





# Delovanje klubov JSZ. na dramskem polju

Pravila JSZ. nalagajo pridruženim klubom gojiti tudi prosvetno delo, ki vključuje v glavnem čitalnice, knjižnice, predavanja, diskuzije in dramatiko.

Do pred letom sta bila na dramskem polju poleg kluba št. 1 v Chicagu najbolj aktivna klub št. 45 v Waukeganu, Ill., in klub št. 235 v Sheboyganu, Wis. Klub v Sheboyganu je storil v pogledu slovenske dramatike za naselbino izredno veliko, dasi se ima boriti v splošnem celo z večjimi težkočami, kakor pa naši dramski zbori drugod. Klub v Waukeganu, ki je vprizoril že zelo veliko iger, večinoma klasična dela, je pred dvema leti združil svoje aktivnosti na tem polju zaeno z Narodno čitalnico in Samostojnim Izobraževalnim klubom v okvirju Slovenskega narodnega doma, ki ima sedaj za prirejanje predstav poseben odsek, zvan "Izobraževalni odsek S. N. D." Glasom dogovora vprizori za klub vsako leto dve predstavi.

Izmed naselbin, ki so bile mnogo aktivne na dramskem polju in so več ali manj še, je v prvi vrsti naselbina Milwaukee, Wis. Prvenstvo tukaj ima soc. pevski zbor "Naprej", s katerim sodeluje tudi klub št. 37. Do vojne dobe je bil "Naprej" na dramskem polju izmed vseh slovenskih organizacij najaktivnejši. Imel je bogato knjižnico, v kateri je bila velika zbirka raznih iger. Med vojno in prva leta po vojni je prišel nekako v zastoj, a to je minulo in sedaj ima zopet koncerte in predstave, dasi ne v tolikem številu kakor nekoč.

Klub št. 12 JSZ., ki je deloval med slovenskimi farmarji v Willardu, Wis., je posrejeval, da se je začela naselbina zanimati

za dramatiko. S svojimi skromnimi sredstvi in s sodelovanjem članov društva SNPJ. je vprizoril od 1. 1928 do poletja 1929 par enodejank v Slovenskem domu. Klub se je radi velikih težkoč v boju za obstanek 1. 1929 razpusil.

Klub št. 47 JSZ. je v Springfieldu, Ill., edina slovenska organizacija, ki je aktivna na dramskem polju. Imel je več predstav, med njimi Molekovo "Poročno noč", ali vsled nepravilnosti igralci je z njimi prenehal.

V Bridgeportu, O., je imel v prošli sezoni 1928-29 dve predstavi klub št. 11, ki sta bili prvi poizkusi s slovensko dramatiko v tej naselbini. Dne 10. maja vprizori "Poročno noč". Klub št. 118 v Canonsburgu, Pa., je vprizoril v sezoni 1927-28 Cankarjevega "Kralja na Betajnovi", v ostalem pa prireja predstave v tej naselbini dramatično društvo "Soča".

V Clevelandu je bil pred vojno in še nekaj let med vojno za takratne razmere v naselbini na dramskem polju prilično aktiven klub št. 27. Pred par leti je vprizoril Gorkijev "Na dnu"; kar je v klubu članov, ki so vneti za delo te vrste, so aktivni v dram. društvu "Ivan Cankar". Tudi klub št. 49 v Collinwoodu je prirejal predstave. V Slov. domu je vprizoril eno socialno dramo, ki je bila slabo posečena, in vsled gotovih nesoglasij v naselbini je 1. 1928 sklenil, da od naslednjih že naznanjenih dramskih priredb odstopi.

Izmed ostalih klubov, ki so imeli v enem ali drugem času dramske predstave, omenjamo klube v naselbinah Clinton, Ind., Pullman, Ill., Detroit, Mich., Barberton in Girard, O., Conemaugh, Pa., Pueblo, Colo. itd.

Razumljivo je tudi, da v takih okoliščinah ne pazijo, ali zadevne s kritiko prave ali nepravne. Med premogarji je agitator, ki zastopa napredne liste in prodaja dobre knjige, skoro povsod dobrodošel.

Kakor pri vsakem delu, je treba tudi v agitaciji prakse. Prva leta je bilo težko. Človek še ne pozna ljudi, ne krajev. Ko pa se enkrat seznanil, ko vidi, da imajo opraviti s pošteniimi človekom, ima veliko lažje delo in ga tudi več opravi. Treba je tudi mnogo prakse, da se agitator za liste privadi debatam in kako hraniti čas. Če bi preveč debatiral, bo dnevno obiskal toliko manj ljudi in uspeh ne bo poseben. Zastopnik listov gre okrog zato, da dobi naročnike, ne da jih prepričuje o tem in onem. Agitatorja je važno, da v razgovorih, oziroma v "debatah" z ljudmi nasprotnih nazorov ni oster, da odgovarja vljudno in da prepričevalno pojasnjuje. Tudi, če ne bo nič opravil, vsaj sovražnika ne bo pustil za sabo.

Tudi na pijance in zagrizence naleti. Eni so zelo surovi.

Prepirati se z njimi je neuporabno, ker ne bi opravi ničesar. Je škoda časa. So to ljudje, ki se jim je najboljšo ogniti.

Večkrat naleti na osebo, ki mu nasprotuje. Vprašaš ga, če se bo naročil na ta in ta list. Ne, ker je slab, in nato naštevava hibe. Pri tem pa pohvali drug list. Boš pa tega naročil! In začne izbegavati, da še ne — da tudi ta ni dober, da ne bere itd.

Potovalni zastopnik vidi kraje, ljudi, stanovanja. Dasi ne potuje za zabavo, je umevno, da si, kar se krajev tiče, vtisne vse v spomin, ene vsled njihove lepote, druge pa radi kakih drugih posebnosti.

V Coloradu so se mi zelo dopadli kraji od Canon Cityja skozi do Leadvilla in dalje, potem od Salide proti Crested Butte, kamor vozi ozkotirna železnica. Povsod gorovje, lepa reka, potoki, gorska jezera.

V Minnesoti in Wisconsinu krase kraje lepa jezera, katerih imata izredno veliko. Izmed mest mi je najbolj ugajal Salt Lake City v državi Utah, in Colorado Springs v Colora-

**Jos. Čebular in sinovi**  
SLOVENSKA GODBA

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**JOHN BRADAČ**

6413 St. Clair Ave. Cleveland, OHIO

V Slov. nar. domu.

## SPOMINI Z AGITACIJE

**Anton Jankovich**

Od leta 1914 dalje se ukvarjam z agitacijo za napredne liste in s prodajo knjig. Šestnajst let v tem poslu je dolga doba. Sem edini, ki sem se vsa ta leta posvetil izključno temu delu. Okrog pet let sem bil neprestano na potovanju. Prepotoval sem večino Zed. držav in se oglasil skoro v vsaki, tudi v malih slovenskih naselbinah, pa bilo v mestih, v kempah ali v vaseh. Posetil sem tudi veliko naših farmarjev.

Sedaj se nahajam stalno v Clevelandu in agitiram za liste v tem okrožju, večasi pa obiščem tudi druge naselbine po Ohiu in tu in tam v Pennsylvaniji. Še v Chicagu me večasi zanese pot.

Verjeli mi boste, da sem v teh šestnajstih letih agitacije navel na različne ljudi vseh prepričan in tipov. Veliko sem videl, mnogo slišal in spoznal tisoče rojakov.

V potovanjih za liste človeku ni poslano z rožicami. Prideš na cilj — bil že mesto, kempa ali vas, kjer nisi še nobenkrat bil, nosiš težko prtljago, vsebujočo knjige in nekaj obleke, morda si truden od dolge vožnje, mogoče tudi gladen — pa vprašuješ, kje žive Slovenci.

"Slovenians? Ne vem, kje žive taki ljudje." Takoj vidiš, da mu to ime ni čisto nič znano. Vprašaš za Kranjce, Krajiners? Ne, tudi teh ljudi ne pozna. Kaj pa Austrians? In tedaj je bilo navadno boljše. Običajno je vprašal za imena ljudi, katere iščeš, in naslov. Večas je nagovorjeni koga teh poznal, večas ne, a tolmačil je, katere ceste in ulice vzemi, s katerimi karami se vozi (kjer so jih sploh imeli), da prideš na mesto. Koliko blokov, ali koliko milj? Dve, tri milje, se je glasil odgovor. Naši ljudje so si napravili svoje naselbine navadno daleč iz mesta. Gladen, težko otovorjen, prideš končno na cilj. Pa ne vselej. Mogoče si dobil napačna navodila, mogoče si kaj preslišal v pojasnjevanju in zašel, morda ti je dal namenoma napačne informacije, da se te odkriža, ali iz zlobe. Slednje se sicer ne dogaja pogosto, ali večas vendar. So ljudje, ki se "spasajo" tudi na take načine.

Nemalokrat je treba na pot v dežju, v snegu in mrazu, ali gaziti do členka v blatu. Da-



## Poglejte na to na ta način

ČE SE ODLOČITE za izdelovanje najboljših cigaret, kar so jih kdaj kadili... ali ne boste začeli izbirati najboljšega tobaka vsega sveta? ... Ali ne boste brez odpora trošili čas in denar, da razkrijete in razvijete najbolj dovršeno mešanico? ... Seveda boste. In baš to je napravila Camel. Zato je postala Camel tako hitro najbolj priljubljena cigareta v Ameriki. Zato, neoziraje se, kar plačate, je ne morete vzporediti za mil, prijeten duh in gladko bogastvo, ki napravlja dovršeno kajo... Izkušeni kadilci vam bodo povedali... To je velika cigareta!

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k 25-letnici ter mu želi nadaljnjih uspehov.













# IVAN MOLEK:

# DOBA BOJEV IN TRPLJENJA

## Nekoliko spominov na dni največje "Proletarčeve" krize

**Začetek ni bil težak.**

Zgodovina "Proletarca" je zgodovina socialističnega gibanja med slovenskimi delavci v Ameriki. Oboje je tako spojeno, da je nemogoče govoriti o prvem brez drugega in obratno. Natančna zgodovina obojega še ni spisana; te odlomki so bili navedeni o prilikah. Ko se bo pisala detajlirana zgodovina, bo zavzemala največ prostora ono važno poglavje, ki zabeleži dejstva iz najkritičnejše dobe "Proletarca" v letih 1908—1909. To je bila doba, v kateri je list sleherni teden visel med življenjem in smrtjo in ko so sodrugi doprinesli nepopisna žrtvovanja, da so ohranili "Proletarca" in socialistično organizacijo, dokler niso prišli boljše časi. Mnogi sodrugi, ki so se takrat herojsko žrtvovali, so danes že med mrtvimi; niso dočakali petindvajsetletnice svoje zmage. Nekateri so zapustili stranko ali so postali pasivni. Kljub temu, živi ali mrtvi, vsi imajo neizbrisne zasluge za ono dobo. Njim se imamo danes zahvaliti, da letos lahko slavimo srebrni jubilej.

"Proletarec" je bil v začetku eno leto in enajst mesecev mesečnik. Ta doba ni bila težka. Industrije so dobro obratovali in peščica sodrugin, ki je financirala list, je sproti plačevala tisk. Tiskarna in poštnina so bili vsi stroški. Tisk ni bil drag. List se je tiskal v stari tiskarni "Spravedlnosti", 19. Place blizu Loomis ulice. Ko je bil tiskan, so ga sodrugi odnesli k Jožetu Zavertniku ali Johnu Petriču in ga sami ekspedirali. Pisala sta ga Zavertnik in Frank Petrič zastonj ob večerih. Sotrudnikov ni bilo dosti, a nekaj jih je le bilo. Tako je šlo.

### Frakcijski boji.

V jeseni leta 1906 sem jaz prišel v Chicago iz Calumeta, Mich., kjer sem par mesecev prej pustil uredništvo "Glasnika". Prišel sem na povabilo Martina V. Konde, lastnika "Glas Svobode", s katerim sva si prej dopisovala.

"Glas Svobode" je bil takrat zelo razširjen. Bil je glasilo mlade S. N. P. J. Odnosaji med tem listom in "Proletarcem" so pa bili slabi. Med obema listoma je divjal srdit boj, ki je bil bolj oseben kot načelen in izviral je večidel iz enotnih razmer. Obenem pa sta oba lista odbijala divje napade klerikalcev iz Jolietia in liberalcev iz New Yorka, ki so hoteli uničiti "Glas Svobode" kakor "Proletarca". Čikaški boj me je zelo bolel, kajti oba lista sta bila dobra in potrebna.

### Zelja po združenju.

Prišlo je leto 1907. Čudovito leto, v katerem se je ntrpalo iz naših razmer več burnih dogodkov kakor v vseh ostalih 24 letih mojega časninarskega življenja. (Dne 1. maja 1905 sem začel mojo časninarsko karijero pri "Glasniku" v Calumetu.)

Kmalu po novem letu sva z Ivanom Kakerjem, ki je bil urednik, prevzela "Gl. Sv." Konda mi je zatrdal, da je bolan, da ima dovolj posla kot tajnik jednote in da bi se na vsak način rad iznebil lista, pa ga je nama prodal na "puf", ker denarja nisva imela. Računi so dobro kazali in prilika je bila lepa, da se likvidira frakcijski boj. Res je boj takoj prenehal čim sva Kaker in jaz vzela list v roke. Moja želja je bila, da združimo vse naše sile okrog obeh listov in v jednoti proti tujim načelnim nasprotnikom. "Proletarec" naj postane znanstvena socialistična revija, "Glas Svobode" bo pa tedensko vodil politične boje.

Takoj nato je prišlo nekaj, ki je združenje povsipehalo. Konda je bil aretiran in obsojen na leto dni ječe na ovadbo slovenske duhovščine zaradi neke opozle brošure, katero je bil založil in prodajal. Kmalu potem je bil aretiran tudi moj drug Kaker. Začela se je strahovita gonja proti nam. Duhovščina je takrat napela vse sile, da nas uniči. V tistih časih sodnijske persekucije in ljutih napadov v "Amer. Slovencu" in "Glasu Naroda" sta "Glas Svobode" in "Proletarec" solidarno stala skupaj in krepko odbijala napade. Zavertnik mi je prostovoljno pomagal pisati polemiko. Vsak teden je prišel v uredništvo "Gl. Sv." in položil šop rokopisov na mojo mizo. Pomagal je tudi Fr. Petrič.

### Novi konflikti.

Notranja sloga pa ni trajala dolgo. Sredi leta 1907 je konflikt na sodiščih odnehal. Konda in Kaker sta bila obsojena na leto dni zapora, toda aktualno sta predsedala prvi dva meseca in drugi šest tednov. Tožbe so požrle okrog \$700, ki so jih zbrala društva S. N. P. J. in posamezniki. Tedaj se je bližala konvencija jednote (tretja v La Sallu) in notranji konflikt je znovala izbruhnil med Kondovo frakcijo in socialisti okoli "Proletarca".

Jože Zavertnik je bil pri društvu Slaviji št. 1 izvirljen za delegata, nasprotna stranka je pa proti njemu izigrala zelo umazan trik: gl. odbor ga je kratkoma izključil iz jednote brez kakega tehtnega vzroka. Ta čin je razkačil sodruga in "Proletarec" je spet moral udariti po svojih "prijateljih". Zavertnik je šel vseeno na konvencijo, ki je takoj na prvi seji razveljavila sklep gl. odbora, priznala Jožetu delegatske pravice in izvršila temeljito revolucijo v jednoti. Po konvenciji se je nadaljeval boj med novim gl. odborom in poraženimi stariimi odborniki, ki niso hoteli dati blagajne in knjig iz rok. To ne spada sem, ali zvezano je tako tesno z zgodovino "Proletarca", da se ni mogoče ogniti vsaj glavnim faktom. Priznati je treba, da so sodrugi tudi naredili nekaj napak v tem konfliktu in ga s tem poostriili in zavlekli.

## Odločnost in vztrajnost — ključ uspehov in zmag



S Kakerjem nisva mogla plačati zapadlega obroka za list in Konda je nama vzel list s sodnijskim postopanjem. S tem so bili pretrgani moji stiki z "Gl. Sv." in s Kondo.

### List postane tednik.

Nekaj tednov kasneje — v jeseni leta 1907 — se je iz članov socialističnega kluba v Chicagu in zunanjih klubov organizirala delniška družba "Jugoslovanska delavska tiakovna družba", ki je vzela "Proletarca" v svojo posest in ga začela izdajati tedensko. Sprevideli smo, da z mesečnikom ne pridemo nikamor. Ako hočemo list razširiti in ustvariti za njim močno organizacijo ter uspešno voditi boj z vsami mogočimi nasprotniki, moramo imeti najprvo močan tednik.

Na prvem občnem zboru družbe je bil izvoljen sledeči odbor: Ivan Grilec, predsednik; John Petrič, tajnik; Anton Prešeren, blagajnik; Ivan Molek, zapisnikar in še par drugih odbornikov, katerih se več ne spominjam. Delnic je bilo za \$2500, po deset dolarjev delnica. Grilec je takoj kupil 7 delnic, Prešeren pet, drugi po tri, dve in eno. V enem mesecu smo imeli okrog \$500 gotovine in sklenili smo, da tednik izide prve dni v decembru. Glavni stan družbe in lista je bil pri Franku Mladiču na stari Centre Ave. (danes Racine ave.), kjer je bila Narodna dvorana. Frank je dal listu prostore zastonj: sobo v ospredju pod barom v dvorani. Tam je bilo uredništvo in upravištvo brez mvaloga eno leto. Pozimi je bilo mrzlo kot v ledenici, poletu pa vroče kot v peči — a bilo je zastonj in hvaležni smo bili požrtvovalnemu Franku.

Nastavljen je bil stalni urednik s plačo \$12 na teden. Ta čast je zadela mene. Ko je bilo na dnevnem redu vprašanje, kdo bo urednik, je Jože Zavertnik rekel: "Najeti moramo mlado moč, samskega človeka, ki nima družine in ki se lahko vsega posveti svojem delu." Slabo je računaj Jože! Čez deset mesecev sem se ženil na isto plačo... Nastavljen je bil tudi upravitelj s tedensko plačo — šest dolarjev. To sijajno službo je dobil Ivan Meden, ki je tudi še med-pokojni. Meden, dobra duša, je delal kakor mravlja. Letal je okrog za oglasi, iskal naročnike, vodil korespondenco in računске knjige, hektografirjal naslove in odposiljal list. Tiskali smo ga ob pondeljkih in celo nakladdo smo prinesli v našo uredniško-upraviteljsko sobo in tam smo rezali in lepili naslove ter delali pakete po mestih, potem pa odnesli žakelj na pošto. Tako je šlo.

### Začetek krize.

Sprva je šlo dobro. Dela je bilo dosti in še več navdušenja. Zato smo delali z veseljem. Naročniki so prihajali od vseh strani. Dopisniki so se oglašali. Ustanovljenih je bilo mnogo novih klubov. Organizacija je rastle.

Zelo nam je pomagal boj, ki je divjal v S. N. P. J. med stariim in novim odborom po tretji redni konvenciji; boj je divjal vso zimo do izredne konvencije, ki je prišla v maju 1908 v Chicagu. V tem boju je "Proletarec" stal na strani novega odbora, na strani gl. tajnika Franka Keržeta, katerega je stari odbor — John Stonič, Martin V. Konda in Frank Klobučar — ne-

usmiljeno napadal v "Glasu Svobode". Vsi člani jednote, ki so podpirali novi odbor — in teh je bila večina — so dobili prostor v "Proletarcu", da so lahko povedali svoje mnenje. Z novim letom 1908 je S. N. P. J. začela izdajati svoje lastno glasilo, ki pa je bilo mesečnik in premajhno za polemike. Torej je "Proletarec" služil jednoti v njenih težkih časih in v nekaj mesecih je postal zelo popularen. Stališče, ki ga je zastopal naš list v jednotnem konfliktu, je bilo sijajno vindičirano na prvi izredni konvenciji. Delegatje so z ogromno večino izvolili ves novi odbor in temeljito likvidirali vsa sporna vprašanja kakor je hotela večina društev. Tedaj je bilo za več let konec bojev v jednoti. V jednoto sta se naselila mir in energično delo, "Proletarec" je pa posvetil vso pažnjo organiziranju slovenskih delavcev v socialistični stranki in vodil boj s klerikalci in liberalci.

Medtem, ko so tekli ti dogodki, je pa v začetku leta 1908 prišla v Združenih državah velika kriza. V New Yorku je počilo nekaj bank in nekaj tednov po tistem so pokale banke po vsej deželi. Prišla je splošna finančna panika. Kredit je skrahiral in nihče ni dobil denarja iz denarnih zavodov. Vlagatelji, ki so imeli denar v bankah, so mogli dvigniti le del vloge po 60 dneh prijave. Denar je izginil iz prometa in delodajalci so plačevali delavce v takozvanem "skripu" ali nekakih čekih, ki so jih garantirale lokalne banke. Ni pa ostalo samo pri tem.

Prišlo je poletje in prišla je industrijska kriza. Tovarne so zapirale vrata druga za drugo in delavci so se naenkrat znašli na cestah. Na stotisoče, milijone delavcev. Letošnja depresija, ki je sicer precej občutna, ni niti senca strašnih mesecev leta 1908. Takrat ni bilo nikjer nobenega dela in tisoče delavcev je faktično stradalo in zmrzovalo pod milim nebom. Kdor je šel takrat v čikaški downtown in je bil malo bolje oblečen, ni mogel storiti treh korakov, ne da bi bili najmanj trije siromaki iztegnili roko proti njemu proseč milodara. Zima, ki sem jo gledal in prežival sam leta 1908-1909, je bila nekaj nepopisnega. Mnogo jih je, ki se je lahko spominjajo.

### Stradanje okoli "Proletarca".

Razume se, da je bila ta kriza silen udarec za list. Naši najaktivnejši sodrugi so bili ob delo in gledati so morali, kako bodo preživelii sebe in svoje družine. Večina naročnikov, ki smo jih dobili prejšnjo jesen po ustanovitvi tednika, so bili polletni. Naročnina jim je potekla, ko se je začela razvijati najhujša kriza, in ponoviti je niso mogli. Gotovina je pošla, kredita pa ni bilo.

Začeli smo gledati, kako bi stisnili žepe, da ohranimo "Proletarca". Najprvo smo odstavili upravitelja Medena z njegovimi šestimi dolarji na teden. Upravištvo je prevzel sodrug Grilec brezplačno. Meseca avgusta so mene poslali v Michigan, da dobim kaj naročnikov. Rudniki so tamkaj še obratovali. Stranka me je najela kot organizatorja in mi plačala vožnjo.

## Petindvajset let je lahko malo ali dosti, nič ali vse

Organiziral sem klub v Calumetu, naročnikov pa nisem dosti dobil. Ljudje so se bali krize in tiščali denar.

"Kaj delaš? Pošli kak denar ali pa domov pri-di! Vsak teden mislimo, da bo ta številka zadnja. Tiskarna zahteva denar, ker ona tudi ne dobi kredita za papir in mora plačevati delavce. Sodrugi so "bros" in jaz tudi ne morem zalagati."

Tako mi je pisal Grilec. Deset dni kasneje je bilo konec moje agitacije. Dobil sem zavoj najnovejše številke "Proletarca". Odkar je bil tednik, je list izhajal v formatu sedmih kolon kakor danes, samo da je bil na štirih straneh. Razvijem zavoj in v rokah sem imel listič petih kolon — kakor letak. Prišlo je spet Grilevo pismo, ki je pojasnilo: "Direktorij je imel sejo in druge pomoči ni bilo, kakor da skrčimo list za polovico. Prihodnji korak — ako ne bo denarja od nikoder — bo, da list ustavimo."

Kaj boš še agitiral! Bilo mi je obupati. Novi naročniki v Calumetu so pa norce brili: "Ali dobimo polovico naročnine nazaj, ker se je tvoj list skrčil? Komaj za krajcar ga je!" Hitro sem jo odkuril nazaj v Chicago.

Doma sem našel kaos. Tiskarna je drezala za denar in sodrugi so drezali drug drugega in se jezili. Prvi se je spuntal Prešeren. Na seji se je skregal z Jožetom in Jože je ogorčen izjavil, da dokler je Prešeren zra-ven, ne napiše on niti ene vrstice za list. Res je takoj prenehal prevajati Upton Sinclairjev "Džungel", ki je takrat izhajal v listu. Prevedel je približno polovico knjige. Drugo polovico je izvršil Ivan Kaker, ki smo ga naprosili, če smo hoteli nadaljevati s povestjo. Prešeren je pa zabrusil vsem skupaj, da ga ne bo več zra-ven, dokler ne bo kaj denarja. Ker denarja ni bilo tako hitro, ni bilo Prešerna nikoli več nazaj. Grilec je tudi rebeliral, ali dal se je pogovoriti, da je vodil dalje brezplačno upravištvo. Da je delal brezplačno, je dal tudi razumeti vsem, s katerimi je prišel v dotiko. V vsakem pismu, ki ga je pisal zastopnikom lista, se je podpisal: Ivan Grilec, brezplačni upravnik Proletarca!

### Zima trpljenja.

Po vrnitvi v Chicago sem nadaljeval uredniško delo, toda plače ni bilo več nobene. Direktorij je rekel: "Pomagaj si kakor si moreš. List je zdaj tako majhen, da ga lahko spišes v dveh dneh. Plačo ti zapišemo v knjigo. Kadar ostane kak dolar od tiskarne, ga dobiš." Ostalo ni nič, še premalo je bilo.

Čez nekaj tednov je bil urednik uradno odstav-ljen. To se pravi, da je bila črtana urednikova plača. Vse delo za list mora biti posledj izvršeno brezplačno. Uredniško delo je bilo razdeljeno med tri sodruga. Uredniki so bili: Zavertnik, Fr. Petrič in Molek. Jože je pisal članke, jaz sem zbiral vesti in razne druge stvari, Petrič je pa urejeval dopise, delal korekture in nadzoroval vkladanje v tiskarno. Tako je šlo prihodnja tri leta.

Tiste dni, ko smo si razdelili delo, je bila industrijska kriza na višku in kriza pri listu tudi. Tiskarna nam je odpovedala tisk, dokler ne plačamo dolga. Ena številka je morala izostati, ker je ni hotel nihče tiskati. Pošti smo sporočili, da je urednik "bolan". Bila je spet seja — seje so bile vsaka dva ali tri dni — in sodrugi so odločno zaključili, da list mora izhajati, pa če damo zadnje cente iz svojih žepov. Prej umremo mi vsi gladu in mraza, predno list propade! Takoj smo povečali list! In v najhujši krizi! Petkolonska prak-tika nam je bila vsem zoperna in povečali smo list na šest kolon. Šli smo tudi v drugo tiskarno, v Narodno tiskarno, ki je bila takrat na 18. cesti. Ta tiskarna nam je dala kredit. To je veliko pomagalo.

(Nadaljevanje na 11. strani.)

### Culkovski.

## Dajte prostora novemu maju!

Kaj se nam še niste spravili s poti in izginiti v ropotarnico? Minulih vekov zapoznani zeloti? Saj vas nikjer več ne marajo!

Dosti je vaše nesnage v muzejih, vaših naslovov, brokata in spon! Naj vas kot Jupitra v starih Pompejih, krije prahu in pepela zatoni!

Vai slučajni panoptikum je opustel, grbi trohne na starih kočijah. Svoboden razum si je himno zapel nov tempelj vstaja na podrtjih!

Nam se nove pomladi porajajo, vaš vek je s že davno pri kraju! Spravite se s poti, v ropotarnico, dajte prostora novemu maju!

U. M. W. of A., kakor je bila pod J. L. Lewisom



Za "Proletarca" narisal Felix Rozina.

Nekdaj močna unija premogarjev — U. M. W. of A. — je postala v prošlem letu popolna podrtja. Z več sto tisoč članov je v teku let, ko jo je vodil John Lewis, padla do konca prošlega leta na okrog 80,000 članov. Rudarji v Illinoisu so lani začeli proti Lewisu z odprto revolto in s sodelovanjem premogarjev v drugih državah so končno sklicali reorganizacijsko konvencijo, ki se je vrnila pred nekaj tedni v Springfieldu. Sprejela je novo ustavo in izvolila odbor, kateremu načeljujejo Alex Howat, Adolph Germer in J. Walker. Reorganizirana U. M. W. je začela takoj z intenzivnim delom, neglede na ovire in opozicijo s strani Lewisovih pristašev ter birokratov A. F. of L.

Angelo Cerkenik: NAKLJUČJE (Skica iz revolucijske dobe)

Naključje? Ali ni, kar imenujemo: naključje, zgolj sečišče sil, ki se morajo po nekih neizprosno do slednih, čeprav nam nesnanih zakonih nujno srečati na mestu, kjer si presekajo pota? Ali še določeneje: Kateri dogodek je več, nego golo naključje? 11. novembra 1918. na Dunaju. Ogromne množice vojakov in podoficirjev, tu in tam tudi kakšen oficir, so oblegale Ostbahnhof in Südbahnhof. Razbita armada nekdanje premožne monarhije je naskakovala tovrne, potniške in brze vlake, da bi čimprej dospela domov. Mnogoteri vojak, ki je v dolgih štirih letih nešteto krat zrl smrti in obraz, je padel pod kolesa premikajočega se vlaka in končal na pragu svetlega, tako dolgo pričakovanega trenutka svoje mučno in žalostno, kljub vsemu pa tako zelo ljubljeno življenje. Ves ogromen prostor med obema postajama se je spremenil v valovanje ljudskih množic. General Ottachal je slonel ob tramvajski postajici, upirajoč se na dolgo sabljo. Zrl je v nemirno, razburkano valovanje človeškega morja. V njem je vse kipelo. Rozeto so mu nasilno strgali s čepice. Streljal bi mednje, sekal bi... Solza mu je privrela iz utrujenega očesa. Rdečica sramu ga je oblila. Nepričakovano je zagledal pred seboj znan obraz in se je ves stresel: — Vanda! — Jaz sem, Friderik! — Ti tukaj? — Naključje! Govoriti moram s teboj. — Moral bi odpotovati še danes v Budimpešto. — Danes za tako ne boš mogel najti primerne mesta v vlaku. Tukaj vis-à-vis stanujem, v hotelu. Z ekna sem te zagledala in sem prišla pote. Po potu nista spregovorila niti besedice. Srečavala sta gruče vojakov, ki so imeli rdeče kokarde na čepicah. Sovražno so ju motrili. — Pai! je siknil general. Gospe so se bežno zasvetile oči. Porogljivo se je nasmehnila. Ko sta stopila v sobo, mu je velela: — Sedi, tamle v fotelji! Odložil je plašč, rokavice, sabljo in čepico ter sedel. — Poslednjič sva se videla

na sence utrujenega moža in sprožil. Zamolkel strel ni vzbudil pozornosti tovarišev. General mu je pripel na hrbet bel listek... Na listku je bilo napisano: "Mož je spal... O., generalmajor." Nadaljeval je svojo pot. Samokres je vrnil svojo dolžnost. Spomnil se je slike, ki jo je bil objavil neki ilustriran časopis... Družina moli... večerno občutje... misli na moža, očeta, ki se bojuje daleč, daleč na fronti... in moli, prosi Vsevišnjega, naj bi ji ohranil življenje hranitelja, naj bi ga obvaroval pred strašnim in nepričakovanim. Vse urednike bi poslal na fronto! — Dolžnost nad vse! Domovina najvišji zakon! Poveljnik voda... mlad praporščak... Korporal je praporščaka sunil s puškinih kopitom v bedro. Mlad golobradec je poskočil... — Praporščak, spali ste! — Utrujen sem bil... Strel iz samokresa je podrl na tla mladega, dvajsetletnega dečka. Na prsih so prihodnji dan našli listek: "Mož je spal... O., generalmajor." O, tiste njegove oči... mlad, tako mlad deček... kje ga je že nekdanj videl?! — Ah, kaj! Dolžnost, domovina, cesar — nad vse! Vanda je še vedno nepremično zrla v sivolasnega generala. Odprli je oči. — Koliko si jih ustrelil? — Stiri... — Citaj! Položila je predenj pismo. Crnilo se je razlilo čez vse pismo, zakaj nešteto solz je tisto pismo že popilo. Generalu so se tresle roke. — Ne morem, čitaj ti! Vanda je čitala. Njen glas je bil trd in oster: "Spoštovana gospa! Čitali ste v novinah in tudi poveljstvo polka Vam je sporočilo, da je Vaš sin žrtvoval svoje mlado življenje domovini. Pa ni bilo tako. Dne 26. junija 1917. ob 23. uri 35 minut ga je lastnorčno ustrelil Friderik Ottachal, generalmajor..." General je kriknil: — Nehaj! — Zakaj? — O, njegov pogled! Nehaj, imej usmiljenje!

Z lastnim otrokom nisi imel usmiljenja... z mojimi malim, kodrolasim dečkom... Izbruhnila je v jok. Samo ena misel mu je še šinila skozi možgane. Saj se je praporščak pisal drugače, nego Vanda. Da jo je vprašal, bi bil zvedel, da je njegovega sina posinovil trgovec Steinmetz iz Celovca. Vanda ni več jokala. Začuden jo je pogledal — Hijena, je zamrmral in jok ga je premagal... General je jokal... Oblekel si je plašč, opasal sabljo, in počasi nadel rokavice ter odšel. Množice so se gibale, kakor valovanje morja. General si je utiral pot. Za njim ženaka. V gneči se je moral ustaviti. Ženska je spregovorila. Odsekano. Trdo. Odločno. — Vojaki! Poglejte generala! Ta zverina je ustrelila pred Asiagom mojega sina in še nešteto drugih... očetov mnogoterih otrok... zato, ker so utrujeni in izmučeni zaspali... Množica se je zakrohotala. V krohotu se je slišala natančno smrtna obsodba. Robusten kmet ga je zgrabil in zavpil z močnim basom: — Domovina bom, bom oblast, cesar, država, sodnik in rabelj... Dajte ga meni! Najlepše čestitke k 25-letnici "PROLETARCA" pošilja KLUB št. 5 J. S. Z. Franklin-Conemaugh, Pa. ADOLF KRASNA, tajnik. M. E. Sestarič Zastopnik Mikkelson & Bohn Real Estate agencije Tel: Hanover 434 257 First Ave. MILWAUKEE, WIS. Tel.: Hanover 3684 Anton Butcher MESNICA 288 Mineral Street MILWAUKEE, WIS. Joseph Evanich KROJAC Čistim, likam in popraviljam. 379 Reed Street MILWAUKEE, WIS. John Rožanc Modna trgovina z oblačili za vso družino 15761 Waterloo Rd. COLLINWOOD, OHIO TA OGLAS JE VREDEN 50c. Prinesite ga seboj kadar kupujete moške, ženske ali otroške čevlje. X-Ray stroj v rabi pri primerjavi obuval. Postrežba z njim brezplačna. M. H. & M. SHOES AND HOSIERY 1047 MAINT ST. WHEELING, W. VA. Tel.: Greenfield 1544 ANTON DEMSHAR — KLEPAR — Izdelujem in popraviljam pločevinaste strehe, šelove in vsakovrstno posodo. 822 WOODLAWN AVE. WEST ALLIS, WIS.

PETINDVAJSET SLOVENSkih LISTOV PRENEHALO IZHAJATI V teku 25 let, odkar izhaja "Proletarec", je prenehalo 25 slovenskih listov v Zedinjenih državah, dva pa sta menjala lastnike. Vseh listov, ki so izdajani za Slovence, je sedaj v tej deželi 15. Sedem izmed njih je začelo izhajati v prešlih desetih letih.

In množica je zavpila: — Tvoj je! Generalu se je zazdelo, da ima mož jeklene roke. — Kako da so se pustili ti ljudje tako dolgo tepati? se je začudil. — Odpaši mu sabljo in napravi iz pasu zanko! Tovariš je odpasal generalu meč in ga vrgel med vojsake. Generalov vrat so vtaknili v zanko, pas pa privezali na kandelaber visoke obločnice... Roke so mu zvezali na hrbtu. General je stisnil zobe in zaprl oči... Maščevanje množice se je krohotalo, podobno strahotni burji; pelo mu je nagrobno pesem mesto vojaške godbe. Električne obločnice so ne mo zrla na nekdanj mogočnega sodnika in rablja in mu razsvetljevale košeni obraz... Veter, mrzel veter s severa, se je poigraval s sivimi lasmi starega generala... Armada se je razšla... Moč se je razdelila na tisočero drobcev...

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JOHN ZAJEC 511 NATIONAL AVE. MILWAUKEE, WIS. Tel.: Hanover 1930

JOHN NOVAK 873 National Ave. MILWAUKEE, WIS. Phone Orchard 2537

TOM. NERAD Gostilna. 822 Kin. Kin. Ave., MILWAUKEE, WIS.

JOSEPH KUNČIČ 15612 Waterloo Rd., Collinwood, Ohio. Izkrene čestitke v 25-letnici "PROLETARCA" in 20-letnici J. S. Z.

BRIDGEPORT NATIONAL BANK 1846. Naša moderna in vzorno poslujoča banka je organizacija katere namen je konstruktiven in v pomoč našim vlagateljem. Najstarejša, največja in najmočnejša banka v Belmont okraju. 4% OBRESTI NA VLOGE. Premoženje \$4,344,354.37. Veliki izlet v ČEHOSLOVAKIJO, JUGOSLAVIJO in druge države centralne Evrope z velikim brzoparnikom 'STUTTGART' 10 junija 1930 v spremstvu g. František Ledvicka, upravnika inozemskega oddelka. BRIDGEPORT National Banke Bridgeport, Ohio

Jugoslovanska podporna Zveza Sloga. Posluje v državi Wisconsin kot bratska podporna organizacija nad 20 let. Premoženje \$200,000. Solventnost 140%. Sprejema člane in članice v odrasli oddelek od 16. do 50. leta, v mladinski pa od 1. do 16. leta. Posojuje denar svojim članom na posestva. Izplačuje rezervo, ako član (ica) odstopi. Ako hočete biti zavarovani pri dobri in pošteni organizaciji, pristopite k J. P. Z. Sloga. Zavaruje se lahko za posmrtnino, bolniško podporo in operacije. Za ustanovitev društva zadostuje 8 oseb. Za nadaljna pojasnila se obrnite na GLAVNI URAD J. P. Z. S. 379 First Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

M. H. & M. SHOES AND HOSIERY 1047 MAINT ST. WHEELING, W. VA. Tel.: Greenfield 1544 ANTON DEMSHAR — KLEPAR — Izdelujem in popraviljam pločevinaste strehe, šelove in vsakovrstno posodo. 822 WOODLAWN AVE. WEST ALLIS, WIS.

August H. Riska JAVNI NOTAR Zavarovalnina in posojila Strabane Pennsylvania

Izkrene čestitke "PROLETARCU" ob njegovi 25-letnici, pošilja JOHN TERCELJ STRABANE, PA.

# DOBA BOJEV IN TRPLJENJA

(Nadaljevanje z devete strani, II. del.)

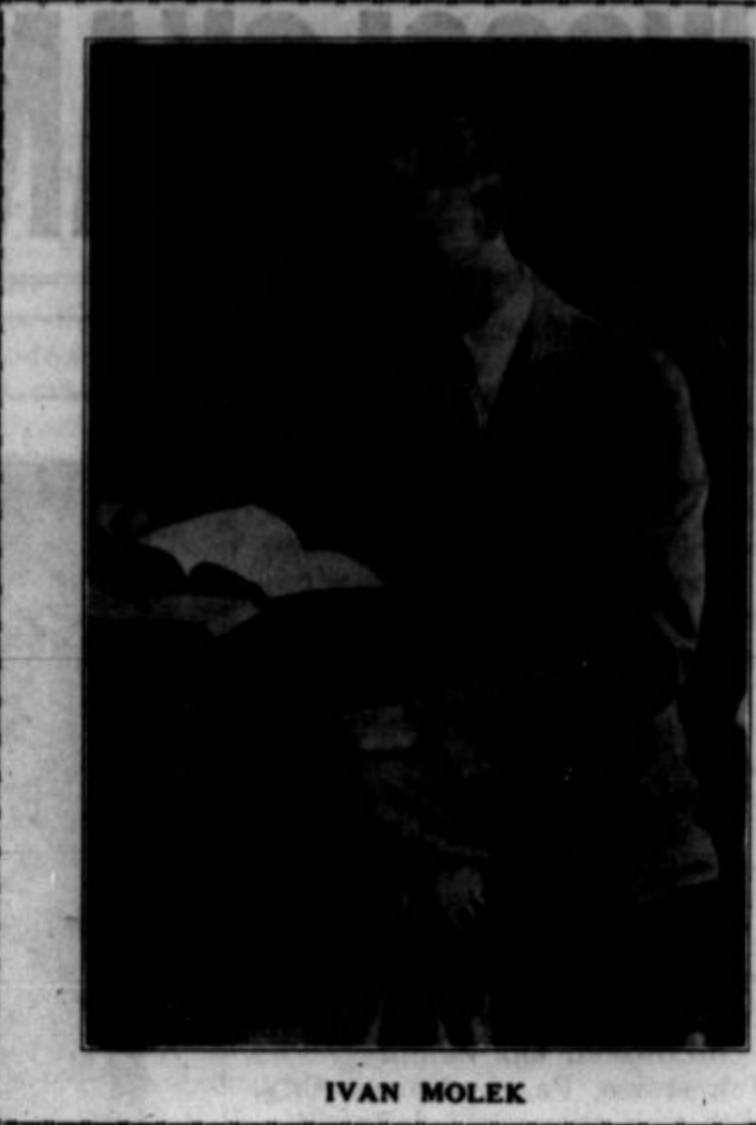
Medtem je kriza bicala delavce. Kmalu potem, ko sem se vrnil z agitacije v Michiganu, sem se — oženil. Mesec dni kasneje sem izgubil plačo. Z ženo sva stanovala na 20. cesti in Lanflin st. Gospodar hiše me je čakal dva meseca za stanarino in potem me je vrgel — sredi najhujše zime — na cesto. Sodrug Petrič mi je priskočil na pomoč. Pri svojih prijateljih mi je izposloval eno sobo pod streho, v kateri so mi dovolili stanovanje z ženo, ne da bi me bili vprašali za stanarino. V sobi ni bilo peči. Rekli so mi napol v šal, da naju lahko greje mlada kri! (Kasneje, ko sem dobil delo, sem deloma poplačal dobroto dotični slovenski družini.) Celih šest mesecev sem iskal dela, vsakega dela, še tako težkega in grdega. Ni bilo nič. Trume delavcev so tavale po mestu in oblegale tovarne. Nikjer nič. Žena je tudi iskala. Imela je več sreče. Tuptam je zaslužila par dolarjev. Sodrug Petrič je včasih prišel k meni s ponudbo, naj ga zamenjam v tiskarni. Dal mi je desetico za "carfare". Desetico sem dal ženi za kruh in hodil sem peš v tiskarno, tri milje tja in tri milje nazaj. Sicer pa — kaj bi opisoval svojo mizerijo, ki je takrat tepla ne samo mene. Kako rabi bi človek pozabil, če bi mogel! — "Proletarca" smo pa le ohranili. Z naravnost nadčloveško silo smo ga rinili in izrinili skozi največjo krizo. Brez žrtve ni šlo. Edino ljudje, ki so bili prežeti z idealizmom in podkovani z jeklenim prepričanjem, so zmogli tiste žrtve. Nekaj jih je omahnilo. Zadnji v teku krize je omahnil Ivan Grilec. Spuntal se je tudi on in brezplačno upravništvo je za njim prevzel Jože Zavertnik mlajši, ki je bil takrat študent.

Tone Sojar, tedanji slovenski župnik v Chicagu, ki je bil naš nasprotnik, je tiste dni zapisal v jolietškem "Amerikanskem Slovincu" sledeče: "Požrtvovalni pa so naši socialisti. To jim je treba priznati. Lenuhi in sebičnejši niso. Prostovoljno bi si naložili največje trpljenje, naložili bi si na rame največji križ in voljno bi ga nesli na najvišjo goro Kalvarijo — za svoj socializem." Tone je videl in razumel. Med vsemi slovenskimi duhovni v Ameriki, s katerimi smo bili in smo še v boju, je bil Sojar naš najodkritejši in najpoštenjši nasprotnik.

**Boljši dnevi.**

Velika kriza je ponehala v jeseni 1909. Posledice so trajale dalj časa, ampak tovarne so se začele odpirati že sredi omenjenega leta. Tedaj sta bila "Proletarec" in naša organizacija na konju. Nevarnost je bila premagana. Naročniki so se spet množili in novi klubi so rastle kakor gobe po dežju. Vreme se je zjasnilo. Ko smo koncem leta 1910 izdali slavnostno številko na osmih straneh ob petletnici lista, smo razprodali 5000 izvodov.

Kljub temu nismo hoteli zvišati stroškov. Nadaljevali smo s kolektivnim, brezplačnim uredniškim delom do leta 1912. Takrat je morala priti izprememba. Zavertnik je malo prej prevzel uredništvo "Glasila S. N. P. J.", jaz sem delal v downtownu, Fr. Petrič pa tudi ni mogel vsemu kaj. Odločili smo se torej najeti stalnega urednika. Najet je bil Leo Zakrajšek, ki je prišel iz Milwaukeeja. List smo pa povečali na osem strani.



IVAN MOLEK

Druga velika kriza "Proletarca" je bila med vojno. Takrat so se godile čudne stvari med ameriškimi Jugoslavlani. Naši delavci so na eni strani reševali svo-

bodo stare domovine, na drugi strani pa svobodo vsega sveta. Brigali so se za malenkosti vsega sveta, le za svoje velike naloge se niso brigali. Fraze so bile takrat poceni — pet za groš — pa so letele kot snežinke v januarskem blizzardu. Tako smo se napili fraz in tako smo bili pijani, da smo za hip pozabili, da je Amerika v Ameriki. Mislili smo, da se je preselila na Balkan, v Rusijo, na Kitajsko, na luno... In takrat bi bili skoro pokopali "Proletarca" in našo Socialistično zvezo. K sreči je nekaj sodrugov ostalo treznih kljub vsem orgijam in ti so ohranili list in organizacijo.

A to je drugo poglavje. Ko bo spisano z vsemi podrobnostmi in bodo vanj vpleteni vsi dokumenti tiste dobe, bo zelo veliko in pestro...

Leta 1910 sem napisal dolg članek k petletnici "Proletarca". Bil je natisnjen v jubilejni številki. Leta 1915 sem napisal reminiscenco k desetletnici "Proletarca", ki je bila objavljena v slavnostni številki. Leta 1925 sem napisal nekaj malega k dvajsetletnici. Bila je spet jubilejna številka. Danes pišem te vrstice k petindvajsetletnici. Pravijo, da je "Proletarec" edini slovenski socialistični list, ki živi nepretrgoma 25 let — in med vsemi jugoslovanskimi je le eden — srbski — ki je starejši. Vsi drugi so živeli in umrli, živeli in umrli, živeli in umrli...

In končno: — kaj je petindvajset let? Malo ali dosti, nič ali vse! Vprašanje je, kdo jih živi in kako. So listi in organizacije, ki so starejše. Kaj pa pomenijo za delavca? Nič. Lahko žive še sto let, pa bo še nič. Mi pa lahko rečemo: petindvajset let smo delali in ko se ozremo nazaj na naše delo, nas ni sram, nam ni žal, SMO PONOSNI. Ali smo se utrudili? Prav nič. Še smo mladi in čvrsti! ŠE BOMO DELALI!

## Slovenski pevski zbori v Chicagu

V Chicagu ni bilo še nobenkrat slovenskega pevskega zbora, ki bi lahko z uspehom nastopil pred drugorodno publiko. Medtem, ko se Hrvatje ponašajo z "Zoro", katera je vpriporila opero "Zrinjski" v downtown gledališču Majestic in koncert ali dva v Twelfth Street teatru, se slovenski zbori drže le svojih dvoran, priredbe popoldne koncert, vmes pa je navadno "open barroom", in po koncertu je plesna zabava. Vzlic temu so slov. pevski zbori v Chicagu imeli oziroma imajo nekaj zelo dobrih moči in imeli so že dokaj lepih koncertov. Do višine, kakršna bi jih lahko privedla tudi med širšo publiko, pa imajo še vedno dolgo pot.

Pisec tega poročila ne ve, kdaj je bil ustanovljen v Chicagu prvi slovenski pevski zbor. Ve le, da je bilo že veliko resnih poskusov, da so se mnogi zelo trudili dvigniti slovensko pesem v zboru, da pa je marsikdo omagal, ali pa obupal in zaključil, da je še najlepše petje med nami tisto, ki se čuje takole od 10. zvečer do 3. zjutraj na veselica.

"Orel" je eden začetnih slovenskih pevskega zborov v Chicagu, ki pa ni beležil bogzna kaj uspeha. Ustanovljen je bil leta 1902. Petletnico je praznoval 12. oktobra 1907 v Narodni dvorani.

Sledil mu je pevski zbor Slovenskega delavskega Sokola, kateri je priredil tudi igre. Oboje je vodil Fr. Kerže. Bilo je nekaj priredb, dvorana po navadi polna, in slovenska avdijenca, tedaj razen malčkov še vsa starokrajaka, je bila pač veliko mlajša kakor danes. Takrat se ni bilo govora o "naši mladini"...

"Lira" beleži izmed vseh zborov v Chicagu še najuspešnejšo daljšo kariero. Nastala je v sporu s cerkvijo, in njeno jedro so tvorili cerkveni pevci in pevke. Po odcepitvi od cerkvenega zbora je priredila par lepih koncertov, katere je vodil Jacob Muha s sodelovanjem svoje soproge Mary; "Lira" je imela tudi razmeroma dober tamburaški zbor, čigar vodja je bil J. Weble. Na par svojih koncertih je imela udeležbo, kakor jo je danes že težko dobiti na slovensko kulturno prireditve. Nekaj časa med vojno je imela celo svoj lokal za družabne sestanke ter za male zabave in vaje. Četudi se glasi čudno — jugoslovansko vprašanje je zadalo temu zboru precejšnjo rano z notranjim bojem. Ena skupina je bila za Slovensko narodno zvezo, druga za J. R. Z. Kadar pa se pevci in podporniki njihovega zbora kregajo, ne pojejo, in tako so pevke in tamburaške aktivnosti "Lira" zelo trpele. Nekaj časa je zbor živel, in po prestanem udarcu se je obnovil, toda pod drugim vodstvom in drugim pevovodjem. Zopet je imela "Lira" nekaj koncertov, zopet so žrtvovali pevci in pevke, da so zmogali vrniti stroške, in spet je prišlo kaj vmes, da je bilo treba nekaj časa prestatati z delom. Do tedaj je bil zborovodja A. M. Hess.

Ko je "Lira" pred nekaj leti spet obnovila aktivnosti, si je dobila za učitelja Gabriel Chranovski, ki je bil zanjo dobro in simpatična moč. Zopet je imela po dva koncerta na leto in do poletja 1929 je še funkcionirala kot aktiven pevski zbor, nato pa si vzela počitek. Ali vodilni člani zbora drže ime naprej, prihajajo skupaj in računajo na obnovitev. Tako je bilo rečeno piscu teh vrstic. Dejstvo je, da je "Lira" pela poslednjič na koncertu, katerega je aranžirala med konvencijo SNPJ. maja 1929, in da je gostovala na koncertu "Prešernā" 24. nov. 1929. A

svojega koncerta prošlo jesen ni imela, niti ga nima v načrtu to pomlad.

Izmed pionirskih članov in članic "Lira", ki so v nji še aktivni, je omeniti Mrs. L. Nemanich, Adolfa Misjo, Ivana Weble in Antona Basha.

Kadar je bila "Lira" povabljena, da poje na tej ali oni prireditvi te ali one organizacije, se je odzvala, če le mogoče. Nastopila je večkrat tudi na priredbah kluba št. 1.

Pevski zbor "Sava" je bil ustanovljen decembra leta 1917. Januarja 1926 se je pridružil klubu št. 1 in od tedaj deluje v njegovem področju. Imel je od tedaj vsako leto najmanj dva koncerta, ki so vsi lepo uspeli, kar se izvajanja sporeda tiče. Po reorganizaciji je "Sava" s svojim mešanim zborom dokazala, da so tudi v Chicagu možnosti zgraditi zbor, ki bo delal čast narodu in res značil užitek ljudem, ki pohajajo na naše koncerte.

Pred pridruženjem h klubu je imela "Sava" le na par svojih prireditvah veliko udeležbo in samo na eni program, ki je bil res izvajan v zadovoljstvo publike. Večinoma je životarila — pevci so prihajali skupaj radi družabnosti, priredba pa je zanje pomenila mnogo dela, finančnih žrtve in muke.

V svrhu, da svoje aktivnosti pospeši, se je združila za nekaj časa s Slovenskim dramatičnim društvom. Eksperiment se ni posrečil in oba zbora sta delovala potem zopet separatno. Oba sta danes vključena v klub št. 1 JSZ.

En koncert "Save" pred dobrimi desetimi leti se bi imel vršiti v Hoerberjevi dvorani na Blue Island Ave., pol bloka vzhodno od Ashland Ave. Pet dni pred koncertom je dvorana uničil požar. Odbor je navel v naglici drugo dvorano na Roosevelt Rd. blizu Western Ave. Prireditelji so bili malodušni in ugibali, da ne pride niti dve sto ljudi. Bilo jih je okrog 600. Program in oglašanje je vodil Fred Zalaznik.

Ko je postal predsednik "Save", Frank Alesh, ji je priporočal, da naj postane tudi po duhu delavski pevski zbor. Dve leti pred pridruženjem h klubu je začela z neposrednimi in nato z direktnimi pogajanjimi za združenje z "Liro" v en zbor, ki niso uspela.

Ko se je "Sava" pridružila klubu št. 1, je bil njen predsednik Fr. Alesh in tajnik Fr. Smith. Alesh je še vedno njen predsednik.

(Več o "Savi" je na drugem mestu v tej številki.—Uredništvo.)

"Slovan" na Pullmanu je že dolgoleten pevski zbor. Vodil ga je Jacob Tisol, za njim je

- jo SNPJ. maja 1929. Ima tudi dramski odsek, ki je v začetku marca t. l. vpriporil igro "Komedijska organizacija". V South Chicagu se je pred nekaj leti ustanovil zbor "Tri-glav", ki je dobil v svoj mešan zbor izredno mnogo članov in članic, nastopil na par svojih priredbah, največ pa je gostoval na drugih, in nato vsled notranjih sporov prenehal.
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# DVAJSET LET JUGOSLOVANSKE SOCIALISTIČNE ZVEZE

Privedil Frank Zaitz

**S**Ocialistično gibanje med slovenskim delavstvom v Ameriki je letos staro trideset let. Mlajše je med Hrvatini in Srbi.

Prva slovenska socialistična organizacija je bila ustanovljena 2. februarja leta 1900 v Chicagu. Skupina idealnih sodrugov je skušala organizirati priseljence za socialistično delo, a polje je bilo še skrajno neugodno in skušnje prvih agitatorjev majhne. Čez dve leti je ta organizacija nehala živeti.

Veliko krivdo za njen razpad gre tudi ne slogi, ki je vladala v delniškem podvzetju, katero je izdalo list "Zora". Ustanovili so ta list, da bi širil delavsko zavest, kakor so jo tedaj pojmovali naši pionirji. Frank Petrič je poročal prvemu zboru JSZ. v svojem pregledu socialističnega dela med Slovenci v Ameriki, da podvzetje "Zore" ni uspevalo vsled brezbrzičnosti med priseljenci, kajti zanimali so se kvečjemu za domače vesti in povestice. Manjkalo pa je tudi večjih ljudi, ki bi znali urejevati delavski list. Nič manj ni manjkalo takih, ki bi mu znali graditi gospodarsko podlago. "Zora" je izhajala le malo časa.

**Obnovitev organizacije v Chicagu.**

Pionirji, ki so l. 1900 ustanovili prvo jugoslovansko socialistično organizacijo v Ameriki, so poskušali najbolje kar so v danih okoliščinah mogli in zmožili, toda ovire so bile prevelike, da se bi vzdržala na površju.

Leta 1903 je bila obnovljena, in iz nje je nastal današnji klub št. 1 JSZ., ki obstoji neprestano 27 let. Junija 1903 je bil preseljen v Chicagu "Glas Svobode", ki je prej izhajal v Pueblo, Colo. Socialisti so ga vzeli za svoje glasilo in njegov urednik je postal Jože Zavertnik, ki se je vezbal v delavskem časnikarstvu na Dunaju, Trstu in v Ljubljani. Socialisti so vanj ne samo pridno dopisovali, nego tudi agitirali, da mu dobe naročnikov. Oba lastnika "Glas Svobode" sta pristopila v klub. Ali slova ni bila dolgotrajna. Med socialisti pod Zavertnikovim vodstvom in lastnikom "Glas Svobode" Martinom Kondom je nastajal spor, ki se je bolj in bolj večal. Ta skupina je januarja 1906 začela izdajati "Proletarca", da služi socialistični agitaciji in boju proti koristolovcem ter zavajalcem. "Glas Svobode" se je še vedno oglašal za socialističen list, dasi je bil s "Proletarcem" v silovitem boju, pred vsem radi SNPJ. Uprava, oziroma lastnik "Glas Svobode" se je obračal na glavni urad socialistične stranke z zatrjevanji, da je njegov list socialističen, od strani "Proletarca" pa so dokazovali nasprotno. Ker je bilo temu nesoglasju treba napraviti konec, je stranka uvedla preiskavo, in potem se je dne 2. aprila 1909 pred njeno posebno komisijo vršila obravnavna, odnosno zaslišavna zastopnikov obeh listov. Rezultat je bil, da je stranka stališče "Proletarca" potrdila in ob enem izjavila, da se "Glas Svobode" črta iz seznama priznanih socialističnih listov. Po tem odloku se je skupina svobodomislicev in prejšnjih članov kluba št. 1 osredotočila v programu boja proti slovenski duhovščini in cerkvi, ob enem pa je bila skoro vedno v večjih ali manjših bojih s socialisti, ki so se zbirali okrog "Proletarca".

Ob času ustanovitve "Proletarca" l. 1906 sta obstajala poleg čikaškega še dva socialistična kluba, ki so se kmalu potem združili v sekcijo pod imenom "Jugoslovanska Socialistična zveza". Ko pa so začeli tudi Hrvatje ustanovljati socialistične postojanke, so Slovenci spremenili svoji Zvezi ime v "Slovenska socialistična organizacija", in to iz razloga, da pripravijo pot poznejši zvezi, kateri bi pripadali socialisti vseh jugoslovanskih narodnosti.

"Proletarec" je bil mlademu socialističnemu gibanju nujno potreben. Kmalu se je izkazalo, da ne bo mogel uspešno odgovarjati nalogi, če ostane mesečnik. Sodrugi so ga vzlic kritičnim izgledom, ki jih je pričela kazati nastajajoča kriza proti jeseni l. 1907, spremenili decembra imenovanega lefa v tednik. To je zelo pospešilo socialistično agitacijo v naselbinah. Novi klubi so se ustanovljali, prijavljali so se agitatorji, zapreka razmahu pa se je pojavila v silni gospodarski krizi, ki se je vlekla v leto 1908 in dalje.

Od postanka slovenske sekcije pa do prvega ali ustanovnega zbora Jugoslovanske socialistične zveze so se slovenski klubi ustanovili v naselbinah Chicago, Glencoe, O., Conemaugh, Pa., La Salle, Ill., Claridge, Pa., Cumberland, Wyo., Murray, Utah, Roslyn, Wash., Aurora, Ill., Glencoe, Wyo., Ely, Minn., Calumet, Mich., Waukegan, Ill., Girard, Kans., Collinwood, O., Vandling, Pa., Sygan, Pa., Johnstown, Pa., in Kansas City, Kans. V imenovani ekonomski depresiji so prenehali z aktivnim delom skoro vsi ti klubi, eni pa so razpadli. Ob času zasedanja ustanovnega zbora leta 1910 so funkcionirali slovenski klubi št. 1 v Chicagu, ženski klub "Proletarka" v Chicagu, nadalje klubi v naselbinah Glencoe, O., Conemaugh, Pa., La Salle, Ill., Cumberland, Wyo., Vandling, Pa., Sygan, Pa., Johnstown, Pa., Kansas City, Kans. in Frontenac, Kans., skupaj enajst klubov s približno 230 člani. Frank Petrič, ki je za delegacijo prvega zbora pripravil poročilo o delu in stanju slovenskih klubov, je med drugim izvajal, da jim je delo otežkočeno tudi vsled pomanjkanja slovenskih govornikov in dobrih agitatorjev.

**Akcija za ustanovitev J. S. Z.**

V poletju 1909 se je začela v slovenskih in hrvatskih klubih, pa tudi med Srbi in nekaterimi Bolgari, resna akcija za sklicanje konference, na kateri se naj izvrše predpriprave za sklicanje ustanovnega kongresa zveze jugoslovanskih socialistov v Zedinjenih državah. Na sestankih v Chicagu in pismeno z zunanjimi sodrugi je bilo zaključeno, da se sklicje pripravljajalno konferenco, katero se je vršila 25.—26. decembra 1909 v Narodni dvorani na Centre (sedaj Racine) Ave. v Chicagu. V odboru, ki je to nalogo prevzel, so bili Dimiter Ekonomoff, Milan Glumac, Ivan Molek, Milan Hedji, Dušan Popović, R. B. Savić, N. Stojanoff, Jože Zavertnik st. in Stefan Zlodi. Uredili so svoje predloge in jih predložili decemberski konferenci 1909 v razpravo. Potem so bili dani na splošno glasovanje članstvu klubov vseh na konferenci zastopanih narodnosti. Izreklo se je z veliko večino za ustanovitev Jugoslovanske socialistične zveze.

**Prvi jugoslovanski zbor v Ameriki.**

Dne 3. in 4. julija 1910 se je vršil v Narodni dvorani v Chicagu prvi resnično jugoslovanski zbor v Ameriki, na katerem so bili zastopani slovenski, hrvatski, srbski, bolgarski in macedonski delavci po svojih delegatih. Večer preje se je vršila ožja konferenca za ureditev poslovnika, kateri je predsedoval Ivan Masten, zapisnik pa je vodil Stefan Zlodi.

Vsak klub je imel pravico do dveh delegatov. Eni niso bili zastopani, ker niso imeli sredstev za pokritje vožnjih stroškov delegatom. Zastopnike je priglasilo enajst klubov. Zbor je štel 28 članov. Predsedoval mu je Tomo Besenić, poznejši gl. predsednik H. N. Z. in prvi predsednik H. B. Z. Podpredsednik je bil John Petrič, zapisnikarja pa Ivan Masten in Fr. Petrič. Referate in poročila so podali temu zboru Frank Petrič, T. Besenić, B. Savić, Dušan Popović, Dimiter Ekonomoff, Milan Glumac, Jože Zavertnik st. in Stefan Zlodi. Slednji je bil tajnik sklicateljsega odbora z uradom na 1830 So. Centre (sedaj Racine) Ave. Tajnik slovenske sekcije je bil John Petrič.

SEDANJA EKSEKUTIVA J. S. Z.



Eksekutiva Jugoslovanske socialistične zveze in njeni odseki. Sedeži od leve na desno, Frank Alesh, Angela Tich, Charles Pogorelec, Mary Udovich, Donald J. Lotrich in Andrew Miško. — Stoječi, Blaž Novak, Frank Zaitz, John Olip, Frank S. Tauchar, Fred A. Vider, George Maslach, Filip Godina, Frank Margole in John Rak. Na sliki so vsi, razen Petra Kokotovića in John Lalića. Bili so izvoljeni l. 1928, in njihov termin poteče letos, po VIII. zboru JSZ.

Fr. Petrič je poročal o stanju slovenskih klubov, Tomo Besenić o aktivnostih med hrvatskim, in Blagoje Savić ter Dušan Popović o socialističnem delu med srbskim delavstvom. O položaju med Bolgari in Macedonci je poročal D. Ekonomoff. J. Mahlon Barnes, tedanji glavni tajnik socialistične stranke, je bil na zboru bratski delegat.

Člani zbora so bili: sklicateljiski odbor Ekonomoff, Glumac, Molek, Ciro Parezanović, Dušan Popović, B. R. Savić, Jože Zavertnik st., John Petrič in Stefan Zlodi.

Delegatje: klub št. 1, Frank Petrič, Mike Kulovec; št. 2, Glencoe, O., Nace Zlemberger; št. 3, Conemaugh, Frank Podboy; št. 4, La Salle, Joseph Bratković; ženski klub "Proletarka", Chicago, Helena Zavertnik; hrvatsko združenje Allegheny, Pa., Tomo Besenić in Blaž Zikić; združenje Chicago, Ivan Masten in Mato Marić; hrvatsko žensko združenje v Chicagu, Katarina Strahota in Ana Horvat; združenje Milwaukee, Peter Piehler in Tomo Robesh; združenje Clairton, Pa., P. Blažeković; združenje St. Louis, Mo., Adam Lukešić; združenje East Pittsburgh, Stefan Blagić; združenje Cleveland, Dušan Trbović; združenje Pullman, Ill., Poja Doroski in Božo Cuculj; srbsko združenje Chicago, Kosta Samardija in Mladen Bogosavljević.

V poročilu o socialistični agitaciji med Hrvatini je Tomo Besenić izvajal, da je bil prvi hrvatski klub ustanovljen l. 1903 v Allegheny, Pa. Leta 1905 je razpadel, naslednje leto pa je bil zopet obnovljen. V Chicagu in drugje je nekaj Hrvatov bilo v slovenskih klubih. Kmalu po ustanovitvi "Proletarca" so začeli ustanovljati svoja združenja. Od vsega začetka so se posvetili tudi kulturnemu delu in ustanovljali v udruženjih pevsko in tamburaške odseke. Nekatera združenja so si najela stalne lokale, v katerih so imela prostor za seje, vaje, razprave in za družabne pomenke ter čitanje. Decembra 1907 so hrvatski sodrugi ustanovili glasilo "Radniška Straža", ki je bila tiskana v latinici in cirilici. Razvila se je v vpliven delavski tednik z razmeroma veliko cirkulacijo. Njen urednik je bil Milan Glumac, za njim pa Ivan Masten, V. Bornemisa, Teodor Cvetkov in Geo. Kutuzović. Njen dolgoleten upravnik je bil Blaž Zikić. L. 1918 je prenehala izhajati.

Ekonomoff je poročal, da so Bolgari ustanovili prvo socialistično organizacijo l. 1908 v Chicagu. Tej so sledili bolgarski socialistični klubi v mestih St. Louis, Madison, Milwaukee, Gary in Cincinnati, šest vseh skupaj. Po članstvu so bili zelo močni. Razmeram v tej deželi niso posvečali mnogo pozornosti, toliko bolj pa so bili duhovno v starem kraju in zanašali sem boje, ki so se v Bolgariji vršili med "širokimi" in "ozkimi" socialisti. Bolgarski klubi so se po vzgledu starokrajskih razcepili v široke in ozke ter se borili med seboj v dokazovanju, kdo je v pravem. Nekateri treznejši člani so voditelje obeh skupin prepričevali, da ta boj v tej deželi nima smisla, kajti razmer v Bolgariji se ne more presaditi na ameriška tla — čemu potem resajati sem bolgarske prepire? Dosegli so, da se je nekaj tednov pred prvim zborom JSZ, vršila v Cincinnati, O., konferenca bolgarskih socialistov obeh struj, toda do sporazuma ni prišlo in tako tudi niso poslali delega-

to v ustanovni zbor JSZ. Prišel je le Ekonomoff, ki je bil v sklicateljskem odboru in nekaj drugih Bolgarov kot gostje. Eden srbskih delegatov je potem, ko je končal Ekonomoff, izvajal, da so mu razmere med bolgarskimi delavci dobro znane. Priznal je, da so spori med "ozkimi" in "širokimi" res mnogo vzrok, da njihova agitacija za socializem ne napreduje kakor bi morala, veliko krivde za apatijo pa odpade na izdajatelje lista "Robotnička Zaštita" v Chicagu, katerega so vsled svoje nesposobnosti uničili gospodarsko in duhovno s slabim urejevanjem.

**Vprašanje pridružitve stranki.**

Vsi slovenski klubi in hrvatska združenja so bila ob času l. zbora JSZ. pridruženja socialistični stranki, a bili so na zborovanju tudi taki, ki so se nagibali k eselpistom (S. L. P.—Socialist Labor Party). Delegat Trbović, ki je zastopal samostojni srbski socialistični klub v Clevelandu, je zagovarjal predlog, da naj se J. Z. S. eno leto ne pridruži nobeni stranki, pač pa naj opazuje obe (socialistično in socialistično delavsko), potem pa se pridruži h tisti, ki jo bo smatrala za najboljšo. Nedeljkić, reporter eselpistične "Radničke Borbe", je odprto nastopal proti socialistični stranki in dokazoval, da je izdala interese delavstva in ne zasluži, da se bi ji jugoslovanski socialisti pridružili. Stališče socialistične stranke, njeno formo in njen način poslovanja z narodnostnimi federacijami je v tej razpravi pojasnil delegaciji strankin tajnik Mahlon Barnes.

Zbor je po razpravi soglasno sklenil, da se J. Z. S. kot federacija pridruži socialistični stranki. Sprejel je ustavo in pravila ter jih predložil članstvu na splošno glasovanje, ki je bilo končano v jeseni istega leta (1910). Po izvršitvi vseh formalnosti je J. S. Z. bila sprejeta v socialistično stranko januarja 1911.

Frank Petrič je bil izvoljen za tajnika JSZ., v eksekutivo pa Joseph Zavertnik st., Mato Marić, B. R. Savić, John Petrič, Katarina Strahota, Dušan Popović, Stefan Zlodi in Stojan Stojanović.

V eksekutivi so bile radi odhajanja članov v druge kraje dostikrat spremembe. Namesto J. Petriča je bil pozneje imenovan v eksekutivo od ostalih članov Fr. Udovič in poleg te je bilo do II. zbora J. S. Z. v eksekutivi še pet drugih nadomestitev.

Koncem leta 1911 je štela JSZ. že nad 60 klubov. Razmerje članov je bilo, blizu polovica Slovencev, od ostalega dela pa štiri petine Hrvatov in ena petina Srbov.

Hrvatje in Srbi za agitatorje in govornike niso bili v stiski, težje pa je šlo Slovincem. Hrvatski klubi so imeli na sejah običajno dobro udeležbo. Debate so bile obširne. Člani so se vezbali v govorništvu in se poglabljali v teoretična in druga vprašanja. Na okrožnih konferencah so navadno prevladovali hrvatski sodrugi, ker so bili boljši v debatah in tudi bolj voditeljski kakor pa člani slovenskih klubov.

J. S. Z. je bila organizacija treh, oziroma dveh narodnostnih sekcij: slovenske in hrvatsko-srbske. Slovenci so bili za ohranitev tega sistema, hrvatsko članstvo pa je bilo v večini za reorganiziranje JSZ. na popolnoma centralistični bazi.

(Nadaljevanje na 13. strani.)

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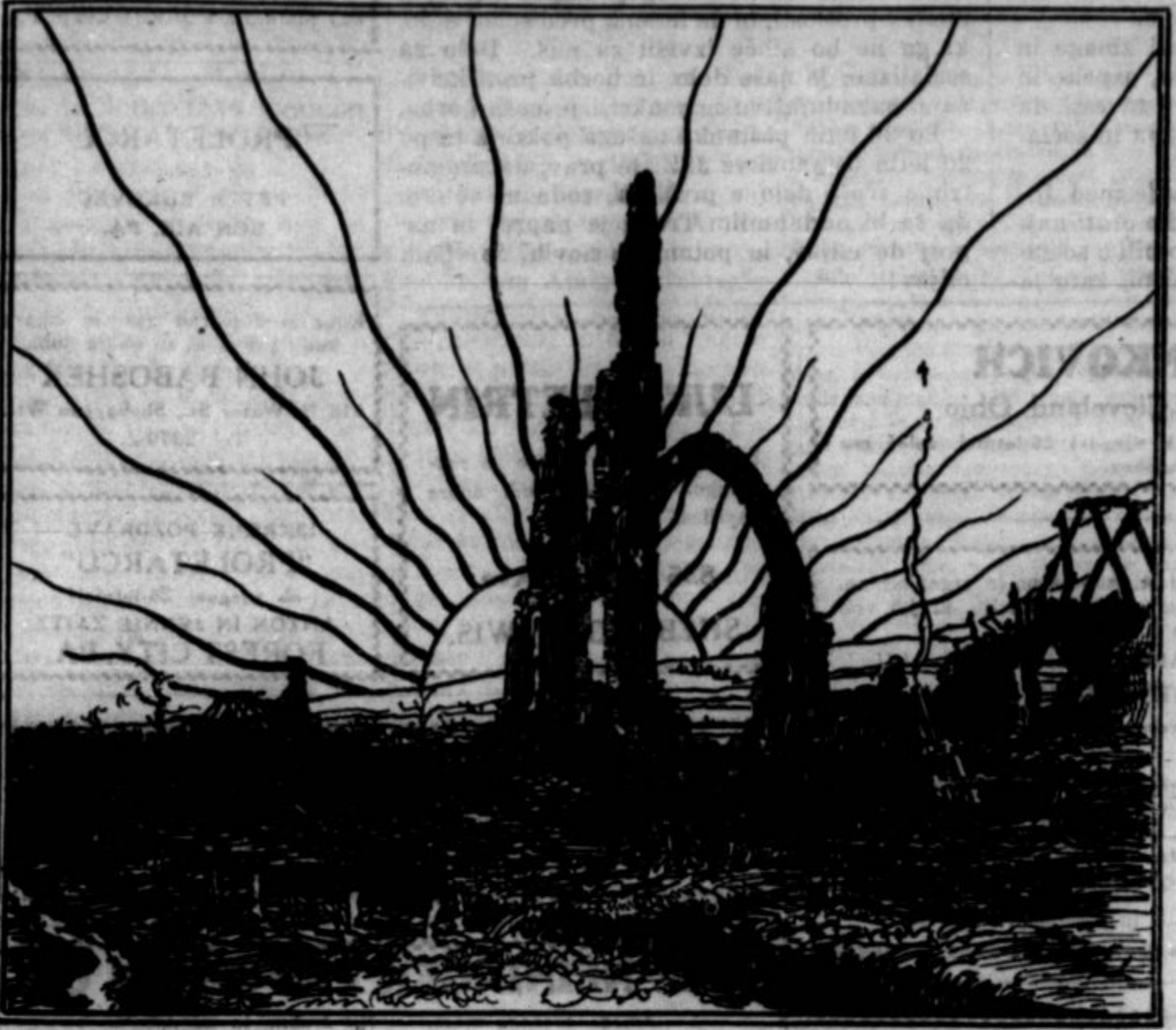
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Na sliki sta dva krilca postav mikadovem cesarstvu, ki ju je oblast obsodila v "izpostavljanje javnosti". Uklenjena skupaj, obtažena s neprijetnim "ovratnikom", sta bila djana ob poti, da ju ljudje gledajo, obsojajo in se sgrajajo nad njima. Na civilizacijo ta prizor ne spominja.

Pogorišče sedanje družbe obseva upanje--  
Prvi maj-socializem



Dvajset let Jugoslav. socialistične zveze

(Nadaljevanje z 12. strani.)

Drugi zbor J. S. Z. za centralizacijo.

Decembra 1912 je štela JSZ. 83 klubov z 1,748 člani. V teku leta je napredovala za 428 članov. Po narodnosti je bilo 826 Slovencev, 666 Hrvatov in 156 Srbov, a na drugem zboru JSZ. dne 25.—28. decembra 1912 v mestu Milwaukee so dominirali delegatje hrvatskih in srbskih klubov, ker mnogi slovenski niso poslali delegatov. Ta kongres je zasedal štiri dni. Bil je zelo buren radi nesoglasij glede taktike in forme JSZ. Otvoril ga je tajnik Fr. Petrič. Prisotnih je bilo 33 delegatov, 9 članov odbora, od urednikov Leo Zakrajšek za Proletarca in V. Bornemissa za "Radniško Stražo", nadalje bratski delegat bolgarskih socialistov in mnogo gostov. Za predsednika je bil izvoljen Blaž Zikič, za podpredsednika Jos. Menton in M. Popović, za zapisničarje pa Frank Novak, V. Bornemissa in M. lan Polovina — eden od vsake narodnosti.

Po burni razpravi o predlogu za centraliziranje JSZ., to je, za odpravo sekcijske oblike, je bilo oddanih 31 glasov za in 15 proti. Proti so glasovali skoro vsi Slovenci in nekaj drugih. Opozicijo proti centralizaciji je vodil Jože Zavertnik.

Kongres je ponovno potrdil svoje stališče za ustanovitev federativne republike na Balkanu s posebno resolucijo, na katero se je med svetovno vojno opiralo v svojem delu JRZ., kakor tudi na enake sklepe socialističnih konferenc v Ljubljani, Zagrebu in Beogradu.

Po tem kongresu je bila vsled odprave sekcijske forme slovenska sekcija potisnjena v manjšino v izvršnici, in večina je hotela tudi razpust korporacije, ki izdaja "Proletarca". Vodstvo nad uredništvo in upravništvo, kakor tudi nad upravo, ni imela samo eksekutiva. Dasi je že tedaj imela slovenska sekcija večino delnic "Proletarca", je bilo med nekaterimi hrvatskimi sodrugi vseeno precej nejevolje, češ, da je tak način upravne organizacije kapitalističen, česar se bi pri socialističnem listu ne smelo trpeti. V zvezi s tem nesoglasjem pa so slovenski in hrvatski sodrugi delali naprej skupno, imeli skupne okrožne konferenec in mnogo skupnih shodov, zabav in drugih priredb.

Po prihodu Etbina Kristana v Ameriko in k "Proletarcu" v jeseni 1914 se je volja za čimtesnejše sodelovanje še bolj utrčila.

J. S. Z. in svetovna vojna.

Vojna, ki se je začela l. 1914, je dobivala čedalje večji obseg. Vrgla je vse ekonomsko in kulturno življenje iz ravnotežja, in zadala je silen udarec tudi mednarodnemu socialističnemu gibanju, ki ga prebolevala šele poslednja leta.

J. S. Z. je bila naravno zaeno s socialistično stranko proti vojni. Toda ko se je krvavi ples le širil, ko so se začele kristalizirati razna gibanja za sturmoglavljenje te ali one vlade in za osvoboditev podjarmljenih narodov, je začel Etbini Kristan urgirati jugoslovanske socialiste, da naj začne s propagando za ustanovitev jugoslovanske federativne republike v smislu socialističnih resolucij, in s tem ciljem v vidu uravnajo svojo taktiko. Eksekutiva JSZ. je v začetku l. 1916 poslala kongresu obširno resolucijo, v kateri je izjavila, da soglašajo s resolucijo, kakor je kongresu predložil socialist Meyer London, da obsoja svetovno klanje in apelira na ameriško vlado, da naj deluje za sklicanje konferen-

ce nevtralnih dežel v svrhu, da se napravi pritisk za premirje in potem za splošno konferenco držav, na kateri se bi rešilo razna sporna vprašanja na podlagi pravičnosti in aspiracij podjarmljenih narodov ter splošnih interesov družbe. Nadalje opisuje resolucija položaj Jugoslovancev in nevarnosti, ki jih bo imel svetovni mir, dokler bodo podjarmljenja in imperialistična osvajanja.

Tretji zbor J. S. Z.

V atmosferi polemičnega boja o narodni obrambi, tolmačenju vzrokov, ki so dovedli vojno in o ugibanjih njenega izida je bil sklican tretji zbor JSZ., ki se je vršil 2., 3. in 4. julija 1916 v Narodni dvorani v Chicagu. Napetost med strujo, ki je sledila Kristanu, in ono, ki je bila pod Cvetkovim vodstvom, je bila že nepremostljiva. Sredi med njima je bila skupina, ki je skušala ublažiti nasprotstva in omogočiti zboru konstruktivno delo. Vodil jo je B. Savič. Klubi so poslali 60 delegatov, drugih članov zbora pa je bilo 20, skupaj 80. Predsedoval je Milan Kirin, I. podpredsednik je bil S. Miroslavjevič in II. Joško Oven. Zapisnik sta vodila Frank Ogler in M. V. Chuck, vsi iz Detroita.

Razprave so bile največ o vojnem stališču ene ali druge skupine z ozirom na jugoslovansko vprašanje. Svet je bil v vojni, ki je imela prinesiti velike izpremembe, dogodki so hiteli mimo drug za drugim, delavski zbori vsepovsod pa so sklepali v čem lahko napredek pospešijo in kako, in česa je treba, da se krvnike prisili čimprej prenehati z vojno. Bili so burni zbori v burnih časih. Delavstvo je ravno postajalo močno — zavedalo se je sile, ki jo ima, in koliko bo z njo lahko doseglo, kadar se usposobi za razumevanje mednarodne solidarnosti.

Tretji zbor JSZ. je bil eden najburnejših v zgodovini delavskega gibanja med ameriški Jugoslavo, dasi so se dogajali tudi na njenem drugem zboru čelo bolj razburljivih prizori. Ob zaključitvi zbora so razlike ostale neizravnane in bilo je jasno, da bosta obe struji ohranili vsaka svoje prejšnje stališče in taktiko.

Ob tem času so bili v eksekutivi JSZ. Filip Godina, Blaž Zikič, N. Dimič, Frank Šavs, Jos. Krpan, Milan Polovina, Fr. Margolle, Aleks. Dubravac, Peter Kokotović, Valent Suša, Ilija Pojić in Frank Hren. V nadzornem odboru so bili D. Ekonomoff, I. Celjić, N. Dimič in Mihael Mavrić. JSZ. je imela tedaj okrog 2,400 članov. Aktivnih klubov je bilo 108. Mnogi slovenski klubi, kot običajno, niso poslali delegatov.

Delitev J. S. Z. v sekcije.

JSZ. je po tretjem zboru vzlic velikim diferencam med strujami napredovala v članstvu. Višino je dosegla v letih 1917-18, ko je imela okrog 3,500 članov in nad sto klubov. Maja 1918 je imela 115 klubov. Po narodnosti je bilo nad tisoč Slovencev, drugi so bili Hrvatje in Srbi.

Boj radi vojnih vprašanj in medvojne stališča zveze se je nadaljeval po tem zboru na sejah eksekutive, ki so se vršile v strankinem uradu na W. Madison in Halsted St., največkrat v soboto večer in so trajale nemalokrat do 2., 3. zjutraj. JSZ. je bila močna in vplivna. Eni so hoteli, da priliko porabi za praktične uspehe, drugi so hoteli, da enostavno naglašajo svojo opozicijo vojni. Delo v Zvezi pa je bilo vsled teh nesoglasij v

okviru JSZ. onemogočeno enim kot drugim. Vsed tega so slovenski klubi začeli agitirati za iniciativni predlog, ki je določal decentralizacijo JSZ. na sekcije in razdelitev imovine njim proporcionalno po članstvu. Glasovanje se je vršilo v jeseni 1917. Mnogo hrvatskih klubov ga je bojkotiralo, češ, da je neveljavno. Za reorganizacijo JSZ. v sekcije je glasovalo 819 članov, proti 423. Za pristop v slovensko sekcijo se je prijavilo na tem glasovanju 566 članov. Glavni odbor JSZ. je na seji dne 29. dec. 1917 to glasovanje razveljavil z 9. proti 6. glasovom. Prisoten je bil tudi strankin tajnik Adolph Germer. Bilo je zaključeno, da se sprejme iniciativa kluba št. 165 v Whitingu, Ind., ki je določala, da se skliče izreden zbor, ki naj reši spornosti in vprašanje sekcij. Dobila je 1,064 glasov, 761 pa jih je bilo proti. Ker ni imela dvetretjinske večine, kakor so določala pravila z ozirom na proceduro pri sklicevanju izrednega zbora, eksekutiva ni mogla sklicati zbora.

Aprila in maja 1918 je članstvo ponovno glasovalo o iniciativnem predlogu za delitev na sekcije, katerega so hrvatski klubi bojkotirali še bolj nego prvega. Za predlog je bilo oddanih 672 glasov in 415 proti. Za pristop v slovensko sekcijo se je izjavilo 567 članov, za hrvatsko 4 in srbsko 94. Ker je tudi hrvatska skupina v eksekutivi izprevidela, da bi bilo vsako nadaljno zavlačenje delitve po sekcijah v škodo celoti, je zaključila, da se delitev takoj izvede, imovina pa je bila razdeljena 40% slovenski sekciji, 45% hrvatski in 15% srbski.

V sekcijaskih odborih, ki so tvorili skupno eksekutivo JSZ. po delitvi v sekcije, so bili julija 1918, v slovenskem John Molek, Filip Godina, Frank Podlipec, Frank Zaitz in Frank Margolle; v hrvatskem Val. Suša, B. Zikič, M. Lovrenčić, Alex. Dubravac, in Jos. Hrvat; v srbskem Peter Kokotović, Milan Dimič, Božidar Stojanović, Milan Lučić in Lj. Golo. Prvo skupno sejo po reorganizaciji so imeli 8. julija 1918.

Vsed naraščajoče vojne hysterije so bili klubi ene kot druge sekcije primorani nehati z aktivnostmi. Mnogokje niso dobili več dvorane za svoje priredbe.

Seje eksekutive JSZ. so postajale nezanimive. Parkrat so udri v urad tajništva, še ko se je nahajalo na glavnem stanju stranke, detektivni in odnesli rekorde. Voditelji neizprosne protivojne propagande v JSZ. so utihnili, listu pa so spremenili ime iz "Radniške Straže" v "Znanje", ki je potem pisal le o stvareh, ki se niso nanašale na mimo-hiteče dogodke.

"Proletarec" je moral o vsem, kar je objavljal in se je tikalo vojne, vlade ali česar koli

v zvezi z dnevnimi dogodki, pošiljati cenzorju angleške prevode in ta je odločil, da-li sme biti list odposlan ali ne. Ta naredba se je tikala vseh listov, ki niso bili tiškani v angleškem jeziku in ako niso imeli posebnega dovoljenja, ki jih je oprostilo te nepravilike. "Proletarec" se je trudil, da ga dobi, poslal je zastopnika v Washington, toda vzelo je mesece, predno mu je bilo izdano dovoljenje, da lahko izhaja brez oskrbovanja prevodov cenzuri. Dostikrat je bil zadrževan na pošti tudi pozneje radi denuncijacij.

Springfieldska konferenca.

V času VII. redne konvencije SNPJ. v Springfieldu se je vršila dne 20. sept. 1918 konferenca socialistov, ki je v zgodovini JSZ. znana pod imenom "Springfieldska konferenca". Aranzirala sta jo v prvi vrsti Etbini Kristan in Frank Petrich. Njen dnevni red je bil: 1.) "J. S. Z., J. R. Z. in vojno stališče socialistične stranke". Poročevalec Etbini Kristan. 2.) "Gmotno in moralno stanje socialistične stranke izza st. lousijske konvencije." Poročevalec Frank Petrich. Po referatih je bila predložena resolucija za izstop JSZ. iz stranke in sprejeta brez večje opozicije.

Sklicateljji so utemeljevali svoj predlog, da JSZ. ne more biti v stranki, ako je dosledna in ako hoče vršiti svoje delo, katero je bilo tedaj v glavnem zapadeno v programu JRZ. Predlog sklicateljjev, da se vprašanje izstopa da klubom na splošno glasovanje, je bil na konferenci skoro soglasno poražen z motivacijo, da bi na sejah in drugje člani o iniciativni mnogo argumentirali in se izpostavljali špijonemu ter denuncijantom in s tem preganjanju od strani ultra patriotičnih družtev ter oblasti.

Vzlic temu so mnogi člani sklep springfieldske konference obsojali, prvič, ker se niso strinjali z izstopom, in drugič, ker je bila sklicana ne da bi se jo preje kaj omenjalo v listu, ali da bi o nji sklepala eksekutiva. Marsikdo, ki je na nji sodeloval ter glasoval afirmativno, je pozneje pred članstvom odklanjal odgovornost.

Springfieldska konferenca je bila sklicana pod pritiskom razmer, in njen dalekosežen sklep je bil storjen največ v prilog taktike JRZ., ki je bila sicer socialistična in opravičljiva, toda vendarle vsa koncentrirana v propagandi za stvaritev jugoslovanske federativne republike na bazi socialističnega programa in za Wilsonov mirovni program.

Springfieldska konferenca na takojšnji razvoj JSZ. ni vplivala dobro. Povzročila ji je škodo v poznejši agitaciji, med tem ko je pač koristila propagandi za program JRZ. (Nadaljevanje na 14. strani.)

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Naj živi prvi maj! Karl Trinaštic, tajnik.

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# Dvajset let Jugoslov. socialistične zveze

(Nadaljevanje s 13. strani.)

## Povratak v stranko.

JSZ. je tudi tedaj, ko ni bila v stranki, v vsaki kampanji agitirala za njene kandidature. L. 1920 je v agitaciji za predsedniškega kandidata Debsa in druge socialistične kandidature poslala na govorniško turo sodruga Josko Ovla, ki je živel tedaj v San Franciscu. Izdala je velik kampanjski letak in ga razpečala v tisoče izvodih med jugoslovanske delavce širom dežele. Vodila je veliko kampanjo za osvoboditev Debsa iz ječe in za osvoboditev vseh drugih političnih jetnikov.

Na seji eksekutive 19. aprila 1919 je bilo prečitano pismo kluba št. 27, v katerem je priporočal, da naj se otvori razprava o vprašanju zopetnega pridruženja stranki. Diskuzija na tej seji je bila obširna. Valed kaosa, ki je vladal v stranki, je bilo sklenjeno, da se zadevo pridruženja odloži na ugodnejši čas.

Na seji eksekutive 17. januarja 1920 je bilo sklenjeno, da se vpraša članstvo za referendum, če je za pridruženje JSZ. k socialistični stranki. Na seji 10. aprila isto leto je bilo poročano, da se je za pridruženje izreklo 250 članov, 20 proti, mnogi pa niso glasovali. Rezultat je bil sporočen glavnemu uradu stranke zaenotno z memorandumom o vzrokih izstopa. Ob tem času je imela JSZ. 700 dobrostoječih članov. Na konvenciji stranke l. 1920 v New Yorku je imel nalogo rešiti vprašanje pridruženja JSZ. poseben odbor, ki pa se v njo ni poglubil, nego jo je izročil stranki eksekutivi. Tajnik Branstetter jo je predložil njenim članom pisмено, ti pa so glasovali, da naj se s stvarjo počaka do seje eksekutive 10. julija 1920 v Detroitu. Na to sejo je šel tudi tajnik JSZ. Fr. Petrich. Po daljši razpravi, ki se je tikala naše in drugih federacij, je soglasno zaključila, da se JSZ. sprejme v stranko.

Danes je v nji ena izmed najaktivnejših federacij in ima velik ugled. Stala je s stranko v eni liniji v najkritičnejših časih po vojni in ji pomagala v vseh njenih akcijah ter v bojih proti zunanjam in notranjim sovražnikom.

## Ob IV. rednem zboru.

Od l. 1916 do 1923 JSZ. ni imela nobenega zbora. Prvi po vojni je bil IV. zbor, ki se je vršil 27., 28. in 29. maja 1923 v Kafkovi dvorani na 26. cesti v Chicagu. Zastopanih je bilo 28 klubov in pet društev Izobraževalne akcije. Predsedovali so po redu Fr. S. Tauchar, drugi dan Fr. Alesh in tretji dan A. Blasich. Podpredsedniki so bili po enakem redu Louis Urban, Frances A. Tauchar in Fr. Alesh. Zapisnik sta vodila A. Zornik in Mary Kovach. Prisotnih je bilo 39 članov zbora in devet bratskih delegatov.

Razpravljal je obširno o medvojni taktiki zveze, o poročilu tajnika, o raznih referatih in resolucijah, o obliki Proletarca ter agitaciji zanj, in o bodočem delu JSZ. Delegatje so argumentirali stvarno, vsi s ciljem, da se v JSZ. uvede čimveč aktivnosti, vršil se je tudi lep bankelet, ki so ga priredili čikaški sodrugi, na katerem je vladalo navdušenje za delo kakor že dolgo ne. Člani eksekutive v tem času so bili Fr. Alesh, Mary Aucin, V. Caimkar, F. Godina, Fr. Zaitz, S. Bojanovich, Geo. Maslach, M. Lučić in Mitar Sekulić. V nadzornem odboru Fr. S. Tauchar, Fr. Udovich, M. Dimich in S. Chakich. Tajnik je bil Frank Petrich, ki je izjavil, da po tem zboru ne bo več kandidiral. Iz njegovega poročila temu zboru je razvidno, da je štela JSZ. l. 1916 ob izstopu iz stranke 32 aktivnih klubov s 485 člani, ob času IV. zbora pa 38 klubov s 700 člani. Poročal je obširno o Izobraževalni akciji, ki je bila zasnovana oktobra 1921. Zbor je to ustanovo odobril ter uvedel v pravila zanj posebno rubriko. Sprejel je tudi resolucijo, s katero je naročil eksekutivi, da izdela načrt za kampanjo, katere smoter naj bo gradnja doma JSZ. in Proletarca ter ga predloži prihodnjemu zboru naslednje leto. Sprejel je določbo v pravilih, da se redni zbori v bodoče vrše vsaki dve leti, in za po-

kritje stroškov plačuje vsak član 10c mesečno v konvenčni sklad.

## V. zbor in LaFolletova predsedniška kampanja.

Leta 1924 se je vršila v Clevelandu konvencija Konferenca za delavsko politično akcijo, katera je sklenila poseči v predsedniške volitve s svojimi kandidati v opoziciji proti republikanem in demokratom. Za predsedniškega je bil nominiran Robert M. LaFollette in za podpredsedniškega pozneje od eksekutive senator Wheeler. Socialistična stranka je v tej konferenci aktivno sodelovala in na svoji konvenciji, ki se je vršila takoj po zaključanju te, je odobrila nominacijo LaFolleta. Za strankino konvencijo pa se je pričel, istotako v Clevelandu v Slov. nar. domu na St. Clair ave., V. zbor JSZ., ki je zasedel 11., 12. in 13. julija. Zastopanih je bilo 27 klubov, konferenčne organizacije JSZ. ter več društev Izobraževalne akcije JSZ. Predsedovali so prvi dan F. S. Tauchar, drugi dan John Terčelj in tretji dan Fr. Udovich, podpredsedniki pa so bili po enakem redu John Jereb, Anton Zornik in Louis Zgonik. Zapisnik sta vodila Christina Omahne in Anton Slabe.

Debata o strankinem sklepu, da se pridruži kampanji za LaFolleta, o načrtu akcije za dom JSZ. in Proletarca, o komunističnih napadih itd., je bila obširna. Tej konvenciji je predložil pismen poziv za skupno delo tajnik komunistične sekcije Chas. Novak. Radi njegove neiskrenosti je bil odklonjen. Iz poročil je bilo razvidno, da so se aktivnosti v JSZ. po njenem IV. zboru jako povečale.

## Vprašanje "Proletarca" na VI. zboru.

Važno točko na vsakem zboru je tvoril "Proletarec". Brez lista je agitacija v naseljenih nemogoča. Zato so delegatje hoteli, da se Proletarec razširi in poveča. VI. redni zbor se je vršil 3., 4. in 5. julija 1926 v dvorani SNPJ. v Chicagu. Imel je nad 40 delegatov in članov odborov ter 18 delegatov Izobraževalne akcije. Predsedovali so po redu Fr. S. Tauchar, F. Godina in Jos. Presterl. Podpredsedniki so bili A. Zornik, Fr. Bregar in John Goršek. Zapisnikarja sta bila John Olip in Anton Zagar. Slovenska mladina, rojena v Ameriki, je bila na tem zboru prvič številno zastopana. Obširna je bila razprava, ki se je sukala okrog navidezno majhnega vprašanja — oblike "Proletarca". Mnogo delegatov je bilo za spremembo iz revije v časopis, toda pristaši revije so zmagali. Temu zboru je bilo poročano o prvih uspešnih akcijah za zgraditev doma JSZ. in Proletarca. JSZ. ter Izobraževalna akcija sta beležili napredek v aktivnostih in članstvu.

## VII. zbor J. S. Z.

Ob času VII. rednega zbora JSZ., ki se je vršil 19., 20. in 21. maja 1928 deloma v dvorani SNPJ., in ob večernih sejah v dvorani Havliček v Chicagu, je štela JSZ. 46 klubov z 924 člani. V Izobraževalni akciji je bilo nad sto organizacij. Na zboru je bilo zastopanih 26 klubov, pet konferenčnih organizacij in 22 društev Izobraževalne akcije. Tri organizacije so imele bratske delegate.

Bile so razprave o volilni kampanji, o akcijah za pomoč premogarjem v stavki, o stališču JSZ. glede podpornih organizacij, bila je zopet dolga diskuzija o Proletarcu in čule so se glasne zahteve za spremembo oblike iz magazina v časnik, ki so bile zopet poražene.

Iz poročil je razvidno, da so mnogi klubi dvignili svoje aktivnosti posebno v kulturnem oziru. Ustanovili so si knjižnice in čitalnice, pevske in dramske odseke, prirejali so predavanja, diskuzije in shode, predstave in koncerte.

Vsled dolgotrajne stavke premogarjev je trpela JSZ. posebno v padcu članstva. Marsikak klub v premogovniških revirjih je razpadel v tej krizi.

Sedaj ima JSZ. 38 klubov, med temi dva pasivna, in koncem marca 1930 je štela 764 dobro stojičih članov ter okrog sto do tedaj priglašanih organizacij v Izobraževalni akciji. Člani sedanje eksekutive so Frank Alesh, Filip Godina, Fred A. Vider, F. S. Tauchar, Frank Zaitz, Peter Kokotovich in Geo. Maslach. V nadzornem odboru JSZ. so Donald J. Lotrich, Blaž Novak in John Lalich, tajnik JSZ. je Chas. Pogorelec, v prosvetnem odseku so Chas. Pogorelec, John Olip in Andrew Miško, v nadzornem odboru slovenske sekcije Frank Margolle, Angeline Tich in Mary Udovich. Tajnik slovenske sekcije je Frank Zaitz.

VIII. redni zbor JSZ. se vrši 30. in 31. maja ter 1. junija v Detroitu, Mich. Spored zanj je objavljen v tej številki. Iz njega razvidite, kaj bo njegovo delo, in s čem se pečajo konvencije socialističnih organizacij.

Zgodovina JSZ., podana v kratkih obrisih v tem pregledu, je bila burna. JSZ. je izvršila za probujo jugoslovanskega delavstva ogromno delo. Imela je od vsega začetka težke boje z zavajalci in nazadnjaki vseh vrst. V problem in tem letu so njeni nasprotniki podvzeli ofenzivni boj z namenom, da JSZ. diskreditirajo ter potem nemoteno zavladajo v javnem življenju našega delavstva. Računi jim bodo unesli, kajti JSZ. je ne le polna vitalnosti, nego postaja tudi kot organizirana enota jačja, četudi sedaj ne v številu

članstva, pač pa po sistematičnem prosvetnem in političnem delu ter drugih aktivnostih.

S socialistično stranko dela JSZ. harmonično in med njeno in našo eksekutivo ter tajništvu vlada najboljša razmerje.

Dvajset let deluje JSZ. Beléži zmage in poraze, napredek in nazadovanja, uspehe in napake. Toda delala je vsikdar v zavesti, da služi najboljšim interesom delavstva in socialističnim načelom.

Trideset let je staro naše gibanje med Jugoslovani v Ameriki. Treba je bilo orati največ med priselniki s kmetov, ki so bili o socializmu prav malo, ali pa nič poučeni, zato je

bilo delo toliko težavnejše. V teh treh desetletjih smo izvršili toliko koristnega dela, in želi toll: o uspehov, da zremo lahko brez skrbi v bodočnost, seveda z zavestjo, da so pred nami enako težke naloge, kakor smo jih imeli v prošlosti, in da imamo pred seboj delo, ki ga ne bo nihče izvršil za nas. Delo za socializem je naše delo, in borba proti krivicam. nazadnjstvu in reakciji je naša borba. Po 30 letih postanka našega pokreta in po 20 letih ustanovitve JSZ. je prav, da premotrimo svoje delo v prošlosti, toda ne toliko, da se bi oddahnili. Treba je naprej in naprej do ciljev, in potem do novih, še višjih ciljev!

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k petindvajsetletnici

Pred leti dvajset pet  
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Ošabni bili so nasprotniki,  
Luč resnice delavcem prikrita.  
Enakost, bratstvo, svoboda  
Tisočerm nepoznana.  
A vztrajal si, učil, bodril.  
Razkrinkal zlobo marsikako,  
Emancipator Ti Slovencev v tujini,  
Cel čas njim si bil

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Frank Petrich:

Se en jubilej...

Lansko leto je proslavila petindvajsetletnica S. N. P. J., letos pa zadene to slavje "Proletarca", odnosno J. S. Z.

Dva jubileja, obadva v zelo tesni zvezi z dogočki dni, ki se označujejo danes na kratko "probujenje duhov in vstajenje ameriških Slovencev". In to je popolnoma v soglasju slovenskih zgodovine.

Leta 1904-1906 sta bila mejnika novih idej — novih vidikov v življenju slovenskega naseljenca tokraj oceana. Staro se je začelo umikati novemu. Kar je bilo do tlej le želja, gojena v srcih in glavah od peščice avantgardistov, to je v teh časih pognalo z vsemi znaki trdovratnosti in kljubovanja; vse primitivno sicer v začetku, se je z novimi prihajajočimi močmi palogoma razvijalo in izobličilo v mogočno zadrugo, ki je danes vir našega ožjega, narodnostno gospodarskega, duševno kulturnega in družabnega življenja. To je S. N. P. J., katere si brez de-



Frank Petrich, nad 10 let tajnik J. S. Z.

lavnosti slovenskih socialistov ni mogoče predstavljati — ne tistim, ki poznajo vso njeno zgodovino. Zlasti si je brez njih nemogoče predstavljati tako S. N. P. J. kot je po duhu danes. Razumevanje sedanje situacije pri S. N. P. J. — to je razumevanje vrhne plasti duševnega razpoloženja velike količine njenih članov — zavisi namreč od razumevanja razmer in duševnega razpoloženja ali bolje, zebanosti slovenskega naseljenca ob času, ko je bila S. N. P. J. ustanovljena. Poleg tega razumevati kar je nasledilo iz tozadavnih razmer in njihovih posledic od strani ne sicer jakih, toda odločilnih vstajanj in do skrajnosti požrtvovalnih slovenskih socialistov, tedaj edini element, ki je imel odrejane in neomajene pojme o življenjski filozofiji.

Slovenski priseljencec se je izkrcal v to deželo največkrat kot dninar, tu je postal proletarec; in vzlic temu, da so mu njegovi duhovni voditelji pripovedovali, da je prišel v deželo, kjer postane priden in varčen delavec lahko milijonar, governor itd., je ostal do danes 99 odstot. proletarec. Pri izkrcanju se največkrat ni mogel politično identificirati; po mišljenju, ki je odredjalo njegovo življenje vsaj navidezno, je bil bolj praktičen ali ne praktičen katoličan kot pa klerikalec, saj mu "farska politika" ni nikdar prijala, in če je čutil, da bije njegova žila bolj za "narodno stvar", ni pustil zato takoj cerkve; šele pozneje se je proglasil radi kljubovanja, za liberalca in kasneje za svobodomisleca.

Toda slovenski rokodelca, rudar in premogar — proletarci na domačih tleh, ki so se podali v tujino še predno so odšli preko oceana, so kmalu spoznali sebičnost in ozko srčnost obeh — narodnostnih in religioznih elementov, pa so sprejeli z navdušenjem evangelij in idejo mednarodne solidarnosti, ki je v boju med imajočimi in nemanjiči važna in ki vključuje proletarsko politiko, proletar-

IZ PROŠLIH DNI

Piše John Olip

Petindvajsetletnica "Proletarca" in dvajsetletnica Jugoslovanske socialistične zveze! Kako velik pomen ima ta jubilej za slovenske delavce v Ameriki. Nehote se človek spomni na leta nazaj, ko še nismo poznali "Proletarca", spomni se pa tudi onih časov, ko smo se seznanili z njim.

Bilo je leta 1912, ko sem opazil nekoga opoldne med gruč krojačev, ki se je sbirala vsak dan ob istem času na Regents Street v Londonu, mladega novodošleca, ki je takoj zbudil moje zanimanje. Od strani sem ga opazoval in se spominjal na dom. Bil je namreč pravi tip pekovskega vajenca; kakršne sem videl v domovini. Oprtani s polnim košem žemelj in kiflicev so romali iz ene vasi v drugo. Posebno, kadar je ta mladenič razkoračil nogo, se mi je zadelo, da ima na hrbtni poln koš.

V tej množici samih krojačev se je odlikoval vsa evropske jezike, še celo nekak Hrvatov je bilo vmes, še Slovence sem zastopal do tedaj jaz edini. Pa ti začujem nekoga dne, da ta moj "prodajalec žemelj" govori tudi hrvaško. Že sem hotel pristopiti, ko pride zopet, kot po navadi, policaj in nas razprodi, — ovrtili smo promet.

Nekaj dni pozneje pa se snidem z njim v delavnici. "Vi ste Hrvat, ne?" ga govorim. "Ne, jaz sem Kranjac!" "Odkod?" "Iz Litije," mi odgovori. "No — jaz sem pa iz Radovljice. In vaše ime?" "Joško Oven." Tako sva se seznanila in kmalu postala prijatelja. Kadar nas je zopet policaj razganjal, sva skupaj odkorakala.

Nekega dne mi Joško pove, da se odpelje v Ameriko. In ko sem mu segel v roko in mu voščil srečno pot, se mi niti sanjalo ni, da je bom čez nekaj let in jaz mahnil preko luže za njim.

Sčasoma sem se naveličal Londona in sem sklenil, da grem zopet enkrat pogledat v domovino. Bilo je to v letu 1914. Žena s otrokoma je odpotovala in me čakala v Nuereobergu na Bavarskem, kamor sem dospel zanj, ko se je enkrat sredi meseca julija naše sezonsko delo končalo. Ker sem bil seveda brez dela, sem zahajal v kavarno Metropol, kjer sem čital francoske in angleške časopise. Ko sem nekega dne zastojl iskal teh časopisov, naročil natakarju, naj mi jih prinese. "Was denken Sie eigentlich?" me nahuili. Spijem kavo in grem na ulico, kjer je korakala množica in prepevala "Deutschland, Deutschland ueber alles..." Pred polsopem avstrijskega konzulata, ki je bilo vse v zastavah, se je sbirala množica ter bolj kričala ko pela: "Serbien muss sterben! Hoch der Kaiser!" itd. Da bi se izognil te od navdušenja pijančev, zaidem v gostilno. Vse mize zasedene od ljudi, ki so bili, ne toliko od pijačev, kakor od navdušenja za vojsko skoraj napol divji. Predmet vpitja — govorjenje to ni bilo več — je bil pri vsih mizah isti. Mize so jim služile mesto zemljevidov, vrčki piva za važne točke, kot: Paris, Varšava itd. In vsprek so prerokovali: čez koliko dni bodo Nemci korakali v Paris. Srbija niti v poštev ni prišla, kajti to bo Avstrija v par dneh zavzela.

Vojska je bila napovedana. Vlak, ki so vozili malo vojaštvo, ki je prepevalo po cestah, na kolodvorih in na poti v železniških vozovih. Po mestu se je začela gonja proti tujcem. V listih si lahko vsaki dan čital, koliko francoskih in ruskih "špijonov" so ujeli. Poleg poročil največjih zmag so bili na uličnih vogalih prilepljeni tudi pozivi, da se morajo vsi inozemci takoj prijaviti na magistrat. Šel sem toraj in kot Avstrijec sem bil seveda bolj vladno sprejet, kot pa drugi tuji državljani. Niso mi verjeli, da nisem bil vojak, pa so me prilepili in odvredli k avstrijskemu konzulu. Ker nisem imel nikakega izkazila, da nisem alužil presviženemu cesarju, se mi je zapovedalo, naj se takoj odpeljem v Eger na Češkem ha nabor. Z raznimi izgovori se mi je slednjič posrečilo dobiti dovoljenje, da smem ostati toliko časa, da dobim od domačega okrajnega glavarstva izjavo, da nisem nikoli nosil vojaške sukneje.

Vmes sem čital o velikanskih nemških zmagah in opazoval ranjence, ko so jih pošiljali s fronte. Od kolodvorov do bolnišnic so polagali tračnice, da bodo lahko vozili ranjence direktno v bolnišnice. Prepevanje vojakov, ki so odhajali na fronto, je postajalo čimdalje bolj žalostno. Tudi "špijonov" niso več toliko ujeli. Mnogi pa ni več vpila proti Srbom, kajti: "Gott strafe England!" je bilo ta čas bolj moderno.

Bili smo že v mesecu septembru, ko slednjič vendarle dobim od okrajnega glavarstva težko pričakovano potrdilo glede moje vojašne, ali bolje, nevojakišne. Hitro s potrdilom od avstrijskega konzula; zvečer sem že nabasal kovčeg in s jutraj sem bil že na poti v Švicco. Z ženo sva se bila domenila, da pride pozneje za menoj. V Monakovem, kjer sem pred leti delal, prekrišem vožnjo, da položim svojega nekdanjega prijatelja. Poročil se je bil medtem in imel že dva otroke. Njegova žena mi pove, da je i on pri vojakih, vendar da je še v mestu in da pride zvečer za eno uro domov. Počakam ga. Prijatelj sva si stisneta roke in tu sem prvič čul nemškega vojaka prekriknjati vojko, cesarja in celo bando. Poigral se je z otroki, dal ženi tolažilno besedo ter zopet odšel — spat v kasarno. — Jaz pa v hotel in drugega dne nemoteno naprej do Bodenskega jezera. Tam nas obklojijo nemški vojski; jaz brž s potrdilom na dan in glej — zadostovalo je: lahko sem potoval dalje.

Prvo, kar sem storil v Švici, sem si kupil francoske časopise in čital o velikih francoskih zmagah — Laži, laži povsod!

Iščoč dela po Švici, dospem končno v Ženevo, kjer sem že pred leti delal, in imel prijatelj. Z njihovo pomočjo sem zopet prišel do dela in kruha. Pa šivanka je donášala še slab zaslužek, ker je bilo malo dela, — krivda vojne. Bilo je tam vsesplošno brezposelnih krojačev, tudi takih, ki so pobegnili iz Avstrije in Francije ter iskali zavetja v Švici.

Pišem ženi, da pride za menoj. Na meji jo zadržé. Vzrok: otroci so bili rojeni v Londonu, toraj so Angličini. Slednjič je dobila dovoljenje in nadaljevala pot.

Kmalu se seznanim z enim Slovencec, nato z drugim tretjim itd. Vsi so na ta ali oni način ušli. In ne samo Slovenci, prihajali so Hrvatje in Dalmatinci. Med njimi dijak, profesorji, trgovci in drugi. V kavarni na Rue du Rhone smo se sestajali vsak večer. Politizirali smo in razrezali ubogo Avstrijo na kose vsak večer najmanj desetkrat. In ko je postalo že malo pozno, smo začeli tisto: "Prej pa ne gremo dam, dok se ne bo delal dan, dok se ne bo škalno gor prot Ljubljani." Da nas je kavarinar, ki je bil Nemec, zaradi tega jal postrani gledati, to nas ni motilo. Ko pa je naša grupa le rastla in z njo vred postajala i naša pesem glasnejša, nas je hudogledi kavarinar obvestil, da nam njegov lokal ni več na razpolago. Dobro, gremo pa drugam in z nami naša pesem: "Prej pa ne gremo dam —"

Pri jezenu sem večkrat naletel na celo gručo igrajočih se otrok, ki so govorili — hrvaško. Jugoslovanci je bilo v Ženevi vedno več. Sklicali smo shod v restavraciji "Pri krokodilu". Dobili smo zvezo z ljudmi v Avstriji, s katerimi smo si dopisovali z limono. (Ko se pisava posuši, je nevidljiva, če se pa drži čez luč, postane pa zopet čitljiva.) Naša propaganda je bila posvečena Jugoslaviji — Veliki Jugoslaviji, kateri naj bi pripadala i naša Slovenija. Včasih je prišel med nas i profesor Masaryk, sedanjí predsednik Čehoslovaške. Pozneje je prišel izhajati tudi list "La Serbie", pisan v francoskem jeziku.

Med tem časom smo bili vsi tisti, ki nismo bili vojski, poklicani še dvakrat na nabor k avstrijskemu konzulu. Šil smo, toda kako! S srbskimi, angleškimi, francoskimi trobojnicami na prsih nas je prišlo okoli 20 Jugoslovanov in Čehov. Uradnik pri naboru je bil Čeh, ki nas je vse osebno poznal in je prigovarjal zdravniku: "Zu schwach, zu schwach!" In tako smo bili vsi preslabi za vojaško suk. njo, razen enega Čeha, ki je bil zalvojo lepšega potrjena, pa je še nadalje ostal z nami.

Sčasoma so se začele razmere, kakor povsod, tudi v Švici slabšati. Obvestil sem o tem tudi Joškota v Ameriki. Eden naših prijateljev — Lekovec — je tudi še odpotoval v Aurora, Ill., in to na jako čuden način. Tako je dobil trški trgovec potrdilo od srbskega konzula, da je pristojen v Trst, Srbija. S tem papirjem je odpotoval v Paris, kamor je odrinil tudi en stavebnik, ki je bil rojen v Idrji, Srbija. Ko so nekateri odšli kot prostovoljci v srbsko armado, je začelo postajati dolgočasno. Kar ti dobim iz Amerike kratko obvestilo:

"Ko to pismo dobiš, se pripravi na odhod. Čez par dni prejmeš denar, ker vem, da si v stiski in pridí v Ameriko, ako se ti posreči, da dobiš pasport, kot si pisal. Tvoj Joško Oven."

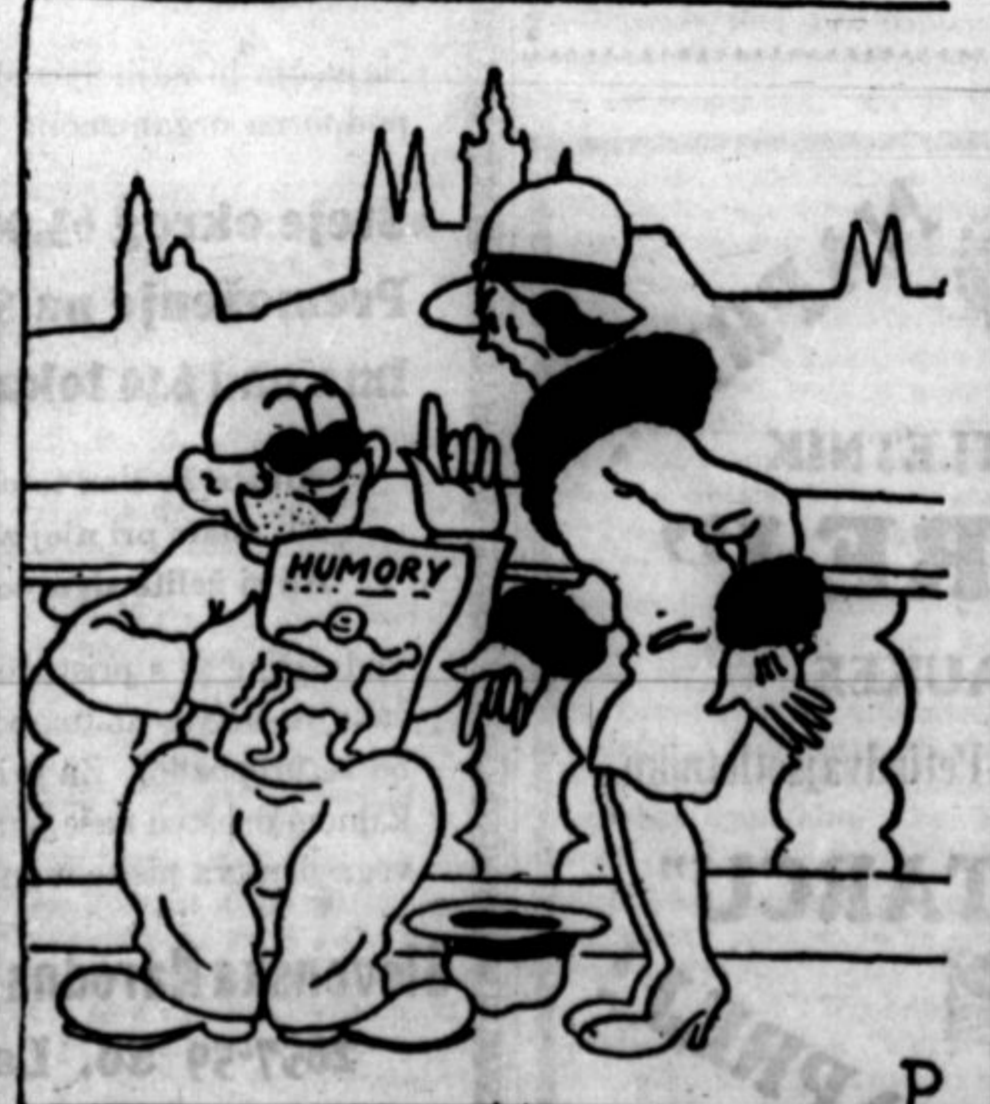
Ni mi bilo reči dvakrat, ampak jo takoj mahnem k srbskemu konzulu ter ga vprašam, če mi bo dal potni list. "Seveda, toda ne prej, ko en dan pred odhodom." Dobro, čakam pisma iz Amerike. In glej, res pride — zjutraj ob 9. uri; še istega dne dobim pasuš: — rojen v Radovljici, — Srbija. Kupim vozni list in ko je družina odšla spat, sem začel urejevati kovčge za na pot. Zjutraj ob 5. uri sva bila z ženo in otrokoma že v vlaku, ki je odrdral z nami proti Franciji. Kot Srb seveda nisem imel nobenih sitnosti na meji. — Ko se vozimo že nekaj ur po Franciji, opazi neka ženska, da se otroka pogovarjata v nemščini. Opozorila je na to tudi sopotnike, ki so me začeli izpraševati, katere narodnosti da sem, zakaj da nisem na fronti itd. Toraj ne samo na Nemškem, ampak tudi na Francoskem so lovili špijone. Hitro si izmislial, da je moja žena, ki je po rojstvu Švicarka, bila do sedaj internirana v Nemčiji in zato govoriti otroka nemško, jaz pa da sem Srb in grem v Ameriko po naročilu vlada. Verjeli so, pa se poslej igrali z otrokoma in jima dajali cukrčke in sadja. Tako je bila vožnja do Lyons dokaj prijetna.

V Lyonu smo se morali prestei v vlak, ki je bil nabit poln samih bolj ali manj ranjenih vojakov, ki so se vozili z bojnih poljan domov na odlič. Komaj sem dobil sedeže za ženo in oba otroke, sam pa sem stal skoro vso pot do mesta Bordeaux, kamor smo dospeli v jutru drugega dne. Na vlaku sem močlal, da bi kdo ne sumil, da sem Avstrijec ali celo Nemec. Vojaki so me opazovali in ugibali, kakšne narodnosti da sem, da nisem v vojni. Ko pa so se začeli med seboj zabavati in si pripovedovati šalivke, se nisem mogel več premagati in sem z njimi vred ušeril in smeh. — A saj razume francosko! so vzkičnikili ter vprašali po moji narodnosti. Srb. Pa zakaj nisi na fronti? I no, vlada me pošilja v Ameriko, da se izpopolnim v svoji stroki, pozneje se povrnem zopet v Beograd. Tako sem zastopil njihovi radovednosti.

Bordeaux. Žena in otroka v hotel, da se odpočijejo, jaz pa na policijo, da se prijavim kot se je to v vojnem času zahtevalo. Ko tudi pri parobrodni družbi uredim, grem v gostilno, kjer si naročim starega "Bordeaux" vina. Ker že dva dni zaporedoma nisem zatisnil očesa, me je vino kmalu omamilo. Moj prijatelj je Idrje, Srbija, mi je pisal, da se bo z istim parnikom odpeljal v Ameriko. Sestanek sva imela pri srbskem konzulu. Zaspan, utrujen in — natrkan končno je najdem konzula, ki me prijazno sprejme, vkljub mojemu ne preveč sigurnemu nastopu. Moč je bil Francoz, pa je govoril srbsčino skoro tako dobro kot — jaz. Kmalu pride moj prijatelj in z njim še oni drugi prijatelj, ki je bil doma iz Trsta, Srbija, da se poslovi od naju. Ko je bila žena z otrokoma na parniku, se podamo mi trije v kavarno, — zadnjič skupaj v Evropi, — ali se kdaj snidemo? Pozno je že bilo ko prideva z Idrjičanom na parnik. Predno smo si segli v roke, smo še enkrat zapeli tisto našo: "Mi pa ne gremo dam ..."

Iskrene čestitke k 25-letnici "PROLETARCA" in 20-letnici J. S. Z. Klub št. 180 J. S. Z. — West Allis, Wis. Zboruje vsako četrto nedeljo ob 2. pop. v Kraljevi dvorani. Anton Demšhar, tajnik.

JE RAZLIKA, KAJ GLEDA



Humorističke Listy, Praha. "Za božjo voljo, slepi ste, pa berete revijo!" "Gospa, saj ne berem, samo slike gledam."

"PROLETAREC" JE DRUGI NAJSTAREJŠI SLOVENSKI LIST V AMERIKI

"Proletarec" je drugi najstarejši slovenski list v Ameriki, ki ni menjal gospodarja. Najstarejši je "Glas Naroda". "Am. Slovenec", ki se oglašja za najstarejši list, je v resnici le nadaljevanje "Edinosti", katero so izdajali franciški, nato pa kupili ime jolietkega "Am. Slovenca", ki je prenehal 6. junija 1924. Družba "Edinost" v Chicagu je plačala jolietskemu lastniku za ime "Am. Slovenec" \$500 ter ga dala potem svojemu listu. "Ameriška Domovina", ki ima letnico XXXII., je imela že različne gospodarje in različna imena. Višje letnice kot "Proletarec" imata torej razen "Glasa Naroda" še "Am. Slovenec" in "Ameriška Domovina" vsled pojasnenih vzrokov.

Jaz sem se vozil z družino v tretjem, moj prijatelj pa v drugem razredu, in tako sva bila le malokdaj skupaj. Zaradi nemških podmornic je naš parnik napravil precej velik ovinek, tako da smo porabili deset dni do New Yorka, kamor smo dospeli 18. avgusta 1915.

Ko smo izstopili iz vlaka v Lansing, Mich. sem pričakoval J. Ovna, pa predstavi se mi nekdo drugi — Tomo Besenich — Pove mi, da je Joško odpotoval v Detroit, potem nas prijazno odvode na svoj dom, kjer nas je njegova soproga gostoljubno sprejela. Tudi prenočili smo pri njih. Drugi dan pa dalje, v Detroit. Pred odhodom mi Besenich izroči še — Proletarca.

Anton Starich TOČIM MEHKE PŁAČE. 230 Grove St., Milwaukee, Wis.

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KLUB ŠT. 49 J. S. Z. iskreno čestita svojemu glasilu "PROLETARCU" ob njegovi 25-letnici ter naši JUGOSLOVANSKI SOCIJALISTIČNI ZVEZI ob njeni 20-letnici. Louis Zgonik, tajnik. COLLINWOOD OHIO

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# OBLAK, KI NOSI STRAH IN OBUP



Za "Proletarca" Felix Rozina.

Vihar trojke puštoji v delavskih stanovanjih.

## Anton Kristan: O združni vzgoji

V gospodarstvu se načelo dela za zadoščevanje potreb čimdalje bolj uveljavlja naspoti načelu dela za zgolj pridobivanje. Gospodarstvo po naprej določenem načrtu bo med gospodarskimi sistemi moralo dobiti odločilno mesto. Združni pokret ima pa določen načrt. V zadrugarskem udeleževanju so glavno žive osebe, ki mu dajejo pečat in so njegovo bistvo, v kapitalističnem pa je to mrtva snov: "denar". Zadruga je kooperacija čim več oseb, ki so temelj za njeno življenje. Teda: vzajemna samopomoč večje ali manjše skupine, ki si je določila izvesti skupni cilj in stremi za tem, da ga doseže. V glavnem poskuša zadruga doseči za potrebe članov cenejša živila, oblačila in vse ono kar človek — član, oziroma njegova družina potrebuje, v precejšnji meri se gre tudi za denar v svrhu zboljšanja gospodarstva ali pa boljšega izrabljanja proizvodnih sredstev ali pa za boljše vnovčenje lastnih pridelkov oziroma izdelkov itd. itd.

Za uspešno delo v zadrugah je treba i večjih vodij i združno vzgojenih zadrugarjev. Zadruga vzgoja je zato nad vse važen problem, ki mu pravi zadrugarji povsod posvečajo veliko pažnjo.

Pri razlaganju vrednosti zadrugarstva je povdarjati, da ga ni le presojeti za čisto materialnega, zgolj gospodarstvene stališča, marveč prav posebno še z etičnega. Zadrugarstvo je tudi smatrati kot višji gospodarski sistem v družbi. Zadrugarji so prepričani, da niso zadruge le zato, da direktno in indirektno prinašajo zgolj gnotne koristi svojim članom in s tem ljudstvu sploh, ampak tudi zato, da oblažujejo gospodarske boje v družbi in jih oplojajo z etičnimi zapovedmi in zahtevami. Delovno načelo v zadrugah mora biti ekonomsko in ravno i zadruga zajednica je socialen ideal.

Zadruga vzgoja naj spolnune v ljudski šoli pridobljeno znanje in vodi naj zadrugarje v sporazumevanje sodobnih dognanj znanosti, da bodo res dobri zadrugarji, in ne samo vpisani člani organizacije, ki je posnajo le v slučaju gnotne potrebe in izrabe koristi, ki jih nudi zadruga. Če se hočemo seznaniti z združnim gibanjem v svetu, dobimo po navadi odgovore: Pogledite v Anglijo, Nemčijo, Švico in Dansko.

šola za elementaren poduk. (Anglija je vprašanje elementarnega šolstva uredila še le l. 1870) in v kasnejših letih so ta podvig rodeljskih pionirjev angleške zadruge živo posnemale. L. 1885 so zadruge ustanovile kot vrhovno oblast nad izobraževalnim in vzgojnim delom Educational Committee of the Union, ki ga danes poznamo pod imenom Cooperative Union Central Education Committee, ki vodi vrhovni nadzor nad krajevnimi izobraževalnimi in vzgojnimi prireditvami. Glava vsake zadrugašole je visoka Zadrugašola v Manchestr.

Skoro vsaka zadruga ima svoje čitalnice in biblioteko. Posebno veliko vlogo igra tisk. Zadruge imajo en glavni zelo razširjen zadrugni list, ki izdaja tudi krajevne priloge. Velik in zelo dober tednik je Cooperatives News. Priljubljen je družinski list The Millgate Monthly, za otroke Our Cook, za gospodinje Women Outlook. Za zadrugne nastavlence je list The Cooperative Official. Za specialno zadrugno vzgojo je list The Cooperative Educator itd. Angleški zadrugarji polagajo na tisk silno važnost. V Angliji je vzraslo zadrugno gibanje iz delavskega gibanja in pa iz težnj kričansko socialne reforme. Odtod njih oblikovanje in razmah. Oblikovanje vzgojnega dela se pač ravna po idejnem krogu, iz katerega je vzrasla organizacija. To se zlasti opaža v Nemčiji, kjer vidimo več zadrugnih smeri. Vzgojno odgovarja vsaka ideja svojim osnovateljev.

Schulze-Delitsch je ustanovitelj modernega nemškega zadrugne gibanja. Bil je pristaš liberalnih in humanitarnih stremiljenj. L. 1871 je ustanovil "Društvo za razširjenje ljudske naobrazbe", ki so ga v glavnem njegove zadruge finančno podpirale. Zadrugam "Splošne zveze", v koji so udružene zadruge takozvanega srednjega stanu, je priporočal Schulze-Delitsch na zadrugnem zboru l. 1871, da uporabljajo en del čistega dobička v svrhe ljudskega izobraževanja. Splošna zveza je začela izdajati svoj strokovni organ (Blätter für Genossen-

chaftswesen) pred 77 leti, ker je smatrala tisk kot nujnega posrednika med zvezo in zadrugami ter zadrugarji. Reifeisen ni videl v svojih kmečkih posojilnicah le kreditne pomoči članom, ampak velik pripomoček v splošni vzgoji k nračnosti, k poštenju in medsebojni ljubezni. Hotel je imeti v izobraževalne svrhe posebne zadruge z imenom "Kazine", v katerih bi se člani oblikovali v zadrugarje. To mu ni uspelo, vendar so reifeisnovke postale na kmetih v Nemčiji žarišča izobraževalnega dela; iz njih so vznikle čitalnice, knjižnice, otroški vrtilci, gospodinjske šole, nadaljevalne šole, kuharski tečaji. Reifeisnov koleadar je bila zelo razširjena poučna knjiga. Glavna zveza reifeisnovk izdaja od l. 1879 Genossenschaftsblatt, njene podzveze izdajajo še svoje liste pod imenom "Reifeisenboten". Zelo pomembna faktorja v izobraževalnem delu sta Reifeisnova biblioteka in Po-deželska zadruga knjižnica.

Centralna zveza nemških konzumnih društev deluje sistematično-vzgojno šele od l. 1910. Temelji na načelih rodeljskih tkalcev v vzgojnem osiru. Deluje po angleških vzorih. Kljub temu, da je ta konzumno-zdrugni pokret v Nemčiji najmlajši, je nadkrilil že vse ostale zadrugne pokrete v državi z vzgojnim delom v vsakem oziru. Tudi drugače je mogočen. Njena zadruga šola v Hamburgu a. M. je vzor vzgojnih institucij. Ustanovili so jo šele leta 1919.

V Nemčiji se vrši vzgojno delo v treh smereh: vzori: Schulze-Delitsch, Reifeisen in rodeljski tkalci. V Nemčiji je še ena smer v zadrugnem gibanju, ki naj jo omenim, namreč: Edeka-organizacija (Einkaufs Genossenschaft der deutschen Kolonialwarenhändler), ki ima tudi svoje založništvo in izdaja več časopisov v svrhu propagande in vzgoje svojih članov. Za čimboljšo vzgojo članov pa hrepene vse. Da ima Centralna zveza konzumnih društev največ uspeha, temelji pač na dejstvu, da se ozira na široke vrste organiziranega delavstva, za kojega izobrazbo skrbe še politične, strokovne in silno razvita kulturna organizacija. V mali švicarski republikli pa silen razvoj zadrugne misli odvajajo od dejstva, da so bili Švicarji stvoritelji ljudsko-vzgojnega dela (H. Pestalozzi, E. v. Fellenberg in H. Zschokke), kojih vzgojna načela so teme-

ljijsa na samopomoči. Zveza švicarskih konzumnih društev v Bazlu je največja v republikli. Ima svojo veliko tiskarno, založništvo in izdaja poleg propagande in vzgojne literature v nemškem, italijanskem in francoskem jeziku tudi velik tednik in konzumski mesečnik (Samenkörner). Znamenit je njih zadrugni semenj v zadrugni vasi Freisdorf.

V Danski pa so zadruge čisto ekonomska združenja. Oficijoz danskega zadrugništva H. Hertel razlaga to v svoji knjigi "Andelsbeveca gelsen i Danmark" tako-le:

Dansko ljudstvo je doseglo vsled dobre ljudsko šolske organizacije v državi, vsled knjižnic, čitalnic, vsled raznih za ljudstvo posameznih učilišč in tečajev tako kulturno stališče, da je zadrugam omogočeno le ekonomsko delo.

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Se zvesto z njim boriš,  
si dobra mu družica?  
In vedno zvesto mu slediš  
in slednjo borbo z njim deliš?  
Si mu tovarišica?  
Si žena mu in ga umeš?  
In vama eno je spoznanje?  
Če ga razumeš, potlej veš,  
da braniti mu pač ne smeš  
na naše zborovanje.

Se takrat v duhu z njim boriš?  
Sta res drug z drugim eno?  
Kaj le za kuhinjo živiš?  
Za boj ničesar ne storiš?  
Ne za svobodo zaželjeno?

Si pomočnica mu vsekdar,  
je sloga res med vama?  
In ne pokleklaš pred oltar  
in svečenika? Ne, nikar!  
Izobražuj se sama!

Če prapor ga pokliče v boj,  
nikar ga ne oviraj!  
Njegova misel je s teboj,  
rad videl tebe bi s seboj!  
Zato ž njim vred marširaj!

O mati, naj tvoj sin bo lev  
v pohodu proti vsej krivici.  
Ti odgovarjaš zanj, ti glej!  
da tvoj sodrug lahko ti bo zapel  
napev — napev  
o dobri pomočnici!

(Prevel Mile Klopčič.)







Trije, ki so bili skozi dolgo vrsto let najbolj znane osebnosti v slovenski javnosti v Ameriki



Od leve na desno, Martin Konda, Frank Petrich in Jože Zavertnik. Konda je bil lastnik in upravnik, Zavertnik urednik in Petrič potovalni zastopnik "Glasa Svobode". Bili so fotografirani v uradu "Gl. Sv." dne 14. julija 1904. Konda je umrl 8. marca 1922, Zavertnik pa 28. avgusta 1929. Petrič je čil in zdrav in dela v Chicagu.

obstoje. Ene so bile res ne le fine, nego tudi pompozno vpriporjene, s scenarijo, kot so jo zahtevalo. Samo dve Cankarjevi sta bili med njimi: "Pohujšanje v dolini šentflorjanski", "Kralj na Betajnovi".

Ob svoji desetletnici, katero je to društvo praznovalo lani, je vpriporilo "Prisego o polnoči" od Manice Komarove — prav nič prikladna igra za jubilejno slavnost dramatičnega društva, ki nosi ime Ivana Cankarja. Dasi je imelo celo vrsto lepih, tudi težkih iger, se je dram socialne vsebine nekam ogibalo. Res, da jih ni mnogo prevedenih na naš jezik, niti ne od naših pisateljev, toda za vsako leto ena ali dve se bi dobile. Prepričan sem, da bi bilo sebi koristilo, ako bi bilo vpriporilo ob kaki priliki Cankarjeve "Hlapce", npr. na slavnosti svoje desetletnice. Ni dobro, če se tako kulturno društvo postavi v položaj, v katerem se mora bati zamer. Pisatelj Cankar ni gledal, kaj bo rekla o njem ta ali ona struja, kajti na svojih predavanjih je govoril odkrito in natančno to, v kar je bil prepričan, in v svojih delih je brezobzirno razgaljal laž, hinavstvo in krivice.

Ni mi, da bi grajal to društvo vladet hibe, ker so bile okolščine, ki so ga dovele v duhovno brezizraznost, močne, in volja, boriti se proti njim, šibka. Zase sem prepričan, da si bi dramatično društvo koristilo, če bi prišlo večkrat na oder s predstavo, ki bi pokazala to, kar je Cankar slikal v svojih delih. To bi bilo tudi v skladu z imenom društva, ljudstvu pa bi dalo več upogleda vase, kakor ga mu dajejo takozvane narodne igre in pa kopa komedij.

Predstave "Cankarja" so imele dostikrat prav veliko udeležbo. Pa se je pred par le-

### Potovalni agitatorji 'Proletarca'

Eden prvih, ki je šel na daljšo agitatorsko turo po naselbinah za "Proletarca", je bil Ivan Molek. Obiskal je kraje na severozapadu. Jos. Bratkovič je na svoji turi za "Proletarca" obiskal mnogo naselbin. Sedaj živi v Kansasu. Frank Podboy je agitiral za "Proletarca" in JSZ., in bil je tudi premljevalec E. Kristana po govornih krajih na njegovi prvi govorniški turi leta 1912. Frank Sava je prepotoval na agitaciji mnogo držav in govoril na shodih. Frank Petrich je leta 1921 obiskal v interesu "Proletarca" premogarske naselbine v Illinoisu. Joško Owen je bil na agitacija za "Proletarca" in JSZ. v Pennsylvaniji, Ohiju in več drugih krajih leta 1920.

Na shodih je govoril za prededniškega kandidata soc. stranke E. V. Debsa in druge socialistične kandidate. Svojo turo je napravil skozi iz San Francisco, kjer je tedaj živel, do li na vzhod. Frances A. Tuchar je pred nekaj leti obiskala na agitaciji za list naselbine v Penni, nekaj po osrednjem zapadu in na zapadu. Anton Zagar je bil na agitaciji po vzhodu in zapadu. Bil je zadnji, ki je bil na splošni agitacijski turi. Charles Pogorelec je bil dostikrat na agitaciji po naselbinah. L. Kveder je tu in tam agitiral za ta list po naselbinah Penne. Anton Jankovič agitira za Proletarca v Clevelandu in v drugih naselbinah, katere poseša na svojem poslu. Najagilnejši potovalni agitator, ki ga imamo sedaj, je J. Snoy iz Bridgeporta, O. Žal, da ne more biti stalno na potovanju. V vzhodnjem Ohiju in v enih krajih v Pennsylvaniji je "Proletarca" zelo razširil.

Razen teh je agitiralo za "Proletarca" po naselbinah mnogo drugih agitatorjev, ki so izrabili priložnost. Poleg potovalnih so za list največje pomena lokalni agitatorji. "Proletarec" ima sedaj v nekaterih naselbinah prvovrstne zastopnike in zastopnice, ki skrbe, da naročniki redno obnavljajo naročnino in da list dobiva tudi nove naročnike.

ti dogodilo, da je začelo med publiko zanimanje zanje hirati in udeležbe so postajale pčlejše. Dolžili so radio, avtomobil, pijačo itd., nekateri pa so celo domnevali, da je nekaj krivde lahko tudi v društvu samem. Ničesar ne vpliva slabše na dramske zборе kakor kadar igrajo napol prazni dvorani.

Vzroki manjšemu posetu so bili res radio, avto, "naveličanje" itd., nekaj pa po mojem mnenju tudi v tem, da je dajalo društvo na oder preveč takih iger, "kakršne ljudstvo hoče", pa se jih je preobjedlo. Tako pridem ponovno k nazoru, da so dobre socialne drame okrepčilo za diletantske zbere in avdivjenco. S tem nikakor ne mislim, da bi moral "Ivan Cankar" postati zgolj propagandističen in "tendenciozen" dramski zbor.

Razen v akciji za zgraditev S. N. D. je "Cankar" sodeloval tudi v raznih drugih pomočnih podvzetjih. Priredil je predstavo v prid fonda za Cankarjev spomenik v Ljubljani, prišel je v pomoč bednim v starem kraju po vojni, za stavkarje itd.

V kulturnem razvoju slovenske naselbine Clevelanda ima prvovrstne zasluge. Za izobrazbo naroda so ljudje, kakršni so delovali in še delujejo pri "Cankarju", potrebni. Lahko bi tudi oni ostajali ob večerih doma, ali šli bolj pogosto v movies in na obiske, lahko se bi zabavali s kvartami, ali reševali križanke, lahko bi uganjali politiko pri sladki ali kislji kapljici, ampak če bi to delali vsi, ne bi bilo predstav, in g. Likar bi namesto kulisa lahko barval ograje okrog hiš, kjer jih imajo. Seveda, tudi "Cankarjevci" se radi zabavajo, eni tudi politizirajo, mnogim kozarec "kapljice" nič ne škoduje, in ta ali oni vrže včas tudi kvarte. Toda za zabavo velikokrat nimajo časa, razen, da so imeli zabavo v delu za slovensko talijo.

To je razvedrilo, kakršno se obeta "Cankarjevcem" tudi v bodoče, če hočejo, in ako tudi občinstvo hoče, da se "Cankar" ne pogrezne v života renje, nego da živi in raste s svojim delom. In pa več Cankarja naj dobi vase. — X.

(Dram. druž. "Ivan Cankar" je ob svoji desetletnici 1929 izdalo spominsko knjigo s članki o svoji zgodovini in pregledom dramskih aktivnosti v drugih naselbinah. Ako ima, jo te knjige še kaj na razpolago, jo boste dobili, če pišete na naslov F. L. Truger, 6418 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, O.)

Izkrene čestitke k srebrnemu jubileju ter obilo uspeha "PROLETARCU" in J. S. Z. želi  
FRANK HRIBAR  
NEWBURGH, O.

Izkrena čestitka k 25-letnici "PROLETARCA", ter obilo uspeha na polju soc. propagande mu želi  
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Anna Mahnich, predsednica, Frances Zakovšek, taj.  
Mary Končan, blagajnica.

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pozdravlja "PROLETARCA" ob njegovi 25-letnici ter mu želi, da tudi vnaprej drami in izobrazuje slovensko delavstvo v socialističnem duhu.  
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## NESLOGA, KI NAM ŠKODUJE



ORGANIZIRAL SE

V razprtipah med seboj za prazen nič so si delavci silno ikodovali. Izkoriščevalci se veselo delavske nesloge, veselo se njihove neorganiziranosti in nezavednosti. Vi, ki hočete, da je delavstvo razumno in složno kličite mu: "Organizirajte se!" Agitirajte za širjenje našega tiska, predvsem za "Proletarca".

## Nekaj podatkov o "Zarji"

Pevski zbor "Zarja", odsek kluba št. 27 JSZ, v Clevelandu, Ohio, ni najstarejši slovenski zbor v Ameriki. Ustanovljen je bil pred 14 leti, spomladi 1916. Za pevski zbor je to vseeno lepa doba in, upoštevajoč Zarjino karijero, jako bogata doba. Stirinajst let že prepeva v naši metropoli in izven nje. Razvil se je v najboljši slovenski zbor v Ameriki. Dokaz temu je v vprizoritvi dveh oper, "Turjaške Rozamunde" (1928) in "Urha, grofa celjskega" (1929). Obe sta bili ponovljeni.

Ob času ustanovitve "Zarje" je imel soc. klub svoje prostore v znani dvorani na St. Clair ave. in East 55th st. skupno s hrvatskim klubom. Klub št. 27 je bil v tisti dobi poln življenja. V njem so bili energični sodrugji, "cream" naselbine. Socialistična misel je imela tedaj v deželi velik prestiž, katerega ji je priborila močna organizacija. Našim sodrugom — sedaj večinoma v smislu pretekle dobe — se je zahotelo organiziranega petja in ustanovili so moški zbor.

Zarjin prvi pevovodja je bil Slovenec, katerega imena se več ne spominjam. Bil je le par mesecev. Prvega stalnega pevovodjo pa je Zarja dobila v osebi finskega sodruha, ki si je po dnevu služil kruh kot strojnik v lokomotivnih popravilnicah Erie železnice, zvečer pa je poučeval Zarjane in par finskih socialističnih pevskih zborov. Ker so bili skoro vsi pevci sodrugji in nekateri tudi stari pevci, se je pod vodstvom finskega pevovodje Zarja povzpela v energičen zbor. Navdušenost pevcev je nadomestila glasbeno tehnične pogoške.

Po vstopu Amerike v vojno za "demokracijo" je bil tudi klub št. 27 kmalu paraliziran. Agitacija za socializem, katero je prej vodil z veliko energijo, je pod pritiskom rasmer prenehala. Klub tudi ni mogel prirejati zabav in drugih prireditev, ker je bil na črni listi. Postajala pa je jačja Zarja, v kolikor se javnosti tiče, ki je prevzela vse klubove prireditve pod svojo firmo. V tej periodi, skozi več let, je bila Zarja klubu več kot desna roka. Seveda je bila socialistična v pravem pomenu besede radi pevcev, ki so bili večinoma aktivni člani stranke.

Kot vseh organizacij in socialnih institucij v tistem času se je tudi Zarje oprijela bolezen. Zgorela je v nji energija in padal je pogum. Vojne razmere — oslabitev stranke in

strahovičladi od strani države — so proti koncu leta 1919 objele tudi Zarjo. Med pevci je nastala utrujenost, nezadovoljnost in razočaranje. Delno je bil vzrok temu tudi v tem, ker so bile pesmi bolj plehke, navadne, kar je pričelo pevcem presedati.

Potrebujemo reorganizacije, novega voditelja, je bilo mnenje, ki se je bolj in bolj širilo. Dobiti moramo pevovodjo, ki bo razumel naš jezik. Kje? Kakor velik je slovenski Cleveland, ni bil in ni bogat na dobrih slovenskih pevovodjih. Vzrok temu je, ker smo prišli iz starega kraja s kmetij, poznali le fantovsko petje in beseda "kultura" je bila za nas nova precej let po našem prihodu v novo deželo. Narod, ki mu zadostuje fantovsko petje, liter vina in podobno, seveda ne bo ustvarjal prilik za razvoj artističnih talentov in

ga moralnega in materialnega uspeha, namesto obratno. Pe-

la je, kamor so jo vabili, kar stane pevce in sbor denarja. Vstopnina na take priredbe je navadno nižja kot na koncerte. Za 50c si lahko slišal Zarjo in še par drugih zborov. Zakaž bi torej plačeval 75c ali pa dolar za koncertno vstopnico?

Približno v taki atmosferi z ozirom na prirejanje koncertov se je Zarja nahajala pred nekaj leti. Prirejala je dobre koncerte, a vedno manjša udeležba in naravno tudi materialni uspeh. Ali se izplača trčati čas in zadrževati denar? se je bolj in bolj vpraševalo med pevci, ki so čutili odgovornost. Slovenska metropola je bila vedno bolj indiferentna napram lepi, dobro predvajani slovenski pesmi.

Mogoče ljudje zahtevajo kaj boljšega, so se izpraševali pevci. Poskusimo s kako primerne opero in ako še s tem ne bodo dosegli odziva publike, tedaj naj vrag vzame vse skupaj, je bil desperatni odlok zboru. Ali katero opero? Kje jo dobiti? Na razpolago je zbor imel edino "Gorenskega Slavčka". Stvar se mu je zdela pretežka, kajti z operami se ni nikoli bavil. Kje torej dobiti kaj primernega? V stari kraj se je na razne osebe že večkrat obrnil. Odziv nepovoljen.

Bom videl, kaj je mogoče storiti, je dejal na eni vaji mr. Ivanush. Dal je razumeti, da ima nekaj v mislih. Naslednjo vajo že prinese prvi "installment" opere "Turjaška Rozamunda". Pevcem se je takoj dopadla. Prinašal je na vaje del za delom. In predno je poteklo šest mesecev, je mr. Ivanush ustvaril poleg drugega dela kot učitelj glasbe krasno "Rozamundo", izučil Zarjo in svoje delo postavil na oder.

Odziv s strani publike ob priliki vprizoritve je bil nadvse dober. Veliki avditorij SND je bil zaseden do zadnjega kotička. Več sto ljudi se je moralo vrniti radi pomanjkanja prostora. Dobili so prliko videti "Rozamundo" pri ponovitvi. (Kje je mr. Ivanush dobil inspiracijo zanjo in kdaj jo je sestavil, mi je še danes uganaka) To je dalo zboru novo življenje.

Pevci so se nato odločili za opero "Urh, grof celjski", delo skladatelja Parme in jo vprizorili z velikim uspehom zadnjo jesen. Meseca marca so jo ponovili v mestnem avditoriju pred ameriško javnostjo. Prihodnjo jesen vprizorili Zarja "Gorenskega slavčka", opero, ki se ji je zdela pred par leti pretežka.

Znamenje, da se zbor izpopolnjuje. Da mora imeti dobre pevske moči za prirejanje težjih stvari, se razume. Belle, Plut, Mrs. Ivanush in Mrs. Simčić so "zvezde" Zarje, izborne pevske moči, na katere bi bil ponosen vsak, tudi profesionalen zbor. Njih najboljša kvaliteta pa je v tem, ker niso "snobish", kar se često dogaja pri ljudeh "iz ljudstva", ko začutijo, da so "nekaj več".

Dasi je Zarja že parkrat imela notranjo "revolucijo", je bolezen vedno srečno prestala brez kakih posledic. Sreča v teh "revolucijah" je bila, da ko je bil ogenj v strehi med nežnim spolom, so obdržali hladno kri moški, in ko so zadnji napovedali upor, so se držale ženske kot prave Amazonke. Torej obe falangi Zarje imata "herojske" zasluge za seboj. V vsakem slučaju pa stoji v zaledju klub št. 27, katerega vpliv, dasiravno neviden, je ohranil zbor skupaj še v vsakem slučaju. Ako bi Zarja ne bila odsek kluba, bi gotovo ne postala to kar je danes. Sla bi po isti poti kot so šli številni drugi zbori. Kvečjemu bi živovarila.

Koliko časa bo Zarja prepevala kot prepeva danes, je odvisno največ od naselbine. En gmotno ponesrečen koncert jo lahko spravi v velike nepravilike. To posebno še sedaj, ker pomeni vprizoritev opere najmanj okrog tisoč dolarjev izdatkov. Gotovo je to, ako slovenska metropola ne bo dala Zarji tisto, kar ji je dala in ji daje Zarja, je demouement njena neizogibna usoda.

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### NAŠI POKOJNIKI,

ki so v teku zadnjih petindvajset let borili  
se in precej žrtvovali za obstanek "Proletar-  
ca" ter socialistično stvar:

FRANK MLADIČ, Chicago, Ill. Dal je brezplačno  
svoje prostore uredništvu in upravnistvu "Proletarca",  
bil direktor J. S. D. T. D. in drugiče podpiral list in stran-  
ko. Umrl 23. decembra 1921 v So. Chicagu.

FRANK LISJAK, Chicago, Ill. Marljiv agitator za  
list in organizacijo. Umrl v aprilu 1909.

MIKE KULOVEC, Chicago, Ill. Delaven zastopnik  
in agitator za list in stranko do zadnjega diha. Umrl 28.  
junija 1913 v Chicagu.

JOSIP JEČMENJAK, Chicago, Ill. Soustanovitelj  
"Proletarca" in agilen agitator. Umrl dne 2. julija 1921  
v Chicagu.

IVAN MEDEN. Bil je upravitelj "Proletarca", ko  
je list postal tehnik. Zelo delaven in požrtvovalen za  
list. Umrl je v Clevelandu dne 30. marca 1919 za tu-  
berkulozo v starosti 48 let.

IVAN SOLAR, Seattle, Wash. Marljiv dopisovalec  
in člankar. Podpiral je list tudi finančno. Umrl 8. fe-  
bruarja 1910 v Seattle, Wash.

IVAN GRILEC, Chicago, Ill. Bil je prvi predsednik  
Jugoslovanske delavske tiskovne družbe po njeni usta-  
novitvi decembra 1907 in potem upravnik l. 1908-9. V  
času svoje aktivnosti je storil zelo veliko za "Proletarca".  
Umrl je 6. januarja 1927 v Chicagu.

IVAN KAKER, Milwaukee, Wis. Sodeloval je pri  
"Proletarcu" z literarnimi prispevki od l. 1907 do 1910.  
Prevel je za ta list tudi polovico Upton Sinclairjevega ro-  
mana "Jungle". Živel je tedaj v Chicagu, po letu 1910  
pa se je preselil v Milwaukee in se umaknil iz javnega  
življenja. Umrl je 14. septembra 1928.

JOŽE ZAVERTNIK, Clarendon Hills, Ill. Bil je  
eden ustanoviteljev "Proletarca", vodil je prvi dve leti  
uredništvo in potem je bil do l. 1914 v uredniškem od-  
boru. Umrl je 14. septembra 1929 na Clarendon Hillisu  
pri Chicagu.







## IN 1906—BEFORE AND AFTER

## The Beginning of the First Yugoslav Socialist Newspaper in America, Owned by the Socialist Organization

By Donald J. Lotrich

During the last decade of the nineteenth and the early years of the twentieth century Slovene and other Yugoslav immigrants were flocking into the United States in large numbers. Already certain coal mining sections of Pennsylvania and the ore and lumber camps of Minnesota were well represented by our nationals. Our people formed a good portion of the total workmen in the copper fields of Montana and the smelter works of Colorado and Utah. Nor did the large industrial centers lack our "Bohunks". Pittsburgh was a favorite stopping place for our people. Chicago with its steel mills and other factories were big inducements for the folks who originally thought of crossing the "pond" just to make some "easy money" and then return to their homeland. Joliet, because of its situation amid the steel industry drew its share of "Carniolians". Ohio with Cleveland as its center also became a haven for our workers. In fact wherever hard work was to be done and long hours were to be "put in" there you would have found swarms of Yugoslavs. It was nothing out of the ordinary to put twelve, thirteen or even fifteen hours behind the ax or saw in a lumber camp, or the smelter or steel furnace. Our people were known to be hard workers having brought that reputation with them from the farms and villages of Austria-Hungary.

These workers settled down and colonized sections of these various towns and cities and struggled with the rest of the "misfortunates" to build up the wealthiest country in the world. But soon they discovered that conditions were not what they have been told they would be. They discovered that they could not save as much as they had expected and so the abandonment of their one desire to return to the "Old Country" with sufficient money to purchase farms and settle down was only natural. The earlier settlers finding their dreams shattered, adjusted themselves to the environment of these United States and without knowledge promoted causes which soon enough turned out to be harmful. As their friends and associates would join them either because they had dreams like the predecessors, or because they wanted to escape the tyranny of the monarchial rule of Francis Joseph, the same course followed.

Religion played prominently in their national life. Twenty five years ago few were without religion. The world was more religious at that time than it has been since. Our people, coming from a section of Europe where religion was part of the state, immediately began to look about for their own churches and parishes. And in that way our nationals were kept together more firmly. As the years of long, hard work began to show signs of wear upon the people, the physical agony was dispelled by their mental feeling. One by one they would fall away from the clutches of hierarchy. When it became apparent that a break was to come, the tight-

"Proletarec" was the first strictly Socialist newspaper, owned by the Socialists, among Yugoslavs in America. But it was not the first which propagated Socialist ideals to our folks. In 1900 a group of sympathizers of Socialist thought organized a corporation in Chicago which began to publish a small paper, called "Zora" (The Dawn). It could not overcome the handicaps. Only a few numbers were issued. After "Zora" came "Glas Svobode" (Voice of Liberty) which moved from Pueblo, Colo., to Chicago in 1903. This paper had a Socialist editor. Its contributors were also mostly Socialists. But somehow the owners of Glas Svobode were not willing to go with the Socialists all the way and the break occurred. "The way out is to establish a strictly Socialist paper," said the Slovene comrades in the latter part of 1905, and so "Proletarec" was born.

ening of the grip by the priests and churches, in favor of the industrial bureaucrats, only hastened it.

The big break occurred in 1904 when a group of thinkers, dissatisfied with the rule of the hierarchy, established their own fraternal organization. All types of prophecies condemning the newer organization and its leaders were proclaimed. But that only inspired other workers to take sides with the radical element, because of their program and principles.

Among the group that were active in the fraternal society were people with even broader minds and thoughts. Just forming a new fraternal Society wasn't enough for them. They wanted to go further. They had the foresight to figure that the United States was rapidly developing into an industrial country the chief purpose of which would be to make the workers continue in the miserable conditions with long hours and small pay, while the owners piled up big profits. They foresaw the purpose of these manufacturers, operators and owners to control the government in their own behalf. They foresaw that the workers would be forced to unite into labor organizations if they did not want to remain slaves. They foresaw of the waste and graft of billions of dollars of the governments money.

And so January 1906 brought the challenge to all these evils in the form of Proletarec. Proletarec was established as a Slovene (Yugoslav) Socialist monthly with a definite purpose and a definite program; to teach the Yugoslavs of this country the principles of Socialism; to teach them the lesson of Solidarity and Unity; to teach them to think in terms of the worker and in terms of a labor party; to educate them to what our world should be.

It was bad enough to segregate the fraternal order without attempting to make it worse with a Socialist Party and an educational monthly. How dare these radicals? Futile attempts from Slovene and other Yugoslav pulpits had no effect on Proletarec. Every attempt to suffocate it was made with no success. But

Proletarec was not only a news bearer. It was something greater than all that. It was a conviction. And the men behind Proletarec gave it that conviction, for they too possessed it.

They made Proletarec speak that every worker should have a living wage.

They made Proletarec say that the coal diggers must not pile up millions for the owners while the diggers were freezing.

They made Proletarec say that the farmer must not starve and go bankrupt because he produced too much food.

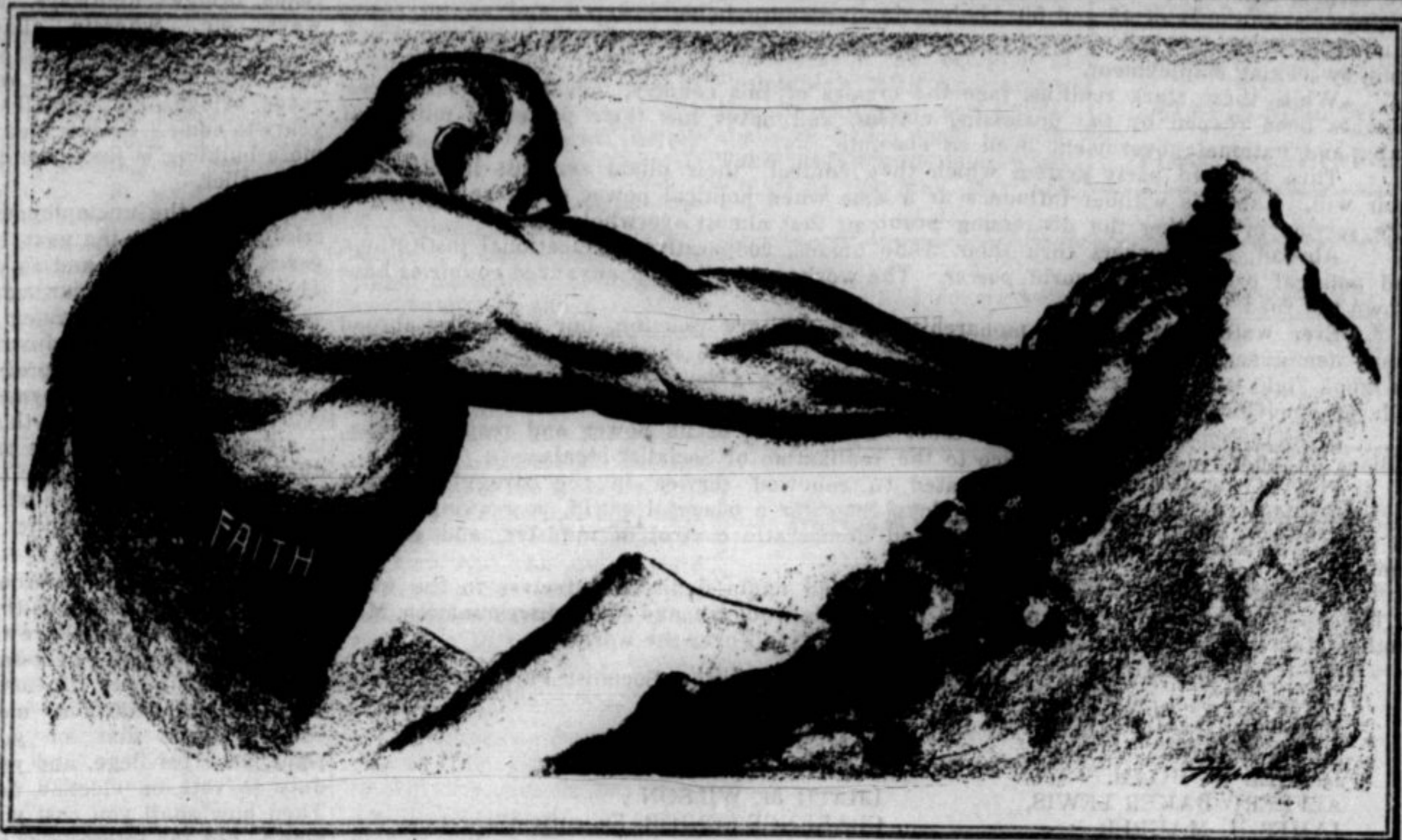
That bricklayers and carpenters should not live in shack because they have built luxurious palaces.

They made Proletarec say that tailors should not go ragged because they made too much clothing; that the workers must unite into labor unions and labor political organizations to secure their justice.

To publish such a radical program to a class of people who have been bound and held down for centuries by Catholic priests and clerical politicians in Europe and their like in this country made things mighty unpleasant for the thinkers of Proletarec. With the assistance of unfair and crooked politicians who held public offices they practically curtailed its issuance. Industrial spies put many of our readers out of work for being subscribers to Proletarec, especially in former days. But the conviction carried our men thru hell and fire and so Proletarec this year celebrates its Silver Jubilee.

Behind the firing lines at home the editors and contributors struggled and worked determined to make Proletarec stay, to become a powerful weapon for the Yugoslav workers. Everyone of the men connected with it worked long hours in shops or factories. At night they would compose the creed of Proletarec. Its investigators were idealists; loyal and staunch supporters of a new order. Theirs was a mission that would be fulfilled only when the people would begin to think. And it must have been a tidesome tiresome task from the start; to teach men to think when all through the ages man has been allowed only to nod his head in approval to his klan. We, of the present day can only talk of what a difficult and dangerous task they have undertaken and fulfilled. We can never experience what our men have gone through. Those that have begun Proletarec and those that have lost their jobs, both have been persecuted for the cause of the workers. **They are our true martyrs and their greatest monument is the living message of Proletarec.**

Proletarec was established to serve the cause of the workers as a monthly newspaper. In less than two years it secured sufficient backing from subscribers and its staff to become a weekly. Economic conditions demanded its change into magazine form in December 1918, which form it kept until 1929, at which time it was decided to return to the newspaper form. Proletarec serves (Continued on page 27.)



## Celebration of a Positive Achievement

By Algernon Lee, President Rand School of Social Science

**I** WELCOME the opportunity which the editor of Proletarec has given me to congratulate the official organ of the Yugoslav Socialist Federation on its twenty-fifth birthday. For an individual such an anniversary may only mean that he has been lucky enough not to die in the course of twenty-five years, not that he has deserved to live that long. But for a Socialist paper and organization it is the celebration of a positive achievement. What struggles its members have passed through, what hardships and dangers they have braved, how much they have given of their hard-earned money, of their time and energy and thought, how often it must have seemed almost impossible to save their federation from being crushed or disrupted or to keep this paper in the field even another week — and yet it has been done. This is a thing to be proud of, and I am sure that the very name of Proletarec must be thought of with deep love by the men and women who have upheld it for a quarter of a century.

When this paper first appeared in 1905 the Socialist movement in the United States, though still small in numbers, was steadily growing in strength and influence. We were full of hope and confidence. Our tasks were not easy, but every year, every month, every week, brought some good news to reward us for what we had done and inspire us to new effort. The birth of the Yugoslav Federation was such an event. It added one more brigade to the Socialist army of emancipation. It brought one more of the many national groups of working people in this cosmopolitan country into contact with the American division of the International.

We have gone through bitter trials since then. We have won some splendid victories, but we have also suffered terrific defeats. Worse than the persecution which we have undergone has been the internal dissension, the doubt and dispute as to what paths we

should follow, the discouragement and apathy which overcame so many of our comrades. But the movement has survived, and its Yugoslav Federation has continued its work, not for its own sake only, but as an element of strength for American Socialism.

The First of May is at hand — the day that is consecrated to the ideals of international solidarity and workingclass emancipation. Surely there are few peoples to whom those ideals ought to mean more than to the Yugoslavs, whether in their native lands or here in the United States.

It was the Socialists of Southern Europe, from the shores of the Adriatic to those of the Black Sea and the Aegean, who called on the toiling and suffering masses to put aside the national hatreds and national vanities which were dividing them and making

their states mere pawns and playthings for the rulers at Vienna and Berlin and St. Petersburg — yes, and at London and Paris too. In a federation of Balkan republics they rightly saw the necessary condition to peace and social progress for their people. Could they have been heeded, could the masses have been wise enough to follow this advice and strong enough to put it into effect, how many millions of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, of Bulgarians and Turks, of Greeks and of Rumanians, and how many tens of millions of other men all over Europe and the world, might have been saved from frightful misery and untimely deaths. And the ruling classes in the various Balkan countries, who feared a union of those countries because it could have been only a democratic union, were and are the accomplices

of the ruling classes throughout Europe in all the mass-murder of the years from 1912 to 1918 and all the continued slaughter and starvation that has gone on since then in what have been called years of peace.

The history of that effort which was made by the Socialists of the Balkan Peninsula is on a smaller scale the history of the whole Socialist movement. Almost eighty years ago, in his book entitled "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte", Karl Marx declared that the revolution which was to put an end to capitalism and all forms of class rule would not go forward rapidly from victory to victory, but would suffer defeat after defeat and out of its defeats would again and again draw strength and wisdom for new struggles. So it has been, and so no doubt it will be, until partly by the evolution of the capitalist system itself and partly by the educative and organizing effort of the oft-defeated but indestructible Socialist movement, the conditions are brought about under which lasting victory shall be won. We lose battles, but we are going to win the war.

Here in the United States no such great rivers of blood have been shed. But here, too, the history of the Socialist movement is the same in its general lines. We have had successes, and after every success we have been driven back. Again and yet again, we had reason to think that our movement was dying or actually dead — done to death by attack from without or by schism within. But it does not die, and it will not. We are only now beginning to emerge from a period in which it took the indomitable Socialist faith that is rooted in Socialist knowledge to save any of us from despair. There are a thousand signs that a new vista of growth and achievement is opening before us. May the Yugoslav Socialist Federation and its valiant organ Proletarec have its full share in the progress of these coming years, as it has had its share in the darkness and pain of years that have gone by.

## WE NEED A BOLDER PLAN

Eradicate the Fallacy that Socialism Must Inevitably Come Gradually

By Clarence Senior

On this first of May when we celebrate the international day of Labor, we should give serious thought to the things we are saying to the American worker. We should ask ourselves if it is not time that we decided upon a bolder program than that which we have been talking about for the past ten years.

To the American worker faced by poverty, insecurity, and the most powerful and malign capitalism on earth, we are not making the right appeal if we dilute our program too much. Altho we need immediate demands, we need a bolder plan for Socialist change that is based upon, but does not stop, with the satisfaction of those demands.

We must eradicate from the minds of American Socialists the fallacy that Socialism must inevitably come gradually. It

is deadening to initiative. It hinders our recovery. We must inculcate a strong will for social change. Economic conditions are ripe for Socialism, but many Socialists are not ready to take advantage of our opportunities.

We need to be distinguished qualitatively, not quantitatively, from the so-called Progressives, who usually sell out at the crucial time. We need to make our stand more clear, and to present it more forcefully.

You are called upon to give more time and thought to Socialist activity. We must begin now a

WAR on POVERTY, INSECURITY, UNEMPLOYMENT, and WAR.

This war must not cease until we have completely transformed capitalism into cooperative Socialism.

**SOCIALIST PARTY**

**MAY DAY MESSAGE**

**To the American Worker**

May Day, Labor's international holiday, has returned with special significance to the toiling masses of this country. Millions of workers find themselves unemployed in the richest country of the world, while others are working inhumanly long hours.

New machines, technical developments, and mergers of great industrial enterprises are turning armies of workers into the streets. Increasing numbers are barred from employment at the ages of 45 and 50. Labor standards are being lowered and an increasing number of working class women are compelled to supplement the family breadwinner's income by seeking employment.

While these stark realities face the masses of this country, never have such great fortunes been reaped by the possessing classes, and never has their power in municipal, state, and national government been so absolute.

Through the two party system which they control, their pliant servants in office do their will. Labor is without influence at a time when political power could be of inestimable service in meeting the distressing problems that almost overwhelm us.

Abroad, the workers thru their trade unions, cooperatives, educational institutions, and political parties are a world power. The workers of all other advanced countries have shown the road to power.

Ever watchful of fascist, monarchist, and military reaction, our comrades abroad guard democracy against its mercenary enemies. They give inspiration to all workers in the good fight against another war which would mean a reversion to savagery and the collapse of civilization.

In all nations where organized labor is conscious of its power and responsibilities, millions of toilers pledge their service to the realization of Socialist ideals.

This May Day must be consecrated to renewed service in the struggle against war, capitalism, imperialism, and unemployment; for a peaceful world, a working day of not more than six hours, social insurance and democratic control of industry and government.

We greet our comrades in all countries and again dedicate ourselves to the work of liberation from economic oppression, political dependence, and social discrimination. May another May Day see an extension of human solidarity all over the world.

National Executive Committee, Socialist Party of America.

**MORRIS HILLQUIST**, Chairman  
**META BERGER**,  
**DANIEL W. HOAN**,  
**ALFRERD BAKER LEWIS**,  
**JAMES H. MAURER**,

**JASPER McLEVY**,  
**JAMES ONEAL**,  
**JOSEPH W. SHARTS**,  
**LILITH M. WHILSON**,  
**CLARENCE SENIOR**, Executive Secretary.

**The Fifth Horseman**

BY AMELIA SHULER

Blasco Ibanez describes effectively the Four Horsemen of Apocalypse, symbolizing Conquest, War, Famine, and Death as they galloped wildly from out of the mists and brought destruction, both material and moral, to all nations of the world during the time of the late war. Just so today, in time of peace and in the midst of industrial depression, rides forth the fifth horseman, Unemployment, crossing the paths of thousands of laborers from the shop, the factory, and the mine, and surrounding all in clouds of desolation and hopelessness.

Hopelessness because conditions everywhere are alike, and desolation because on every hand, the fifth horseman symbolic of starvation and sickness, is charging upon the laboring class.

Day after day the father of the working family goes on his daily round in search of work from shop to shop in the city, or from mine to mine in the smaller towns, only to be turned away with a brusque command, "Be on your way! Nothing doing here!" Is it any wonder that daddy's footsteps lag on the way home, that he is cross and sullen in his home and indifferent to the children in their play, that mother cries when the kiddies ask for more to eat, or new shoes in place of those that have seen months of wear?"

This is but a glimpse of the tragic conditions existing today among the laboring people who constitute the majority of the population of America, the land of promise and opportunity,—America, the land of the free and the home of the brave.

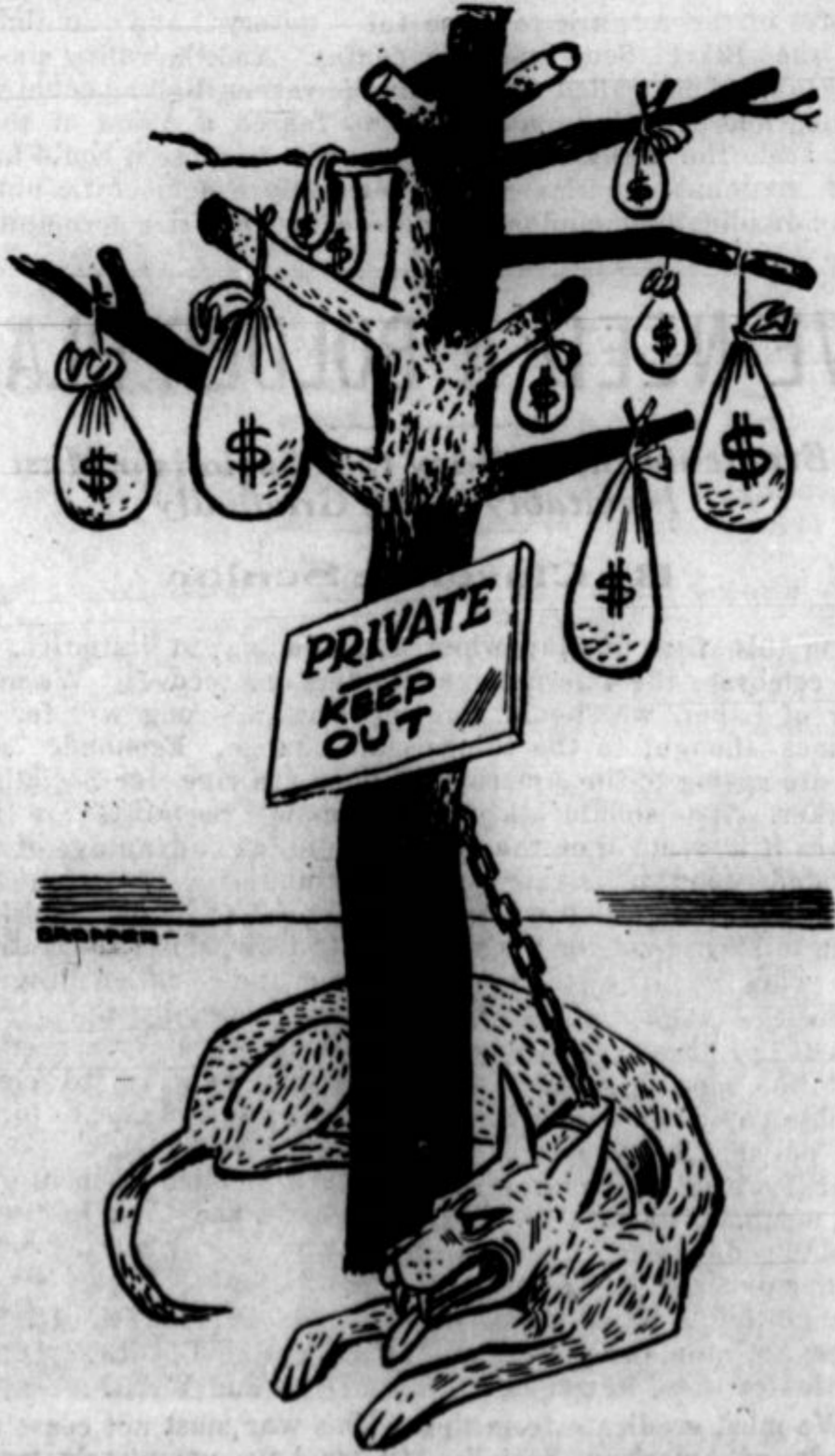
Why does such an abominable state of affairs exist in our land of plenty? Big business cries that there is an overproduction of almost every manufactured article, that American markets are now swamped with more supply than there is a demand for, and that factory-owners would lose money if the factories continued to operate with full forces. In the opinion of big business, consideration for the multitude of workers who are dependent upon employment for today's food, tonight's rest,

and tomorrow's health is but a matter of small importance. In my estimation, the working class has learned more during this unemployment crisis of the injustice of a system which places material and property benefits on a higher plane than those of human lives than could ever be taught to them through lectures or newspaper contributions in the same amount of time. Perhaps it is true that "thru vales of tears and tragedy, enlightenment shall come."

At any rate, it is true that capitalists are beginning to view the unemployment situation as dangerous, and fear some awakening on the part of the laboring peoples. The March issue of the Literary Digest carries an article to the effect that it is the idle hands that get into mischief. "There would be no 'Red' unemployment parades and demonstrations if many thousands of men were not out of work."

The Washington News declares, "Communist uprisings

**THE MONROE DOCTRINE**



Drawn by William Gropper

in so many of our cities today are not dangerous; the unemployment situation behind the uprising is dangerous."

In other words, big business fears the outcome of strong labor actions and seeks to sidetrack any such uprisings by putting before the public optimistic building programs. What if the unemployment problem is solved for a time by a building program of railroads, bridges, highways, subways, etc. wherein almost everybody will be at work. We can't continue building railroads, bridges, etc., for all the years to come. So this idea of more building is just a temporary relief.

What of the unemployment crises to come in the next ten years, or the next, and so on. They surely will occur again as long as we have a system in our land in which industrial operations go on for profit's sake, and in which employment continues only so long as there is a demand for the goods produced, with no regard for the millions who must starve when America has an overproduction of everything.

Laboring people of America, do you not think it is time for you to act? You have the strongest weapon necessary within your power to make your living conditions more comfortable — that of your right, your privilege, and your duty to vote on election day. Then how shall you cast your vote? For the interests of big business who casts you out on the streets like beggars whenever they deem it necessary for their own private gains, or for the party whose platform has always upheld the best interests of the majority of the people of the United States — the Socialist Party?

**The Play of Economics**

By John Kopach

Because of its importance economics is more and more treated in schools as a separate subject.

Economics was born with Machine Industry. In 1776 Adam Smith published the *The Principles of Political Economy* which was the first treatise of economics and formed the foundation in the field of "higher learning" and the basis for directing the new economic order which was then emerging. It will be noted that it came in the later part of the century known as the Dawn of the Machine Age and which gave birth to the new science.

The introduction of machinery caused many new problems to arise. Factories appeared and became places for the poor who sought for work and the means of livelihood. They worked extremely long hours and were paid very little; children and women were preferred because they could be used practically as slaves. People were forced to move from farms into the medieval towns, bringing with them centuries old habits and customs of peasant economy, to live indescribably wretched lives in which most of them perished from the hardship imposed upon them by the new social order.

The extreme suffering of workers due to the soulless exploitation by the new masters caused many rebellions especially in England, the mother of modern capitalism. Yet most of the people in the upper crust of society felt that nothing could be done about it, that if progress is to be made some people, which meant the whole body of workers must suffer even to the point of perishing. When some insisted that the government should step in and alleviate the suffering of the masses, the economists of the new order said "let the manufacturers alone, let the Capitalists do as they please and in a short time every thing will adjust itself. Workers will be happier and better fed than ever before." And this question is still before us.

Thus the "let alone" policy was invented by the abused minds to prevent the government to intervene in the interest of the exploited masses. On the other hand it became an im-

portant vehicle for justification of the gross perversities of exploiting the lower classes at home and abroad. On the theory of "Let well enough alone" the object in view of the new master and the method of attaining it was no one's concern, and the purpose of the government was to remove the impediments from and to offer him its helping hand in the pursuance of his object, which is profit.

In the course of time this theory was relegated into the background in every industrial country. In some to a greater while in others to a lesser degree. It is being supplanted by the recognition of the government's duty to protect the people from the evils of unbridled capitalism, the ideal of the "classical" economist. Even in the United States where social consciousness is as yet not as well developed as in some other nations the government has been forced to step in with its regulatory powers in the interest of the consumer.

However our government, as all capitalist governments, is founded on the basis that private property is inviolable. It is significant to note in this connection the fact that in practise there is a mute but highly evident distinction in the governmental circles of our country, the distinction between large and small property ownership. "You cannot convict a million dollars" holds good also in the field of business and industry. And consequently any step taken towards the protection of private property is of more significance to the manufacturer, banker and business man than to a farmer or a home owner.

Many crimes, too, are committed in the name of protecting the public. Probably one of the greatest is the protective tariff by which the government robs the consumer, who is everybody, and enables the rich to become richer—all in the name of safe-guarding and protecting the American people, (usually the American worker). While there may be some basis for protective tariff for our country because of our peculiar situation in the family of nations, it

has been more and more used to enrich the stockholders of giant and most powerful trusts and corporations. Imagine senator Grundy's activities in behalf of the dear public! Yet recently even the American farmer has fallen for the bunk of high protective tariff, deluding himself into thinking that it will enable him to solve his complicated problems.

In the last presidential election much has been said about the farmer, but very little has been done as yet. The U. S. Department of Agriculture is not doing what the farmers demand or need, at least not to the extent of its possibilities.

To what extent does the worker come in for a share of the government's beneficence? We have already seen that Congress has the power to control interstate commerce. That is, Congress may regulate the activities, management, rates and labor conditions of the railroads which go from one state into another. It's agent is the Interstate Commerce Commission. As far as the railroad worker has come into the picture, Congress had passed a law shortening the hours for certain types of workers and enacted other remedial legislation. This, however, was accomplished through the pressure of the powerful railroad Brotherhood and other labor organizations.

There is also the Department of Labor, the function of which has heretofore primarily been compilation of valuable statistics as to employment and production, mediating of strikes — and sometimes helping in breaking them as has recently been the case in New York when the hosiery workers in certain factories were on strike. However the most prominent part in breaking the strikes is usually played by the Department of Justice and the courts. In almost every branch of the industry the workers are well acquainted with the strike-breaking proclivities of "our" government.

On the other hand some federal and state labor laws have been enacted for the safety and protection of workers. However, a great deal will yet have to be done in the field of social legislation, particularly towards improving the lot of the old, the sick and the unemployed workers. This duty befalls every worker, young or old, to help and assist in this worthy movement for attaining an everlarger measure of social justice.

**THE DAILY PROSVETA**

Helping to publish news which were good for the workers, Proletarec has had a lot of assistance from Prosveta, the official organ for the Slovene National Benefit Society. In 1916 Prosveta was established as a daily newspaper with Joze Zavertnik, deceased, as its editor. It has been supported by the members of its order until it has become recognized as the leading Slovene daily in the United States.

Ivan Molek is its present editor. Few can write like Molek. The first page of Prosveta is devoted entirely to labor news. Labor unions and their struggles and battles never miss a headline in Prosveta. His editorials are specimens of a true thinker. It is a workman's heart that beats within the entire makeup of Prosveta.

We therefore heartily recommend the daily Prosveta to our readers.

When mention is made of Prosveta or the Slovene National Benefit Society Joze Zavertnik name cannot be separated from the two. He was so wrapped in serving his comrades and workmen that little else mattered as long as the society and Prosveta were forging ahead. Joze could not have given these two any more than he did.

Prosveta has a good staff behind it. In addition it has a large following of regular contributors who give detailed reports of news and labor doings from one coast to the other. If you are not a subscriber to it, we recommend that you become one.

**Greetings and best wishes to "PROLETAREC" on its Twenty Fifth Anniversary BOHEMIAN FEDERATION of the Socialist Party. KARL GLASER, Secretary 3551 W. 26th St. CHICAGO, ILL.**

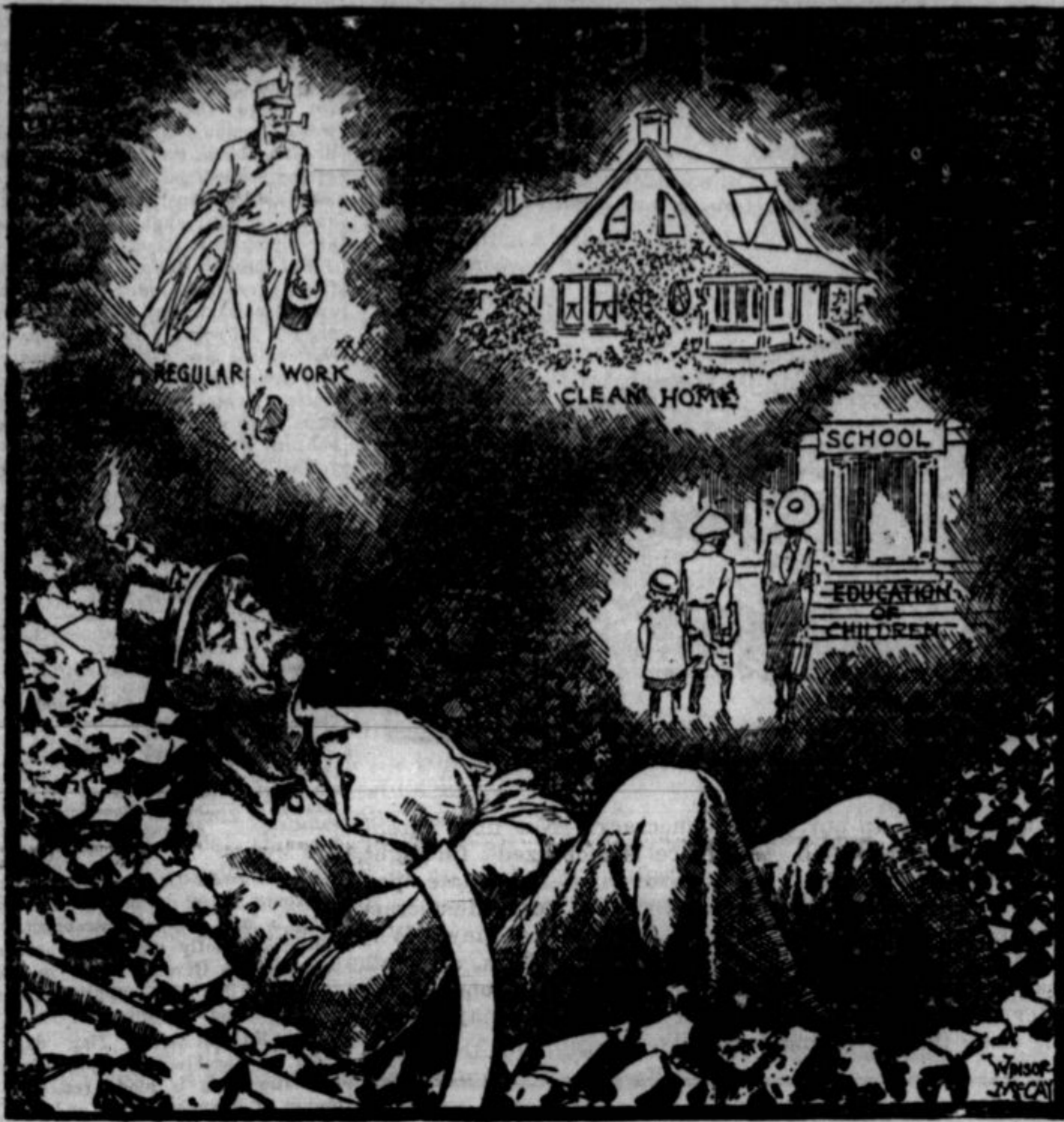
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**THE MINERS' DREAM**



**In 1906—Before and After**

(Continued from page 25.)

as the official organ for the Yugoslav Socialist Federation. All radical publications suffered during the World War and Proletarec was among them. The office of Proletarec were raided. So you can see that Proletarec has undergone most everything already.

To continue publishing news that were good for the workers is probably the only reason it is still in existence. Any other course might have been a more profitable one for Proletarec, but it would have lost that something for which it was established. Today the Slovene workers can raise their banners and proudly announce that Proletarec has been able to weather all the hectic storm and battles.

Today, Proletarec is still fighting the battle it has started some 24 years ago. It hasn't resigned, not an inch, in its declaration. In fact it has learned from its past battles. So, that its gospel and its constructive program are being accepted by a greater number of thinkers as it goes along.

The people behind Proletarec today still say, more pay and fewer hours for the workers.

The people behind Proletarec still say, workers unite, you have everything to gain and nothing to lose in a union and labor party.

The people behind Proletarec still say, sweep out the grafters, injunction judges, the big magnates from the public office; put in their stead workers, men and women, who will deal honestly with the masses.

The people behind Proletarec still say, nationalize the coal industry, the railroads, public utilities, and large manufactures; let the government operate them for the benefit of all the people.

The people behind Proletarec still say, disarm the navy and army. Stop all wars. Use the billions originally appropriated for wars, past and future, for educational purposes.

Proletarec has slowly, but consistently, carried on its work. That it isn't larger and stronger can be attributed to one cause. The people have not been ready. They are not ready right now, but the way is being prepared. Some day the people will be ready. When that time comes, many will be sufficiently acquainted with the ideals and principles of Socialism to enable them to accept entrusted and responsible positions in taking care of the great masses. Now is the time when you can help. Proletarec is doing its share to bring about the peaceful transformation of the government from the capitalist rule for the benefit of the masses. Are you doing your share?

Proletarec doesn't have the circulation to which it is entitled. Every Slovene worker in the country should be upon its mailing list. But our people are just like other people. They divide in groups and for personal or prejudicial motives lead their group against the others. We urge every reader

build in its place a society of Freedom, Plenty, Peace and Beauty.

Resolve on this International Labor Day, the May Day, to build your trade union movement, in the factories, mines and fields with which to fight for your rights at the bench or office; build your political party—be it Socialist or a labor party, for the name does not matter—with which to gain control over the government and use its powers and agencies for the common good. The latter is important, for whosoever controls the government also controls the larger part of his economic and social environment.

to give his fullest cooperation to bring about a firmer, larger circulation, to the living monument of the Slovene workman in this country. Proletarec will continue carrying their message but it must also grow stronger and bigger each successive year. This is the best way to keep the vision of those who established Proletarec, before us.

With greater financial support Proletarec no doubt could secure a wider reputation. A bigger circulation. With greater thoughts on the part of its subscribers it can secure more publicity. As its reader, you are urged to contribute a little time and effort or financial assistance for the future progress of Proletarec. Become one of its active workers. Sell your friends the idea that they should belong to the family of workers who own and operate Proletarec. Secure at least one subscription during the present campaign to make the conclusion of the 25 years one to be remembered.

Proletarec can continue as it has in the past 24 years. It will live, for it has been destined to spread our gospel among our people. But to be fully recognized it must add new readers to its list. It must grow and improve. That labor is attaining higher recognition than ever before cannot be questioned. That Proletarec serves the ranks of labor with news they must digest is a known policy. That eventually Proletarec too, will share some of the honor and

distinction which will go along with the transformation of the system, there is no doubt. And everything done for that while it is working for that change will benefit labor as a whole. And anyone performing for the cause of Proletarec is also performing for the cause of labor and their own. In years to come, perhaps, when Proletarec celebrates its 35th anniversary, you may feel happier because of what you may have done for the cause in general.

Resolve on the occasion of Proletarec's 25th anniversary that its struggles and battles shall not have been in vain. Take inventory of your possibilities on this May Day and

decide that you will do your best for the cause of Proletarec and the big workmens family.

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**The Challenge of Youth**

By Anton Garden

No generation of young people has faced more responsibility than rests upon the shoulders of the American Youth of today. If the present trends in the fabric of our social and economic order, which are bringing an ever increasing insecurity of life for the great mass of people, are to be reversed, the change will have to be effected by the Young Americans.

There can be no denial of the fact that the richest country in the world, the United States, once the Home of the Free and the Land of the Brave, is rapidly becoming the land of severe poverty for millions of her citizens willing to work but without having the opportunity to earn a living. The present industrial revolution which is proceeding with an ever increasing pace is not only casting on the industrial scrap-heap the old and the middle aged factory and mine workers, but is reaching into every strata of our people who work for their livelihood.

If one glances into various professional or technical magazines one sees the same problem faced by the industrial technicians, engineers and managers as is the case with the wage worker: how and where to find a new position once you are on the street, so to speak, for one reason or another. Integration of industry mergers and combinations of big corporations into giant monopolies, plus rationalization are factors which are also throwing thousands of the technical and directive forces out of work—a thing never dreamed about by those who work with brains.

The same forces are making havoc in the lower groups of the "white-collared slaves." Literally hundreds of thousands have been thrown out of work in recent times; others are faced with the same problems as are the industrial workers: the insecurity of the tenure of their positions.

What are you going to do about it? Play ball and make "whoopie" in the similar manner as did the proletariat in the old Roman empire? In that case we will continue to grow more millionaires and billionaires and more millions of pauperized Americans who in

point of manhood and self-respect will even surpass the ancient citizens of China.

Of course you may join the ballyhoosers of Coolidgean and Hooverian Prosperity. However this will not relieve anybody, save the masters of the present day America and the heavy coupon clippers; it will certainly not solve the problem of the ever greater insecurity of life for the great mass of people, not to speak of other things that need to be changed radically.

One may say however, that the young people are not as much effected by the post-war trends in the industry as the older ones by the insecurity of employment. Which on the surface may be true, altho even the young workers are not immune from unemployment which proof can be gotten at the employment offices. On the other hand today's youngsters are tomorrow's elders. If the employer will not discriminate against you now on account of age he will do it within a few years.

One may say there will be another war and consequently plenty of work. This, unfortunately, will most likely occur in not too distant a future, and the young people will again have the privilege to give their lives and limbs on the battlefields of some foreign land for the greater glory and riches of our millionaires and billionaires. Their relatives, parents, wives and children will likewise have the privilege to die for "their country" back home—many of them—for upon them will descend the angels of eternal peace, spraying them with bombs, Lewisite and other deadly gases. Modern science will then come to its own.

A most beautiful future, then, is facing the American youth. The situation in which we find ourselves is, upon some contemplation, a real challenge to our imagination, our thinking ability and our resourcefulness. No other people have a heavier task before them than we, for no other industrialized nation is in a bigger bondage to its master class as is the United States.

Nowhere on earth save in China, India and other backward nooks of this world is

human life, that is, the life of the underdog, cheaper in the councils of the ruling class as in our country. Nowhere in our half civilized world are the forces of oppression more powerful, more arrogant, more greedy and more inhuman than in this otherwise truly great and beautiful country.

Every step in the struggle of organized attempts to better the economic and social progress and betterment of the broad masses of politically and economically unorganized people is being resisted and fought tooth and nail by the big corporations and the servants of the corporate wealth. Of all the industrial countries America is the only nation where there is no systematic relief on the part of the government for the unemployed, the sick or the indigent old workers. Of all the nations America is the only country which permits the reign of the yellow dog, the court injunctions in labor disputes and the use of the government in the suppression of legitimate strikes.

The labor movement, politically and economically (trade unions), is impotent and paralyzed, partly because of the much superior forces it has to fight—if fighting it only would.

The initial question, the Challenge of Youth, what the younger generation is going to do about it, is therefore not an imaginary proposition, but a harsh reality.

The task of the American Youth, the reservoir of latent idealism, energy, honesty, intelligence and courageous leadership towards making America once more the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave, is, consequently, a real task. The attainment of a New America, a land of social justice, of equal opportunity to all, of more beautiful, more secure and a fuller life for the humblest citizen can only be brought about by building up the requisite social agencies which will strive, struggle and battle towards this end.

This means building up the labor movement, a new labor movement, a broad and socially minded labor movement which eventually will and must supplant by its fruits of labor the capitalist rulership and



# WHAT'S SO AND WHAT ISN'T

The most remarkable feature about the opposition to Socialism is that Socialism and the Socialists are charged with being guilty of all the evils of which the present capitalist system is in fact guilty and which Socialism will prevent.

For example, we are charged with wanting to divide up, whereas we want to prevent the dividing up that is now going on.

We are charged with wanting to destroy incentive when in reality we want to abolish the system which has already destroyed the good incentives and introduce one which will restore them.

We are charged with attempting to destroy individuality and reduce the people to a dead level, but the truth is that the present system has to an alarming extent destroyed individuality and reduced the masses of the people to a dead level and we want to destroy that dead level and give the people a chance to develop their individuality.

We are charged with having designs to ruin the home, which has already been largely ruined by the present system, and we are trying to elevate and purify it.

We are charged with stirring up class hatred, whereas the present system is the sole cause of class hatred, and we propose to abolish classes and thereby abolish class hatred.

We are charged with standing for an impracticable system when the present system has conclusively demonstrated by its own working that it is impracticable, and Socialism is the only practicable way out of the mess it has got us into.

Our aim is: The free democracy with equal economic and political rights: the free society with co-operative labor. The welfare of all is for us the one end of the state and society.

We seek justice and fight injustice.

We seek the prosperity of all and struggle against misery.

We seek education of all and fight ignorance and barbarism.

We seek peace and order and combat the murder of people, the class war and social anarchy.

We seek the Socialist people's state and attack the despotic class state.

Are you willing to help in the struggle to build a better city, state, country and the world to live in?

Join the Socialist Party. If you are a Yugoslav, join the branch of the Yugoslav Federation, affiliated with the Socialist party.

This is your organization. You belong to it. If you are not yet a member, become one at the next meeting of the branch in your locality. If you desire further information about our work, write to National Office S. P., 2653 Washington Blvd., or to J. F., S. P., 3639 W. 26th St., both in Chicago, Ill.

control their temper. To argue sensibly and if necessary to compromise. Only through a mutual understanding of our needs; only through vigorous efforts; only through harmonious cooperation can the workers attain their purpose.

This has been going on longer than you and I can remember. For a good century our people write and tell us of their troubles and misery. Where one would take the others bread from him; where in an urgent and important issue they would decide the wrong way. Some of our older citizens have seen the capitalists gather their power. They watched the incredible means of securing that power. They haven't done anything about it. Perhaps at times they were bound hand and foot, which would prevent them from taking steps to change conditions. But, no doubt, there have been times when something could be done to alter things. Where were our folks then?

Man has always been a worker. He will always remain as such, because he must eat, and sleep, and clothe himself to live. While you are living, why not make the best of it? Don't be satisfied with every little thing. Get to do big things. Every gardener wants to make his garden the most beautiful. Every worker should see that his garden (this earth) improves because of his short stay here. The garden needs to be weeded. Only through labor union and workers political affiliations can you exterminate the weeds that are falling over because of their own corruptness.

The young folks especially should take a different attitude in life. Lack of schooling and education is the cause of most of the evils of the present day. Lack of honesty and sincerity is directly responsible for the petty quarrels of today. You have had more schooling. You have had more and greater advantages in life. You are looked upon as the make up of the future generation. You are therefore expected to act more wisely and sanely; with greater harmony and cooperation; with all your honesty and sincerity. It will depend on you whether the workers will become more closely guarded and united. You are going to be responsible whether our disagreements end or continue; whether capitalism continues; or gives way to labor. It is simple, yet so hard to obtain. The ranks of the Socialist Party await you to carry on for your just cause.

Working people never did need, and never will benefit by more than ONE political party! No matter what name it will bear, but it MUST and WILL be guided by the fundamental truth of socialism—which, by the way, will impose the new social order on humanity, whether this generation is for or against it. . . . Modern conditions, improved machinery, chemistry, quick transportation and correspondence will warrant that. We will soon travel the world over; not only a selected few, but anyone that will care to see other continents. Hardships of today are forced on us simply because of our too much indifference and ignorance to distinguish between the labor and capitalist political parties. If we knew how to arrange things each of us would be employed for six hours a day, five days per week, and earn enough to support his family in a proper standard way of living.

## The Legitimate Stage

In this interesting English language of ours, the theater in which the actors appear in person and the auditors see them in the flesh, acting their parts, is called the legitimate theater. Of course the talkies and the silent movies are not legitimate, but we have to accept English as she is spoken and written.

The legitimate drama has been hard hit by the movies and the talkies. The latter are here to stay, but that is no reason why the legitimate stage should go out of existence altogether. No matter how much we may all enjoy the talkies, there is something about the living presence of a performer for which there is no substitute.

# What Shall We Do Next?

By F. S. Tauchar

Twenty-five years of industrious work educating Yugoslav immigrants on this continent in the theory of socialism, has passed. What have we accomplished during this quarter of a century? Not very much, some people say. And they may be right to some extent. But we must look at this thing from every angle. Of course, lately our Yugoslav Socialist Federation decreased in its membership—so did that of the Socialist Party in general. The main reason for this decline was the world war—a terrible catastrophe for the progressive political movement of the workers the world over. Everything was forced into a state of minimum; membership, materials, and morale of the rank and file.

That's the bad side of it. A more cheerful view is demonstrated by the fact that these twenty-five years of educational work among our immigrants thru the columns of Proletarec produced a much greater revolutionary effect among our workers than many of us realize—or frankly admit. A majority of our working people, altho they may not belong to JSF at present, know the principles of socialism. They are, in a way, class conscious, but do not possess the necessary intelligence and vision to join the rank and file of our politically organized workers. They are not to be blamed outright for this failure on account of the general political disruption among working people since the post-war period. There has been, and are still, too many separately organized groups, each claiming to be the right haven for labor, and a force that will be able to unite the workers and successfully lead them out of the present misery of capitalistic oppression and exploitation. This was the first bad step; dividing and demoralizing the already badly shattered solidarity of the workers. The second act, most naturally, presented itself. Groups began to quarrel among themselves, forgetting to unite and prepare for the real struggle against their common enemy—private capitalism.

These are, in my opinion, major reasons for the reaction that held our progress practically at a point of stagnation for years, except for the above mentioned fact that our people are comparatively fairly well educated in socialism. And whenever the time comes that all factions and industrial organizations will realize the necessity to join our movement and create an American Labor Party, our workers will be ready to participate whole heartedly and without persuasion.

Working people never did need, and never will benefit by more than ONE political party! No matter what name it will bear, but it MUST and WILL be guided by the fundamental truth of socialism—which, by the way, will impose the new social order on humanity, whether this generation is for or against it. . . . Modern conditions, improved machinery, chemistry, quick transportation and correspondence will warrant that. We will soon travel the world over; not only a selected few, but anyone that will care to see other continents. Hardships of today are forced on us simply because of our too much indifference and ignorance to distinguish between the labor and capitalist political parties. If we knew how to arrange things each of us would be employed for six hours a day, five days per week, and earn enough to support his family in a proper standard way of living.

Just think: Isn't it fundamentally wrong that people have to beg for work, and are not even able to get it? Willing to work, but have to starve because developed machinery takes their places to increase profits for those that declared natural wealth their own possession. Today better machinery means less positions for manual labor; tomorrow (when we wake up) it will mean shorter working hours. Today, so many out of work and without pay; tomorrow, everybody employed with fair income. Hard labor will constantly decrease according to the inventions and improvements in machinery and the economic system.

Working people fought, ever since industrial justice replaced the actual slavery, for better conditions and shorter daily work, to adjust the wages so that all families can live decently and within reach of all of the commodities of life. In the last few years overproduction by means of grossly improved machinery is surprisingly immense—simply because people are still forced to work eight or more hours daily. Not only that. Millions of workers are out of employment throughout the world for the same reason.

It would be a very simple matter to remedy this abhorring condition, if the working people will join our upbuilding forces. The trick in adjusting this, not only national, but international problem, is to arrange land and industrial labor so that everybody will have a position. If any industry shows overproduction, part of the workers will be transferred elsewhere; if not needed anywhere else, daily work shall be shortened accordingly so as to maintain equilibrium of production and consumption. There will be no such thing as overproduction to harm

mankind when our economic system will be properly reorganized. This task requires no superman, only unity of action, and ability to see the opportunity when the time comes. We will not be given a chance; let's not wait for it! People will have to fight for their rights, as they always had been forced, thru the entire history of mankind, to establish a new social order which will be safe for all the people of the world to live in.

The twenty-five eventful years of political and organization work rolled into history. We know what has been accomplished during these years. It is rather amusing to review interesting happenings chronologically, altho not important, as the really vital question is, WHAT SHALL WE DO NEXT? It is advisable to eliminate fratricidal attitudes and other unfruitful clashes among various groups supposed to be active in labor politics. Abstain from insinuating provocation, agitation of personal matters, hate and dishonesty in arguments. Especially: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SPLIT YOUR ORGANIZATION! Remember that we need only one political organization. Uphold its unity, do all you can to increase its membership, work hard to improve, generally, its prestige and integrity!

I refuse to be active in any political organization except purely socialist. I also am unable to recognize the advisability of attacking other groups or individuals simply because they happen to differ with me in tactics. People shall learn to know capitalists' intrigues and evade them by the simplest method of common sense and reason, which is STICK TOGETHER! UNITE AND STAY UNITED! This shall be our motto, especially to those aspiring leadership.

In conclusion I confess that it will be very hard, if not impossible, to get together on this line for a majority of the workers of our declining generation. They are "wise" to everything, and most of them will stay "put" where they are. Death, in due time, is the only agency of consolation. . . .

But our new generation—the budding youth of today and tomorrow? I have great confidence in them. They will profit by the mistakes of their predecessors, who, by dividing themselves into groups and indulging in factional conflicts acquired slow

progress and little results—altho they didn't differ in fundamental principles. Unpardonable waste of energy that should have been applied in union against their real enemy.

Let us forget bygones—rejuvenate our organizing zeal and driving vitality. Remedy this present condition of isolation, as there is more happiness and greater power in unity. Rejoin our political organization all of you. Help us create a lively interest and hearty enthusiasm for our cause among the YOUTH of this Country, on which we depend will materialize our ideals for the betterment of all the people of the world.

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# A Change of Attitude is Needed

By Donald J. Lotrich

How much better off are we this May first than we were a year ago? How much progress have we been able to record? To say it in an optimistic way would mean that we have made some progress. And no doubt



Donald J. Lotrich.

we have. But all in all the Slovene workers are no better of today than they were a year ago. Jobs are few and far between. Money is scarce. Commodities are still high. Another full year has passed us, and for another full year we have been reading of the difficulties of our people. Of the miserable conditions existing in the various Slovene localities. And what misery hasn't been handed to us by the system we have piled upon ourselves.

Our race is divided, should I say classified, into distinct groups with distinctively different purposes. In practically every locality we find these various groups gnawing at one another. Instead of working in unity for the sake of progress our people are constantly attacking one another. Within the past year there has been an unusual lot of unnecessary quarreling.

As we review one city after another we find little variation. In each locality we find certain groups that have done things intelligently. These intelligent groups are generally honest and sincere in their undertakings. They are the few to whom may actually go the credit of building the foundation of Slovene culture. In their course of effort they have

encountered numerous obstructions. For years and years they have served diligently for they have had their inspirations deeply rooted in them. But the route is long and tiresome. They grow elderly. They become easily abused and their age makes them temperamental. Miscalculated words, with no intentions of harm or offense often pour out. Once, twice, or even three times before the same phrases were laughed at. A fourth time the very meaning of the same words leads to trouble.

When we look into the ranks of another group we find that they are always prepared to treat scandals and spread and broadcast them by mouth and paper. This group always plays the hero role, it seems. They have always been willing to take credit for any and all successes. The moment any failures are made, it is not they. Nay, failures are put upon the shoulders of others, even though they alone had their hands in the mess. If no other reason can be given they received no assistance, and the burden of the failure is passed to the other group.

There is generally a third group in each settlement. This group is generally more widely separated from the other two than are the first two. It operates upon entirely different lines from the other two. Yet its purpose differs only in character and principle. Its object is much like that of the second group, neither of which really serve the purpose of the

first for the workers. The reason for that is justifiable in that neither have any affiliation with a labor party, whereas the former consists purely of a group sponsoring the change of the present social system by means of the ballot box, through labor party affiliation. All three groups announce their ambitions to help you workers. Two are actually defunct in that purpose, because they play independent roles. For twenty, more than that, for thirty years you have been backing your independent policies, thereby accomplishing nothing. Why not try your hand with a group that is striving to gain control of the government and industries, and make them pay you better times and better wages?

It is an old tradition that the working class must fight between itself? One would suppose that this habit would have been forsaken in the light of all the experiences. But no, whenever matters of importance need the full support of labor the rank and file divides. Is it any wonder that so little is accomplished in their behalf? Is it any wonder people work for 30 cents per hour today? And we Slovenes are in the same predicament. When the need for harmony is most necessary that is the most certain time our folks split.

Is there a way out of all this? Yes, there is. It is only human to disagree at times. But there is absolutely no reason for continuous disagreement. People must learn to be patient. They must learn to



Two kind of money worries—the poor man because his pockets are empty, the rich man because he wants more. No equal opportunities here, as you may guess for yourselves.

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# OUR CLUB

By Donald J. Lotrich

Socialist Club No. 1 J. S. Z. in Chicago has always had the reputation of being the true leader among the thinking Slovene of Chicago. To attain this distinction the club has been active throughout 26 years. Through a gradual, sound program it has accomplished what similar organizations have failed to do.

It is the largest of the clubs affiliated with the Yugoslav Socialist Federation. No great gain in membership has been recorded in the past two years but its total numbers well over the one hundred mark. The secretary-treasurer is the chief officio of the club. The organizer and auditing committee form the rest of the clubs' executive. Various special and standing committees make regular reports.

Its meetings are held regularly and are generally well attended. The fourth Friday of each month is Socialist Club meeting night at the S. N. P. J. Hall. During the fall, winter and spring season, the club generally holds lectures, discussions, and debates after each regular meeting. At times it has found it necessary to hold mass meetings and lectures on nights other than meeting nights. We have a special committee that plans and organizes these helpful and educational reviews.

### Dramatics and Sava

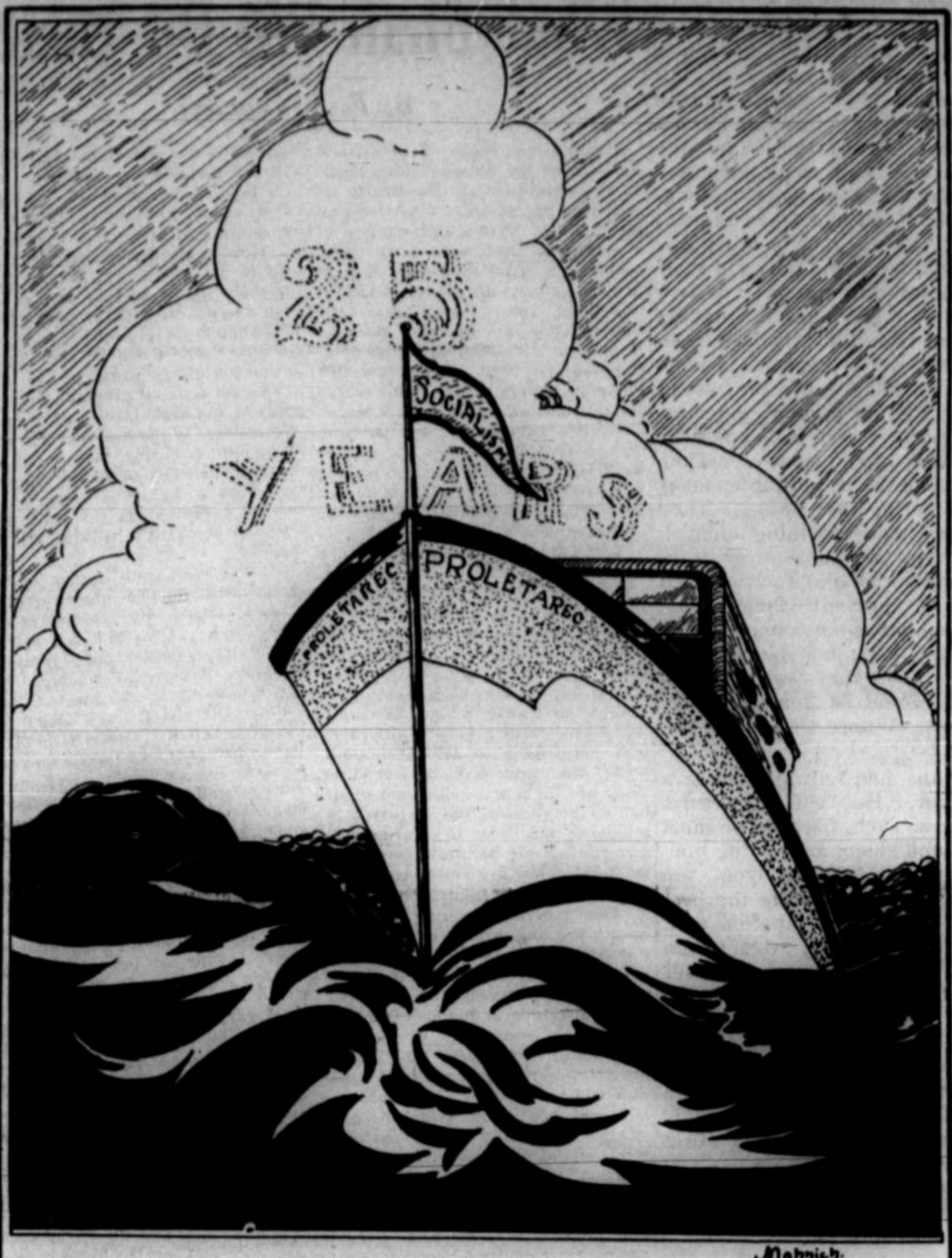
Two of the most effective divisions of the club are drama and singing. Not a year goes on but what our club's dramatists do not present at least a half dozen plays. Some are produced by the younger players in English while most of them are presented in Slovene. No denying, this is the liveliest division of the club and is responsible for most of the financial success. A dozen people at least are steadily engaged in teaching, learning, and practicing plays. A standing committee makes the selections and suggestions of titles.

In the past year Sava has improved much in its spirit and arrangements. It is just a trifle over a year since we have acquired the services of one of the best Slovene instructors in Chicago. With his energy and constant desire to make something out of our chorus, Sava has already impressed others as being on the right path. This division of the club holds weekly choral rehearsals. For the past few years Tuesday Night has been their night. If Sava continues together with the present prevailing atmosphere it too will become a big factor in the life of the club and the financial progress.

### Membership

No limit is placed on membership. One qualification however is asked of our sympathizers. They must believe in the principles of cooperative control and distribution of the essential public utilities, manufacturers etc. and of course the change of government by peaceful means (through the ballot box at election time). It is the intention of the members of the club to bring up for discussion, reading, or publication all of the irregularities of the present administrations at the same time bringing up substitute programs of reforms.

In the past few months the club has been fortunate in securing many applications from the younger generation. The members were undoubtedly inspired by the good work of our affiliated clubs of Detroit, Mich., where 38 young folks were accepted at one time. It is hoped that more and more of the of the younger element takes the steps which eventually will have to be made at any rate. To make the membership what it is, we have some mighty influential citizens as members. In fact the bulk of the men and women holding important positions in



John Mahnich Jr. of Waukegan, Ill., who drew the picture, "Sailing of Proletarec", writes the following: "This picture portrays Proletarec in the form of a boat battling the waves which represents the difficulties that Proletarec has endured. Through its twenty-five years it has battled the storms of hardships; and has probably been blown backward at times by the winds of oppression, only to recover and go on again. Its staunch craft has endured through all storms without fear. On its prow waves the banner of Socialism, defying the winds of injustice which threaten the ship, but are unable to combat its progress. Some day it will reach the port of peaceful sailing, and again sail out into the sea, a much stronger craft fearless of meeting its enemies. May many of our younger generation be seen on its decks to keep it going at a fast pace and the flag of Socialism on its prow."

other branches of Society are also members of our club. A club such as ours needs these men too, just as it needs the others.

A bigger majority of the members are more active than is true of independent organizations. But even then the idle make the activeness incomplete. We ought to have more active members. If one cannot partake of dramas, songs, they can represent the club at the Cook County meetings. Or they can secure subscriptions and ads for Proletarec. Or they can agitate for the club rooms which have been contemplated. There is plenty of work and there is never too many workers. If everyone was active, our success would be unlimited.

### The Clubs Quarters

Some years ago the Federation set out a collection of a

fund to buy, construct, or otherwise secure quarters for the Federation and Proletarec. Our club has supported this movement through these years and is probably the largest single contributor. Naturally enough, the club expects to rent rooms in any such undertaking which will offer its members the opportunity of assembly to discuss, or to read, as a library is assured. Our club needs these club rooms badly. However they cannot be purchased unless a larger sum can be gathered. To realize this aim it will be necessary for each member to achieve something towards the fulfillment of the quarters.

Conditions are not good at all in Chicago. This hinders the club's work considerably. In the years gone by our predecessors, however, didn't have even half of the chances to work in behalf of Socialism as

we have under the present conditions. They plugged hard and sacrificed even more. Let us each sacrifice a little and our aim will be accomplished.

Comrades: Let us bind together so that we may be able to record more progress in 1930 than in any other previous one year. You can do it.

## The Socialist Melting Pot in Detroit

By Andrew Grum

In Detroit we have two branches of the Yugoslav Socialist Federation with quite a few young members in each. Most of the young recruits of Socialism do not understand the Slovene language sufficiently to participate actively in the meeting. We have accordingly arranged to hold every other meeting in English, enabling the younger generation to learn of our ideals.

These meetings have proved valuable to the young and also to the older members. The former are learning to preside in the English and foreign tongue. At the recent meeting of branch No. 115 JSF, an interesting debate was held between two comrades. One took the viewpoint for capitalism, the other a worker's side. This debate prepared the ground for a general discussion in which many of our comrades participated. The younger members were especially active in asking questions which were answered by the members well versed in Socialism and the Labor movement.

A comrade gave us a long talk on the city of Milwaukee and the Socialist Party there. Everything considered, it was a successful meeting.

Meetings held in the English language have proved their value, however the Slovene gatherings should not be disregarded, for it would be a serious mistake to hold all our

# All's Well That Ends Well

By Adam Coaldigger

Of course, it's too late. But, after all, imagination knows neither time nor space and so there stands Moses applying for citizenship in an American court, Anno Domini, 1930. (Anno Domini means the year of our Lord.)

"What's your name?" grunts his honor.

"Moses," replies the bearded old gent.

"Moses what?"

"Just Moses; it's the only name I ever had."

"Funny. Where do you hail from?"

"Egypt. I'm the fellow Pharaoh's daughter claimed she found in the bull rushes. The neighbors said that was bull, but her Dad —"

"What! You ain't the bozo who put 'Thou shalt not kill' in the Ten Commandments, are you?" says the judge with bristling mustache.

"I am," stammers Moses.

"Ninety days in the cooler and deportation. Next."

"What's your name?"

"Jesus."

"Jesus what?"

"Jesus Christ."

"Where from?"

"Bethlehem."

"Bethlehem, Pa.?"

"No, Bethlehem, Palestine."

"What's your trade?"

"Carpenter."

"All right, Mister What's Your Name. Now if this country were at war with some hereditary enemy, not yet designated, would you be willing to take up arms? Would you fire a gun? Would you kill?"

"No, your honor," the applicant for American citizenship replies meekly. "You see, I'm the author of the world-wide ignored phrases 'Love thy enemy', 'Do good to those who wish you evil', 'Resist not evil', 'Those who live by the sword shall perish by the sword,' etc."

"Great Jehovah!" interrupts the judge on the verge of apoplexy. "So that's you. And you, the King Bee of all them lousy pacifists, got the unmitigated gall to ask me for citizenship papers. You — you — Bailiff, fetch the tear bombs. Next."

Rotund, round-faced, well-groomed, kindly-looking, middle-aged gentleman moves smilingly up to bar.

"Name?" grunts the judge.

"Hoover, Herbert Hoover, sir," replies the gentleman.

"That'll do, one Hoover is enough. Besides, I think I heard that name before. What's your trade?"

"I'm a civil engineer in civil times and a feeder of war victims in uncivil times."

"Cut out the gags," cuts in the judge. "What I want to know is whether in case of war you would be willing to take up arms? Would you fire a gun? Would you kill?"

"Why, your honor," replies the startled gentleman, "I couldn't do that. You see, I'm a Quaker. My religion forbids the taking of human life. Since the days of William Penn, of whom you may have heard, we Quakers have steadfastly refused to participate in either retail or wholesale killing. We Quakers —"

"Bailiff! Bailiff! Bailiff! Whack that guy on the nut. I want to see him quake. Next!"

"What's your name, woman?"

"Ruth So-and-So."

"Occupation?"

"Widow."

"What did your husband die of?"

"Compound fracture of the skull caused by the violent impact of a sash weight, complicated by short breath, resulting from a bailing wire my weathert had wrapped around his neck."

"All right, all right, never mind the details. Now, Ruth, answer me this: Would you be willing to take up arms? Would you fire a gun? Would you kill?"

"Would I kill?" exclaims the lady, a heavenly joy illuminating her handsome face. "Would I kill? Would a cat eat fish? Lead me to him, whoever he may be, and I'll show you the most thoroughly killed corpse you ever laid eyes on."

Judge, in state of 100 per cent satisfaction, rummaging desk for blank and fountain pen:

"Application for citizenship granted. Bailiff, kindly escort the lady to her car."

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## THE PRISONER OF CHILLON

By Lord Byron

My hair is grey, but not with years,  
 Nor grew it white  
 In a single night,  
 As men's have grown from sudden fears.  
 My limbs are bow'd, though not with toil,  
 But rusted with a vile repose,  
 For they have been a dungeon's spoil,  
 And mine has been the fate of those  
 To whom the goodly earth and air  
 Are bann'd and barr'd— forbidden fare:  
 But this was for my father's faith  
 I suffer'd chains and courted death;  
 That father perish'd at the stake  
 For tenets he would not forsake;  
 And for the same his lineal race  
 In darkness found a dwelling-place;  
 We were seven—who now are one,  
 Six in youth, and one in age,  
 Finish'd as they had begun,  
 Proud of Persecution's rage;  
 One in fire, and two in field,  
 Their belief with blood have seal'd.  
 Dying as their father died,  
 For the God their foes denied;  
 Three men in a dungeon cast,  
 Of whom this wreck is left the last.

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**IS THIS THE JOB OF POLITICS?**



**The Only Final Solution**

By Daniel W. Hoan

The working people of the United States have been experiencing a serious jolt in the form of an industrial depression with its resultant unemployment. Such experiences undoubtedly cause people to consider the cause and remedy of unemployment.

During and following the war the workers of this country were given steady employment at better wages than they previously experienced. Manufacturers, at least in industrial centers, to obtain the necessary supply of workers, outbid each other in paying good wages so as to take advantage of the war profits growing out of wartime contracts.

For a considerable period following the war the sale of liberty bonds by those who possessed them, furnished the cash needed to create demand for products that kept factories in full operation. Following this came the wild orgies of buying on the installment plan. Millions of workers purchased necessities and even luxuries often beyond their ability to pay out of actual earnings. During all this period the unusual demands upon the productive forces of the country were so great that efficiency methods and mass production and distribution were adopted generally. All of this meant larger and larger profits for the capitalist interests. Stock soared and millions were made and unmade on the stock exchange of this country.

Then the bottom has fallen out. The workers find that the factories can produce much more than is needed to supply the demand, their wages can not possibly consume the goods that can be turned out and we are face to face with the problem of chronic unemployment with its aftermath of low wages, hunger and even starvation.

During all of this period the American worker, as a class, took on a semi-capitalistic psychology. Many of them felt that the millenium had arrived. They had neither time for or interest in Socialism. We have reached the bottom which is real normalcy. The working people are forced to think whether they desire to or not. It appears to me that the great task of the Socialists is to make it understandable to the wage earners of this country. It is our duty to work and organize as we have not done heretofore so as to hurry the day when the working people will receive the full product of their toil, when they may be able to buy back all the products they produce and when unemployment, poverty and war will be ended forever.

Socialists everywhere should get into the fight to demand of their state legislatures the enactment of unemployed insurance. Everything possible should be done to shorten the work day and to prevent wage cuts. The promotion of public work is of vital importance. Many of these immediate relief measures might be better promoted by and through the formation of local committees. While much can be accomplished by these measures it is of course understood that Socialism alone offers the only final solution of this important problem.

**A PRESIDENT FISHES FOR BETTER TIMES**

By Joseph E. Cohen

With presidents, as with ordinary people, it is often a case of: What would you rather do or go fishing? The President has been angling for better business. His luck has not been so good. With the most high-powered publicity lamps pouring down upon Washington, heads of the greatest industrial plants in the country came together and promised Mr. Hoover that there would be no industrial breakdown. But the breakdown is here. It is a real crash.

They are supposed to help by starting construction work. Plenty of money is lying idle in the banks but the bankers refuse to let this money be used for new building construction. They are waiting "for things to adjust themselves". During this "stabilization", small business men who cannot get credit are being crushed out or being reduced to the lowest level. As a result came a rapid increase of part-time employment and total unemployment.

That plenty of money is around, every report shows. Thus the taxable property in Philadelphia is almost \$125,000,000 more for 1929 than the year before. Of this huge increase, less than \$45,000,000 was for real estate. Needless to say poor men's dwellings and small corner stores are not worth more today than a year ago — but less. The increase was elsewhere. More than that the jump in personal property is above \$78,000,000. Beyond any question, that is nearly all unearned income, taken by the smallest class on top.

There is more than enough wealth around to make things better in Philadelphia, in every city and throughout the country. But the wrong people have the money. That is why there is a slump in industry.

Because the great majority of the people have not received enough income, they could not buy enough. When they stopped buying, industry stopped. A most serious economic crisis is upon the country. The President may well quit the empty waters in which he has been throwing his baits. He has been expecting that the plutocrats will do something to let him catch public approval before next November's election. That is why he let them have Hughes as Chief Justice.

But that is a long chance. The plutocrats have always cared only to get theirs. Increase in the pile of property which they are taking is what they pay for by campaign funds. Instead of waiting on the plutocrats, suppose the President turns to the people. He is given credit for once having put stricken Europe on its feet. Suppose he applies his talents to stricken America. Having cast his line at the big business chiefs and reeling it back empty, he might go to Congress.

Suppose Mr. Hoover puts before Congress a plan to help America. Why should he not suggest how the immense resources and taxable wealth can be used to relieve the serious emergency? That may sound like a big order. Perhaps it is. But it needs sorely to be done.

After which a much bigger job awaits. That is seeing to it that the amount taken in unearned income is so sharply cut that the nation can buy what it produces and keep industry going.

With presidents, as with ordinary people, it can be a case of: If fishing is not so good, you might as well do something else — perhaps more useful.

**PROGRESS IN POLITICS**

BY HERMAN RUGEL

The Socialist movement has never made such wonderful progress in its whole history as it has in the last two years.

This improvement of revolution in science, economics, society, and politics became a reality just in time to celebrate the 25th anniversary of our own political paper, the "Proletarec".

When something is accomplished through many years of struggling and toil, then lost, just as the Socialist movement was set back during the World War, it is very hard to make a strong comeback. But the Socialist Party succeeded in coming to the top stronger and stronger.

It is very interesting to note how the tide has turned; the youth of today has come to the point where he is thinking for himself. Self experience, more education in the right manner, and poor working conditions, such as exist today, being the main reason.

A political party that exists under false publicity, continuously blinding the people, will never again make the progress that it has to date. The Republican Party controlled by

the large capitalists, and the Democratic Party, controlled by the smaller capitalists, always worked for their own interests and they always will. That has been proven to the people many years ago, but they did not realize it then, as they do now.

This country, being the richest in the world, has never been so depressed, and unemployment so large as it is today. The number of unemployed is well up in the millions. How can these men and their families live, under the present system? The government is not obligated in any manner or form. The working class is left to suffer the consequences here, but in Europe, the Socialist government is taking care of the situation properly.

The solving of this problem is to organize the mass of working people into one group; naturally, where we all belong. When this is accomplished, which, by the way, is not far off, we will be able to take men out of our midst, put them into office, so that they will work for the interest of the working people and not capitalistic interests.

It stands to reason, and is very easily seen that politics must be important. They reap very abundantly, for if they did not, large corporations would not merge together and spend millions of dollars during political campaigns to advocate to the people who are the best suited men for office. How remarkable money is and its effects! It teaches the people to cut their own throats at the polls. On the other hand, it's pleasing to note that the effect of this money is less as the years roll by. There will be a time when such large lump sums will not be spent, for they will not do the least bit of good; and that day is not far off.

Socialism is a world wide movement of the working class for truthful publicity, better working conditions, better living conditions, and more education and culture. So it's up to the youth, whether he wants these conditions or those that are in existence today. Keep in touch with this movement, and you will be in our folds soon; to make a new light on the horizon.

**The Stagnant System**

BY JOHN RAK

Millions of workers all over the world are jobless. There are no jobs for them. In all the years past, at no other time, were so many workers idle. Governments have begun to feel uneasy about the unemployment situation. They are trying to create jobs. But there are too many men to take care of. What's to be done? Newspapers are making daily reports of appropriations for public building and construction work. Millions of dollars have been appropriated. Still no relief has come. Nor is there any in sight for the immediate future.

Men must eat to live. They must have clothing and shelter to guard off sickness. Where will they get the funds to feed and clothe themselves? Our government should have unemployment insurance. But that would make it too easy for the unemployed workers. Yet have not the unemployed workers the same right to live as the upper class?

One thing is vastly evident so that it becomes distinctly noticeable. Hard times make the worker think. As he uses his mental power he realizes that he is just an ordinary worker. He seeks the aid of his fellow workers. Together they want to do something. And sure enough they do. Anything for a change. It can't be any worse for him. He has nothing to lose, for he has nothing. So the first step is towards the progressive groups. People must have first hand information, the practical knowledge, brought to them not only once or twice but a number of times before their minds begin to function.

In the past year the workers were made so much poorer because of the lack of chance to use their earning power. But how can you account for the billions of dollars distributed as dividends by the powerful corporations? Did they earn it by manufacture and construction? Or was it their foresight in the stock game that brought them millions and so much suffering to the people?

Whichever it may be, one fact is significant for us. Six thousand dues paying comrades have been added to our ranks within the past twelve months. Thirty thousand is the goal for 1930. In all probability these conditions will continue. To help make the necessary changes, the workers must realize that only through a strong political party of their own can they remedy conditions. That's why the Socialist Party will secure its 30,000 members before the year is over.

We, Yugoslavs, must not be left behind in the present rejuvenation. Our job is to circulate Proletarec. As the message of Proletarec is read by a wider scope of people, our federation will naturally gain along with the increase of Proletarec. The proper message is Socialism and now is the proper time to administer it. When labor is ready to grasp the reins, we Yugoslavs, must be prepared to play an important part in the role, that will be labor's own. You may not have given it much thought to date, but it is quite evident that labor with its publications and the Socialist party are forging ahead. They need your assistance

now. After they gain control they will still need you. We urge our readers to resolve on this May Day to give their full support to labor and its publications and the best way of doing it would be to join the Socialist party.

May Day is labor inventory day. This year has not improved the labor conditions. With our united effort May Day 1931 can show a substantial gain for labor against the stagnant system that we oppose. Make it your business to become better acquainted with what Socialism has to offer. You know what you have gotten under the capitalist rule. If you want conditions to improve you must not only say so. You must also become active and help improve conditions through organizations that have been instituted for that purpose. The laws of science have proved that the world revolves; that plants and animals with human-beings evolve. Some wonderful changes have taken place in the past quarter of a century but some mightier ones are to take place. That is evolution. The evolution of society also proves that socialistic ideals must eventually govern this earth.

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**Greetings from the Milwaukee Movement**  
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