

Pomiki Nemčije v jugovzhodne dežele Evrope

NACIJSKA TAKTIKA ZA RUŠENJE SLOGE MED MALIMI DEŽELAMI SIJAJNO USPELA.—STRAH TURCIJE.—BOJEVITOST BEOGRADA POLEGLA. ALI SO NAMENI RUSIJE ŠE VEDNO UGANKA?

Dočim ima Italija slabo srečo na Balkanu in v Afriki, pa tudi doma, si je Nemčija osvojila Rumunijo brez vojne, razbila balkansko zvezo in pripravila ljudstvo Bolgarije in Jugoslavije v tolikšen strah, da sta se obe deželi udali in obljubljati ostati z Berlinom v največjem prijateljstvu in sodelovanju.

Igra z Madžarsko

Predno je mogla Nemčija v Rumunijo in okupirati njena bogata oljna polja ter se polastiti kontrole nad Donavo do njenega izliva, je morala dobiti most preko Madžarske. To ji ni bilo težavno, ker je imela vladne kroge v Budapešti že precej dobro pod kontrolo. Zadnje poletje jim je obljubila še kos rumunske Transilvanije, kar je Madžare zelo opojilo. Hitler je pozval v Nemčijo "na obisk" predstavnikov ogrske in rumunske vlade, zaradi lepšega je poklical tudi Mussolinijevega zeta, in pojasnil Rumuniji, da ji bo Nemčija jamčila meje, ko hitro uredi svoje odnose tudi z Madžarsko in Bolgarijo. Rusija pa je že vzela svoje. Zastopnikom iz Bukarešte ni preostajalo drugega kakor podpisati pogodbo o razdelitvi rumunske zemlje, ali pa se podati s Hitlerjem, Madžarsko in Bolgarijo v brezupno vojno.

Spretnost nemške diplomacije

"Ako se ne podaste zlepa, ne bo Rumunija s tem ničesar pridobila, nego vse izgubila," so poudarjali Nemci. "Sedaj je Nemčija pripravljena dovoliti Madžarski le del Transilvanije. Ako pa greste v vojno, ji bo dovolila vse vzeti. Enako velja za Bolgarijo. Dobi naj nazaj le kos Dobrudže. Če ji pa ne preustite mirno, si bo vse vzela."

Rumunski zastopniki so se vrnili in skušali narodu pojasniti, da je bil to edini možni izhod. Narod pa je razgrajal in rebeliral. To je bilo natančno po nemškem načrtu in tudi to kar se je zgodilo pozneje. Kralj Karol je moral pobežniti, kakor je določil Berlin. Nastali so notranji nemiri, nato fašistični puč in v tej zmedii ukorakanje nemške armade v Rumunijo. Pot preko Madžarske ji je bila sedaj prvič po 22. letih znova odprta. S tem je Madžarska izgubila tudi svojo samostojnost popolnoma in postala nemški "protektorat" brez posebnega oklica. Rumunija pa se je znašla v senci nemškega orožja. Nemci so ji dovolili vprizoriti še eno "civilno vojno", da pride politično elito v nerad, kajti čim bolj bo razdrapano, laglje jo bo organizirali za nacijski "novi red", to je, za "nemški življenski prostor". Poskrbeli pa so, da "nered" in krivolitje

ni zašlo tudi na oljna polja. Te so Nemci prevzeli popolnoma pod svojo upravo in varstvo.

Balkanska zveza uničena

Z zrušenjem Rumunije na znotraj je nemška diplomacija uničila tudi balkansko zvezo, kakor hišico iz kart. V nji so bile Jugoslavija, Rumunija, Grčija in Turčija. Skupno so navidezno predstavljale mogočno oboroženo silo. Toda ko so ostale tri videle, kaj se dogaja z Rumunijo in je Karl želel pomoči, so v Beogradu, Ankari in v Atenah proglasili nevtralnost. Na enak način je Hitler zrušil leta 1938 tudi malo antanto.

Nemška armada v Rumuniji ni namenjena samo Rumuniji. Ako bi bila le nji, bi zadostovalo nekaj deset tisoč mož. Toda šteje jih nad pol milijona in tudi rumunska armada je sedaj del nacijske oborožene sile. Nahaja se 40 milj od Niša v Srbiji in skoro tik Beograda, ki ni daleč od rumunske meje. Je enako tudi na pragu Bolgarije, dočim so nemški večaki in razni "turisti" že dolgo v Bolgariji in pripravljajo teren.

Ponižanje Italije

Dokler je bila Nemčija še šibka in Mussolini pa široko-ustan, je venomer trdil, da je Balkan "italijanska sfera vpliva". A sedaj se Italija že skoro štiri mesece krvavo bori, da si ohrani Albanijo. Mislija le pohoditi tudi Grčijo in s tem dobiti na balkanskem polotoku poleg Albanije drugo najstrategičnejšo točko. Pa se ji ni posrečilo.

Ako udari na Grčijo Hitler, ki svoj napad nanjo vse bolj spretno pripravlja kot pa je udaril Mussolini, je ne bo prepustil Italiji, nego jo le rešil brezupne vojne. Tako bo Italija na Balkanu dvojnó osramočena, oziroma je že.

Grčija se Nemčiji ne bo mogla upirati, razen ako se Angliji dotlej posreči poslati v njo veliki del svoje afriške armade. Kajti nemški poveljniki imajo priložnost udariti v Grčijo skozi Bolgarijo in južno Srbijo po (Nadaljevanje na 2. strani.)

BEGUNEC IZ GEORGIJE DOBIL ZAŠČITO



Zamorec Jay Gould Cotton (na desni), star 15 let, je bil v Georgiji obsojen od 10 na 20 let v "chain gang" radi tatvine. Označba "chain gang" izvira iz tega, da te vrste jetnikom pritrdijo na noge verige z uteži, ali jih s dolgimi verigami pritežejo po več skupaj in jih pošljejo delati na ceste, ali pa jih dajejo plantažnikom v najem. Večinoma so takih obsodov v južnih državah deležni črnci pa tudi še marsikak belokožec je bil pognan v "chain gang". Omenjenemu 15-letnemu zamorcu se je posrečila pobežniti v New York, kjer ga je georgijska "roka pravice" zasledila s pomočjo pisem, ki jih je pošiljal materi. Od newyorške policije je zahtevala, da črnca aretirajo za vrno v Georgijo. Zanj se je nato zavzel slovit pesalec Bill "Bojanga" Robinson (v sredi na sliki) in drugi člani zamorske organizacije "Association for the Advancement of Colored People". Na sliki na levi (sede) je bivši socialist sodnik Charles Solomon, kateremu je bila zadeva izročena v preiskavo in rassodbo.

PRESOJANJA DOGODKOV DOMA IN PO SVETU

Sodnik Fisher v Illinoisu je odločil, da je prejšnji governor Stelle pravilno ravnal, ko je odločil, da so trgovci s stavbinskim materialom in stavbeniki (kontraktorji) prosti prodajnega davka. Novi governor Green ga je uvedel nazaj, ker bi bila država drugače na škodi štiri milijone dolarjev letno. Green pravi, da je za odpravo prodajnega davka le na živila. Trgovci s stavbinskim materialom in kontraktorji so proti Greenovemu odloku vložili priziv pri omenjenemu sodniku, ki je odločil njim v prid. Kdor ima vpliv in denar — oziroma mora imeti oboje — lahko veliko doseže.

Nemčija ima v Rumuniji že par tisoč letal, med njimi 500 bombnikov najnovejšega modela. To poroča iz Bukarešte ameriški novinar George Weller.

Berchtesgaden na Bavarskem je zgodovinski kraj. Tu je bil skovan infamni "monakovski mir". Berchtesgaden je namreč Hitlerjev grad. Kdor izmed njegovih diplomatov je pozvan tja, ve v naprej, kaj ga čaka. Sem je moral "na obisk" zadnji avstrijski kancelar, da podpiše sam sebi smrtno obsodbo. Sem so morali češki državniki, da

poslušajo lekcije, kaj se pričakuje od njih. In mnogi drugi, ki so z romanjem v Hitlerjev grad pokazali, da je njihove neodvisnosti konec. Tja sta morala zadnji teden tudi jugoslovanski premier in njegov minister vnanjih zadev.

V Rumuniji je bilo med begunci iz Poljske "interniranih" blizu tisoč poljskih častnikov. Nedavno jih je rumunska vlada dala nemški okupacijski armadi, dasi je to proti mednarodnemu zakonu. Enako so prišli sedaj v pest Nemcem poljski uradniki in drugi, ki so pobežnili pred naciji, a jim končno vseno prišli v roke.

Blizu Du Quoina v Illinoisu je bilo 15. feb. ubitih v eksploziji v delavnici United Electric kompanije sedem delavcev. Superintendent Fred Huff je dejal, da je vzrok neznan in da ga družbini uradniki hočejo doznati. Stvar preiskujejo tudi državni rudniški inspektorji. Eksplozija je bila tako silna, da je ubite žrtve popolnoma razmesarilo.

V Washingtonu je prišlo 500 mater, da protestirajo proti Rooseveltovemu načrtu za podpiranje Anglije in s tem proti (Nadaljevanje na 3. strani.)

KONGRESNI ODSEK ZA PRAVNE IN SODNE ZADEVE PREISKUJE VZROKE NARAŠČANJA STAVKOVNIH BOJEV

Nemci v potapljanju ladij uspešnejši, kot v prejšnji vojni

Iz Berlina uradno poročajo, da je Nemčija v 17 mesecih vojne potopila z letali, s torpednimi brzočolniki, križarkami in drugimi pomorskimi vojnimi ladnjami 670,000 ton "sovražne ladijske teže", v vseh štirih letih prejšnje svetovne vojne pa z enakimi sredstvi samo 570,000 ton. Tu niso vštete izgube, ki so jih Angliji in drugim deželam prizadejale podmornice. Te so po nemških trditvah tudi ogromne.

V Angliji se boje, da bodo bjezene trgovske ladje na pomlad še bolj v nevarnosti, ker bo vreme za napadalce ugodnejše kot pozimi. Z vsako ladjo, ki jo Nemci potope, grede na dno tudi živila, namenjena v Anglijo, municija in drugo blago, ki ga na angleških otokih čezdaje bolj primanjkuje.

Hitler stavi svojo glavno karto na upanje, da bo Anglijo prej izstradal, kakor pa ona Nemčijo. Da-li se v svojih nadih moti, sedaj še nihče ne ve. Vero v svojo zmago pa imajo Nemci in enako Angleži.

Etbin Kristan bo govoril na priredbi kluba št. 1 dne 2. marca v Chicagu

Naš pionirski socialist, bivši urednik Proletarca in socialističnih listov v starem kraju, sedaj urednik Cankarjevega glasnika v Clevelandu, bo govoril v Chicagu na prireditvi kluba št. 1 JSZ in Proletarca, ki se vrši v nedeljo 2. marca v dvorani SNPJ.

Okupirana Francija v kleščah

Pretežni del Francije je od njenega poraza pod nacijsko oblastjo. Svoj stan ima v Parizu. Časopisi v Parizu in drugih krajih okupirane Francije so urejani po navodilih nacijskih cenzorjev. Kdor izmed francoskih lokalnih oblastnikov ne dela točno po naročilih nacijske komande, je odstavljen ali pa se mu lahko dogodi še kaj hujšega. Tako je nacijska oblast odstavila prefekta pariške policije Rogera Langezona, ne da bi javnosti pojasnila, čemu je prišel v nemilost.

DELODAJALCI VALE KRIVDO ZA KONFLIKTE NA "ZDRAŽBARJE", RAKETIRJE V AFL IN KOMUNISTE V CIO.—POSILANEC HOFFMAN ZAHTEVA PROTI "SABOTAŽNIKOM NARODNE OBRAMBE DRASTIČNO POSTOPANJE"

Prošli teden je začel kongresni odsek za pravne in sodne zadeve z zaslišavanjem merodajnih članov zvezne administracije in predstavnikov unij ter industrije, da dožene, kaj je vzrok naraščanju stavk v obratih, ki so dobili velika vladna naročila. Prvi je bil zaslišan pomožni generalni pravnik Thurman Arnold.

Enajst velikih stavk

Predsednik omenjenega odseka kongresnik Hattón W. Sumners iz Texasa pravi, da so se v prejšnjih tednih dogodile stavke v enajstih tovarnah, katere imajo okrog 110 milijonov dolarjev vladnih naročil. Prizadetih v njih je bilo ali je še 24,000 delavcev.

V gornjih podatkih niso vštete stavke v tovarnah, katere nimajo vladnih naročil. Odsek ima namen doznati, da-li so te stavke nastale iz upravičenih razlogov, ali pa je za njimi skrita sila, ki jih namenoma povzroča.

Unije AFL in pristopnine

Delavci, ki so dobili priložnost zaposlitve pri gradnji vojskih taborov in drugih vladnih podjetij, katere so nastala pod okriljem narodne obrambe, se pritožujejo najbolj proti visokim pristopninam, ki so zahtevajo unije AFL, predno smejo priti z delom. Te službe so v mnogih slučajih le začasne in bodo trajale od par mesecev do blizu enega leta. Pritožujejo se najbolj neumijski mehaniki raznih obrti, kot zidarji, električarji, mašinsti, tesarji itd. Unije teh strok zahtevajo od \$25 do \$100 pristopnine in nekatere baje celo nad sto. Omenjeni odsek bo od predstavnikov teh unij hotel izvedeti, čemu računajo tem delavcem, ki so bili doslej večinoma na reliefnih delih in za-

služili le za prvo silo, tolikšno pristopnino, predno jim dovolijo prijeti za delo.

Nekateri kritiki označujejo take pristopnine za navadno kriminalno izsiljevanje, ki se mu mora napraviti konec. Pod pritiskom tega ogorčenja so nekatere izmed strokovnih unij pristopnino znižale, toda le v vladnih podjetjih začasnega značaja. V drugih ostane v veljavi.

Proti unijam CIO zaradi pristopnine ni pritožb, ker je nizka, ali pa jo sploh ne zahtevajo, nego le članarino, ki je povprečno znatno manjša kakor v unijah AFL.

Upravičene in neupravičene stavke

Je pa proti unijam CIO veliko obdolžitev, da povzročajo stavke brez vzroka. Krivdo zato vale posebno delodajalci in drugi nasprotniki unij v splošnem na komuniste, češ, da tirajo delavce v stavke ne zato, da izboljšajo njihov položaj, pač pa radi sabotažnih namenov v oviranju oboroževanja.

Ako bo kongresni odsek te obdolžitve upošteval in bržkone jih bo, bodo zaslišani tudi oni višji organizatorji in odborniki unij CIO, ki so smatranji za komuniste, in uradniki justičnega oddelka, ki preiskujejo njihove aktivnosti.

Eden največjih nasprotnikov unij CIO je kongresnik Clare E. Hoffman. On vztrajno trdi, da so si komunisti zgradili te unije zato, da jim služijo za sredstvo pri oviranju industrijskih obratov in za hujskanje delavstva v prevratne ideje. Dokazuje, da so večino sedanjih in prejšnjih stavk povzročili samo v te namene. Ker mu v teh trditvah pomaga tudi velik del časopisja in drugi nalik (Nadaljevanje na 3. strani.)

Taktika AFL proti CIO nevarna vsem unijam

Predsednik Ameriške delavske federacije William Green manevrira v tekmi s CIO z metodami, ki končno lahko postanejo nevarne obstoju vseh unij.

Gibanje za industrialni unionizem se je pričelo v samostojni obliki zato, ker je ta problem AFL vsa leta skoro popolnoma zanemarila. Le tiste unije, ki so ga sklenile rešiti vsaka v svojem področju neglede na tradicije AFL, so se razvile docela, ali pa vsaj deloma v industrialne organizacije, ker so nudile zaščito vsem delavcem prizadetega obrata, ne pa samo na primer mašinstom, prevoznikom, električarjem itd., na maso "navadnih" delavcev pa pozabile.

CIO se je lotil hvaležne naloge organizirati vse delavce na primer v jeklarski in avtni industriji, za katere se ni AFL, razen za izučene, nič brigala. Tako je nastala unija avtnih delavcev, se pridružila k CIO

in dosegla veliko uspeha, predno ga ji je zastavljen njen predsednik Homer Martin s frakcijskim bojem. Dasi ga ni bil sam kriv, ga je vodil napačno. S tem se je organizatorično delo zakasnelo in družbe so dobile potrebni čas, da se pripravijo za boj ne samo proti uniji, nego da jo demoralizirajo tudi od znotraj. Vzlic temu je unija avtnih delavcev premagala — dasi s težavami, notranji spor in se uveljavila v pretežnem delu avtne industrije, razen v Fordovi.

Ford ima v svojih obratih posebnega stratega, ki ima nalogo preprečiti organiziranje delavcev v unijo. Piše se Harry Bennett. Bržkone je plačan od Forda boljše, kot pa prejema plače predsednik Zed. držav. To pa zato, ker svojo nalogo spretno vrši. Unija avtnih delavcev se je že veliko prizadevala, da dobi priznanje tudi pri Fordu, a brez uspeha. Zaslugo, pravijo, ima Harry Bennett.

Pa si je mislil William Green: "Morda Ford mrzi le unijo CIO, našo (AFL) pa bo pripravljen priznati. Pred petimi meseci je obiskal Bennetta. Kaj sta govorila, vsta le ona dva. Green pravi, da mu je priporočal, naj Forda uveri, da je napačno, ker nasprotuje priznati uniji. Ford se ni dal omeščati. Verjetno je tudi, da mu je Green predlagal, češ, ako noče unije CIO, pa priznaj naše, organizirane po strokah, na katere se lahko zaneseš."

In res je AFL podvzela v Fordovih tovarnah organizatorično kampanjo ter oglašala, da ima v njih že večino in se ji obeta priznanje. Harry Bennett je nato izjavil, da nima nič proti njej, da je mnogo obrtnih (izučeni) delavcev, ki delajo pri Fordu, že leta v AFL, ampak priznane ne bodo, pač pa je Ford pripravljen biti z njimi v miru, kakor doslej. Ta metoda umešavanja AFL v boj unije avtnih delavcev

(CIO) je voda na mlin taktiki, ki jo vodi Harry Bennett.

Slični boj v tekmi med AFL in CIO se opaža pri International Harvester kompaniji. CIO se je lotil njene delavce organizirati, kar je pri tako protidelavski korporaciji težavna naloga. Družba je svoje delavce združila v kompanijsko unijo. Ni pa računala, da ima v takih zadevah besedo tudi NLRB. Ta je odločil, da mora svoje "unije" razpuščiti. "Dobro," je rekla, "ravnavali se bomo po odloku." In tik nato se je pričela v njih kampanja za pridruženje k AFL.

S takimi metodami je treba prenehati. Kajti ako se bodo nadaljevale, bo posegel vmes kongres in udaril ne samo po CIO nego prav nič manj tudi po AFL. Zato bi bilo pametnejše, da bi Wm. Green rajše obiskal predsednika CIO Murrayja, kakor pa Bennetta pri Fordu.

Stresanje očitkov na napačen naslov

Hujskanja, propagande in vojna histerija ustvarja razmere, v katerih izgubi razsodnost tudi mnogo takih ljudi, ki so drugače smatrani za razumne. A v izjemnih okoliščinah jih razsodnost zapusti in odidejo s tokom.

Večinoma se taki ljudje jeze po nepotrebnem na one, ki jim niso ničesar zakrivali, ki niso povzročili sedanjih razmer in ne vojne.

Naj se na nas kdo še tako hujuje, na primer glede soc. stranke, ji ne bo s tem prav nič pomagano. Koristil pa ji bo, če se sprijazni z resnico kakršna je in sklene pomagati.

Vsakdo med nami, ki mu je kaj za socialistično gibanje, mu lahko najbolj pripomore s tem, da je delaven v klubih JSZ in sodeluje v vseh tistih naših aktivnostih, v kakršnih bo njegovo delo največ zalogo.

Sedaj ni čas, da se bi napredne moči v naselbinah razdruževale, kajti nujnost položaja nam vleva, da je baš v sedanjih razmerah potrebno, da delujemo enotno. In program JSZ ter Prosvetne matice je tak, da bi moral vsakdo, ki se smatra za zavednega, naprednega delavca, storiti zanj kolikor je v njegovih močeh.

Ako to storimo, ni nobene bojazni, da bi nazadovale, pač pa bomo napredovali in koristili našemu ljudstvu in delavskemu gibanju v splošnem.

V nedeljo 2. marca PRIREDITEV KLUBA ŠT. 1

v korist

PROLETARCA.

vršila se bo v dvorani SNPJ, CHICAGO, ILL.

IN THE NEWS

SUPREME COURT HANDS DOWN TWO MOMENTOUS DECISIONS

Two decisions made by the Supreme Court recently are being hailed by organized labor in general as great victories for the workers and defeats for the nations sweatshoppers and labor haters.

"With validity of the Wage-Hour Act now established beyond doubt, the government has a free hand to improve the conditions of America's most exploited workers," Pres. Geo. M. Harrison of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks said.

"The decision on the anti-trust laws is of equal importance. It means labor has triumphed in its long battle against those who would shake the unions by misuse of anti-trust legislation," he added.

PATRIOTISM!

Huge quantities of oil are being transported from the United States to Japan in "tanker" ships owned by American oil companies but sailing under the flag of Panama "to get around the Neutrality Act and escape supervision by the U. S. Maritime Commission," the New York "Times" said recently.

It added that the oil companies are making vast profits by this trick, because Japan is paying "as much as \$20 a ton" for the ships, compared to the former "charter rate" of \$5 to \$6 a ton.

I OF 4 HARLAN COUNTY MINERS GRANTED OUTRIGHT PARDON

Acting Governor Rodes Myers of Kentucky has granted an outright pardon to one of four Harlan County miners unjustly sentenced to life imprisonment for alleged participation in a bloody 1931 battle instigated by company thugs and has commuted the sentences of three other workers and then granted them paroles. Release of the four is a labor victory achieved as a direct result of persistent efforts by the A. F. of L. and the Kentucky State Federation of Labor, which pressed on despite repeated discouragements.

STFU MOVES CLOSER TO AFL AFFILIATION

Progress toward a closer relationship with the American Federation of Labor marked the seventh annual convention of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union (unaffiliated) held at Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 31-Feb. 2.

After hearing George L. Googe of Atlanta, southern AFL representative, invite them to send fraternal delegates to future AFL conventions, the STFU members passed a resolution urging officers to "further cement fraternal relations" with the AFL. The convention, which three years ago had difficulty finding a meeting place in Little Rock, held its sessions in the AFL Labor Temple and was welcomed by Sec.-Treas. H. M. Thackeray of the Arkansas Federation of Labor.

CIO HEAD URGES CLARIFICATION OF FOREIGN POLICY

Pres. Philip Murray of the CIO last week presented testimony to the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs on the so-called "lend-lease" bill, calling for guarantees of the protection of labor rights, and raising a number of questions as to its justification and the "intended foreign policy" that may be pursued under it.

Some of the points raised in Murray's testimony were:

(1) The wide powers granted to the President "notwithstanding the provision of any other law" might permit the setting aside of laws protecting labor.

(2) "I believe there must be unqualified opposition to American convoys into the war zones."

(3) "The American people are at least entitled to know the facts which give rise to the grave necessity for such extraordinary legislation."

(4) "The American people have not received the benefit of such complete and full disclosures which would permit them to pass judgment upon (a) the justification for the request for legislation, or (b) the intended foreign policy of this nation which is to be pursued under the projected program."

Murray reiterated CIO opposition to any involvement in the present war and expressed his opinion that the American nation supports aid to Britain on account of its desire to preserve democracy and combat totalitarianism.

FARMS DECREASING

The number of farms in the U. S. on April 1, 1940 was 6,096,789, a drop of almost 200,000 from April 1, 1930, according to a Department of Commerce report based on the returns of the 16th decennial census.

PLEA OF CO-OPS FOR COAL ACT AMENDMENTS IGNORED

Ignoring the efforts of consumer co-operatives to get an understanding relative to amendments of the Bituminous Coal Act so that wholesale coal co-operatives might continue in business, Senator Joseph P. Guffey of Pennsylvania last week introduced a Senate Joint Resolution to extend the coal act for two more years.

The Bituminous Coal Act expires on April 26, 1941. Because of the discrimination now practiced under the Act against co-operatives, discrimination which in some instances amounts to complete confiscation of co-operative wholesale coal business, The Co-operative League of the U. S. advised Guffey several weeks ago that before legislation was prepared to extend the Act, an agreement should be reached on proper amendments to protect the rights of the co-operatives. Guffey ignored the letter and the suggestion. His resolution would extend the Act as is, with all its discriminatory provisions.

After the War, What?

Calling attention to the "terrible gamble we are taking without weighing the risks" in moving toward "all-out" aid for Britain, John T. Flynn, national chairman of the Keep America Out of War Congress, in an article in the Scripps-Howard press entitled "If of British Aid," warns that the "awful dislocations" of the war may drive even a victorious Britain to fascism.

"It is taken for granted that if England wins and Germany is defeated, democracy will be saved in Europe. Hitler will be driven from France, the Low Countries, Poland, etc., liberty will return to Europe, and peace will reign over that continent," writes Mr. Flynn.

"Upon this assumption it is now proposed to send to England our merchant vessels, our warships, our war planes, our cannon, instruments of war of every kind. And it is perfectly obvious that we cannot do this without impairing our own strength. This is defended, however, upon the theory that these war machines would be in safe hands for us.

"But what do we know about what will happen to a victorious England?" asks Mr. Flynn. "By winning the war, England will not come into any sources of wealth. She will end the war with the most staggering debt any nation has ever known—a debt utterly beyond her powers to carry. Her whole economy will be shattered.

"What will happen to democracy in an England thus torn? Has it ever occurred to our statesmen that England, after this war is won, will go fascist? It is assumed she will if she is beaten. But that she may do so even if she wins is completely overlooked.

"At least one Englishman highly esteemed here thought that might happen. Lord Lothian, late British Ambassador, now resting in Arlington Cemetery, said only about two years ago—not long before the war—that 'democracy itself will not be

able to stand another war. To fight it, you will have to abandon your parliamentary system, and the financial needs could not be met by ordinary methods.' And that is the simple truth.

"Something is going to happen in England when this war is over. The labor groups hope she may take a swift turn in the direction of the left—to a hastily improvised socialism. But does anyone suppose the powerful ruling aristocratic groups who have always ruled England will permit that without a struggle? And the means they will use will be to attempt a British fascism?

"They have expressed themselves in the past as very tolerant of the idea. And the awful dislocations of the war will certainly drive England swiftly to fascism or socialism. My own guess is fascism.

"Suppose this be true. What will the defenders of democracy in this country think if they should discover, after all the celebration of the victory has died away, that the vast armaments we gave to England and which may still remain in her hands are in the hands of another fascist power and one which owns innumerable bases in this country—owns, in fact, more land in America than we do?

"It is a terrible gamble we are taking without weighing the risks moving forward under the leadership of men who are actuated by a purely sentimental attachment to the British Empire."

PARDON ME!

Dentist: "Stop waving your arms and making faces, sir. Why, I haven't even touched your tooth."

Patient: "I know you haven't, but you're standing on my corn."

♦♦ SAVA NOTES ♦♦

By A. SAVANKA

Originally, our chorus was organized under the name "Anton Askere," after the famous Slovene epic poet, but at its first meeting, Jan. 6, 1918, the name was changed to "Sava," after the river Sava which begins its course somewhere in the Julian Alps, near Triglav, and winds its way over 400 miles through Yugoslavia, running through the important cities of Ljubljana, Zagreb, Belgrad, and into the Danube River that finds its way to the Black Sea. Perhaps every member at this first meeting had a fond recollection of this river, since its long course touches so many little villages, towns and cities, and so they named the chorus in remembrance.

This independent male chorus became affiliated with Branch No. 1, JSF, in Jan. 1926, and in 1927 became a mixed chorus.

Some of the early-timers still with our chorus are: Katie Bernik, Charles Pogorelec, Andrew Misko, Frances Seitz, Frances Vidler, Mimi Omahen. Two of the organizers, Frank Aleš and Frank Udovčič sang with the chorus until recently.

News from Yugoslavia tells us that the turbulent river Sava, our namesake, has recently over-flowed its banks, carrying away and destroying the small cottages on its lowlands and sweeping away the rich top soil of the earth, causing added loss and misery to the peasants already hard existence. Sometimes it makes us wonder how our people can withstand all the economic hardships, the wrath of the elements, their life of hard toil for a bare existence, the destruction of war, and the ever-present fear of war! They must be a hard, courageous, though submissive people—accepting their hard lot as an heritage of the past! "My father, my grandfather, my great grandfather—they all worked hard!"

An old blind man stationed himself with his squeaky fiddle every Saturday afternoon at the door that led up to the music studios of Mr. Lindsey, and patiently waited for his little customer to come down those stairs after her lesson. And as he listened for her familiar gay steps, his face would light up, for she would almost always stop to talk to him and—give him a few pennies.

This Saturday, as the little girl was coming down the two flights of stairs, she was wondering whether or not she should give half of her car-fare to her blind friend, as was her custom. She then could buy herself three cents worth of candy, but would have to walk home. The thought of the three-mile trudge-home, the aches in her arms from carrying her violin case which became heavier with every mile, and the 3 cents worth of candy not lasting all the way home, almost decided her to quietly pass the old man without saying anything to him, and ride home on the street-car; it was so much more fun riding than walking! But, not knowing how he could possibly know her approach so quickly, the blind man nodded and smiled to her, saying, "Oh, good-afternoon, little girl; how was your lesson today?"

"Oh, hello!—how are you, mister? My lesson was pretty good, and my teacher didn't scold at all. You know, I have the nicest teacher; he treats me like I was a grown-up girl, and tells me the nicest things about music. O... you cannot see, can you, mister?"

"No, little girl, but I know just the same when you come down the stairs, and I know when you are feeling happy or sad by the way you hop down, and—I know you are a good, little girl!" said the old man.

"Oh!"—and she fumbled in her coat pocket. "Here's three pennies," and the small coppers clinked in his empty tin cup. "I must hurry along now, for I have a long way to walk home. Good-bye, I—I hope other people give you some money, too."

Before wending her long walk home, she disappeared into a candy store, where she bought herself a penny candy-sucker, a strip of chewy licorice and a "jaw-breaker." In spite of all the sweetness in her mouth, she thought about the poor old man who had to beg on the streets. She wondered why he was so awfully poor...

We have enjoyed Andy Turkman's reports on activities of our sister-chorus Zarja very much, and absence of "Cleveland Reflections" from this page in recent weeks makes us say—"Let's hear from you again real soon, Andy!"

The group of young people in Zarja are especially active in their chorus, preparing many novel arrangements of song effect. Others would certainly be interested in learning more about it.

PURPOSE OF A UNION

This nation began with the statement, "All men are created free and equal." That statement did not mean that all men were equally strong, wise or well fixed. It did obviously mean that we aspired to be a nation in which that equality and freedom of men were ever more nearly homogeneous.

The trade union is a democratic institution and a vital part of our state because, as we passed from an agricultural to an industrial society, large groups of men lost the equality of opportunity and freedom of action that they had formerly had.

By the device of the corporation, men of property were made freer, men without property less free.

Jugoslav Savings and Loan Association Calls Annual Meeting

CHICAGO.—Stockholders of the Yugoslav Savings and Loan Association convening for their annual meeting at the Slovene Labor Center, Saturday, Feb. 22, will have on the agenda, as one of the most immediate problems of the Association, the matter of securing Federal insurance for its shareholders.

A good deal of preliminary work required has been satisfactorily settled during the past year, all of which will be reported at this meeting.

All stockholders are urged to be present in person or represented through proxy, as many other important problems will be up for discussion and settlement.

The annual financial statement will be presented by the Association's secretary, Donald J. Lotrich.

Our own Slovene Labor Center stock holdings will be represented by the Center's Secretary, Joseph Drasler.

The meeting has been announced for 8 p. m.

Activities Planned by Slovene Labor Center Social Club for 1941

CHICAGO.—The general yearly meeting of our Social Club decided to run three regular social affairs this year, with our famous "five cent evening" operations—which means that drinks and sandwiches will be served at five cents each, and music free.

Proper dates were carefully selected by the new Board of the Club at its regular meeting held February 8. Since the summer months, usually accompanied by tense heat, are not very attractive for inside dancing, we decided to hold one social in the spring, and two in the autumn months. All three will be held on Saturday evenings and on the following dates: April 26, Sept. 27, Nov. 15. Members and friends please remember these dates and arrange your other things so as to enable you to be present at all our social affairs. Also explain this at your lodge meetings, to eliminate any and all unnecessary frictions of having two identical affairs on the same date. By such cooperation all socials will have better attendance and therefore greater results.

As president of our Social Club, I am sending hereby my personal hearty greetings to all members! I'll also let you in on a secret... Your entire Board of officers anticipates with pleasurable satisfaction prompt renewal of membership cards expiring April 30, 1941. That includes the whole roster except those paid-up and recently adopted new members. Let's be good to the Club, and the Club will be nice to us in the form of low-priced social entertainment!

Slovene Labor Center is planning to enlarge and improve our present clubrooms—and, most naturally, will need some real cash. It would be very nice of all of us members if we will subscribe to one share each. Price is \$25 per share. Pals and gals, what'dja say?

Social greetings to all!

Frank S. Taucbar.

Jugoslavia—Will She Yield to Hitler?

Jugoslavia's Vardar Valley, it is said, provides a much easier road to Greece than the route across Bulgaria's mountains. Hitler is looking for a route by which Nazi divisions now packed along the Danube River can be quickly and easily transported to Greece and the eastern Mediterranean.

Germany is reported pressing the Yugoslavs for unopposed passage over the historic Vardar River road and free passage through Bulgaria so that her troops will be able to reach as many points as possible in Greece and the Mediterranean sector when the moment to strike arrives.

In just what kind of position Yugoslavia is to be able to effectively oppose the ever-more-pressing demands of Germany is not difficult to understand. It is generally expected that Yugoslavia will do whatever Germany expects of her.

It is believed Germany will invite Yugoslavia to participate in the "new order" in Europe envisioned by the Axis powers. This action was expected of a conference last Friday in Germany between Yugoslavia's premier, Dragisa Cvetkovic, and foreign minister, Alexander Cincar-Markovic, and Nazi leaders, including Adolf Hitler.

With the new Balkan pact signed between Turkey and Bulgaria, and Greece continuing to mop up on the Italians, the entire Southeastern part of Europe in particular and the world in general is watching tensely these new developments in the Balkans.

World production of rubber this year is expected to reach 1,020,000 long tons, the second highest on records about 97 per cent coming from plantations in the Middle East.

Co-operation and Progress

Looking back over the records of the past year it is gratifying indeed to note the names of individuals and organizations—many of whom continue to appear regularly and repeatedly—who contribute to the sustaining fund of our publication and thereby also help make its continuation possible.

A goodly portion of our yearly publication costs are offset thru this medium despite the fact that no large individual contributions are ever received or expected from those supporting it.

Co-operative effort of a large and widely-scattered group of individuals and organizations, each helping as much as possible, makes Proletarec's sustaining fund one of our important supporting props.

Some JSF Branches practice an established custom of sponsoring some sort of money-raising affair each year for the benefit of Proletarec. In some cases it is a social and dance, in others an out-door picnic or card-party. Branch No. 1, in Chicago, sponsors a dramatic program and dance annually, in addition to an out-door picnic through which it has managed to raise in the neighborhood of three to four hundred dollars each year. It is at present busily preparing an attractive program for presentation at the SNPJ hall on March 2.

Inasmuch as the entire purpose of the affair is to boost Proletarec's sustaining fund, and over five hundred subscribers and friends will be invited to this "Proletarec family reunion" it is not an exaggeration to say that the SNPJ hall will be taxed to capacity on that day.

The program of dramatics, singing, speeches and other attractions is in final stage of preparation and will be announced in its entirety soon. A popular orchestra has been secured to play for dancing in the evening.

It is not too early to remind you—no, not to tie a string around your finger—but, just a circle around the date, March 2, on your calendar. And after you have reserved that day for Proletarec, further the good deed by talking to your friends about it and encouraging them, too, to attend.

Readers and friends of Proletarec here in Chicago can, and judging by the past, will make this affair a substantial boost for the workingman's newspaper.

DICTATORSHIP IS NO ARGUMENT

It may be that these people who oppose the "lend-lease" bill on the ground that it is a dictatorship measure are talking beside the point. The fact is that conditions may arise—as we Socialists long ago predicted they would if capitalism was permitted to run its course—under which even dictatorship will be necessary for the preservation of a group.

For example, democracy and individual liberty always is surrendered at a fire or in a shipwreck. Nor is there any room for class considerations among the troops engaged in a bayonet charge.

As we stated last week, we consider bill No. 1776 as a mere incident in the growth of centralized authority. It began back in 1929, when the American economic and social structures were threatening to fly apart. Moreover, when and if this nation becomes an active battle-line partner in Britain's defense, we're going to much greater lengths along the totalitarian line.

As individuals who like to do pretty much as they please, Socialists are not likely to cheer regimentation. However, and on the other hand, as the prophets of what has come to pass and what is still to come, there is really no reason for Socialists to become unduly excited.

Surely, we should have believed what we were saying many years ago. George R. Kirkpatrick, of hallowed Socialist memory, once wrote a book called "Think or Surrender," telling us all about the slavery that would penalize us for failure to think.

Well, most people didn't think very far into the future. And they didn't plan to change the world economy from one of competition to another of cooperation. And we're getting what "Kirk" promised us.

Yes, we expected the hell that looms ahead. Just as a physician who warns a man with a bad heart against violent exercise is neither surprised nor angered when the man runs a race and drops dead, so we should not permit ourselves to be unduly wrought up about the pains of capitalism's demise.

There's still only one way to freedom and justice. That's the Socialist way. If we think—and act—we can socialize our economy and still retain individual liberty in those matters pertaining to individuals. Otherwise—

Well, the emancipation of the working class is still the task of the workers themselves. Either they will break the chains which make them the serfs of a superior class or the job won't be done.

Reading Labor Advocate.

More Laurels for Adamic

Two new honors have been conferred upon the popular author, Louis Adamic, in recent weeks.

The \$1,000 John Anisfield Award, given annually under the sponsorship of The Saturday Review of Literature, was given this year to Adamic for his "From Many Lands," selected by the judges as the outstanding book on racial relations published during 1940.

Temple University, at the Founder's Day and Mid-Year Commencement exercises held in Philadelphia on February 14, honored Mr. Adamic with the degree of Doctor of Letters.

Louis Adamic is one of the very few Yugoslavs in America ever to receive these honors.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Statistics compiled by the American Federation of Labor give the number of unemployed in December 1940 as being 7,906,000.

"IF"

"If" is the BIGGEST little word in the English language. If you don't think so read a few of the common uses of the word.

IF I had only looked where I was going—

IF I hadn't been in such a hurry—

IF I had only worn goggles—

IF I had only taken time to get a good ladder—

IF I had only taken off my gloves—

IF I had only waited until the machine stopped—

IF I had only gone to the hospital.

ALWAYS ON THE GO

A gentlemen who was asked to illustrate the difference between "sit" and "set," recently remarked: "The United States is a country on which the sun never sets, and the rest of the world never sits."

They also serve who only stand and wait.—Milton.