

In the Labor Unions

By B. J. WIDICK

Long-Haired Boys

That this country needs a good five-cent cigar and glass of beer to make union leaders reasonable, evidently is the assumption upon which the American Economic Foundation, a super-super union-busting organization, is founded.

The purpose of this outfit is to pour oil on the troubled waters of the class struggle, to bring peace and quiet and normalcy back to communities which have been torn by labor trouble and "to restore workers' faith in the capitalistic system."

Now there is nothing new about this faith-healing. Joe Hill, who immortalized in song the militancy of the American workers, once wrote about "long haired preachers" who promise "pie in the sky"—to which Joe thundered "that's a lie!"

What is interesting is that the faith-healers and economic medicine men should employ their methods of gentle suasion in an age when the class struggle is more and more being waged in the streets and not in a labor-management conference over some nickle stogies.

In the Backroom

The American Economic Foundation chose three American cities in which to conduct their experiment—Terre Haute, Indiana, Massillon and Akron, Ohio.

Its methods are simple, almost insulting to one's finer sensibilities. In Terre Haute, scene of general strikes, pitched battles between the workers and the state militia and seething cauldron of the class struggle, the bosses found that much of their trouble could be eliminated by being "nice" to the labor leaders. Instead of calling in the militia, they called in certain union officials. They retired to Mike's bar, and over a couple of beers and cigars, the dispute was settled.

Fortune magazine, which records these touching incidents, fails to say how the rank and file is faring in this new era.

Billy Sunday of Business

The Foundation has now moved in on Akron in the person of one, Alfred Haake, Ph. D. and one-time official of the American Liberty League.

At the moment, he is conducting his moral rearmament program through the various luncheon clubs and American Legion, the latter of which has been in ill repute since the Socialist Workers Party in Akron held a counter-demonstration to one of its flag-waving rallies.

One of Dr. Haake's buddies-on-the-firing-line is Deloss Walker, associate editor of Liberty magazine and self-christened "Billy Sunday of Business." In a former Akron appearance, Walker jumped on a table, threw off his coat and threatened to bust anyone in the jaw who said he couldn't get a job. (He must embarrass the bourgeoisie.)

In Massillon, where the little-steel strike was fought to a bloody finish, the Foundation has set the milk and honey of class collaboration flowing by bringing certain union officials into the "civic organizations."

Junk Pile, or Else

No worker, of course, can object to creating better cities to live in or to bringing about prosperity. But that can be done only by obtaining a higher standard of living for the laboring masses—by jobs at decent wages. On this problem, the American Economic Foundation is understandably silent.

Capitalism has shown itself incapable of improving the lot of the common people. Our lot, instead, is getting worse. And everyone is realizing it more and more.

And this is where the baloney salesmen come in with their slightly adulterated tripe. They will fall in restoring our faith in their skin-game.

Their outfit must either end in the junk pile with all those that came before it or develop into an open, undisguised strike-breaking, union-busting gang, which it is at heart.

Boston, Mass.

Benefit Supper for the Socialist Appeal
FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 8:30 p.m.
Byron Hall, 6 Byron St.
Admission, 49 cents

W. A. A. Stages Roosevelt Campaign Rally

BOOST RELIEF-SLASHER FOR THIRD TERM

'Right to Work' Congress Skips Discussion of Jobless Needs

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
WASHINGTON, June 6.—The Stalinized Workers Alliance "Right to Work Congress" is continuing its do-nothing sessions here in the Labor Auditorium. Hundreds of delegates who came for an answer to the problem of unemployment and W.P.A. layoffs are forced to waste their time listening to campaign speeches for Roosevelt's re-election.

That the "Right to Work Congress" does not intend to fight the battles of the nation's unemployed workers was indicated here today in a resolution unanimously adopted which goes on record in support of the relief-slashing New Deal Administration in the 1940 presidential elections.

Resorting to the type of campaign the Stalinists conducted during the 1936 presidential elections, the W.A.A. has given the signal for a "Defeat Garner at all costs" drive.

Whitewash Roosevelt
Picturing Vice-President John Nance Garner as the Congressional leader of the "Tory Democrat and reactionary Republican bloc" to which is ascribed sole responsibility for the recent W.P.A. cuts and layoffs, the Workers Alliance resolution suggests a third term for President Roosevelt. The resolution declares that "We should form such organizations and clubs as are necessary to rally the utmost support to keep the New Deal in the White House in 1940."

That it was President Roosevelt himself who initiated the W.P.A. cuts as a means of "appeasing business," that his April 27 relief-cutting message is now before Congress providing only a total of two million W.P.A. jobs for the coming year, 1,350,000 less than were employed last November, is crassly ignored by the leaders of the "Right to Work Congress."

Instead, Roosevelt is portrayed in the resolution as: "A man who has the feeling for the common folks that President Roosevelt has, who has his liberalism, his practical sense of the country's needs, who has his patriotism and courage to keep our nation at peace, must be nominated and elected in 1940."

Delegates Stampeded
The Stalinist whips are stampeding the unemployed delegates into accepting every resolution that is proposed. The Congress is run from a behind-the-scenes conference room, from which emanate all proposals, and the delegates merely vote. The committee on resolutions was named to the delegates by the Workers Alliance bureaucrats at the first session.

The first departure from this practice was made today, when the resolution boomerang Roosevelt for a third term was proposed by the convention's southern delegation. This was, judging from the well-planned succession of the speakers, a maneuver to make it appear as if the third term sentiment was a spontaneous demonstration from the convention floor.

Speeches Befog Delegates
Prior to this resolution in support of the New Deal in the 1940 election, the delegates have been subjected to speech after speech from Congressmen, boosting Roosevelt and the New Deal Administration.

Monday's session spent most of its time hearing Rep. Coffee of Washington offer the election of New Deal candidates in 1940 as the solution to the unemployed problem. This was preceded by the presentation of an innocuous resolution stating the horrible condition of the unemployed while praising the New Deal.

The Tuesday session was devoted to still more pep talks for Roosevelt by Dr. Harry F. Ward of the League for Peace and Democracy and Robert Hanchen of the "National Negro Congress."

Mrs. Roosevelt Coos
Tomorrow's session will be addressed by Mrs. Roosevelt who will take time off from her preparations for the welcome to the King and Queen—to tell the unemployed just how grieved she is at poverty. There is still to be pro-

The Kind of Action that Brings Results



Sit-down strikers at Fisher Plant No. 2 watching the street from a second story window during the great strike battle of 1937 in Flint, Mich., which was then patrolled by troops. Winning the first encounter with city police, the strikers took possession of the factory.

Briggs Strikers Go Over The Top In Resounding Victory for Union

(Continued from Page 1)
Labor Relations Board election to be held shortly, local 212 shall be granted sole collective bargaining if it wins a majority in that election. This victory is assured—thus marking a major step forward for the entire auto union.

Other Improvements
Among the other improvements of the contract there is one clause which places the union in a far more favorable position for militant action in case of company provocation. The No-Strike clause previously in the contract has been eliminated and in its place merely the condition that there shall be no strikes or slowdowns until the regular grievance procedure has been exhausted.

Improvements in the seniority system were effected so that employees previously working at Briggs shall be called back to work before new men are hired; departmental shop stewards shall retain their seniority as chief stewards for one year if demoted because of lack of work; employees transferred from a lower to a higher classification shall receive five cents below the higher classification and receive the maximum after 28 days (the vicious practice of the Ford Motor Co. in reducing wages by this kind of transfer had been partly carried over to Briggs prior to this contract).

The agreement includes the five Detroit plants of the Briggs corporation and its two plants in Evansville, Ind. Under its terms shop committee members are to be paid for time spent in weekly meetings; meetings with the management can be arranged on 24 hours' notice instead of five days as previously; and a guarantee that workers found to be unjustly discharged shall receive all back pay.

"One of the Best"
Emil Mazey, President of Briggs local 212, characterized the agreement as "one of the best in the industry". That the Briggs workers have moved ahead while General Motors workers and to a lesser extent, Chrysler men have been beaten back is indisputable. The great lesson of this strike lies in the effectiveness of the methods employed and of the militancy and organized action of its membership. Local 212 has probably the best "Flying Squadron" in the whole International.

nounced a single word at this "Right to Work Congress" on the necessity for the unemployed to struggle against relief slashes. Keeping Roosevelt in the White House for a third term and exhortations to join the Democratic Party are the only advice given the unemployed by the Stalinist traitors who call themselves leaders of the unemployed.

The rest of the union must now emulate these methods—Briggs 212 has blazed the trail for them. And as the entire organization passes over from its precarious defensive position into strong offensive lines, it will find the workers eager and ready for the battle as they were in the Briggs strike. It will find that the heroic union traditions of 1937 far from being dead will serve as a spur towards gaining what must now be the major objective of the United Automobile Workers Union: the thirty hour week at forty hours' pay. This slogan is incorporated in the proceedings of the Cleveland convention, it is uppermost in the minds of the auto workers. It will become the battle-cry in the days to come. It can be won!

Lesson of Strike
That the Briggs local was

able to achieve this splendid agreement is due to another important factor. The poisonous influence of the Stalinist Communist Party has been reduced to insignificance. One plant is under their control out of the seven but so strong is the anti-Stalinist character of the main body of the leadership that their union-busting activities have been check-mated at every step. An analysis of the main locals in the Chrysler and General Motors plants will show that precisely those locals that are weakest and most susceptible to Martin's influence, are the locals being strangled by this reactionary flag-waving crew known as the Communist Party.

Victory is possible. But possible only through militant action and without Stalinism. That is the lesson of the Briggs strike.

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FRIENDS OF THE Russian Bulletin—We are getting together again for a swell time on June 17 at 9 P.M. at 321 Second Ave. Singing, dancing and refreshments. A special movie of the Fair and New York street scenes will be shown. You may bring your friends.

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WAA CONGRESS FAWNS BEFORE MRS. ROOSEVELT

No Money? Why, Go To School, Says the President's Wife

(Continued from Page 1)

Alliance if it were a militant organization fighting for the needs of the unemployed was indicated by a prepared statement she had issued to the press before she arrived to speak. Referring to W.P.A. workers as "government employees," she said:

"No group that actually works for the government has a right to strike against the government." This was in answer to questions asking her to explain her appearance at the Congress.

Belly-Crawling Lasser

"Government people are in a different position than other persons and if they cannot agree with the government, they should get out," she stated. The statement was in the hands of the W.A.A. leaders before she spoke—and the W.A.A. still presumably claims to stand for the right of W.P.A. workers to strike—but that did not prevent President Lasser from groveling at this woman's feet.

Introducing her, Lasser said: "I'm sure that this day is an historic one for the unemployed, the W.P.A. workers and the underprivileged generally. This lady has not been content merely to be the president's wife. This lady has considered it her duty, her mission, her vocation to study the needs of the humble people of this country. At a time when she is preparing to meet the King and Queen of England, she has not forgotten the underprivileged unemployed."

Kind Contempt

This contemptible belly-crawling of Lasser was supplemented by the half-contemptuous remark of Mrs. Roosevelt, that "one of the things that strikes me most is not that young people are becoming radicals, but that they are settling into hopelessness." This "Congress" was doing its share to make it possible for Mrs. Roosevelt to say that with impunity.

The lady spoke generally and without reference to the concrete needs of the unemployed workers. She recommended a "greater interest in the community. It doesn't always mean having more money to live better," she said. "It is a matter of more education."

Decent Homes Utopian

Staying on after her address to "answer a few questions," Mrs. Roosevelt was asked whether she favored larger Federal subsidies to enable children to go to high school. "I am not familiar as to its necessity," she replied. "Personally what I would prefer to feel is that we are working for a democracy in which every one can give his child a decent home until he leaves school. Of course, I realize that that sounds Utopian."

Mrs. Roosevelt was not so Utopian, however, but that she advised the delegates "to use your ballots intelligently." For whom was, of course, previously indicated by the W.A.A. leaders who pushed through a resolution to keep the New Deal in the White House after 1940.

APPEAL WILL BENEFIT FROM BOSTON PARTY

Everyone remembers the famous dinner we served last time at Byron Hall, 6 Byron St. in Boston. But that was only a sample!
We are urging all Bostonians to help the Appeal by attending our buffet supper on June 16 at 6:30 P.M. All food served will be home-made!
Antoinette Konikow will be our hostess and Nathan Schechet will be the guest of honor. There will be entertainment by Boston's own impersonator and dramatic actor—"Professor" John Taber, assisted by Verne Merritt (exclusive discovery of the Boston Y.P.S.L.).
In addition, the exotic Bessie



"The enclosed \$5.00 is a payment on our bundle order account. The Detroit branch will do everything it can to maintain the twice-a-week paper. We will send more money on our account in the next few days."—E. Ponticall, Detroit agent.

"I am enclosing copies of a promotional leaflet for the APPEAL which we inserted in back copies and distributed in working class neighborhoods. The leaflet and the APPEAL were neatly rolled and held in place by a rubber band. The package was then hooked over the front door knob. Later we made a house-to-house canvass of the neighborhood with excellent results."—Paul Fielding, Akron literature agent. The mimeographed leaflet, by the way, was an excellent job. Neat, simple and clear.

"The campaign for renewal of subscriptions is in full swing. Chicago has set itself a quota of 50 renewals by June 15. Assignments have been made."—Sam Richter of Chicago.

APPEAL FINANCIAL SITUATION

This week we have addressed letters to those few branches that either failed to respond to our request for immediate payments on their debts, or did not respond sufficiently.

While our situation has improved, the action of these branches (numbering about 17) is still seriously handicapping our efforts to pull out of the present financial slump.

We address ourselves to these branches again. Oakland, East Oakland, Chicago, Flint, University City, Newark, Rochester, Youngstown, Cleveland, Akron, Philadelphia, Seattle and Wisconsin. Upon your immediate response depends

whether or not the Appeal can continue its twice-a-week publication. We are waiting to hear from you!

Subscriptions picked up considerably this past week due to a spurt forward in our renewal subscription campaign. Chicago and Minneapolis have done the best work on this so far. Here's the list:

| | |
|---------------|----|
| MASSACHUSETTS | 10 |
| Ohio | 9 |
| Minneapolis | 7 |
| Chicago | 7 |
| California | 6 |
| New York City | 5 |
| Philadelphia | 4 |
| New Jersey | 3 |
| Missouri | 2 |
| Newark | 1 |
| Detroit | 1 |
| Foreign | 1 |
| Indiana | 1 |
| Connecticut | 1 |
| Total | 58 |

In Fitchburg, Mass., there is a new bundle order agent who is beginning with a bundle of 10 copies per issue. His name is O. Williams.

Soi Margolles, Y.P.S.L. agent of Philadelphia, now takes 25 copies per issue.

The Philadelphia branch has been re-instated in good standing temporarily on the basis of their making a payment, appointing a new literature agent and promising to adopt a new attitude towards their Appeal responsibilities. We expect them to live up to their promises and assure the branch that it will be given every opportunity to do so.

NOTICE: Please make all checks, money orders, etc., payable to the SOCIALIST APPEAL. Do not make them out to the manager or editor of the paper. Please observe this request.

Who Is Father Coughlin, What Is His Program?

(Continued from Page 1)

"The international bankers are on their way out," he promised, side by side with Roosevelt. "The prosperity identified with the year 1926 is not too far distant."

And he waxed eloquent: "March 4th, 1933! What a memorable day that was! It was the birthday of the 'new deal.' On that date a voice went ringing around the world announcing a new Declaration of Independence. Before the minds of the millions who listened there was revived the drama of Christ as He lashed the money-changers from the Temple." (The New Deal in Money, p. 36.)

Father Coughlin described Roosevelt to his rapt followers as the "New Lincoln," the "protector of the common people," and he declared himself ready to follow "our leader to the end."

"I still proclaim to you that it is either 'Roosevelt or Ruin.' I support him today and will support him tomorrow." (Radio Speech, March 11, 1933.)

Father Coughlin even held a number of secret conferences with "New Lincoln" Roosevelt himself. The nature of those conferences has not been divulged to this day. Frequently he called the President's personal secretary over long-distance telephone.

High, wide, and handsome, Coughlin rode the great wave of popularity that swept Roosevelt into office amidst golden promises.

Roosevelt was going to end the depression, put everybody to work, give everybody an annual wage, permit labor to organize, and MAINTAIN PRIVATE PROPERTY.

Coughlin was a key man in the propaganda machine that deluded the people into supporting Roosevelt.

Father Coughlin, the Detroit spell-binder, was a fellow-traveler of Roosevelt's, a high pressure salesman of his wares. When he abandoned the job it was taken over by Stalin's Communist Party.

Of course, Coughlin has since turned against Roosevelt. His reason is very simple.

Highly sensitive to the moods of the masses, Coughlin understands that Roosevelt's answers no longer satisfy the people, especially the unemployed. They are restlessly seeking a way out. Coughlin is not blind to the finger writing Roosevelt's doom on the wall.

The obscure "radio priest" of 1926 has come a long way. The future seems bright for his particular talents. Strife and dissension, wars and rumors of wars, these ring a sweet clangor in the ears of Father Coughlin.

(To be continued in next issue)

Do you want to see this series of articles on Coughlin published in a popular pamphlet, at a low price, for mass distribution? Pioneer Publishers is undertaking to get out a large edition immediately—IF it receives contributions from all friends and comrades to make it possible. Readers are urged to send contributions for the Coughlin pamphlet to Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York City.

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