to come in on the Allied side, Holland, Belgium, and Switzerland showed plainly that they do not intend to rise to the bait but will fight anybody who tries to cross their borders.

And now Churchill, and his echo, Augur, speak in terms of direct menace to the neutrals. Augur, indeed, says openly, "The moment is now foreseeable when the British and French will openly become the aggressors." This, clearly, is not intended only for ears in Berlin, but in Brussels, Berne, and the Hague, and in Scandinavia as well.

Churchill may simply be trying to egg Hitler into starting the offensive over which the Nazis hesitate like the man who hovered on the hotel ledge seventeen stories above the ground.

But Churchill is at the same time holding up a heavily mailed fist under the noses of the neutrals. Britain's economic warfare is waged not only against Germany but of necessity deals heavy blows to the smaller neutral states.

He is saying to them in effect that if they do not yield to British pressure and openly join the Allies, they may be forced to whether they like it or not. For the Allies will "openly become the aggressors."

## Sell Twice as Many Appeals!

The drive to make EVERY SUNDAY A RED SUNDAY has been launched from coast to coast—with the sale of TWICE AS MANY APPEALS the goal in every branch. Literature agents are seeing to it that poster artists prepare room-length streamers carrying the campaign slogans: "Every Sunday a Red Sunday!"—"We Will Sell Twice as Many Appeals!" These streamers, stretched across the front wall of the branch headquarters, bring the campaign home to party members as nothing else can. Has your branch put them up yet? We will send both of them to you and bill you, at nominal cost, if your branch lacks an artist. (Literature agents, here is your chance to put the problem of sales squarely before the branch, all during the meeting, every meeting! Get those streamers up!)

In the first week of the campaign, a certain effect has already been noted. Requests for decreases in bundle orders have stopped abruptly. Let every request henceforth be a request for an increase!

The weak link in bundle sales of the APPEALS has been lack of information about WHAT HAPPENS TO THESE PAPERS ONCE THEY REACH THE BRANCH. We're going

to try to change that. When branch bills go out this week, a small form with spaces for all essential figures will go with them, as it will with every single issue from now on. A remittance is requested with each report, and we will expect a WEEKLY report and a WEEKLY remittance from every branch in the country. It should be immediately apparent to every party member that the APPEAL week-to-week income will jump SHARPLY with this practice—which will give us finger-tip control over the weakest part of our sales system.

Every branch received this week a red-signal letter on back bills. The APPEAL needs money—lots of it—immediately. What is your branch doing about it? The financial jam doesn't become cleared simply because you've become aware of it. It will be cleared up only when you DO something about it!

### —THE MANAGEMENT

P.S.—A note to non-party readers of our press: Your subscription or contribution, sent now, will benefit not only you, but the APPEAL as well. You are sympathetic to our cause—why not aid the members of our party in pulling the APPEAL out of its financial difficulties? Every dollar, we assure you, counts!

## 'First Lady' Barges Through Picket Line Against Jim Crow

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 23—Pickets at a Jim Crow theater here last night failed to persuade Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, four Cabinet members and three Supreme Court justices from passing the picket line.

Negro and white pickets were protesting against the barring of Negroes from Washington's theaters. The occasion was especially appropriate, for it was the premiere of "Abe Lincoln in Illinois." "Negro citizens may not see the picture of the Great Emancipator," read one of the picket signs. "I think it's a shame that such a fine picture should be picketed," Mrs. Roosevelt told reporters.