

# Workers Age

A PAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS

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## Introduce New Bill To Free Tom Mooney

### Concurrent Resolution Memorializes Governor For Pardon

Widespread interest aroused in the move to grant a legislative pardon to Tom Mooney has made it possible to carry this part of the struggle against the frame-up still further. Whereas the first resolution, defeated in the Senate after having passed the Assembly of the California State Legislature, was bound up with the constitutional question of the Legislature's right to grant a pardon, the newly introduced concurrent resolution memorializes the Governor to pardon. It is thus expected that many more members of the both houses will vote for Mooney's pardon.

All those sympathetic to the fight of Tom Mooney are urged to flood the legislature with telegrams demanding the passage of this resolution.

The California State Federation of Labor, the San Francisco Trades and Labor Council, and the unions affiliated to these bodies, are organizing a very effective campaign behind this resolution for pardon to Mooney.

## A. F. of L. Council Attacks Sit-Down Strikers; Chrysler Blocks Pact

### AUTO WORKERS' MIGHTY DEMONSTRATION IN CADILLAC SQUARE



## Split Labor Front Again

### Evacuation of Plants By Union Brings Chrysler To Parley Table

As we go to press negotiations between the United Automobile Workers of America and the Chrysler Corporation are still in progress. According to press statements now available, the union forces are willing to accept rights of "preferential bargaining" instead of the previously demanded sole bargaining agency rights.

\* \* \*

While workers awaited the results of the Chrysler strike as another step in the progress of the Committee for Industrial Organization, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor once again entered upon the scene of labor's struggles in this country by declaring that the sit-down strike is illegal, and declared its use "detrimental to labor." It should even begin to seem strange to the gentlemen of the crafts themselves that their only role in the great battles of the labor movement today is interference from the outside in the interests of the employers!

The voice was the voice of Green but the hand was the hand of Frey. Developing the theory of the lesser evil Green declared that "public opinion will not support strikes. . . . If persisted in it will . . . force the enactment of . . . repressive forms of legislation which would deprive organized labor of freedom of association and liberty of action. . . . Such action would be a severe blow to labor."

This obnoxious doctrine would have the American labor movement believe that its militancy and forward surge brings it repression and not that the glorious and vital onward march of labor under the CIO has brought its first victories of consequence in some time. But of course, Green—who did so very much for the auto worker—thinks the GM settlement is a sell-out.

\* \* \*

The workers in Hudson and Reo plants are still holding the factories. It is expected that a Chrysler settlement will bring these to terms also.

to where the rank and file of the component unions stand.

The formation of the advertising Guild is an important development in the field of white collar workers. The membership consists of classified ad telephone girls, office boys and straight-salaried (uncommissioned) classified ad solicitors.

Officers of the Joint Council are: President: Thomas A. McCarthy, Newspaper Guild.

Vice president: Gurskey. Secretary: Thomas Dugan, of the ad Guild.

Other delegates to the council are: William J. Farson, president of the Ad Guild; Charles P. Polk, president of the Newspaper Guild; and Peter Ehlers and Alfred E. Werner of the Newspaper Guild.

## FRENCH CAPITAL WINS ITS SIT-DOWN STRIKE

by BERTRAM D. WOLFE  
(Our special European correspondent)

Paris, March 15  
Capital has won its sit-down strike here. No French government of high finance has ever issued a loan on such favorable terms nor for such frankly imperialistic class aims of the big bourgeoisie, as the present loan of the popular front government. In place of punishing the sit-downers, the hoarders and exporters of capital, the government has surrendered to them, even rewards them. Hence the capital strike is at an end; the funds have come out of their secret hiding places charmed by Pied Piper Blum and his sweet song to the tune of "Patriotism Pays." The first section of the loan was more than three times oversubscribed at the very moment when American government bonds were falling on the New York Exchange.

Blum has pledged himself to use the whole proceeds of the loan for national defense and war preparation. "The aim of my government (which is also that of Thorez and Jouhaux) is twofold: On the one hand, civil peace, civic harmony, collaboration of all classes for order and in mutual understanding. On the other, national cohesion in the face of a foreign peril." National preparedness, class peace and class collaboration,—what government could give the Big Bourgeoisie more than Blum?

"In the questions which concern the military security of the country," he declared in Parliament, "do you not think that the solidarity which includes all proletarian parties, even the Communist, and

all proletarian organizations, even those of the former C.G.T.U., plays today an essential role?" That's plain speaking and in Marxist political language, but the C.P. keeps shameful silence, or tries to shortcircuit the rising indignation of the masses by directing it into the channels of petty grumbling about non-essentials.

### Masses Resentful

It is heartbreaking to see this tragedy of lost opportunities at close hand. The masses are restless, puzzled, resentful. They are ready for struggle against Blum on the Spanish question, on the loan question, on the budget cuts, on the high cost of living, on the cessation of large public works, on the imperialist policies. But they are leaderless. Socialist Party and Communist Party together: that is virtually the whole leadership of the French working class. To it, add Jouhaux and official syndicalism, and the front to hold back, mislead, and bewilder the angry workers is complete. Only the anarchists speak up: lyrically and rhetorically as usual, but at least with a burning working class voice. Hence they are gaining ground, and anarchism, so long dead in France, has been dragged out of the antique shop of history, and is offered to the working class once more as up

## U. S. AMBASSADOR LAUDS RED ARMY

Joseph Davies, U. S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, praised the Red Army highly, at a private dinner given by him to such leading Soviet figures as Marshal's Voroshiloff, Tuchashevsky, and Budyenny, Judge Ulrich and others.

Greeting the diners, Davies said: "The Red Army is an army of citizens, devoted to peace and the protection of their own territory without aggressive aims."

In reply, Voroshiloff, War Commissar, stressed this point, adding that the Red Army would gladly remove its uniforms if there were really no need of soldiers. However the enemies of the Soviet Union make it imperative that the Red Army be on guard.

to date equipment.

How easily things might be done! In moments of inadvertence, the "major statesmen" of the working class themselves admit it. Thus Frossard declared the other day:

"Out of 8,000,000 wage workers, 5,000,000 members of the C.G.T. make it the most powerful trade union center in the entire world... it is strong and united, and at a sign from its responsible leaders, it could paralyze the economic life of the country... Then let them understand: no majority, no government, could govern in France against the C.G.T."

Empty rhetoric? The power

(Continued on Page 4)

## Form Joint Council Of News Men

PHILADELPHIA. — A Joint Council of newspaper workers, probably the first of its kind in the country, has been formed here. It comprises initially:

The Newspaper Guild of Philadelphia & Camden.

The Newspaper Advertising Guild of Philadelphia and Camden, a new A. F. of L. local organized with aid of the reporters union and consisting so far of classified advertising men and classified ad telephone operators.

The Newspaper Chauffeurs and Handlers union A. F. of L.—the truck drivers.

The Newspaper Carriers Union, a newly organized A. F. of L. union consisting of newstand operators and newsboys.

It is planned by the Council as soon as possible to take in delegates from all the other unions whose members are employed by newspapers: the I.T.U., the pressmen, the mailers, etc.

Owing to the positions of the various internationals of the unions now in the council and of the other unions, no open stand has been taken on the C.I.O. issue. There is no doubt, however, as to where the progressives who organized the council stand, or as

## WILL HERBERG

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LECTURES ON

## 'Road To Victory In Spain'

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# Catholic Church And Industrial Unionism

By SAUL HELD

THE late Mark Hanna, one of America's greatest political bosses, as renowned for his bluntness as for his astuteness, once said that the two greatest supports of the Constitution were the United States Supreme Court and the Catholic Church. One may question the accuracy of the designation "greatest," but no one can seriously quarrel with the incontrovertible fact that the Constitution was designed solely to protect private property and that both the Supreme Court and the Catholic Church have been, in theory and practice, black-robed bull-dogs protecting the class of private property owners.

With the ascendancy of Catholics in industry in the more recent decades of American history, the Church obtained the army with which it secured an almost unchallenged dictatorship over the American Federation of Labor. The bold and brazen policies of class-collaboration which it helped to shackle on labor in the twenties were the complement of its emergence as a power in industrial-financial circles. Today, the wealthy ruling caste of the A. F. of L. is composed almost exclusively of Catholics. Wall Street Catholics function not only to acquire wealth for themselves as individuals but as mediums by which the Church invests. The Church, as an institution, is industrialist and investor, a capitalist concern whose wealth has been estimated at 7 billion dollars! An item of current interest in this connection was the recent press announcement that Mrs. Nicholas Brady, widow of the deceased utilities magnate and a "Papal Duchess" to boot, had given a gift to the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) consisting of a house and 100 of her 229-acre Long Island estate, valued at \$8,000,000, as a home of study for young seminarians.

## Church As Capitalist

There is nothing that the Church fears more than exposures of its economic stake in capitalism. So carefully has the Church picked its mediums of investment, so successful has it been in having laws put through legislatures making virtually impossible any probing into its finances, that there is little on public record for analysis. We do know, however, that it supports 10,429 institutions including colleges, universities, seminaries, schools, manned by 85,820 instructors, according to the official 1934 figure. It had 16,794 church edifices in 1926 as noted in a Comparative Study of the U. S. Religious Censuses, with the value of churches reporting for that year at \$837,271,053. Parenthetically, I must comment on the fact that while these figures are recorded in the 1937 issue of the Franciscan Almanac, none but dated figures are given. Surely the Church has the very latest figures and more accurate than the old and partial ones supplied by the Government. Indeed, silence is oft golden, to paraphrase Shakespeare, a Catholic. Surely these gigantic temples of worship and education, so symbolic of the lust for the material rather than the spiritual, are hardly supported by divine intervention or the contributions of the underpaid millions of Catholic workers.

So back to the meagre but revealing record: "Selecting items at random from the portfolios of the Church's investments—I quote from the New York State banking records—we find securities, stocks and/or bonds, of the . . . Baltimore & Ohio, Bedford Belt, R.R., Rock Island, North Western, Erie, Seaboard Airline, New Orleans Terminal, Missouri Pacific, Pere Marquette, General American Tank Car . . . Continental Gas, International Securities, Libby, McNeil & Libby, North American Car, Marion Steam Shovel, Pennsylv-

ania Glass Sand, Pure Oil, Timken Silent Automatic . . . Goodrich Tire and Rubber, B. F. Goodrich, Hudson Coal, Associated Electric . . . Commonwealth Edison, International Match, International Rolling Mills . . . New York State Electric . . . Lane Bryant . . . National Dairy Products . . . Washington Silk, Brooklyn Edison, New York Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric, New York City bonds, American Chain, American Smelting, Armour, Beaver Mills, Bethlehem Steel, Canadian International Paper, Firestone Tire, Fisk Rubber, Gulf Oil, U. S. Rubber, Trumbull Steel, Shell Union Oil, Pressed Steel Car, Pillsbury Flour Mills, Toledo Edison, Southern California Edison."

Has there not and does there not exist some connection between the fact that the Catholic-dominated A. F. of L. executive council has consistently sabotaged and disrupted trade union organization in the steel, rubber and oil industries, and the fact that the Church has heavy investments in precisely these industries?

The Catholic barrage of propaganda against the C.I.O. and the United Automobile Workers Union, particularly violent during the recent auto strike, had one of its cardinal motivations in the fact that the Church had investments in the auto industry (the most profitable industry for investors). Ferdinand Lundberg has correctly pointed out that, "The largest portions of Catholic investments are held in the names of individuals and hence do not appear as Church funds on the public record unless they figure in litigation or some similar public transaction."

## Are Catholic Capitalists Different?

Is it possible that the Church, which not only believes in rendering unto Caesar as a general principle but particularly because it is incorporated in the body of modern profiteering, does not have its finger in this, the most profitable of all industries, the auto empire? We do know this: Amongst the gentry running the auto empire there are such sterling exponents of "social justice" as James D. Mooney, vice president of General Motors, who recently returned from a European sojourn and opened the drive for an American loan to Hitler; the DuPonts, who own more than a 20% interest in G.M.; and last but not least, Raskob and Alfred P. Sloan, Jr.

Now another angle of the matter presents itself. If these gentlemen are the exponents of the Catholic ideals of "Social Justice" for labor, which the Church brags, hows and shrieks that it alone champions, then the demagogic game is transparent enough, and we know precisely what the Church ideals are worth.

Take this little gang mentioned above—Raskob and the DuPonts organized the Liberty League. They financed the Sentinels of the Republic, the Crusaders, etc., fomenters of race hatreds and riots amongst workers! Is it possible that they promoted the anti-Catholic southern auto worker against the Catholic auto worker? Certainly the Black Legion worked toward that end, and it would be utter folly to believe that with all their spies and stoopigeons, the

# ARE SIT-DOWNS LEGAL?

by BENJAMIN RISSEN

(concluded from last week)

"Trespass on realty, is an entry upon another's possession unlawfully and with force. The gist of the action is the breaking and entering upon the real property and what happens after the entry is mere matter of aggravation." Two Federal Court decisions concur in defining trespass as follows: "A trespasser on realty is one who goes upon the premises of another without invitation, expressed or implied, and does so out of curiosity, or for his own purposes or convenience, and not in the performance of any duty to the owner."

## Attack Auto Union

The bitterest and dirtiest attacks on the United Automobile Workers Union were made in the heart of the auto region by the Rev. Charles Coughlin. He gave even George Sokolsky a run for his money. In Social Justice of Jan. 11, he relates his alleged interview with a Catholic sit-downer under the caption "Inside Story of the Strikes." Here is Coughlin's version of what he told the striker, in part:

"You men are working for Ford Motor Company, for General Motors, for Chrysler. Have you and your fellow-laborers as much executive ability as Mr. Sorenson and Mr. Martin, and above all, Mr. Henry Ford? Have you the training and scientific knowledge, the engineering ability and the executive genius of Knudsen of General Motors, of Chrysler and Keller, both of Chrysler, or Klinger of Pontiac?"

"Now you want them to work for you?"

He then went on to denounce the sit-down as "illegal" and as constituting "confiscation."

America, the weekly magazine of the Jesuits, waxed lurid and livid in its Feb. 27 issue: "When they were not preparing arms, the strikers seem to have engaged in acts of sheer vandalism. Car roofs were broken in and car bodies scratched with sharp instruments. The mechanism controlling the heavy steel fire-doors was put out of commission, and office telephones, plumbing fixtures, and cafeteria equipment were ruined. Some of the sections could not have been more completely wrecked had they been exposed to a crossfire of machine guns and cannon. The police were complaisant, the court which ordered the strikers to vacate was derided, and no official seems to have made any attempt to protect the property of the Corporation."

"It seems . . . that here we have a case to be presented to the next Grand Jury in Flint. In addition, the Corporation is entitled to recover in the civil courts for the damage done its property. Workers may strike, given certain conditions, but the right to strike does not include the right to destroy property. Catholic members of the union should know that to steal or to destroy, even to further the legitimate ends of a strike, is a sin which entails the obligation to restore the property taken, and to make good the damage inflicted."

And if these are not the outraged outcries of heavy investors in General Motors—well, then we're all G.M. stockholders!

## C.I.O. "Communitic"

A Social Justice headline, Jan. 11: "WHERE IS LEWIS LEADING LABOR? Does the C.I.O. Head Plan a U. S. 'Soviet'?" On Dec. 14, Lewis is accused of fomenting "strike after strike to further personal ends" and of entering "into liaison with radical labor politicians when he formed the Committee for Industrial Organization."

Because the C.I.O. unions, some of them, are for a labor party, the Church hierarchy sees the red

authority or license was from Plaintiff an abuse of it does not make one a trespasser ab initio." This doctrine is not restricted to any one state as Corpus Juris cites cases confirming it from Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, as well as New York. Still another New York case presents a close and very interesting analogy. This case holds that where a party enters a house by license, he will not be considered a trespasser ab initio by reason of an unlawful act done after such entry.

## Sit-Down Is Legal

It should be apparent that one who is not a trespasser from the beginning is not a trespasser at all since the essence of trespass is unlawful entry. For all of their brave words, some local and state authorities have displayed a considerable amount of caution. The action of the New York police is extremely significant. Even the liberal mayor of New York has acquiesced in the use of the police to oust sit-downers by force. But for even a fraction of a second imagine that the giant corporation are accepting as final the kicking given them by the C.I.O. in recent weeks. They are biding their time. Perhaps they will strive to hit back when the next economic crisis breaks.

Some plain talk revealing the mood of the financial magnates, after the steel settlement, was presented to us by Edward H. Collins, associate financial editor of the New York Herald-Tribune. On March 8th, Mr. Collins confessed: "Wall Street's slogan is 'Don't Sell Steel short'; but the advice that this writer has received from labor experts is, 'Don't sell John Lewis short.' In other words, the officials of Carnegie-Illinois were faced with the prospect that they might not be able to beat Mr. Lewis even if they did fight it out with him. They were presented, in other words, with a virtual fait accompli . . ."

Moreover, in view of the success of Mr. Lewis in getting more money and shorter hours for his followers, it is something of a question how long company unions can co-exist with C.I.O. unions.

The advice, "Don't sell John Lewis short" is undoubtedly sound advice. "But short-sale or no short-sale, Mr. Lewis is still not a seasoned investment. He will face his real test, not in the next few months, but when business goes into the next depression."

The Company Mob—A Fascist Comer  
No one needs a financial hand book to decipher this. It would be fatal folly to assume that because many company unions have been and will be won by the C.I.O. unions, therefore, all company union dangers are gone. It would be suicidal to assume that the employers will not find and resort to new weapons. During the General Motors strike we had an inkling of some of these weapons. First and foremost as a danger facing the unions and all labor is the company mob. This is not an ordinary aggregation of employment agency scab riff raff. The company mob is no mere pure American vigilante racket. The company mob may be a band of skilled workers on the W.P.A. lists. Why? Thirty-five out of every hundred workers on W.P.A. are 45 to 65 years of age. At least fifty percent range from 25 to 44. These hundreds of thousands are old enough to be members of a bankers' club, a chamber of commerce, a Harvard alumni association, but too old to be given a chance to grind out dividends for the gentry crowding the rosters of these select societies.

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# Problems Of CIO Consolidation

By JAY LOVESTONE

FOR the C.I.O. the problem of consolidation and stabilization is not less important than the question of expansion. Both are phases of the task of the hour for the workers: the job of laying a sound foundation for a militant labor movement.

The hundreds of thousands of workers who have been pouring into the C.I.O. unions are inexperienced in practical trade unionism. They cannot be turned into determined, active union men at one stroke. The officers of the C.I.O. affiliates should go out of the way to develop the more capable local forces into leaders with a sense of responsibility and devotion. The organizations which have sprung up in the ranks of workers never before unionized must be stabilized. The big gains registered in the most torrential wave of organization under the banner of the C.I.O. must be consolidated. Only in this fashion can the C.I.O. hold what it has won and utilize the present gains for the extension of the drive to organize the millions still working under open shop conditions.

Open or camouflaged A. F. of L. Executive Council cynics may rave and rant that the C.I.O. membership is not yet settled, is not yet solidified. Of course this is so. However, this is not decisive. What is decisive in the relationship between the A. F. of L. and the C.I.O. is the difference in direction, in the very nature of the trends confronting both bodies. The C.I.O. faces a problem of influx; the A. F. of L. confronts exodus. With the C.I.O. it's a case of consolidation; with the A. F. of L. it's a case of disintegration. The C.I.O. faces problems of growth; the A. F. of L. is beset by difficulties of decline.

Integrally bound up with the question of the growth and consolidation of the C.I.O. is the problem of the so-called older worker in the mass production industries. For years the employers turned the older workers down and out as human wrecks, as unwanted, as useless material to be cast on the scrap heap of industry. In the course of the General Motors strike, the bosses all of a sudden began to pretend that they were solicitous of the welfare of the older workers. This was done to pit them against the younger ones who had a better chance to hold on to employment. The older workers were given the fraudulent impression that now that the younger ones were striking to make secure their jobs for a lifetime. It was thru such propaganda that quite a few of the older workers were roped into the Flint Alliance and pitted against the union.

This is a very serious problem. When a banker or capitalist politician is 45 years of age he is a stripling, a budding youngster with a future ahead of him. When an auto worker or steel worker gets to be 45 he is old—swept up into old age. Here we have the why and the wherefore for a super-ficially strange phenomenon. The biggest employers are complaining about a shortage of skilled help while there are hundreds of thousands of skilled workers on the W.P.A. lists. Why? Thirty-five out of every hundred workers on W.P.A. are 45 to 65 years of age. At least fifty percent range from 25 to 44. These hundreds of thousands are old enough to be members of a bankers' club, a chamber of commerce, a Harvard alumni association, but too old to be given a chance to grind out dividends for the gentry crowding the rosters of these select societies.

# Modern Strikes and Modern Wars

by STUART MEFFAN

IN previous articles I have tried to give you some first hand accounts of the sit-down strikes waged against G. M. in the auto industry. Thoughtful workers must have often asked themselves how it was that labor suddenly blossomed forth with an organization of such tremendous power as the U.A.W.A., after many attempts to organize the industry had failed, after so many thought the task hopeless. The reasons are many.

## The Sit-Down

This task weapon brings its users nearer to a revolutionary outlook is a fact beyond doubt. While Homer Martin was very correct in pointing out that a sit-down is not illegal because the worker is protecting the only property right he has, the right to use his labor power, nevertheless, the auto worker knows that the property laws enacted to protect the auto barons amongst others were not intended to be interpreted that way. He has consciously taken a step forward from the striker of the past. He has jumped the stage of merely stopping the means of production. He has taken some control over it at least for a time to insure its stopping until his demands are met. The capitalist class is terribly scared lest the next logical step should be the seizure of the means of production for the purpose of controlling it himself.

This does not mean of course that the proletarian revolution is 'round the corner in America. The high tempo of the last few weeks is already showing signs that it cannot continue for long. Many of the lessons will be forgotten, some will sink deep into the heart of the labor movement to leap again to its consciousness when future dangers approach.

It must also be remembered that the sharpening of the class struggle also forces capitalism into new techniques of oppression. American capitalism the founder of company unionism, company mob violence, and the systematic use of the spy system, is learning fast from the situation.

## New Anti-Labor Technique

If it is true that G.M. made a number of stupid mistakes in using violence in the strike, it is also certain that they are now trying to break the union by very subtle means. Attempted bribery of prominent unionists, giving way on unimportant matters, an attitude of abstract fairness, violence where the union is weak, these methods are still the stock in trade of G.M. This writer has seen a copy of a bulletin issued to G.M. supervisors called "Sit-down strikes and how to win them." The analysis and instructions set out therein are at least as good if not better than any got out by the union. In the details this bulletin is strictly objective in attitude. That this kind of literature prepares foremen who are otherwise merely tough by nature, for a future fascist regime is by no means as fantastic as it sounds. Just as the workers are preparing for war, so are capitalists preparing their hirelings. What happened in Anderson in the G.M. strike can happen elsewhere. The bosses realize that labor at the moment is on the march, and also that a reaction will set in sooner or later. It is then they hope that Anderson can be repeated again and again until the labor movement is crushed.

To the radical movement falls the terrific job of guiding this young onrushing movement into the right channel. This can be done if responsibility to the proletariat as a whole is the watchword, and organization the key to our future actions.

# The Growth Of The Auto Workers Union

by STUART MEFFAN

IN the first place the only organization in the past which had the resources to do the job, either did not wish to or was afraid to do it—namely the A.F. of L. Before the depression the auto industry employed a vast army of immigrants anxious to do anything for the illusion of high wages in the land of their adoption without causing trouble to their kind benefactors. Native Americans from the backward South and the farm lands flocked to this industry situated in a land of milk and honey. With the depression came the "red union," the "Auto Workers Industrial," a very properly set up industrial union, without any members worth speaking about, which disappeared late in 1934 with the change of the Communist party line. I.W.W.'s and craft unionists (M.E.S.A.) tried to get a hold on the industry but without any measurable or lasting degree of success.

## Union Sentiment Grows

Meanwhile the economic sufferings experienced by the auto workers amongst others showed its effect on the political field in the election of Roosevelt as president and also, important to Detroit, a liberal, Frank Murphy, as Mayor. The N.R.A. caused many workers to join a union in the belief that the President wanted them to. Even at this stage they did not visualize the organization as one to be run by themselves alone. With the Green-Roosevelt agreement delivering them safely back into the hands of the big auto corporations the organization practically collapsed again. However a nucleus was left around which the now huge U.A.W.A. was to grow.

The recovery of the auto industry with its huge profits could only be accomplished in one way in the era of declining capitalism. The exploitation of the workers had to be increased in every way possible. Thus real wages declined in some cases; in others the speed up was intensified. The worker's life became more miserable every day. In spite of previous disappointments, every little gain by the union increased its strength and with a successful sit-down at the Midland Steel Corporation in Detroit, the heart of the industry and famed as the Home of Open Shoppers, the upsurge started in earnest. Late in the day it is, but the workers in the industry seem

to have found their feet again. The recovery of the auto industry with its huge profits could only be accomplished in one way in the era of declining capitalism. The exploitation of the workers had to be increased in every way possible. Thus real wages declined in some cases; in others the speed up was intensified. The worker's life became more miserable every day. In spite of previous disappointments, every little gain by the union increased its strength and with a successful sit-down at the Midland Steel Corporation in Detroit, the heart of the industry and famed as the Home of Open Shoppers, the upsurge started in earnest. Late in the day it is, but the workers in the industry seem

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WORKERS AGE

Organ of the National Committee, Communist Party U. S. A. (Opposition), 131 West 33rd St., New York City...

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BANE OR BOON?

The superficial observer things are booming now. Productions levels are approaching dizzy heights. Prices are sky-rocketing. Self-confessed experts are drawing bizarre charts to prove that there is a shortage of labor...

We are in the throes of a precarious boom. The forces making for the present prosperity are the forces preparing the ground for the crisis ahead. This does not mean that we are now on the threshold of a great crisis.

The sweeping rise in commodity prices has become the cause of widespread controversy both here and in Europe. In general, lots of words are wasted here as well as abroad over the dangers of inflation.

All of these people speak of prices as if they were in a vacuum, some supernatural phenomenon abstracted and apart from the economic system and its social relations. All of them—for one reason or another—forget or ignore that the tempo of the price rise which now bothers them was in no small measure occasioned by the very remedies which their governments took...

The dangers involved are not in the price rise as such. The dangers are rooted in the inherent lack of balance between the various elements of production conducted on a capitalist basis.

The gap between productive capacities and the possibilities for consuming the products turned out is widening. In this chasm gather all the elements of crisis.

The sources, the causes of the crisis which is not yet at hand, which we are not facing immediately, but which is developing in the very midst of and because of the character of the very prosperity at hand can be overcome only with the overcoming of capitalism as a social and economic system.

SPAIN'S CLASS LINES SHARPEN

By LAMBDA London, March 13, 1937

CABALLERO'S last speech, which, in part, took some rather ambiguous turns, is a symptom of significant re-orientation taking place in the anti-fascist camp at the moment.

This speech was aimed at the English and the French governments which more recently have been increasing their pressure on the Madrid Government to end the war and to compromise with Franco.

Francisco Largo Caballero declares that he himself would never take part in such a compromise. This declaration itself proves that, within the government and its parties there are now certain forces which as accomplices of the English and the French governments are more energetically sponsoring such a capitulation to Franco and a betrayal of the Spanish Revolution.

Caballero does not explicitly mention these elements by name. Who are they? They are the middle-class elements in the camp of the government who have grown bolder day by day through people's front tactics and the Anglo-French policy of indirect support of the fascists.

In his declaration Caballero speaks of elements in the government camp which unconsciously are rendering aid to the fascists. At whom does he aim these deliberately ambiguous insinuations?

The CP's campaign of propaganda against the POUM as well as its progress of the proletarian revolution now begins to recoil like a boomerang upon the CP itself. This change of sentiment among the toiling masses of Spain was augmented by the Soviet Union's accord with the Anglo-French policy adopted on Feb. 20th and by the fact that the Soviet Union is apparently withdrawing more and more from the Spanish conflict.

In international matters the attitude of the CI and the USSR towards the countries of bourgeois democracy has likewise failed most tragically. No one can blame the USSR if she is not strong enough to cope with both the open hostilities of Hitler Germany and Italy, and the underhanded conspiracy of government and ruling classes in England and France in behalf of Spanish fascism.

GFPU for having hitched the communist parties everywhere to the cart of such policy and for having converted the communist party of Spain and elsewhere into an appendage of the bourgeoisie, thus bolstering reformism and, indeed, only thus making possible its disastrous action in Spain, in France and in England.

A revolutionary class policy in Spain and in the other countries would have strengthened the hand of the Soviet Union considerably. The reverse of such a policy, however, has tied her hands and she must submit to being dragged along, a prisoner, behind the London Foreign Office and the Quay d'Orsay.

Yet it is still possible that the necessary impulse to turn the tide may come from the camp of the Spanish working class. There is a gradual change in sentiment. The decisive factor will be whether the Spanish working class can line up its forces to act in time and militantly against the powers of counter-revolution which in their turn are ever active organizing their strength and usurping ever new positions.

Counter-Revolution Advances

We are recording here the most significant steps which characterize the far-reaching advance made by the counter-revolutionary forces in the anti-fascist camp in recent days.

In Catalonia the government of the generalitat has worked out a project which aims at the re-establishment of the old bourgeois police, thru the virtual liquidation of the present police force, which has been in the hands of the workers' organizations.

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George F. Miles TRADE UNION NOTES

ASSEMBLYMAN Wadsworth can always be relied on to do the bidding of the employers. Aroused by the threat of the sit-downs and the unionization drives conducted by the CIO, the Republican politician has introduced two measures which come up for hearing this week.

The first prohibits sit-downs as a misdemeanor and provides penalties ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. The bill also defines illegal strikes and vests broad powers in the State Industrial Commissioner.

The second proposal provides state supervision of trade unions. Annual detailed reports would have to be filed by the unions giving exact good standing membership and listing every penny of receipts and expenditures.

The labor movement in New York State has been aroused over these two proposals and strong opposition will most likely be mustered against them.

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION

THAT this is part of a general movement to restrict labor's freedom of action becomes clearer when we examine the proposal of the National Association of Manufacturers. The latter proposes that where a national strike looms, the President shall appoint an impartial, fact-finding commission, empowered to call witnesses and hear evidence.

Knowing how bitterly opposed labor is to compulsory arbitration the N.A.M. plan points out that "this would be compulsory investigation, not arbitration." That the plan is not merely investigatory—tho' that in itself is objectionable—becomes clear when we read that the plan can "prevent any interruption of service or production, designed to interfere with commerce, during the investigation (which may take a week, a month or a year—GFM) or for thirty days after the finding of facts is made public."

In other words, under the guise of a plan to "investigate" we have a proposal equipped with every repressive feature necessary to throttle and destroy the legitimate aims of trade unionism.

BETHLEHEM KEEPS UP THE GAME

THE Bethlehem Steel Corporation having just finished tabulating the returns in its twentieth annual election to its employee representation plan, now announces that exactly 96.4 Per Cent (59,356) of the 60,530 eligible voters cast their ballots for the company union as its collective bargaining agency.

Corporation figures of balloting by company union members have been so consistently discrepant that it is hard to see what Bethlehem gains from continuing a farce which is no longer funny. Certain it is, that it will not stop the growth of the steel union, altho adding up the various corporation announcements on company union votes there remain no steel workers to join the legitimate unions.

N. Y. COUNCIL MARKS TIME

THE New York Central Labor Union sprang a surprise last week. With every delegate expecting a show-down fight on Green's order to expel the CIO unions, the executive committee reported that it had decided to take no action at all for the time being.

2) According to reports in the CNT press, the CNT, Madrid, is as strong as the CP.

3) At two mass meetings held in Barcelona by the CNT the following resolution was formulated:

"A Thrilling Record"

AN editorial in the Daily achievements" of which a revolutionary party can find ought to be proud? "At what a price," says Peri with a shudder. Indeed a horrible price—the betrayal of the entire Spanish proletariat into the hands of Franco!

It is doubtful whether Comrade Peri realizes the full import of the words he wrote. Certainly no more damning indictment against the policy of People's Front France in the columns of the Workers Age. The doubt is strengthened by the continued supine support which the French Communist Party continues to render "to those people in France who advocate the policy" of betrayal of proletarian Spain.

Who are "those people", Comrade Peri? Who else but the Blums to whom he and the Communist Party of France continue to give unreserved support.

Does it not appear, Comrade Peri, that there is something basically wrong with the whole People's Front course, when the leading "democracies" so consistently refuse to conform to the simple formulas which the Communist international evolved for "democratic countries" to follow in the struggle against fascism?

Class Lines Sharpen In Spain

(Continued from Page 4)

a) Recognition of the social and economic changes which have taken place since July 19th. Defence of the revolutionary gains. "Our unity will give us strength," it says in the manifesto, "to win the war and to carry out the revolution. This is the mission of the revolutionary youth."

b) Creation of ever closer relationship with the trade unions. c) For representation of proletarian organizations, proportional to their strength, in all anti-fascist branches of government; that is, for the safeguarding of political and social hegemony of the working class.

d) For a "people's army of revolutionary character." For uniform command. For its control by workers' organizations.

e) Equal pay for all armed forces. Eradication of bureaucracy in the army administration.

f) Vigorous campaign for adjusting all industry to the necessities of the war. Socialization of banks, of transport, of heavy industry.

g) Socialization of land and the soil. Creation of agricultural collectives. Liberty of production for small peasants who do not employ outside labor.

Already aligned with this revolutionary youth front are: The Syndicalist Youth; The Youth of the Parti Federal Iberic; The Federation of Communist Students; The Workers Sport Union; The League of the Trade Union Youth; The Iberian Communist Youth (POUM); The Youth Group of the Liberated Women; The Students' Federation for Liberty of Conscience; The Students of the CNT; The Libertarian (anarchist) Youth of Catalonia.

The change of sentiment evidenced by these facts is of greatest significance. But we repeat that it is decisive for the revolutionary forces not merely to issue proclamations, resolutions, and protests, but to organize their strength and act. Moreover it is decisive not to limit themselves to the mere checking of counter-revolutionary advances, to organs of the proletarian revolution and if the remnants of the bourgeois state are liquidated. The decision will depend on whether the POUM succeeds in getting the masses adhering to the CNT and the FAI to follow

BOOKS of the AGE

THE COLOR LINE IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS. By Harlan E. Glazier. Inter-racial Committee, D. C. 15 Cents.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MEDICAL EDUCATION OF NEGROES. By E. H. L. Corwin and Gertrude E. Sturges. Scribners. \$1.25.

Reviewed by GEORGE STREATOR

Mr. Glazier's pamphlet is written with the aid of a distinguished group of public authorities on schools and education. Those who know this live spirit will read his study with interest. Moreover, they will be rewarded with facts accumulated with no fear of offending the party "litter". Comrade Glazier deserves better treatment at the hands of the Socialist Party theorists. He is brave, unhampered by fears of European catastrophe, and exactly worth twelve ordinary "friends" of the Negro.

As the white population moves out of a run-down neighborhood, the Negro advances from worse hovels and settles down to "the American way of doing things". The rents go sky-high, and the schools and public buildings which the white population has just about worn out fall to the oppressed Afro-Americans. Those who have not seen Washington, can study the problem afar from Harlem or the Negro quarters in Brooklyn.

Cardozo High School (the name honors a colored "off" relative of distinguished South Carolina family) is the business school for colored children. Theodore Roosevelt High School is for white children (plus Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, Italian, Hindoo, etc.) only. In Cardozo, a new "modern" school erected for the Negro children, even the gymnasium "are ghastly jests perpetrated upon the colored youth". There are no facilities even for as small a bit of recreation as "ping-pong". Ah! my intellectual friends who prattle about the superior Washington treatment of the Negro!

"The shelves of Cardozo library are as bare as Mother Hubbard's cupboard. History—or legend—records that there was once a dictionary—whereabouts unknown." If only half of this story is true, the Negro intellectuals who reside in Washington could command ten times the respect if they organized and addressed mass meetings dedicated to the plight of Washington Negro children.

And the same goes for Harlem. Drs. Corwin and Sturges have done the long anticipated study of Harlem hospital. The city administration has stuffed the whole study behind two or three bales of old newspapers. This study was sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and it does much to remove the bad taste left by the stupid efforts to protect the political jobs of some of the board members. And now the documented truth is out in a very dignified treatment. There is enough dynamite in this book to blow off the roof of a building housing a local election. The unfortunate truth is, the Negro is split and divided — no worse divided than other groups—but badly advised by "friends".

1) Its condemnation of the capitalism waged against the POUM;

2) All those participating in this campaign are pronounced accomplices of fascism, disguised enemies of the working class, and considered engaged in sabotaging the anti-fascist unity.

This resolution is signed by the CNT, the Esquerra, the POUM and the Accio Catala.

Necessity of Revolutionary Offensive

This line which the POUM has so vigorously and consistently propagated. In Catalonia alone, the CNT, according to recent estimates, has one million, two hundred thousand members. Should the CNT and the POUM march united in the direction of a proletarian revolution, they will be by far the strongest power in Catalonia and can count on gaining leadership in the rest of Spain as well.

FRENCH CAPITAL WINS ITS SIT-DOWN STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1) lies lifeless and idle. Where are the "responsible leaders"? Why do they not give the sign?

Big Capital Pushes Ahead

The Big Bourgeoisie is gloating, and becoming more and more arrogant in its demands. Its appetite for concessions is of the kind that grows by feeding. All it has gotten so far is nothing but sherry and hors d'oeuvres for the big meal it now is contemplating.

"So this capitalism," writes Le Temps "which the Peoples Front had to destroy the day before yesterday, and which, all the same, it made use of yesterday, is today again rendering it the service expected of it..." (Referring to the subscription to the loan).

"All that was needed was that the authorized representatives of the Government should show new intentions, or rather should abstain from using the dogmatic formula of the parties of the revolution, and the savers—who, it must be remembered again, are the capitalists—brought to the state the aid which the government was soliciting..."

"It was the duty of the savers to bring the product of their savings to the State. It will be the duty of the masses to bring to the State the contribution of their good will. It will be the duty of the laborers who work for the national defense to make up the time lost by strikes... it will be the duty of all laborers to accomplish their tasks with zeal, and above all, to renounce this ceaseless pressure of conflicts which weigh down on the industrial and commercial activity of France, which paralyze or weaken all enterprises, and which, of course, are hurtful to the common good."

"We don't doubt but that the government of the popular front will obtain from the masses a confidence equal to that which the savers have just given it... We don't doubt but that the masses will do everything possible to facilitate the tasks of a government which, born of the Front populaire, today declares itself determined to become the government of the entire nation."

Could brazenness go further? Yet it is justified. Blum, Thorez, and Jouhaux, having pawned body and soul, can hardly demur at the addition of a few finer nail parings.

No Leadership From C.P. The C.P. called a great mass meeting in the Vel D'hiv and a special Central Committee Plenum to consider the new situation. It was pitiful. A great mass outpouring: magnificent and spirited. Blum heard with whip and spur, call to battle and the determination to fight. How stirring the International sounded coming from 30,000 determined throats—even if it was preceded, People's Front fashion, by the French Star-

Spangled Banner, "The Marseillaise." But what did Thorez tell the waiting, anxious, straining throng? "Those who failed to vote for the war loan are traitors: the enemies of the security of the country..."

Tomorrow the Communists will have to come to their sense, come back to a working class line on imperialist war. And then? Then they will have to vote against war credits, as Communists should. And today through the mouth of Thorez, they are preparing the lynch spirit, the weapons which imperialism and fascism will use against them tomorrow! What a task for the "leader" of French communism!

Knowing the mass discontent with the policy of the Front Populaire government, Thorez cynically elicited applause by making a few obvious criticisms. The audience became stirred. They thought they were going to hear a good, old-time, fighting speech: a return to revolutionary leadership once more. But Thorez had other aims with his criticism:

"We would have preferred that the safety of France be assured by means of a levy on the fortunes of the property owners... the latest measures depart noticeably from the spirit and letter of the program of the Popular Front... M. Rist is an agent of the 200 families!"

More and more excitement. In every field the thought: so what? And Thorez's conclusion: "We communists, who want a better society, we will continue to preserve the Front Populaire, fruitful (!) alliance of the workers and middle classes... All for the People's Front! All through the People's Front!"

And the next day the Central Committee came out with a "program" for the emergency. Only two planks:

1) The only reservation it makes on the so-called "pause," or breathing-spell for capitalism and laying on ice of the entire Peoples Front Program, is a demand that the funds for the Home for the Aged Workers should not be cut. Could petty, miserable, stinking reformism go further?

2) "All for the Front Populaire, is declared anew by the Communist Party of France."

Fascist Agitation Grows

The revolutionary leadership goes from lost opportunity to lost opportunity, from betrayal of the elementary interests and needs of the masses to fresh betrayal. That is supposed to be in the interest of stopping fascism. Meanwhile the fascists pick up, demagogically, the issues the C.P. organizes. The "prohibited" organizations meet openly, plot publicly, smuggle in arms, increase the circulation of their press, deal telling blows at the untenable, anti-working class position of the Socialist and Communist Parties.

Big capital vaults arrogantly into the saddle, drives the old nag, drives him to exhaustion. When that point is reached, when it can get no more out of the Front Populaire, then it will turn to the fresh new battle steed of De la Rocque and Doriot. Lost opportunities are the manure which fertilizes the ground for fascism. It is painful to watch—heartbreaking. And it drives deep the conviction that we must strengthen and speed up the work of the International Communist Opposition on every front and in every land. A fight for the return to communist principles, to a class line—it is the only hope. And at greater speed and with fuller energy—before it is too late.

# "Big Six" Supports The C.I.O.'s Position

(We print below the resolution of the Typographical Union No. 6, New York, on the CIO-AFL situation. Its importance rests not merely on the thoroughgoing nature of the resolution, but also on the fact that "Big Six" is one of the strongest craft unions in the country. \* \* \*

## Text of Resolution

The resolution adopted by "Big Six" follows:

"Whereas, The American Federation of Labor Council for the past thirty-five years has not accomplished, nor has it been able to make, any appreciable progress to organize workers in key industries; and

"Whereas, The antiquated, unpractical, uneconomical industrial theory of the American Federation of Labor Council in its craft organization policy has retarded and stultified the workers in key industries; and

"Whereas, The American Federation of Labor Council by its craft organization policy is given to lip service exclusively and no attempt has been made to voice other means of accomplishing the desire of the workers to be organized; and

"Whereas the craft union adherents in the American Federation of Labor Council are blind to the inevitable consequences of denying millions of workers the right to organize along the lines of present-day methods in order to cope with the industrial machinery age; and

"Whereas the American Federation of Labor Council has seen fit to give moral support to the enemies of organized labor by its many acts against the Committee for Industrial Organization; and

"Whereas it seems to us as members of the International Typographical Union that the American Federation of Labor Council, by its actions, is devoted to the selfish interests of the few instead of the welfare of the majority of the workers; and

## "Stab-in-Back Policy"

"Whereas we further condemn the reported stab-in-back policy of the majority members of the American Federation of Labor Council by unlawfully ordering the expulsion of any local craft union body from its affiliation with local or central federation of labor organization found to be favorably in-

clined toward the Committee for Industrial Organization; and

"Whereas, It has been reported in the newspapers that company unions are beseeching help of the American Federation of Labor Council against the progress of the Committee for Industrial Organization and requesting membership therein, which action vice president J. P. Frey of the American Federation of Labor immediately attempted to consummate in order to forestall further progress by the Committee for Industrial Organization in its honest and sincere efforts to organize these workers; and

"Whereas, We are reliably informed of the many other arbitrary acts of the American Federation of Labor Council, too numerous to mention herein, which we believe to be detrimental to the cause of the many millions of workers throughout the country, not to mention the damage already done by the American Federation of Labor Council in this controversy with the Committee for Industrial Organization, among the rank and file of the American Federation of Labor membership; and

"Whereas the Committee for Industrial Organization deserves to be highly complimented upon the splendid achievements obtained in so short a period of its activities that it can be safely said they have performed a miracle.

"Therefore, Be It Resolved That we, the members of New York Typographical Union No. 6, in regular meeting assembled, this twenty-first day of March, 1937, deem it our duty to condemn the action of the American Federation of Labor Council toward the Committee for Industrial Organization on past and present information, given to us through the medium of our own organization, and be it further

"Resolved, That we are ready at all times to cooperate and assist the Committee for Industrial Organization morally and financially in its efforts to relieve the millions of workers from the industrial and economic bondage, in order that we may attain to the stature of free and independent workers under a democratic organization of their own choice, and compatible with the ideals and aims of our free and democratic form of our national government."

## ON THE LABOR FRONT

● FIVE AND TEN sit-down girl strikers won a victory, when the F. W. Grand stores, in New York City were forced to recognize the union (Department Store Local 1,250). A minimum wage and a 48 hours week were among the gains of the union.

● HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES in the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital have conducted a series of sit-downs in that august institution, and have been treated so roughly by orders of board of directors, that, ironically enough, some of them were hospital cases.

● STANDARD OIL of New Jersey, found the announced drive of the C.I.O. stimulus enough to

grant a wage increase to its 6500 employees. Three refineries are thus affected.

● PROVIDENCE RETAIL stores were struck by the C.I.O. and after one day granted wage increases and recognition. It is estimated that 12,000 employees will get increases, including those in the large department stores.

● RAILWAY UNIONS presented a united demand for a 5% wage increase effective May 1st. This includes trainmen, switchmen, engineers, firemen, enginemen, and conductors. This proposal has been ratified by 300,000 members of the five brotherhoods.

## TRADE UNION NOTES

(Continued from Page 4)

they start—alho rage-blinded bureaucracy is not given to cool and reasoned thought. It may be conscience trouble at the implications of splitting the labor movement in New York. It may be—but we doubt it in the light of the actions of Ryan and his pals during the waterfront strike. Then again it may be a simple matter of arithmetic. The suspension of all CIO locals from the Central Labor Union will make a mighty big hole in the per capita receipts of the C.L.U. After all the C.L.U. got used to a certain standard of living based on a certain income. If there is to be such a sharp slash, what's to replace it? What has Green to say about that?

But no matter what the reason, progressive labor in New York must not be fooled by any false

## Auto Union Strikes Connecticut Plant

The first strike in the history of the old town of Plainville, Connecticut is now being conducted by the United Automobile Workers in the Standard Steel and Bearing plant, a division of the Marlin Rockwell Corporation. It supplies Chrysler, Auto-lite and other auto corporations with ball-bearings.

The strike was called at 1:30, Wednesday, March 24. The workers remained in the shop until the night shift came on at 5:30 and then both combined to walk out.

Demands include a 40 hour week, with time and one-half for time over an eight hour day; 20% wage increase; hourly minimum of \$.45 for women and \$.50 for men; 10% premium for night work; union recognition; seniority rights; grievance procedure.

Sidney Jonas is the organizer of the UAWA involved and negotiations are being conducted by Albert Easton. The spirit of the workers is excellent.

## Investigation Proves Frame-Up Charges

SAN FRANCISCO.—A special legislative committee prepared a report to the State Assembly on its investigation of the so-called Modesto Standard Oil frameup of eight maritime union men.

Evidence unearthed by the probers substantiated completely a confession made last December by James Scudder, chief prosecution witness, which was recorded on 18 dictaphone records.

The investigators also secured an admission from James P. Arnold, chief "special agent" for Standard Oil, that Scudder before the arrests had been on the oil company's payroll, and that he was employed and paid through San Francisco police.

feeling of security. The fight is not over. It was merely postponed for a little while. The CIO unions must keep on their toes every minute, ready to resume the fight.

SOMEONE suggested that the action of the C.L.U. in New York is due to the revival of unity negotiations somewhere by someone. That's poppycock. Anyone believing that had better take a look at what's going on in the Philadelphia C.L.U. Here is a brilliant example of the unity gestures of the craft unionists, with A.F. of L. representative Lewis G. Hines, cast as the sylph-like angel of peace, gripping in his hand something that looks much more like an axe than an olive branch.

Upon direct instructions of Green, Hines voided the elections held in the C.L.U. some two months ago and proceeded, over the head of the C.L.U., to weed out the CIO unions. He sent out letters to all CIO delegates informing them that they are no longer members, told the officers that they are deposed, called his own meeting and appointed his own sergeant-at-arms with instructions to admit only those approved by L. G. Hines.

How does this square with the peace stories peddled by the labor experts of the Jewish Day? If Green advised peace in New York, as the story has it, why does he issue orders for open and high-handed splitting and disruption in Philadelphia—90 miles away?

RIGHT across the Delaware from Philadelphia is the city of Camden N. J., but its ideas on what's good for labor are far from that of L. G. Hines and his boss Green. While Hines was chopping away at the labor movement in Philadelphia, the Camden Central Labor Union held elections and voted into the presidency James Bamford, district manager of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers—a CIO affiliate. They got a sense of humor, those "skeeters."

## Local 22 For Court Reform

The Executive Board of Local 22, ILGWU supported the proposals of President Roosevelt for Supreme Court reform, according to a special statement issued by it last week.

While the reform was endorsed as a 'measure of immediate relief,' the Union also declared itself in favor of a constitutional amendment as "a more fundamental remedy for the present intolerable situation." The necessity of labor's opposition to the Supreme Court's actions was characterized as follows:

"The experience of the last few years has amply demonstrated that today the greatest obstacle to the enactment of federal social and labor legislation is the arbitrary power of the federal judiciary, especially the United States Supreme Court. Dominated by an antiquated and reactionary philosophy, the Supreme Court has voided, in part or in whole, virtually every important piece of social legislation of the slightest value to the masses of the people. It has, in fact, attempted to outlaw and to stifle the very idea of such legislation. There can be but little hope of ever achieving legal recognition for labor's constructive program as long as the Supreme Court is permitted to continue declaring null and void every progressive measure that does not happen to accord with its reactionary prejudices based on the bankrupt philosophy of rugged individualism."

## Die Workers Strike In Chicago Plant

Police brutality marked the sit-down strike of the Stewart Die-Casting Company, in Chicago. The strike began on March 17, with the action of the night shift, comprising 125 workers. The United Automobile Workers, which had organized about 100 out of the 600 workers in the plant, immediately sent over a committee to aid in the organization of a picket line.

The company succeeded in "persuading" the proprietor of a nearby restaurant that the strikers had better cease meeting there, so that organizers had to be content with a garage some blocks away. The picket line continued till about two A. M., when it was charged by the police, who used their billies at random. When the strike committee attempted to hold a meeting in the garage, the police once again evicted them.

Despite the ruthless viciousness of the police, acting on behalf of the employers, 98% of the workers have signed union cards.

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