

PROLETAREC

EDUCATION,
ORGANIZATION
CO-OPERATIVE
COMMONWEALTH

Would It Not Be Grand?

Every year about this time our schools and colleges turn out millions of graduates to the already large army of former graduates who are still without jobs for which they prepared themselves. Their illusions of securing employment in the line for which they studied, of rising up in the world or even becoming president someday soon leaves their minds as they vainly search for jobs.

While our Washington officials are raising huge sums of money for the work-relief fund, this problem of providing permanent jobs for which they trained themselves receives little or no attention. The Milwaukee leader in the following article mentions what could be done if the people had voted and elected Socialists:

"Well may the commissioner of education deplore the fact that a million graduates are being thrown out into the world with nothing to do. It is a disgrace and a gross injustice.

"They are being added to the innumerable other graduates, of recent years, who find themselves in the same dilemma. Every six months this tragic injustice is repeated.

"Probably the commissioner of education has no influence with his chief in the white house, other than to try to secure the use of \$24,000,000 a month from the \$4,800,000,000 work-relief fund, to provide for work, recreation and further study for graduates. Or perhaps he would not know what else to use his influence for.

"His plan, of course, is a de-

sirable one, for temporary purposes.

"But the money will run out. For the graduates, as for the rest of the unemployed who may find jobs through the work-relief fund, it is crucially important that something more than the mere making of temporary jobs shall be done. It will be nothing short of a social crime, on the part of the administration, if it does not use a goodly portion of this huge sum for the purpose of creating permanent employment.

"The creation of permanent employment involves a right-about-face on the part of the administration — generally speaking.

"In one respect, the administration has been taking the right course for permanent purposes—namely, in the development of the Tennessee Valley electrification project. It has gone into business.

"But it stopped with that one industry. In other respects, it studiously avoids doing any

but superficial temporary things, some of which are valuable in themselves, such as housing and public improvements, but which do not provide going industries for men to work in after the big appropriation evaporates.

"If the administration had the right spirit and the right objective, it would take over essential industries and prepare to have the public be the great employer and the great producer. It would abandon the scarcity plan and adopt the abundance plan. It would enlist the services of the graduates, and millions of others, in a vast social reconstruction which would be satisfying to their ideals.

"Would it not be grand to have an administration with the will and the vision to do that? Well, we haven't—the administration is as blind as a bat. But such an administration can be had next time — by voting right."

DEAD HANDS RULE THE LIVING

Whether the United States Supreme Court has the power to veto laws of Congress is still in dispute, although it is clear that no clear grant of such power can be cited. However, it is a tragedy that society should be hampered by the dead hand of the past. The men who framed the Constitution had no comprehension of the world in which the modern generation lives, and were they to emerge from their tombs they would be as much surprised as a Caesar would be if

he walked the streets of Paris today.

The Constitution was framed for a society that was almost wholly agricultural. Our civilization is industrial with its great powers of production and distribution owned by giant trusts and mergers. The candle and pine torch have been replaced by the electric light; the pack-horse and wagon by the railway; the town crier by the daily newspaper, the telegraph, wireless and radio; home and shop production by vast industrial plants equipped with machinery; local markets by the world market.

VISITING PENNSYLVANIA

Johnstown needs no introduction. It is well known to all readers of Proletarec for the activities carried on by branch 5 JSF, cultural organizations, SNPJ and other progressive lodges. Just recently singing society Yugoslavia was re-organized which is making good progress under the leadership of Zalar and others. Their director is Hans Roemer, a very able man for this line of work.

My first stop was at the Langerhole's. Just by stepping into the house you can tell they are Socialists. Eugene V. Duba, JSF convention and Socialist branch pictures hang on the wall. All are active members of branch 5. After a chat with the family we visited the Slovene Workers Home where the SNPJ lodge delegates were holding a meeting, planning a picnic which will be held sometime next month. Some of the familiar faces were Frank Podboy, Theresa Glavach, Ignac Groznik, Joseph Culkar and many others, all busy planning for a successful picnic.

Coming back to the Langerhole's home Johnnie Jernejcich drove us to Parkhill to visit his folks. Both are very sociable which also goes for the rest of the family.

There was a keen interest among the Johnstown for the Westmoreland SNPJ Federation affair held on Decoration Day in West Newton. Arrangements were made and so several cars of us left for "Dutch-town" as it is called. The hall was filled to the capacity. People came from all parts of Pennsylvania, some even from Cleveland, W. Va., and Chicago. The program consisted of speeches given by Anton Zornik, Jane Fradel, Fred A. Vider and the writer. Other features were selections played by the band, a number of songs by the singing society "Savica" and a one act play, "The New Deal" which was presented by a group of players from Moon Run. On the walls hung the paintings of Harvey G. Prushek who had them on display. In the evening a dance took place. People in Pennsylvania know how to enjoy a good time. Before leaving for Johnstown we stopped to visit the Yamnicks, Shinks and Peves. On our way back Frank Zalar, our chauffeur began to hum Slovene melodies, of course, with my assistance. He enjoys singing as well as I do and is one of the most active members in the singing society Yugoslavia.

"Saturday a concert will be given by Rodoljub, a Croation singing society," he informed me. "Our chorus has also been invited to give a few selections and you must come with us", he said.

Rodoljub is one of the oldest singing societies in Johnstown. They celebrated their 25th anniversary with a two day program, inviting several out-of-town choruses to participate. At the concert Saturday about 400 people attended, although such a program deserved a packed hall which could have seated 700. Singing society Rodoljub was accompanied by the symphony orchestra of Johnstown. They rendered their selections in excellent manner. Prof. Hans Roemer directed the entire ensemble, about 45 singers, the soloists and orchestra. The next day a picnic was held at the Croation farm with a large attendance.

It seemed that during my stay in Johnstown all kinds of affairs were going on. Triglav, one of the largest and oldest SNPJ lodges sponsored a program and dance on Saturday June 8. Because of the rainy weather that afternoon I didn't think a large crowd would turn out, but was surprised when I stepped into the hall. The program opened with a short English comedy given by the younger members. All characters knew their parts well and could easily be heard and understood in the back of the hall where we sat. Next we heard several songs sung by the juvenile members of Triglav. They will make good singers for the singing chorus Yugoslavia some day. The last number on the program was a one act Slovene comedy which kept the audience laughing. The characters were Martin Lovko, Ivan Zupan, Theresa Glavach, the two John Langerholes and another lady whose name I do not recall. Mrs. Zupan directed both plays and the juvenile chorus. The tamburica orchestra began to tune up their instruments and we danced as long as the "Blue Laws" of Pennsylvania would permit which is 12 P. M.

The hospitable Zalar's invited us for a dainty supper, prepared by the Mrs., one evening. Both are very sociable. Frank took out his car and we went sightseeing. One has to be a good driver to make the hills and turns, but Zalar mastered it without difficulty.

During my stay in Johnstown, sad things also happened. Mrs. Volk, the mother-in-law of John Langerhole's youngest daughter passed away. She was a great loss to the family. To the folks my sincere sympathy.

Time passed quickly and soon the grip had to be packed again. When one meets such nice people as the Perchin's, Bizjak's, Koroshetz's, Podboy's, Jernejcich and many others, one just hates to leave. Pulling up to the station we clasped hands once more with a promise to see each other again. — John Rak.

Socialist Study Club Meeting Well Attended

About one hundred people attended the meeting of our Socialist Study Club held last Friday night. The program consisted of a lecture by comrade Chas. Pogorelec on his Western tour, an exhibit prepared by the Young Falcons and slides about the Civil War in Austria. Charles Pogorelec explained his travels, meeting people and of the conditions that exist. His entire tour was a success as he outlined it, organizing a branch in Bear Creek, Mont., securing new subscriptions for Proletarec and selling literature.

Next were the young Red Falcons. On the wall hung their display of work which they have been doing every Saturday at the lower SNPJ Hall. Tony Podbevesek gave a short reading and Irene Svetlik sang a song. The instructors are comrades Mary Jugz and Dorothy Sojnik.

The slides, showing views before and after the Austrian civil war, mostly about Vienna were very interesting. Comrade Winston Dancic, national secretary of the YPSL explained the pictures. He ended up with a talk about the causes of the civil war and the role played by the Socialists.

After the meeting comrade Ernestine Jugg solicited \$1.50 among friends and sympathizers for the convention journal which is being prepared for the YPSL convention to be held in Pittsburgh. Comrade John Rak presided at the meeting.

Pub. Committee.

JOINT MEETING

At Kankakee, Ill., a joint mass meeting was held by trade unions and farmers' organizations. The city workers will buy from the farmers and the latter will demand un-made products and services.

ON UNDERSTANDING SOCIALISM

By Charles S. Bernstein

One constantly hears people, who call themselves Socialists or Communists, remark that he heard a speaker over the radio or listened to a lecture, or read an article or book, in which the speaker or writer spoke or wrote "like a Socialist."

On the surface the remark appears innocent—like a Socialist. But what does the person mean when he says this? A demagog speaking over the radio declares that the administration has failed to end the depression. Immediately people begin to believe that the speaker is a Socialist. Nothing could be further from the truth. Socialist and other revolutionaries have never claimed that the Democratic administration was attempting to do away with the cause of the depression. From the very first day of the New Deal Socialists have shown that it was only a smoke screen set up by the advance guard of the capitalist class to save the profit system.

Upon other occasions we hear smooth-tongued politicians bellow about the "rights of the people." This, too, is taken for good currency. Surely Socialists know enough not to trust these political merchants. Or one may hear some half-baked liberals talk of human rights and take that for Socialism. And so on down the line we have an amalgam of the freak, the fake and the fraud, parading as saviors, and are led to believe that they are something different from what they really are.

Talk is cheap, and it is the privilege of anyone and everyone; but that is no reason why Socialists should be misled by the phrasemongers. Not all these people are ignorant; in fact the capitalists hire only the best and the most educated ex-

perts to defend their cause. The writers are paid so much per word, line or column, and above all, they are always given the space in the best magazines and newspapers in which to expound their schemes for their masters. Speakers are given time on the leading nation-wide hook-ups that enable them to speak to millions. Here is where they always have the advantage over the radicals.

But, say our friends, what does it matter whether so-and-so is a Socialist or not, so long as he makes people think? The question is—think what?

THE REAL SOCIALIST

An old adage says: "Every horse is a quadruped, but every quadruped is not a horse." This is good logic. Now, for the sake of being polite, as this may be misconstrued, I will use my own illustration: All Socialists are members of the species homo-sapiens, but all members of the species homo-sapiens are not Socialists. Everyone who advocates government ownership or government control of industry is not a Socialist. But every Socialist advocates complete public ownership and democratic management of the national wealth and industry. Every person who assails the present order of things or condemns the Democrats or Republicans, advocates some element of social change, but if he does not advocate social reconstruction, or more specifically, social revolution, he cannot be a true Socialist.

Socialists stand for Socialism—Socialism stands for the collective ownership and democratic management of all land, industry and finance—which in turn means a complete social revolution of our present order of capitalist society. Therefore anyone who advocates anything less, no matter what he may name it, is not advocating Socialism, but reform, which is the antithesis of Socialism.

This, however, does not mean that everyone who speaks or writes must use this or that stereotyped phrase. But the essence, the meaning of what he says, must always have the same central emphasis; it must be the whole thing or it is not Socialism. The sooner we realize this the sooner will we make our thoughts clear, and the better will our movement fare, and the surer will our direction be.

SOME QUACK DOCTORS

Silver-coin Coughlin, the smooth radio broadcaster from the Shrine of the Little Flower, would have us believe that the free coinage of silver and prayers will cure our economic and social ills. India, China and other countries have been engaged in this magic for centuries but are still smarting under the worst kind of misery.

Then we have the patent-medicine man from Louisiana demanding that we limit the production of cotton and other commodities, so that the producers may get higher prices, as the road to a million dollar income.

Now, how are incomes of a million dollars a year going to be achieved? How would that end poverty?

The problem confronting the masses is not the limitation of fortunes, but the abolition of the profit system. This means that the ownership and control, management and operation of the industry and commerce of the nation, must become the property of the whole people. For so long as the present system of capitalist production of the nation's wealth rests in the hands of the few who control it, profits must inevitably follow, and so long as private profit exists, misery will continue. Because profits can only be made when people produce good wares and merchandise for which they are in turn paid wages or salary, the wages of the workers must be kept low in order that the owner of industry may make a profit. When this point is overlooked, the whole structure of our economic society is misunderstood.

The Socialist view of the capitalist order of society is that there must be a reorganization—a social revolution—that is, a change from the present private profit making world to that of a cooperative society in which all who work with hand and brain will share the wealth of the things produced. The wise men of capitalism do not want; even the cure all specialists are content with the system as it is, except that they want to insert a patch here and there. Here is where the division comes between reform for reform alone and social revolution. And one must decide on which side he stands.

"THE GOOD SOLDIER"

By Jack London

(April 6, 1917—the glamor of a new crusade for Democracy, a new war to end war.

April 6, 1935—a broken, impoverished, browbeaten world lines up new balances of power to build new wars. And the lesson workers? We go back to the Socialist pioneer, Jack London, for our answer.)

"Young men: the lowest aim in your life is to become a soldier.

"The good soldier never tries to distinguish right from wrong. He never thinks; never reasons; he only OBEYS."

"If he is ordered to fire on his fellow-citizens, on his neighbors, on his friends, on his relatives, he obeys without hesitation.

"If he is ordered to fire down a crowded street when the poor are clamoring for bread, he obeys, and sees the gray hairs of age stained with red and the life tide gushing

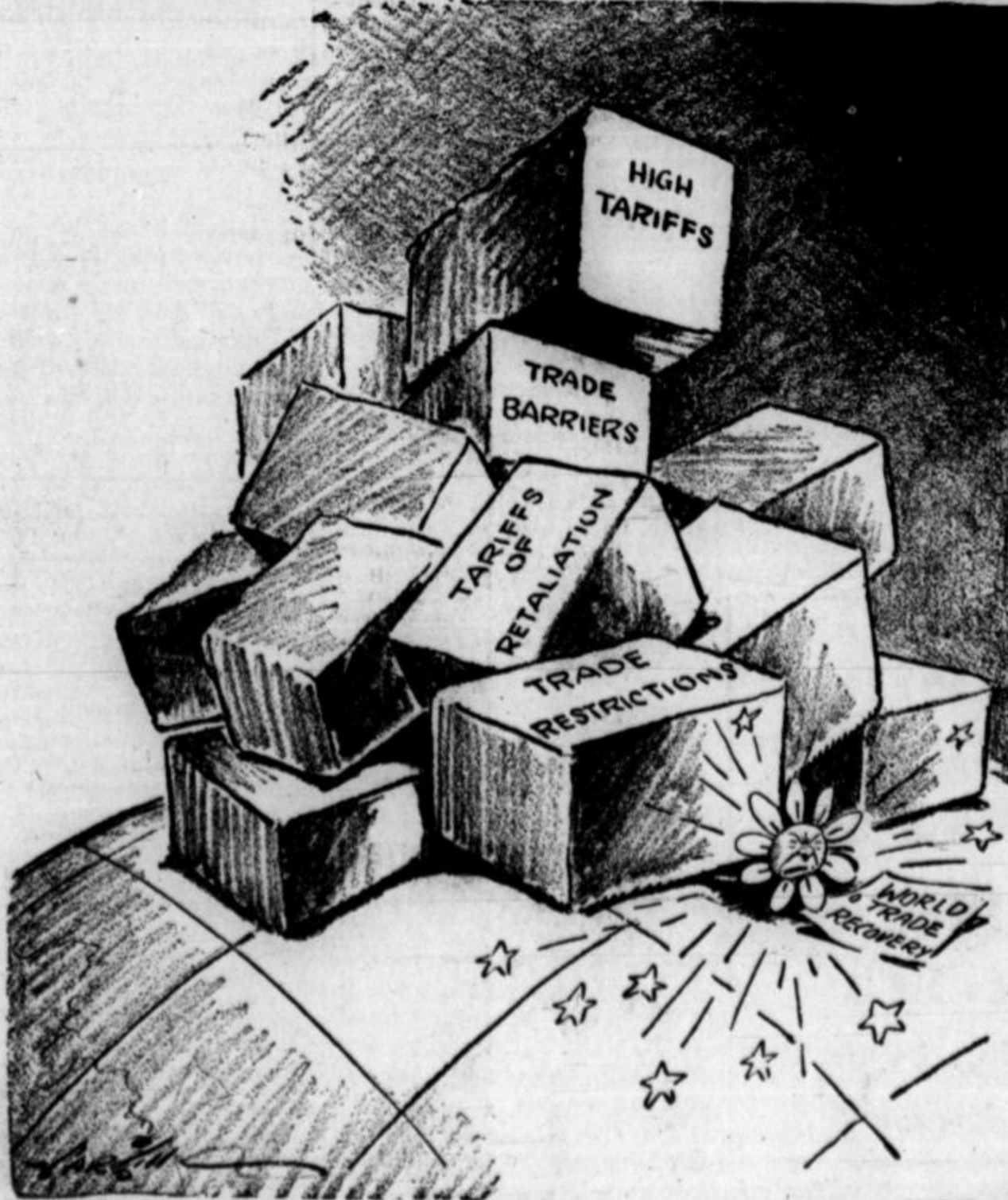
from the breast of women, feeling neither remorse nor sympathy.

"If he is ordered off on a firing squad to execute a hero or benefactor, he fires without hesitation, though he knows the bullet will pierce the noblest heart that ever beat in a human breast.

"A good soldier is a blind, heartless, soulless, murderous machine. He is not a man, he is not a brute, for brutes only kill in self-defense. All that is human in him, all that is divine in him, all that constitutes the man has been sworn away when he took the enlistment oath. His mind, his conscience, eye, his very soul, are in keeping of his office.

"No man can fall lower than a soldier, it is a depth beneath which he can not go. Keep the boys out of the army. It is HELL. We do not need killing institutions, but we need life-giving institutions."

International Rock Garden



SEARCHLIGHT

By DONALD J. LOTRICH

Over 100 people attended the lecture and social of our Social Study Club last Friday night at the Unemployed Headquarters. Chas. Pogorelec related his experiences from a recent agitator tour thru the west, slides of important happenings of the Austrian Civil War, last year, were shown with appropriate remarks by comrade W. Dancic of the YPSL and following that we had an enjoyable time. Our flight, "Tom Mooney No. 1", of the Red Falcons, tutored by Mary Jugz and Dorothy Sodnk displayed some of the things they have made and furnished a recitation and a song for the program.

"Labor has gotten a new 'Magna Charta', said William Green of the A. F. of L. when the NRA was born. He thought, as did most labor leaders, that labor would arise to the occasion and organize millions of the employed into genuine labor bodies. Personally, I thought Green was bluffing, then. He and his group have always played the game for what it was worth. They have insisted that the policy of rewarding the friends and punishing the enemy was the logical procedure of the A. F. of L. on the political field. Yes, it was fruitful for some but not for labor. And even now, that the NRA has been killed they are asking for its continuance. Instead of forming the nucleus of a mass labor party and forcing thru their demands. With thousands of strikes taking place these poor fellows haven't learned yet that labor has gained its demands only thru struggle. There will be no new 'Magna Charta' until labor is in power or until the Workers' Rights Amendment is adopted and ratified.

Two cases in question for labor leaders to rant about are the Freeport, Ill. and the Omaha, Neb. strikes. In each case the "state militia was called in to stop rioting" of course. That term is often used in labor disputes when labor seems to get the upper hand in a struggle. They should come right out and say to put down labor. In the Omaha case it is even more serious. A state of martial law was declared in which the state militia takes control of the whole city and civil government steps aside. In the Omaha case the governor insists upon arbitration by both sides and howls that he'll enforce the decisions of the arbitrators with force, with court martial, if need be. "We don't trust these birds who send in a militia

to quell a "riot" to be able to arbitrate justly or even carry out the decisions honestly. All the long years of experience are against that being done right for labor. These fellows who have been stone hearted all these years aren't going to get chicken hearted all of a sudden. But a labor governor would never call in the militia. Nor would a Socialist State have to fight against any of its employers.

Japan has stepped into another chunk of China presumably for the same purpose that it has established the free (?) state of Manchukuo. The Chinese have been torn by decades of strife. Japan wants their trade. In addition Japan wants to be ready to invade Russia as soon as it feels powerful enough. In its invasion Manchukuo and the rest of China, if Japan can control it, would assist imperialist Japan. Russia's danger of war isn't over, by any means, not as long as Germany and Japan will continue their aggressive armament and territorial expansion programs.

The prediction now is that war will be declared in Europe within 12 months. Why, with the precarious internal condition of Italy and its clamor for territorial expansion in addition to the maneuvers of Japan and Germany, its likely to explode at any time. Then the boys will march off to kill one another for home and country. Who's home? And who's country? Why the imperialists', of course.

Norman Thomas spoke on the NBC radio hookup last Sunday on Deb's Canton antiwar speech and where Deb's would stand on war today. At Canton a great throng of Deb's followers met to react the scene which made Gene Debs denounce the world war and for which he was later unjustly convicted and confined to prison. We stand up to honor the great peace lover and great agitator for the working class with the rest of the comrades everywhere.

DAY OF PRAYER

How about declaring the sixth anniversary of the great crash a day of prayer, imploring the Almighty to tell us why plenty of everything isn't enough to go around.

—American Guardian.