

LET THE PROGRESS OF EDUCATION GO ON

"The outcome was as expected, only more so," says The Milwaukee Leader in the following editorial about F. D. Roosevelt's re-election. "In the guess by states a few weeks ago, we gave Roosevelt most of the states, and he carried all those we gave him and a few others.

"His landslide was helped by fear of what the Republicans might do, in the matter of relief, for example, if they got in. The Democrats have skimmed relief and have paid starvation wages to relief workers, but it was feared that the Republicans would do even worse.

"The landslide was also helped by the expenditure of government money. If hosts of individuals voted for Roosevelt lest they might lose the dinky wages they were getting on temporary and uncertain jobs, they valued their votes very cheaply.

"The landslide was likewise helped by the weakness of the Republican opposition. Landon made many valid criticisms of the so-called new deal, but he had no constructive program of his own. His speeches and Roosevelt's were negative. The president made practically no promises except the very emphatic promise that he would maintain the robber capitalist system.

"Large numbers of reactionary Democrats were swept into office by the hero-worshipping Roosevelt landslide. The Farmer-Labor Progressive Federation was a life-saver in preserving some of the legislative positions from the reactionaries. The Progressive state ticket wins.

"As yet there is no indication as to how many votes were cast for the Socialist national ticket, but we would expect the number to be rather small. Such as they are, they are the votes that count, but a larger vote could make a bigger kick.

"One would naturally expect

the Communist vote to increase, since the incredibly stupid capitalist press and old-party officials gave its candidate millions of dollars' worth of free advertising.

"The capitalist press got a terrible biff between the eyes; 80 per cent of it supported Landon.

"Coughlin's Lemke was going to be elected. As he did not come anywhere near carrying a single state, the utter defeat of those two men is something to be thankful for. The Socialists never claimed they would elect their candidate, but conceded Roosevelt's election from the start, hence they do not need to offer any alibis. They were educating for the future.

"The result shows how unnecessary it was for Socialists and near-Socialists to abandon the Socialist ticket and support

what they thought to be the lesser of two evils. Their votes for Roosevelt were entirely superfluous and were completely wasted. As he could readily have won without them, he is not under the slightest obligation to them. They might as well have cast their ballots for Joe Louis and Shirley Temple for president and vice president, as that would not have any more thoroughly thrown their votes away.

"It is hoped that the next few years will see some serious attention given to the formation of a new party of the people. The workers of America have already wasted about half a century on the political field and it is high time they were getting busy and trying to catch up with European workers in this respect.

"Let the process of education go on!"

WAGE CUT FOR THE RICH WOULD BE DIFFERENT

It was revealed by the United States Senate Munitions Committee, in its hearings of February 25, 1936, that Eugene Grace, President of Bethlehem Steel tacitly approved an 81 percent cut in wages for American workers in time of war.

Senator Bone (Washington, Dem.) in questioning Mr. Grace pointed out that a \$2,400-a-year worker, when drafted into the army, was paid \$1.25 a day or \$466 a year. This represented a cut of 81 percent in income. Mr. Grace indicated in his testimony that it was alright for a worker to take an 81 percent cut in wages. But when asked by Senator Bone:

"Would you go so far as to say an 80 percent reduction in income to stockholders during the war, the same reduction that labor is up against would be fair?"

Mr. Grace replied: "I would not want to commit myself."

Mr. Grace was perfectly satisfied to have the worker take an 81 percent cut in wages, but he "would not commit himself" on whether stockholders should take a like cut.

The testimony also showed that Mr. Grace drew over \$1,500,000 in 1917 from the company, and \$1,386,000 in 1918. While Bethlehem steel

workers left jobs, and went to war to fight for the country, what did Grace do?

Mr. Grace stayed at home and "patriotically" earned himself almost \$3,000,000 in two war years, 1917 and 1918.—Steel Labor.

The Working Class

"We include in the working class all those who live exclusively or principally by means of their own work, and who do not grow rich by work of others. It includes all those who suffer from our present system of production on a large scale.

"Socialism pre-supposes our modern civilization and does not go counter to it in any way. Far from being the enemy of civilization, Socialism wishes to extend it to all humanity, whereas it is now the monopoly of the privileged minority."

Wilhelm Liebknecht.

NOTE

More English reports and Articles on Page 5.

Commonwealth College

Registration for the winter term at Commonwealth College is now under way. The winter term opens on December 28, and ends three months later, March 28. The tuition fee is \$50 plus 20 hours work at community task each week. The students receive in exchange board, room and laundry.

The curriculum includes: Political Economy; Trade Union Problems and Organization; Farm Problems and Organization; Labor Journalism; Organization of the Unemployed; English; Public Speaking and Current Events.

For further information those interested should write to Charlotte Moscovitz, Executive Secretary, Commonwealth College, Mena, Ark.

A Sound Argument

In 1917 and 1918 the du Ponts particularly made the world safe for democracy by selling munitions at a handsome profit while 50-odd thousand Americans died smashing so-called Prussian militarism.

The victims hardly had a decent burial before the du Ponts were re-arming Germany—and no telling how many other nations—at a handsome profit. Of course, this is a poor argument for government-owned murder-machine factories.

There is one sentence of Roosevelt's that makes a joke of all he ever said. It's "the profit motive must be preserved."

KNOWN AND THE UNKNOWN

November 5, was the birthday of Eugene V. Debs. He was born in 1855.

Up to the present time there have been four men in the Socialist movement of the United States whose names probably will last quite a while in history.

First, Edward Bellamy on account of his great book, Looking Backward. His idea of Socialism was too regimental, and this caused William Morris to write News From Nowhere as an offset. It went too far the other way.

Second, Jack London. He was rather a hoodoo to the movement but his novels make his name last.

Third, Upton Sinclair, also on account of his novels.

Fourth, and probably the longest remembered, Eugene V. Debs. There has been a large number of heroes and heroines who will not be remembered but who really did the bulk of the work of building the movement. They remind one of Olive Schreiner's allegory in which the old man named Reason told the woman who was looking for the Land of Freedom that she must go down the steep banks of Labor and cross the dark river of Suffering. She said, "Is there no bridge?" He said, "None." She said, "Is the water deep?" He said, "Deep." She said, "Is the floor worn?" He said, "Your foot may slip at any time and you may be lost."

She said, "Have any crossed already?" He said, "Some have tried." She said, "Is there a track to show where the best fording is?" He said, "It has to be made." As she hesitated he said, "What do you hear?" She listened intently and said, "I hear a sound of feet, a thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands and they beat this way." He said, "They are the feet of those that shall follow you. Lead on! Make a track to the water's edge! Where you stand now, the ground will be beaten flat by ten thousand times ten thousand feet." And he said, "Have you seen the locusts, how they cross a stream? First one comes down comes down to the water's edge and it is swept away, and then another one comes, and then another and then another, and at last with their piled-up bodies a bridge is built and the rest pass over." She said, "And of those that come first, some are swept away and are heard of no more; their bodies do not even build the bridge!" He said, "And are swept away and are heard of no more—and what of that?" She mused, "And what of that?" He said, "They make a track to the water's edge." She re-

peated, "They make a track to the water's edge." And she said, "Over that bridge which shall be built with our bodies, who will pass?" He said, "The entire human race." And the woman grasped her staff and turned down the dark path to the river.

Gene Debs, who was a modest man, would be the first to approve of our giving the highest honor to the unknown heroes and heroines whose bodies and minds, like his own, have helped to build the bridge. They will be heard of no more, but the whole human race will pass over the bridge they helped to build.

To Debs was given greater opportunity, and he met it as a great soul should. The thorny crown of martyrdom was pressed upon his brow and he accepted it uncomplainingly as a part of his service to the cause. Like other folks he had his faults, but, as the years pass, the sublimely unselfish spirit of the man shines out gloriously in comparison with the little men of the ruling class whose victim he was. Their lives, apparently successful, were dismal failures. His life, apparently a failure, was a brilliant success.

—The Milwaukee Leader.

SEARCHLIGHT

By DONALD J. LOTRICH

The 1936 presidential election is over. Our president for the next four years shall be the genial and smiling gentleman who resuscitated the dead capitalism of 1931-2-3-4. So overwhelming was his vote that none dared to predict it. Big Business with its besmirched scandal-sheets made a desperate attempt to wrest the job from Roosevelt. They spent lavishly on all kinds of publicity and patronage and at that drew a good sized vote. But the working people, or at least a good share of them, said we'd rather have Roosevelt's crumbs than Hoover's thin air. And, I suppose, you can hardly blame them, even if Thomas did offer them security and abundance. Americans are skeptics. They believe a lot of nonsensical things. They want meaningless football, baseball and amusements; they will read scandal and divorce cases until they wear out their nerves; they flock to uncultural movies; they will listen to all kinds of negativism, but to a positive program they shut their eyes, ears and mouths. In the election of 1936 they gave the President another blank mandate to lead America on.

Like the Sanitary District scandals? But the people forget and reelect.

In my own precinct I learn more and more each time I go there. Because the precinct was redivided, we have a new democratic precinct captain and a new set of judges. These judges have a scheme all of their own to wear out the watchers. While the polls closed at 5:00 P. M., not a ballot was touched until 6:15 P. M. In the meantime these judges loafed around. The democratic precinct captain sent out and paid for sandwiches for all of them. They were brought in at 6:00 P. M. It took fifteen minutes to devour them. Finally, at 6:15 they began to take out the ballots, unfold them and place them face downward on a pile. At 7:00 P. M. they called a five minute recess. It was over two and a half hours after the polls closed before any actual tallying began. All the while the radio was blasting in the adjoining room returns and each radio return received an ovation, big or small, depending on the size of the democratic margin.

One democratic watcher, not knowing my affiliation, confided to me that at the other precinct where they used to be all watchers and judges trusted one another. By 7:00 P. M. they would have the ballots all counted. They would simply take out the republican and democratic ballots and divide all the rest between the demos and repubs after they had "fixed" them. But here they couldn't do that because they weren't trusted, he said.

The Socialists were left far behind in this election contest. But we're used to that. That has happened before. Nevertheless, we're out in another campaign and contest already. We're already preparing for the next election. We're out working, teaching, planning to educate the people and some day the contest will be won by Socialism.

We hope for a good attendance at the Educational Conference on November 14 and 15 at the Slovene Labor Center. All active young people in the Midwest area have been invited. Brilliant and learned exponents of important problems will lead discussions. Our byword should be "Knowledge is Golden." Come to hear, see and learn things for your vital good.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AT SLOVENE LABOR CENTER

Important Problems on the Agenda.—Prominent Speakers to Participate.—Social Saturday Nite

Chicago, Ill.—Saturday and Sunday, November 14 and 15, the Slovene Labor Center will be occupied by a group of young men and women, participating in the educational conference sponsored by the Yugoslav Socialist Federation. The arrangement committee has invited representatives from Milwaukee, West Allis, Waukegan, Chicago, Springfield, La Salle and other nearby districts to sit in and discuss the broad subject of "The Road to a more Secure Life for Young People." Under this heading sub-topics will be Trade Unionism, Cooperatives, Fraternalism, Labor Political Action, War and Fascism.

The first subject for discussion will be Cooperatives by Ellis Cowling. Ellis Cowling came to us from Indiana and is well versed on the Cooperative Movement about which he has written many pamphlets. Fred A. Vider will speak on Fraternalism. Most of us are members of fraternal societies and this subject should give us an interesting discussion in itself. Professor Maynard C. Krueger, from the University of Chicago will talk on Labor Political Action and Albert Goldman, prominent labor attorney will discuss the danger of War and Fascism. The subject of Trade Unionism will be covered by Paul Porter, editor of the Kenosha Labor. All of these topics are important to every working man and woman. They will be opened by well informed speakers, followed with a general discussion from the floor. It will be the real Labor Education, analyzing some of our most important social

and economic problems. It will be a conference not only for young people, but for everyone that is interested. Come out to the Slovene Labor Center Saturday and Sunday, November 14 and 15, and join the class for a fine discussion on these subjects.

The Saturday session will start at 2 p. m. In the evening there will be a social and dance given by the Social Study Club of branch No. 1 JSF. On Sunday, the conference will start at 9 a. m. No admission or fee will be charged. Bring your friends along and spend the week-end with us at the Slovene Labor Center.

Publicity Committee.

NEAT LITTLE SCHEME

The United States Chamber of Commerce comes out flat-footedly for these two propositions:

(1) Control and restrictions of industrial production.

(2) No control, no restriction of farm production.

Farming, you see, is not big business. Unrestricted farm production would enable business to buy cheap when it comes to getting raw materials. Restricted industrial production would enable business to sell dear when it came to disposing of its products.

And the Chamber, after cooking up this neat little scheme, objects to what Roosevelt has done for the farmer as "regimentation". —Kenosha Labor.

NOW THAT THE ELECTIONS ARE OVER--

WHAT ABOUT
THE TEN MILLION
JOBLESS
WORKERS

INDUSTRY

"I am a Socialist because I cannot be anything else. I cannot accept the ugly word of capitalism, with its brutal struggles and needless suffering, its archaic and irrational economic structure, its cruel social contrast, its moral callousness and spiritual degradation.

"If there were no organized Socialist movement or Socialist Party, if I were alone, all alone in the whole country and the whole world, I could not help opposing capitalism and pleading for a better and saner order, pleading for Socialism.

"To me the Socialist movement, with its enthusiasm and idealism, its comradeship and struggles, its hopes and disappointments, its victories and defeats, has been the best that life had to offer."—Morris Hillquit.