

# CHAMPION

## Labor Monthly

Price 10 Cents

AUGUST  
1938

•  
WHAT DO THE GIRLS  
IN WOOLWORTH'S  
SAY ABOUT  
'BABS' HUTTON?

SEE PAGE 27

•  
MURDER  
FROM THE SKIES  
IS BEING PLANNED  
ON A  
WORLDWIDE SCALE!

READ

THIS IS WAR!

by

LUCIEN ZACHAROFF

•  
WORLD YOUTH  
CONVENE

by

JAMES LERNER

•  
THE ATTEMPT  
TO RULE BY FEAR

by

A. F. WHITNEY





# CIGARETTES!

**I**F YOU are just an average cigarette smoker, you are probably wedded to one brand and may remain wedded to it after you've read our report on *Cigarettes* in the July issue of CONSUMERS UNION REPORTS. In spite of that, however, we think you'll find this report one of the most illuminating and interesting Consumers Union has ever published. In preparation for eight months, this report:

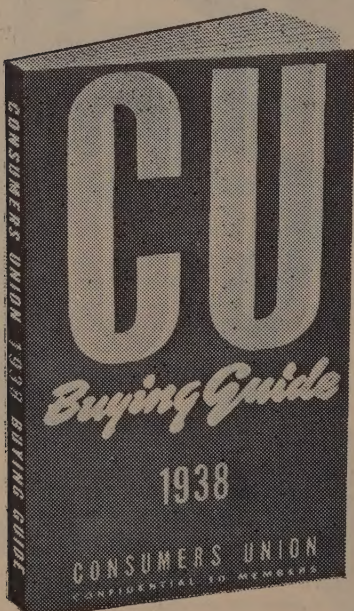
1. Rates more than 40 brands, by name (including Camel, Chesterfield, Old Gold, and Lucky Strike), for nicotine content and strength;
2. Tells you the physiological effects of smoking;
3. Presents data from carefully controlled smoking tests and laboratory tests;
4. Gives facts about de-nicotinized cigarettes and about the new filter-holders advertised as de-nicotinizers;
5. Discusses methods of stopping smoking and gives six rules for "seeming to smoke" which will reduce the injurious effects of smoking to a minimum.

Besides this report, the July issue also contains the results of laboratory and use tests on GASOLINES, MOTOR OILS, SUNBURN PREVENTIVES, and several other products—with ratings *by brand name* as "Best Buys", "Also Acceptable", and "Not Acceptable." The report on GASOLINES shows how it is possible to make annual savings of from \$15 to \$50 on gasoline expenditures.

# REFRIGERATORS

**A**RE YOU planning to buy a refrigerator? If so, you will find the results of tests on 1938 refrigerators, published in the June issue of CONSUMERS UNION REPORTS, indispensable in making your selection. They point the way to savings of from \$20 to \$40 on the purchase price alone and show which brands offer the most substantial annual savings on operating costs. Twenty models are rated in this report in the estimated order of their merit.

Another report in this same issue rates 17 brands of DOG FOOD as "Best Buys", "Also Acceptable", and "Not Acceptable", and discusses the proper feeding of dogs. If you have been led to regard canned dog foods as adequate feeding in themselves, you owe it to your dog to read this report. Still other reports in this issue cover MEN'S HANDKERCHIEFS, CANNED FRUIT SALAD, CANNED STRING BEANS, CLEANSING TISSUE, FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, and other products.



288 PAGES—POCKET SIZE

We'll be glad to send you these two money-saving issues if you'll cut out and mail the coupon at the right. We'll also send you the 288-page confidential BUYING GUIDE pictured at the left. This GUIDE contains buying recommendations based on actual tests on over 2,000 brands or products. Properly utilized, these recommendations can save the average family from \$50 to \$300 or more a year.

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# LETTERS

# CHAMPION LABOR MONTHLY

Vol. III. No. 9

August, 1938

To the Editor:

Through your representative, Mr. T. H. McGregor, I was encouraged to become one of your many new subscribers.

Ever since I started to read The CHAMPION I realized what I had been missing. The CHAMPION as well as an educational, is also a progressive magazine, especially to the youths of today. It justifies all races.

Of all the issues I received, I find the recent issues contain a better grade of paper, shorter stories and a better type of print on the eye.

In appreciation of The CHAMPION I have encouraged one of my friends to subscribe and pledge many more.

Yours truly,

PAULINE H. WILLIAMS  
Christiansted, St. Croix  
Virgin Islands, U.S.A.

To the Editor:

A copy of your paper has strayed into my hands and I find it most interesting. I wish our *left-wing* journals had half the fire in them; there is nothing so heartening as a really genuine fighting journal; it is of immense value to the rank and file.

However, my object in writing to you is not to plaster you with bouquets but to ask you if you can put me in touch with some American with a view to exchanging news and views on labor questions and the development of the struggle of the working classes.

I am particularly interested in the left movement of your country and I want to know more about it, an orientation, so to speak, from the inside. You may be assured I would make the best use possible within my power to employ any advantage an American contact can afford to the furtherance and promotion of the interests of the workers.

I will not waste more of your time save only to greet you and your

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We cannot pay for manuscripts, photos or drawings at present. All material intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor and must be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

American comrades as an English worker.

Yours fraternally,  
JOHN NIXON  
29, Willow Road  
London, N.W. 3

really becomes a champ in the eyes of American youth. It certainly deserves to be.

Sincerely,  
WALTER KUBILIUS  
Editor, *Laiseve Youth Section*  
427 Lorimer Street  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

To the Editor:

After reading the July issue of The CHAMPION I feel like adding my feeble voice in praise of the magazine. The articles are very interesting and useful. The technical make-up, as a whole, is excellent.

Here's hoping The CHAMPION

Editor's Note: The only remaining copies of the July issue of THE CHAMPION are those still on sale at newsstands. Those of you who wish to read Part I of Lucien Zacharoff's series, "This Is War!", in that issue, should consult the list of stands printed on the inside back cover.





GROPPER



# ON THE RECORD

## Against Futures Of Bloodshed!

If someone handed you paper and pencil and told you to write down the names of 52 countries, you'd get stuck pretty fast unless you had a map. It's a lot of countries and they represent every corner of the earth. And each one of these 52 countries, as James Lerner tells us in this issue, is interested in world peace. Each one of these 52 countries is sending delegates to the 2nd World Youth Congress this month at Vassar College to discuss the question of peace.

The whole world will watch this great meeting because every major issue up for consideration is, directly or indirectly, allied to the problem of keeping order in our civilization.

Nations whose governments have gone haywire on the matter of aggression had best take heed. The youth of the world are convening to forestall futures of bloodshed and death and to establish definite principles for the maintenance of peace.

## One Mighty Group Is Needed!

David J. Saposs, National Labor Relations Board's chief economist, has written a pamphlet entitled "Anti-Labor Activities in the United States."

We'd like to quote a passage pertinent to present conditions:

"Forbidden by law to interfere with their employes' rights to organize," Saposs writes, "these employers and their allies have turned from open opposition, indirect, anti-union maneuvers and stratagems in order to fulfill their old objectives.

"They have concentrated their energies in creating public opinion hostile to organized labor. The increasing skill with which these

employers crystallized public opinion through their manipulation of the 'independents', back-to-work movements, citizens committees for 'law and order' and the vigilante groups places in jeopardy their employes' rights to organize and bargain collectively."

It becomes imperative now for American Labor to weld CIO and AFL into one mighty group for the preservation of those elementary rights of organization and collective bargaining threatened by an increased Tory drive in every industry. The Tory tactics this fall will not only be those mentioned by Saposs. A wide wage-cut and dismissal drive is being prepared by the nation's employers.

The lead has been taken in railroads and the shipping industry will attempt to smash contracts and worsen conditions in September. United action, immediately, can block these offensives and spur the Roosevelt recovery advance.

## New Jersey Can Be Reclaimed for America

New Jersey isn't shamed by only one petty Hitler. Governor Moore, a Hague offspring, recently vetoed Assembly Bill 176 calling for an investigation of the Camden Negro population's living conditions. The civic backwardness and Old Deal character of this public officer are self-evident, but it didn't take long for Camden community groups to get going. The bill was passed over Moore's veto.

The Camden City Commission voted unanimously to urge prompt action by the state legislature. Representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the YMCA Negro branch, the Camden Colored Citizens Welfare League, the Camden League of Colored Democratic Clubs, the Third Ward Colored Independent Democratic

Club and the Camden Communist Party have pledged support.

It remains now for these groups to enlist the aid of trade unions, civic and church organizations, to force Governor Moore to appoint, as provided in Bill 176, the necessary committee of 15, six of whom must be Negroes, to "report on and recommend measures to improve the economic, cultural, health and living conditions of the urban colored population of the State."

## Hollywood Finally Makes a Picture!

The fascist minded politicians and munitions-export bankers whose influence in the movie industry usually insures a uniform flow of innocuous pictures, missed a trick when they let Walter Wanger's picture, *Blockade*, get by. If this picture, featuring Henry Fonda and Madeleine Carroll, had been produced six months ago, our State Department could never have satisfied the American public with the brutal policy which has permitted the sale of millions of dollars worth of American-made bombs to Japan and Italy for use in the murder of hundreds of thousands of women and children in Spain and China.

The picture cuts through the apathetic news-numbness of the average newspaper reader and shows him what the bankers' press has been doing everything possible to minimize and conceal.

In the final scene of this great picture anyone equipped with ordinarily decent human emotions is ready to agree with Henry Fonda when he says: "This isn't war . . . This is murder . . . the murder of innocent women and children . . . What is wrong with the conscience of the world?"

Make sure your local theatre shows *Blockade* . . . and then make sure your union brothers and sisters see it.



# The Attempt To Rule By Fear

by A. F. Whitney

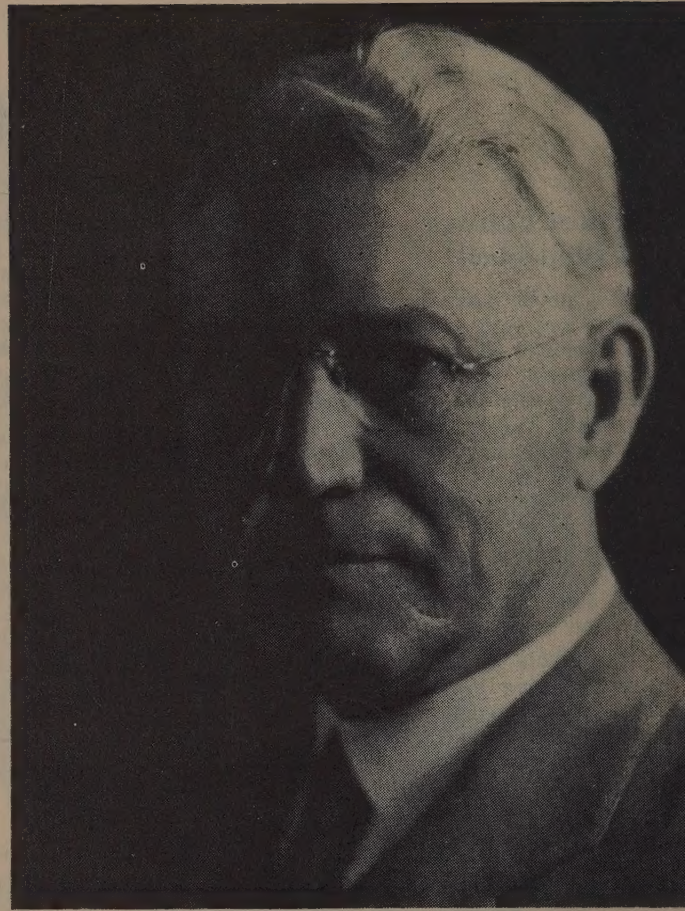
*President, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen*

**D**URING most of the Roosevelt administration the selfish interests of this country have attempted to break down democratic rule by the people and re-establish a Wall Street rule by fear. Those who attempt to rule by fear are motivated by a contempt for the intelligence of the common people. They operate on the psychological principle that people tend to fear the things of which they are ignorant. The social progress made under the Roosevelt administration, however, has very clearly established the fact that the American people are not so ignorant as readily to succumb to the rule of fear.

In their demands for wage slashes, the railroads are adopting the technique of attempting to rule by fear. They are predicting dire things for our country unless the hard working railroad employees dig down into their pay envelopes and make a contribution to the Wall Street interests. They attempt to frighten the public by declaring that unless the wages of the workers are slashed the "widows and orphans" of the nation will suffer through the loss in depreciated railroad bonds held by life insurance companies and savings banks. They attempt to frighten small businessmen of the country by telling them that communities throughout the land will suffer if the railroads are no longer able to pay their taxes to local communities.

The theory that savings can be protected by reducing wages is a sham and a fraud. The facts are that if we are to help the poor people of this country and protect their savings we must do it by maintaining and increasing wages. A book published in 1933, entitled "Rich Man, Poor Man", shows that the savings per family with an income of a million dollars or more, amount to \$2,399,000, while the savings per family of those having an income of from \$1,000 to \$2,500 amount to but \$85. In other words when the wage-cutters appeal for reduction in wages on the basis of "protecting savings", they plead to protect the savings of \$2,399,000 for the rich family, but only \$85 for the poor family. You cannot advance the welfare of the low income groups by cutting wages \$150 per year to "protect" a family savings of only \$85 per year. Thus the railroads' plea to reduce the wages of their workers in order to protect savings is equally false and is designed to instill unfounded fears.

Small communities, and particularly small businessmen, are appealed to by the railway wage-cutters on the ground that railway employees' wages should be cut in order to assure continuance of taxpaying by the carriers. The insincerity of this contention is revealed by the fact that the Interstate Commerce Commission in a recent investigation found that the Central of New



Jersey Railroad leased a building to the Newark Central Warehouse Company at a little less than half the amount of taxes on the building. In a radio address on July 10, President Roosevelt effectively described the source of community prosperity and progress, when he said:

"Cheap wages mean low buying power. Low buying power means low standards of living and that means low taxable values; and therefore, a difficulty in maintaining good schools, good highways, sanitation and other public improvements."

**T**HE railroads plead poverty and continue to give to large corporate interests, special favors in the form of services at less than cost to the railroads, while they attempt to scare the little businessman by making him believe that the railroads can no longer pay their taxes unless the wages of railway employees are reduced. While they complain of their inability to pay taxes, they lease buildings to private corporations at a figure which does not repay half the cost of taxes. There is no equity or justice in the railroads' efforts to take from their employees' pay envelopes in order to continue their special favors to private shippers, contrary to law.

Our members should hold public rallies throughout the United States as a means of informing the public of the truth regarding the railroads' campaign of fear and proposed wage-cutting. We should solicit the cooperation of all other labor groups, all civic bodies, merchants, fraternal organizations, and the public generally. Any labor leader who is unwilling to cooperate wholeheartedly with efforts to hold such public meetings, is only lending his hand to Wall Street and may be on the Wall Street payroll.



# WORLD YOUTH CONVENE

by JAMES LERNER

IT IS very easy to reduce conferences and congresses to cold numbers and frequently these numbers are enough to excite the imagination. Such is the case with the Second World Youth Congress which will be convening at Vassar College. Put a map before you and count off 52 countries including some in every continent and you'll have the idea of the size of this young peoples' meeting.

BETTY SHIELDS-COLLINS, INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY  
OF THE WORLD YOUTH CONGRESS.



Your geography lesson will cover: England (40 delegates), France (20 delegates), Roumania (29 delegates), Czechoslovakia (20 delegates), Scandinavian countries (15 delegates), Spain (15 delegates), Soviet Union (5 delegates), Switzerland (4 delegates), Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary. Then we jump to the East for 19 delegates from India, 10 from China, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa.

Closer to the North American side of the world we know of large delegations from Mexico, Chile, Argentine, Cuba, and smaller ones from many of the other Spanish speaking countries.

But impressive as these numbers and miles may sound, the consideration of the issues are very much more intriguing. Anyone who has ever belonged to a social club knows how much heat can be engendered in a discussion of how and when to run the annual dance. Those who have participated in youth conferences know this to a greater degree. So imagine what might happen when all these people, with their own backgrounds and national problems, get together.

The Congress is divided into four Commissions, all revolving around the problem of securing peace. The Commissions are entitled: "Political and Economic Organization of Peace", Economic Status of Youth in Relation to Peace", "Ethical and Philosophical Bases of Peace", and "International Role of Youth."

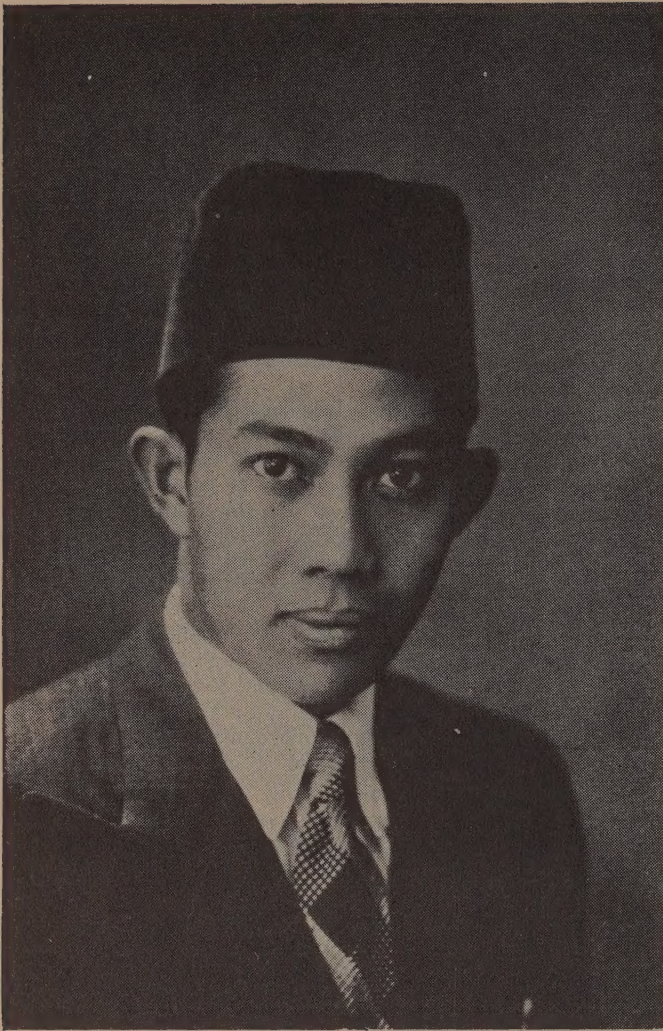
At the Berea Conference of the American Youth Congress on July 4, a program was recommended to the American delegation at the World Congress. The center of this program is the declaration that war can be prevented if it is recognized that "war is not the private concern of the aggressor and the attacked, but of all nations." Furthermore, that "nations should not merely reaffirm their support of the Kellogg-Briand Pact but make this pact work by stopping the shipment of war materials to the aggressors."

It is of course impossible at this time to know what the American position will finally be. But it would be ludicrous to have isolation presented as an international solution for war. The Chinese youth, the youth of Spain need and appreciate every bit of help and sympathy they can secure from peace-lovers elsewhere. The large delegation from Czechoslovakia will consist of people who on May 21 of this year were called upon to resist Hitler aggression. The spilling of their blood was avoided only because of the firm answer of their government and the cooperation offered by France, Britain and the Soviet Union. These young people know that neutrality on the part of the other nations would have signified the end of their country as an independent nation. It would have meant another Austria with its accompanying persecutions and terrors. Those Americans who have been living in a dream world of isolationism will hear the facts of life not from theoreticians but from the living witnesses.

THERE will be large delegations from Roumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and other European countries where freedom is still a hope to be realized. Although many of us in this democratic country disagree with the forms of government existent there, yet we welcome these delegations because they represent a younger generation striving to establish peace.

Throughout Europe today there is an intense strug-





Above: SOEDJARWO TJONDRONEGORO, LAW STUDENT AND DELEGATE FROM HOLLAND. Right: ARNDT JOHANSSON, JOURNALIST, WHO IS PRESIDENT OF THE SWEDISH COM- JOURNALIST, WHO IS PRESIDENT OF THE SWEDISH COM-

gle taking place. There is the drive on the part of Hitler to spread his foul wings over all of Eastern Europe and the resistance on the part of the peoples who seek to maintain their independence and keep out of the orbit of fascism. This conflict extends into the government ranks. The participation of these young people in an international gathering helps to show them where their safety lies. They come to Vassar College on August 16 with the hopes of rallying international support for their cause. And the success of the Congress will be an inspiration to them after they have returned to the far corners of the world.

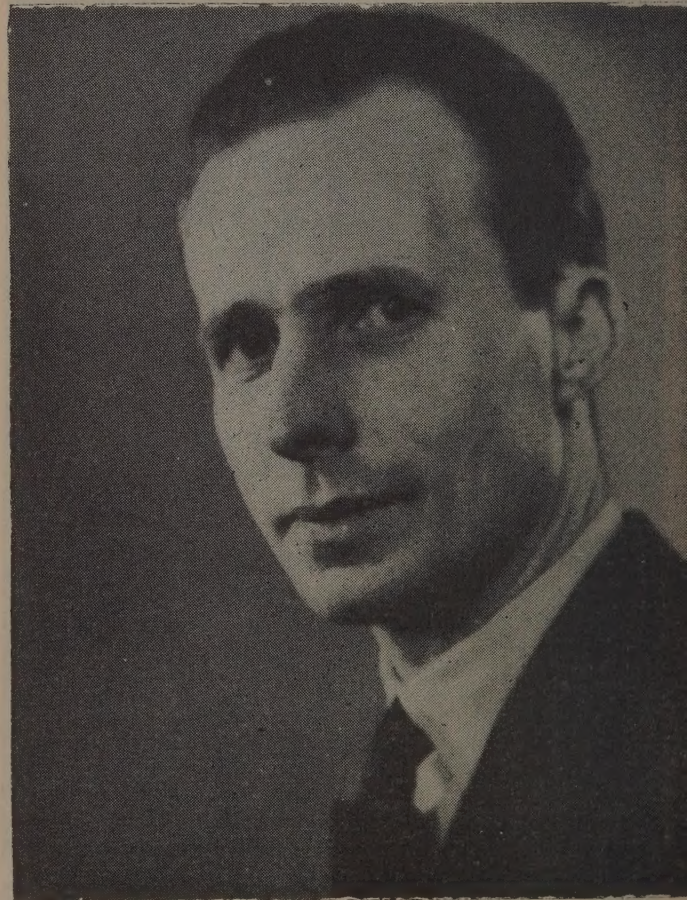
Something of the same motive inspires the youth of South America to make strenuous efforts to get here. Argentina with 20 delegates, Chile with 18 and Mexico with 50 are leading in Congress preparations. For Americans the coming of these delegates offers the opportunity to show the people of Latin America that we are sincerely interested in helping them destroy all vestiges of imperialism. Much has been done by the Roosevelt administration in this respect. But the Standard Oil Companies, the United Fruit and other corporations still regard many of our neighboring countries

as happy hunting grounds. Old suspicions, built up through generations, must be destroyed if peace is to be a reality. These delegates will also be seeking assistance, even if it is only moral, to withstand the invasions of Hitler and Mussolini which take the form of intensive propaganda as well as inspired uprisings such as the one in Brazil recently.

One of the most interesting things about the Congress will be the appearance of the Negroes from South Africa. This is the first time that these will be represented at any such international gathering. It is enough to realize that it will cost them a year's wages to make the trip to know how important they feel the Congress to be. The Africans, the delegates from India, as well as those from Ireland, have very definite feelings about imperialism and the experiences they will have to relate should be of tremendous value to those who come from the great powers, especially from those who have been doing the oppressing.

So we go into the largest and most imposing gathering of youth ever held. From the moment the 23,000 New Yorkers gather at Randall's Island to welcome the foreign representatives on August 15 until August 24 when the program will be completed there will be many thrilling and intense moments.

The Americans have a tremendous responsibility not only in raising \$17,000 to pay for the Congress and act as hosts but in welding many of the hesitating delegations into a common unit of international action.







# THIS IS WAR!

by

Lucien Zacharoff

PART II

## A Layman's Guide to Modern Military Science

**W**ILLY-NILLY, in the spirit of self-preservation, the Man in the Street is compelled to examine the military applications and implications of the airplane, the marvelous creation of human genius, called into being ostensibly to serve mankind, its culture and welfare—spectacularly transformed into a fearsome instrument of savagely unbridled destruction.

Acquainted with frank preparations for another world war, vaguely aware of the all-important part assigned by its perpetrators to aviation, the Man in the Street, more or less distressed, reads the experts' dissertations on "the long arm" which is to be stretched where heretofore war has been powerless to penetrate. To aviation is assigned the function of burning up, dis-

abling and destroying cities, lines of communications, industrial enterprises far behind the front lines.

Because of its far-reaching efficacy, no other arm of military service is expanding on so huge a scale in the nations' armaments carnival. The German military ideologist, General Ludendorff, in his work "Totalitarian War" made it clear that the substance of the future armed conflict lies precisely in that it is to be a war of boundless sweep and limitless cruelty, a war aimed not alone at the enemy's army but engulfing entire populations of combatant countries. All serious students of the problem echo the inevitability of these features of contemporary warfare.

Anthropophagistic military monstrosities, carried out



with the aid of aviation against the Spanish and Chinese peoples, furnish a pale facsimile of what is envisioned by the notorious doctrine of "the totalitarian war" of the future. Generous samples of this doctrine in action are to be found in the villainous exploits of the interventionists in Spain.

There, removed from the active fronts of the civil war, the inhabitants of Almeria were subjected to a vicious shelling by the German battleships. An even gorier crime was perpetrated at the end of April, 1937,

the Japanese. Plots and assassinations, treachery and espionage, brazenly unconcealed preparations for a worldwide devastation—such is the road upon which the insanely brutal leaders of aggression would take the peoples both in the West and East.

The experience of Italy's campaign in Ethiopia, of the Italo-German intervention in Spain, and of the Japanese war machine's bid for the final conquest of China, facts of the Nazi occupation of Austria speak with ultimate conviction of aviation as a foremost in-

*Part I of this pertinent series traced the development of war-makers' attitudes up to the present Fascist doctrine of totalitarian warfare which finds theoretical support and extensive practical application by the rulers of Germany, Italy and Japan. Three instalments in all, beginning with the present one, will treat of the work of fighting planes and of anti-aircraft defence of armies and populations behind the front lines. The author—recognized as virtually the only authoritative civilian commentator on military affairs—has been widely published in the leading American and European newspapers, magazines and technical journals.*

upon the splendid little town of Guernica, the ancient capital of the land of the Basques. In a test of some pet tactical concepts of Colonel-General Wilhelm Goering, Nazi Air Minister, German airmen completely demolished Guernica with their bombs. The town's population was 10,000. After the raid there remained 800 charred corpses. Guernica had no military or strategic value. During the same period, the Fascist fighting planes destroyed several other Basque cities.

When the Loyalist cruiser *Almirante Fernandez* had perished in an unequal struggle, a Nazi plane flew over the seamen who had left the doomed vessel, shooting them with machine-guns. When crowds of fear-crazed inhabitants fled from the flaming Guernica, Almeria and other towns and villages, Italian and German aircraft overtook them, mowing down with their merciless fire women, children and old people.

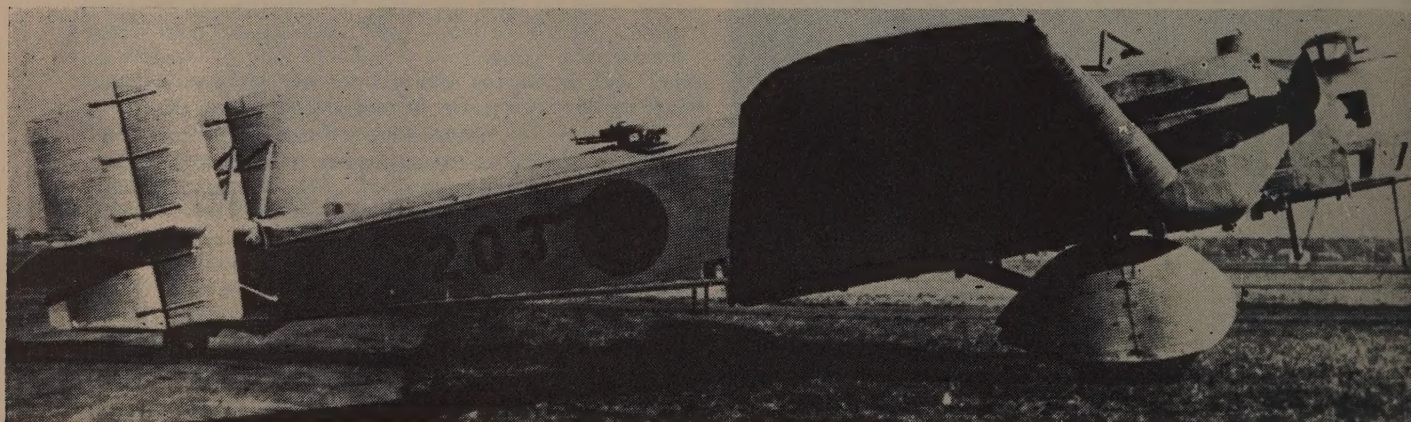
**A**NNIHILATION from the air of teeming cities, of universities, hospitals, great art repositories and defenseless populations has been duplicated in China by

strumment of death, destruction and terrorization in certain hands. There are about 20,000-22,000 operating military aircraft in the world at this writing, exclusive of the Soviet Union. Of these about 11,000 are controlled by Germany, Italy and Japan. Their aviation has already brought untold misery to the world, now looming as a major threat to civilization.

During the Italian rape of Ethiopia aviation was applied on a very primitive scale and only by one side, serving as a rather insignificant sample of what it is likely to accomplish in a real "man-sized" war. Yet, characteristic is the description of its "civilizing" mission in the hands of the imperialist-Fascist masters of Italy, as provided by the staid and comprehensive British yearbook, *Jane's All the World's Aircraft*, 1937 edition:

A decisive role was played by the Italian Air Force in the campaign in East Africa in 1935-36. The Air Force, throughout the seven months of fighting in East Africa, had the following tasks: (a) Reconnoitering country that was either partly or

**Below: Japanese bomber. This is the type of plane used by the Japanese in their bombing raids over Shanghai. This plane has two engines of 700 horsepower and can cruise at an average speed of 220 miles an hour.**







Above: NEW GERMAN OCEAN PLANE, WHICH HAS A CRUISING RANGE OF 3,100 MILES.

completely unknown, to facilitate the High Command's task in the conduct of operations; (b) Pursuit of Abyssinian bodies of troops; (c) Avoiding surprise attacks; (d) Breaking the resistance of the enemy by bombing raids at the beginning of actions; (e) Harassing enemy reinforcements; (f) Bombing and machine-gun attacks near the ground; (g) Continued harassing of enemy forces to prevent their reforming; (h) Supplying troops with foodstuffs and ammunitions; (i) Liaison service between Italian units; (j) Breaking the morale of the enemy by dropping leaflets with messages from G.H.Q.

No mention, however, is made by the Italians of the use of gas, which appears to have played an important part in breaking down the morale of the Ethiopians. Gas is said to have been sprayed from aircraft and to have caused heavy casualties amongst the natives, who had no means of combatting a form of attack which was completely beyond their understanding.

With such beneficence accruing from military aircraft, it is no wonder that in it the aggressor nations see one of the fundamental means of tremendously accelerating war's *denouement*. Why declare war, why observe the utterly unnecessary "chivalry" of bygone days? warmongers ask themselves. If in 1898 Japan could attack China and in 1904 Russia without declaring war, why bother with such superfluities in this era of aviation and motorized-mechanized armies?

**F**EVERISH preparations for new large-scale wars are based on schemes of aggression of high mobility and maneuverability. The course for a war of maneuver (as contrasted with a war of position) is steered not only in military theorizing but also in the practice of the bellicose nations and of their intended victims compelled to engage in the armaments race. Armies are being intensively mechanized and motorized.

Tremendous emphasis is laid on the development of the air forces because the airplane is the ultimate physical embodiment of the idea of speed, an inseparable element of the modern army.

The extraordinary solicitude for the upbuilding of

military aviation is thus no accident. The airplane, carrying destruction to the farthest removed vital centers, widens the confines of the field of combat once upon a time circumscribed by the artillery fire range.

In this connection the Fascist-imperialist nations are nurturing notions of super-speedy aircraft with a huge "useful" load capacity, flying to the deepest enemy rear, releasing there hundreds of tons of poison and explosive substances, operating against defenceless civilian multitudes—undermining in this manner the enemy's will to resistance and bringing about a quick and "honorable" peace. These are the hopes pinned to their aviation by the aggressor nations, as expounded by their war lords.

Militarists are sparing no means in developing aviation. Of billions of dollars in the staggering war budgets a lion's share falls to the air forces. In 1937 well over a billion was spent for military aviation, exclusive of the Soviet Union, according to figures issued in this country.

The credibility of this estimate is attested by a few specific and definitely established data. In the 1937-1938 fiscal year Japan was spending on aviation 378,000,000 yen, 27 percent of the total military appropriation, with the exigencies of the Chinese adventure more than likely to step up the allotment. Sinking 991,000,000 lire in the 1936-1937 fiscal year for her already imposing air weapon, Italy had increased the 1937-1938 expenditure to 1,270,000,000 lire.

With such financing, it is not hard to understand at what terrific tempos aviation is forging ahead both quantitatively and qualitatively.

**I**T MUST be admitted that the actual status of aerial armament is shrouded in a thick veil of secret measures. However, the summaries and approximate figures which penetrate into the open afford a sound basis for the conviction that numerically aeronautic expansion is





FRENCH FARMAN 222, FOUR-MOTORED NIGHT BOMBER.

positively tempestuous. Below is one table of computations widely accepted by leading European experts:

COUNTRY	Number of first line combat craft			1937		
	1925	1929	1935	Number of first line planes	Combat plane total	Total of craft in line
Germany .....	—	—	250	2500-3000	4000-4500	6000-7000
Italy .....	665	995	1100	1500-2000	3000-3500	4000-4500
Japan .....	330	810	1350	2000	3000	3500-4000
Poland .....	126	265	500	1000	1500	2000
France .....	1450	1760	2000	2200	3000-3500	6000-7000
England .....	510	624	1070	1845	3000-3500	5300-6000
U.S.A. ....	528	1360	1500	1800-2200	3800	10000-12000

It may be seen that the numbers of first-line craft have grown in Italy three times since 1925, in the United States four times, in Japan six times, in Poland eight times. In four years Nazi Germany has created an air weapon which surpasses by far the strength of any other air power listed in the table.

Nor is this the limit. The leading nations are carrying out elaborate plans for further expansion. Japan is taking steps to double the number of her fighting planes in from three to five years. Hitlerites daydream of making Germany "the flying nation."

But in order to grasp the stature of an air force of a given country one must know not only the bare numerical data but also to ascertain the relative distribution of various types of craft, their speed, operating radius, "useful" capacity, and related details of their specifications and performance. It is also important to evaluate the production potentialities of the country's aviation industry.

Pausing on these questions, we learn that the leading role is assigned to heavy machines as the most aggressive medium of combat. Bombers comprise from 50 to 60 percent of the total of fighting planes. The German air force is an example of a particularly comprehensive concentration on developing the attack element; their bombardment aviation is two times greater than France's and three times that of England. No better evidence can be adduced of the mission and objectives of military aviation generally, and that of German Fascists especially.

To endow air raids on the deep enemy rear with a high degree of organization and the maximum of destructiveness many nations sponsor armies of the air, independent of the land and naval armed forces. As

early as the end of 1935 such independent aerial armies, according to approximate appraisals in the press, presented the following picture:

*France*—1,600 planes, of which 500 were long-range bombers and general purpose craft, with 1,000 "collaborating" machines. The total bomb load of this army, including the "collaborators", did not exceed 800-1,000 tons.

*England*—900-1,000 planes; 500-600 bombers; total bomb load, under 800 tons.

*United States*—over 1,000 planes; about 500 bombers; total bomb load, under 800 tons.

*Italy*—700 planes; 400 bombers; bomb load, up to 600 tons.

*Germany*—1,200-1,500; at least 600 bombers; total bomb load, up to 1,000 tons.

**E**MULATING her military ally, Germany, Japan had as early as 1936 posed the problem of creating an independent air army which, according to War Minister Sugiyama, "could be utilized by either the land or naval command, depending on circumstances."

The fighting composition of the independent air armies is increasing from year to year. In time of war, we are informed, they can be doubled, while the Nazis' independent *Luftwaffe* is capable of a threefold expansion.

The purpose of an independent air army is to attain domination overhead in an international clash, to undermine resistance of the opposing country by crushing blows against the "life-line" centers which comprise the system of feeding fighting materials to the front.

As noted above, one grasps the possibilities of these independent air organizations as well as of the air forces in general by acquaintance with the ships' performances, particularly the indices of speed, top altitude and flying range. Performance improvements of the past few years are amazing. The figures below tell their own story:

TYPE OF AIRPLANE	Speed in miles		Ceiling in feet		Range in miles	
	1932	1936	1932	1936	1932	1936
Pursuit .....	186.3	310.5	29,520	39,360	279.45	435
Scout .....	171	248.4	24,600	32,800	497	621
Light Bomber .....	171	223.56	22,960	29,520	497	621
Cruiser .....	149	264	22,960	29,520	621	1,242
Heavy Bomber .....	124.2	217.35	16,400	26,240	1,552.5	1,552.5

Among the latest types are specimens with better performances than the foregoing. For instance, the



United States' four-engine Boeing-299 bomber develops 250 mph, with the promise of raising this to 273 mph when its present 750 hp engines are replaced with 1000 hp plants.

Despite the utmost secrecy, straws in the wind of technological progress indicate that 1937 witnessed the introduction in the stronger air fleets of pursuit ships possessed of a horizontal speed of 342-373 mph, while the speed of latter-day bombers was raised to 280-311 mph. The flying radius of multi-engined bombers with a combat load of 4,410 lbs. is coming up to 2,174-2,484 miles.

It is highly probable that with the emergence of two-row superchargers, which preserve the engine power at the altitude of 19,680 ft.-22,960 ft., the maximum ceiling will be extended another 6,560 ft.-9,840 ft. Thus in the nearest future all types of aircraft are to fly in the upper troposphere at, say, 32,800 ft.-36,080 ft. while pursuits will be firmly ensconced in the stratosphere.

With the rapid upward extension of the ceiling, already even the heavier craft are able to operate over the objective of attack at an altitude of 19,680-22,960 ft. This makes it possible to overcome readily various obstacles, including the most vigorous counter-action of anti-aircraft defence, especially in the areas of densely populated objectives.

**G**REAT shifts have taken place in the realm of aerial armament. At the XV Paris International Aero Salon the Fokker-G-1 pursuit and the Amiot-341 bomber served to illustrate this point. The pursuit incorporated two cannons (400 shots a minute), three machine-guns (1,200 rounds a minute) and 882 lbs. of bombs, whereas previously a ship of that type took up only one cannon and one or two machine-guns. The bomber takes aloft up to 32,800 ft. a load of one and one-half tons of bombs, at a cruising speed of 265 mph.

Dependability of aircraft, aero engines and accessories is steadily growing, ever improving the efficiency factor of military aviation. In most European air forces engines are held unworthy if they cannot function without an overhauling for at least 300 hours. The

average term of service of an individual engine has improved from 1,000-1,500 to 3,000-4,000 hours. Of course, in the war of the future the life-span of a flying machine as a whole may not exceed one day.

Civil aviation has also become an indispensable instrument for a successful execution of imperialist policies through the construction of airways in the colonial and semi-colonial parts, creating there bases for further acts of aggression. Japan's "civil" aviation has accounted for an imposing network of routes throughout Manchukuo and North China. Exceptional perfection has been achieved by Nazi Germany in the building of a "civil" air fleet. It has reached a stage where a factory is officially producing "powerful mail planes" while a secret shop at the same plant is unofficially manufacturing ultra-modern bomb-racks for the same "mail-carriers."

Before Germany had completely scrapped the Treaty of Versailles, which prohibited her from building up a military air force, she displayed more preoccupation than any other nation with perfected commercial types readily convertible to war uses. Because the Reich's territory is limited, the domestic requisites for stimulating domestic airlines were comparatively poor. Consequently, the policy of expansion abroad through peacetime conquest of international airways was evolved. Berlin became the center of European aerial communications. The capital was linked by air with virtually every European nation, sprouting several lines to Asia and even to South America.

**I**N THE light of the more recently concluded Nazi-Japanese-Italian military alliance, it is of interest that over a period of years Germany has been seeking supremacy on China's airways. With "civil" aviation progressing along the lines just indicated, it was not hard for Air Minister Goering to unleash a powerful air armada with an elaborate technical organization, immediately after Fascist Germany deposited the Versailles document in the wastebasket.

The balance—light, sports, training and touring types—may be classified as utilized for the training of

FRENCH POTEZ 63, A LIGHT THREE-SEATER FOR DEFENSE, RECONNAISSANCE, BOMBING.







A flotilla of Italian planes mobilized at Ferrara, Italy, just before flying to Spain to join Franco's forces.

reserves of pilots and mechanics for wartime purposes. In England only 160 out of 2,300 civil craft are employed on regular passenger-mail transport runs, in Germany 244 out of 1,800.

A careful analysis of the allegedly civil aviation in only eight countries for one recent year—the United States, England, Germany, France, Japan, Poland, Italy and Czechoslovakia—reveals that out of a total of 14,670 “commercial” planes only 1,240 were in regular passenger-mail service, and that the nations develop and subsidize civil aviation principally from the standpoint of its utility in war.

The governments’ zeal in pumping their moneys into military aviation is matched only by their restraint in developing genuine civil aviation integrated with national peacetime economy. This is not to say that civil aviation is utterly neglected. But, with the guiding

principle being the reinforcement in all available ways of the line-of-battle air forces, commercial aviation is developed not so much to expand the volume and efficiency of its work in the national economic life as to augment the war machine.

In this respect not the least important is its peacetime assignment to train reserve personnel. The upbuilding of commercial airways, equipment of airports, unfoldment of a vast radio beacon network, smoothly operating meteorological services of the civilian flight system are indispensable to the military and usually take place with the cooperation, collaboration and never-to-be-denied suggestions of war ministries.

**F**UNDAMENTALLY the strength of a nation’s aviation, especially for military ends, springs from a highly developed industry. Of 28,500 airplanes turned



Right: BRITISH FAIREY LONG RANGE NIGHT BOMBER MONOPLANE, WITH TWO 600 HORSE-POWER ROLLS-ROYCE "KESTREL" ENGINES.  
Below: AMERICAN A-17 ARMY ATTACKER.



out annually by the world industry, 24,500 are military machines. Collating press reports in various countries, we arrive at the following approximate figures of the 1937 construction activity:

COUNTRY	PLANES IN CONSTRUCTION	
	Military	Civil
Germany .....	2900	254
England .....	2700	528
France .....	2500	700
Italy .....	2300	65
Czechoslovakia .....	700	69
U.S.A. ....	1200	2640
Rumania .....	400	8
Yugoslavia .....	540	6
Japan .....	2100	58
Poland .....	700	31

Already the productive capacity of German aviation factories exceeds 16,000 planes and 20,000 engines a year. That nation's aviation industry personnel embraces 100,000 workers. In an endeavor to keep up with her European allies, Japanese industry is seeking to double its output by means of forced tempos. The reconstruction of Japan's aeronautic enterprises and the building of new ones has been undertaken by the Mitzubisi concern, which has increased its basic capitalization from 5,000,000 to 15,000,000 yen. The Mitzui industrial combine is erecting a new airplane factory near Tokyo, the Sumitoma group is organizing an assembly plant on the island of Sikoku, and so on. Large-scale manufacturing is to be undertaken at a new factory in Manchukuo, where until now only a repair plant has been in operation.

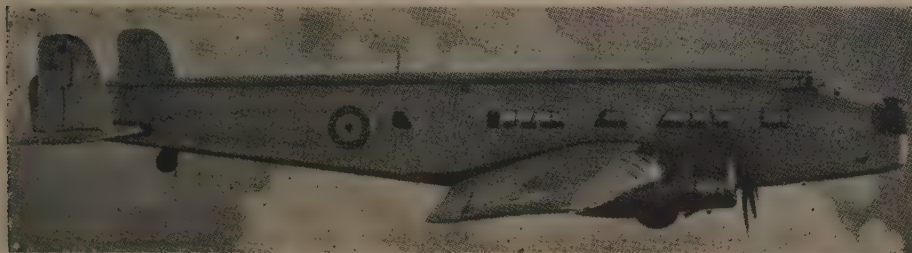
It is noteworthy that development of Japan's aviation industry proceeds under the slogan "The strength of wings will determine the outcome of the second Russo-Japanese war." Such a guiding principle shows even plainer than the figures adduced herewith that under



the present conditions the borderline between the military and civil aviation is virtually obliterated. All aviation of the aggressor states is designed for predatory functions.

Peace, democracy, culture, economic advancement of the world, for all of which the aeronautical sciences afford a mighty lever, are in the greatest jeopardy today because the seven-league technological strides in the conquest of the air are perverted to forge the most ruinous weapon of totalitarian warfare.

*(Next month's instalment takes up the tendencies in the development of the world's air forces, characteristics of aerial combat in wars of the immediate future and their relation to the civilians who are slated for slaughter)*



Left: BRITISH ARMSTRONG-WHITWORTH "WHITLEY" BOMBER TRANSPORT.





# Minnie and Me

## A SHORT STORY

by George Rutherford

Illustrated by GREGOR DUNCAN

**M**INNIE lived down the street from me. I used to see her hanging around in front of the stoop when I came home from work. Minnie was the kind of girl you noticed every time you seen her. What I mean is, she had ways about her like looking at you that brought out the goose-pimples, if you know what I mean. She was only eighteen years old and sweet like. I used to get to talking to her nights after supper. Before I knew it me and Minnie was hitting it off big. I used to run home to get to see her, and we were going around a lot together to movies and stuff.

Our big pastime was to take long walks so I could talk to Minnie and tell her what was what. I'd give her the lowdown on what chances the workingman had of making or not making a living and who his friends or enemies were. It was tough for Minnie to get it all, but she was coming along and our walks usually damned near turned out to be lectures with me on the professor end and her sometimes asking sensible questions.

One of Minnie's pet expressions was, 'Here is one little girl that ain't gonna end up behind the eight ball. I'm gonna get myself a guy what has big ideas and can give me a good home and a lot of swell clothes.' Well, Minnie, I'd say, I've got plenty big ideas. Minnie would say, Like what?, and I'd say Plenty big ideas like mak-

ing our union strong as an ox, and making it so we can get more money for the hard work we do.

Minnie used to stop and look at me then, and sort of pull away from me. Eddie, you a red?

I'd laugh. Hell no, Minnie, but what of it? I know a lot of swell guys like that.

You talk like one, Minnie'd say. And then she pout and put on a sour puss like I'd done something wrong. I don't mean that kind of ideas. I mean smart ideas. There's plenty of smart guys in the world, Ed.

Well, what's smarter than fighting for your rights?

I don't like guys that talk like reds, said Minnie, and she'd start walking up the street ahead of me.

Aw, wait, I'd say. Stop being like that. Forget it. And Minnie would flash her eyes a little and say . . . Well . . . and then I'd grab a hold of her hand and we'd go off together.

Whenever we'd go to a movie we always had a battle. We just didn't like the same pictures. And whenever a picture of those prize heels Mussolini and Hitler was shown in the newsreel I just couldn't keep from hissing. I'd think of workers like me in Italy and Germany being sucked dry of everything, and my blood would burn. Minnie always jerked my sleeve. Stop it, she'd say, it ain't polite. I'd keep on hissing, and then I'd know I was in for another one of Minnie's lectures about how to be a gentleman in public and how the people of Germany and Italy were better off now that they had somebody to lead them and tell them what to do.

Yeah, tell them to bomb hospitals and butcher babies. Tell them to hate Jews and Christians. Tell them how good their country is when they know damned well what a rapin' they're getting. . . . Minnie would say, Now



Ed, you oughtn't use language like that in front of a lady. And I'd get real mad then and say, for crissakes, your old man is a hard worker and can cuss like the best of us. You'd think you came from one of them ritzy families where you never heard no real fighting words . . . and boy how mad she'd get!

But just the same I couldn't help but like her . . . chemistry, I guess.

Once in a while we didn't fight, like a night out in Central Park, when the moon was up big and we was sitting on a bench.

Ain't it pretty, Minnie'd say, sighing soft like, and I'd hug her close to me.

It'd be swell to get married and have a nice home and some kids and things, she'd say.

Sure it would, I'd say, that's why I believe in organizing and getting people like us good and strong. That way we'll get what we want and need, and that's the only way.

Please, Eddie, don't talk like that tonight.

But don't you see, I'd say, people that work like me and you and our people, we're the most important folks in the world. Everything depends on what we're able to do. And we ain't never got further anytime in history than where we are right now, and why? We ain't never been organized proper. We always been fooled into believing we got everything there is to get. What chance have we got if we go on believing that? We'll be just where we are now a hundred million years from now. We ain't got everything we need. But it's in our power to get what we need by fighting for it, and fighting together.

Oh well, Eddie, let's not talk like this anymore.

ONE night we went to a movie and there were newsreel pictures of Spain.

See what those lousy fascists do? I said, taking Minnie's hand in mine.

Well, it's none of our business, she said. The best thing for us to do is go on minding our own business.

Well, Goddamit, the Spanish people want their own government. What right have we to stand by and let it be taken away from them? It's like watching a big brute walloping a kid and not interfering.

The loyalists are communists, said Minnie, and I don't like communists.

Jesus!, Minnie, I think you're just about the dumbest dame I ever seen.

Well, Eddie, that's enough, said Minnie, and she started putting on her hat to go.

Aw, cut it out, I said, there's no sense in wasting the money by walking out.

She saw the point in that.

On our way home, Minnie wouldn't talk. At her door I tried to kiss her goodnight, but she said no.

Well, I guess I won't see you for a couple of days then, I said. Our union's calling a strike and I'll be on the picket line.

Really, Edward? said Minnie. She went into her house.

After that night I felt bad about Minnie, but our strike kept my mind busy. We really had a picket line and the brothers meant business. We were gonna get what we wanted and that was that.

On Saturday afternoon, I was out there walking with my sign in my hands when I seen Minnie walking down the street. She was with a guy but I thought

what the hell, she's got a right to go around without me. When Minnie come close by me and saw me I said, hello, Minnie, how you doing?

She turned away with a funny look on her face and the guy she was with kept looking at the sign I was carrying like he wanted to tear it out of my hands.

Well, Minnie, I said, are you still mad at me?

Minnie was red right down to where her dress came on her breasts. She didn't open her mouth. She was embarrassed all right.

Do you know this fellow? said the guy.

No, I don't, said Minnie, looking at him.

I couldn't say nothing.

Come on, said the guy, pulling her along. I'm sure I heard Minnie laugh.

\* \* \*

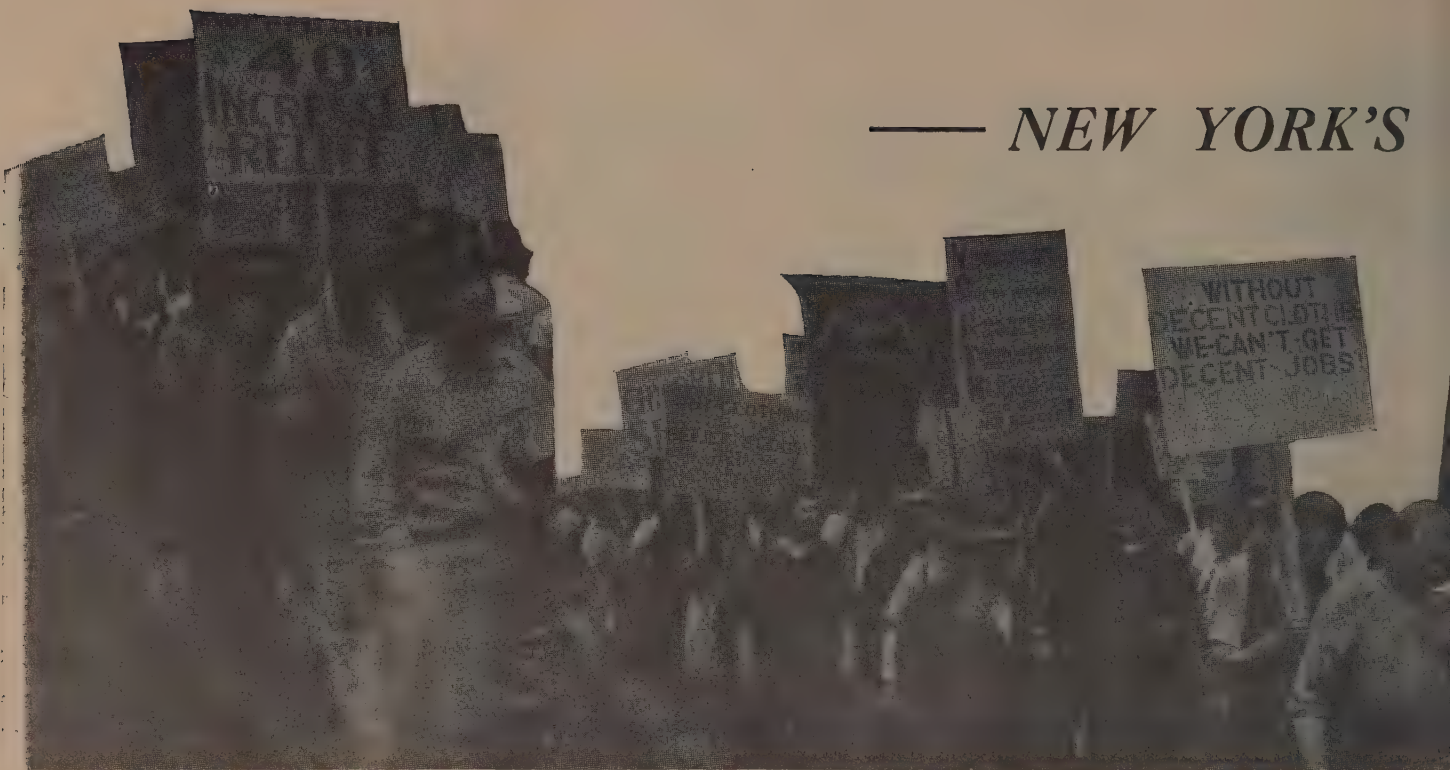
On my way home that night I passed by Minnie's house. There she was, sitting on the stoop. I was dead tired. I'd been picketing since seven in the morning. I didn't feel like talking to Minnie. I passed by. She called in a quiet voice, Eddie! I walked over to her and waited for her to speak. Eddie, she said, I'm sorry about this afternoon, but honest, Ed, I can't get the idea . . . I haven't got it all straight yet . . . I know you think you were doing right . . . I was a heel to act like I did without figuring all the angles . . . maybe you're right . . . guess I learn slow. So . . . I'm sorry . . . honest.

I kissed her square on the mouth.

C'mon, Minnie, I said, let's go for a walk.







## — NEW YORK'S

**O**UR organization is in the political field with both feet," declared David Lasser, national president of the Workers Alliance on July 7, and he didn't speak a moment too soon.

For the Workers Alliance in New York was already in politics, up to its neck. City politics and state politics, and several hundred of its white-collar members had just returned from hearing Aubrey Williams in Washington advise, "We've got to keep our friends in power." That sounded like national politics.

Just look at the picture. In Cleveland, 75,000 relief clients were picking up the crumbs of "surplus" com-

# THE UNEMPLOYED

by  
ELVIN

modities while Democratic Mayor Burton and Tory Republican Governor Davey held a state-wide debate on the relief problem. In Illinois, Governor Horner, a New Dealer of the Lehman stamp, played leapfrog with Chicago's Mayor Kelly over the starving bodies of the poor.

But in New York there was no attempt to cut funds. Relief checks, though scant, kept coming. The Governor boasted of a budget in the black, but the Mayor saw to it that this black should not be a sign of mourning for the unemployed. Slow service, bare feet, howl for homes balanced Lehman's budget, but the jobless ate.

Why this mercy for New York? Why no food-line here, no grim women sitting stiffly in marble corridors while the legislature wrangled?

For one thing, New York has the strongest, most disciplined local of the Workers Alliance in the country. Moreover, New York has a "New Deal" Administration with a progressive relief program. Sometimes, like the Roosevelt New Deal, local progressives waver and tend to give way before reaction, but in the long run they are sensitive to demands of the millions of New Dealers at the working end of the voting booth.

Just as Williams, deputy to F.D.R.'s appointee Hopkins, greeted the national Alliance conference, so did Mayor LaGuardia appear at the city convention of the



MAYOR LAGUARDIA AND VITO MARCANTONIO, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE, GREETING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SAM WISEMAN AT THE WORKERS ALLIANCE CONVENTION.



NEW SKYLINE! —



## ED AND POLITICS

### ABELES

unemployed and express his pleasure at meeting them without walking through pickets.

There is a different atmosphere in New York. Different from the atmosphere in Cleveland and Chicago today. The Workers Alliance is recognized in New York, the unemployed have a union that speaks for them, and the Mayor and progressive Councilmen, whom they helped to elect, are glad to listen.

That is the bright side of the picture. But New York is not without its Daveys and Kellys. The enemies of the unemployed have not forgotten their skill. New times, new weapons. Yesterday, tear gas, billies, law. Today, slander, "investigations."

**T**HE first move made by Tammany when the old cat found that she was still alive, was to pass a resolution to investigate the relief situation in New York, and especially the Workers Alliance. (No matter that the conservative Grimm Committee had just investigated and reported that New York relief was still far below a minimum emergency standard of living!) It was a clarion call. The hounds came running, baying: "The Alliance is a racket! The Alliance is communistic!"

Then a surprising thing happened. The Alliance did not object to an investigation. They announced that they

welcomed an honest investigation, that conditions in New York were still so horrifying that it would only benefit their members if the conclusions of the last investigation—the Grimm query—were acted on. And to prove it, they put a picket line around City Hall, while Tory Councilman Abner Surpless was holding forth.

Unionists, churchmen, settlement leaders, bombarded the Tammany members and their decoy, Surpless, with affirmations of faith in the Alliance.

And Councilman Albert Schanzer, who had voted for the probe, now approved over the city radio, in the Council chamber, the Alliance demonstration. "It is the American way," he said.

The "investigation" will go through. It will be a



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mud-slinging, red-smearing exhibition of the kind at which the henchmen of Hines are so expert. That is not important. But it will be timed just before the 1938 elections. That is important.

For, whether they like it or not (and they happen to like it), the unemployed of New York will play a key position in the local elections this year. The unions are the bulwark of the labor-progressive movement in this city. But unemployment is still the biggest "industry", and the union of the unemployed, the Workers Alliance, is right out in front.

**N**O CANDIDATE can be successful against the organized opposition of the unemployed. No candidate can fail to place, if he has behind him the organized unemployed plus the rest of the city's workers. That explains why the candidates who speak for the Sixty Families are trying so hard, first, to see that the unemployed stay unorganized, and second, to smear the organized jobless, the Workers Alliance, as a monster with whiskers and a shifty eye—half "communistic", half racketeer.

That is why President Lasser could declare with confidence, "We say this bluntly, we're going to rally the maximum amount of support for candidates who stand by the economic interests of the unemployed."

And that is why the men who go back to the Senate, and Congress, and the State legislature this winter will come nearer to representing the people—at least "one third of the city" than ever before. The Workers Alliance is in politics "with both feet!"

Meanwhile, the Alliance has its day-to-day job. Compared to a mid-west metropolis, or even up-state, New York's jobless are tolerably treated on the whole. But compared to the employed population, their lot is unbelievably dismal. The slums are still there, and the poor still have to live in them, in spite of all the good intentions of the "better housing bloc." A whole family is still expected to clothe itself on 15 cents a week, and for a nickel more buy pots and pans, furniture and towels and soap.

"It takes 1½ years to replace teeth on relief rolls!" announced one of the signs at a recent City Hall demonstration. And it still takes days and sometimes weeks to achieve these blessings.

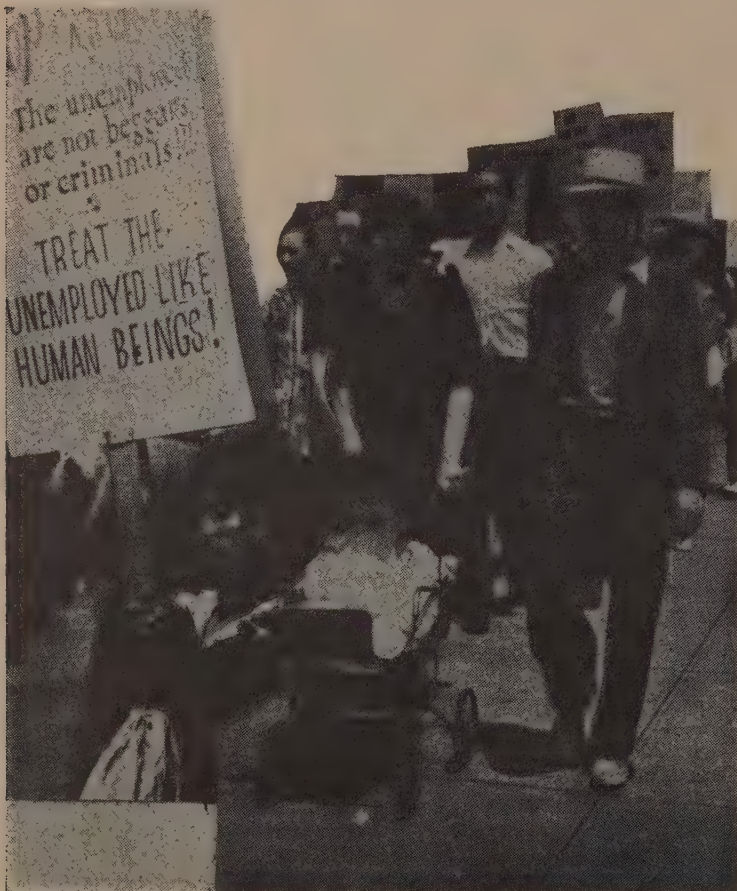
These are the pitiful morsels for which the unemployed, the surplus working population of a rich city, must battle daily, with pleas and waiting and acts of desperation, until they join the Alliance and learn to use more modern weapons: delegations, picket lines, sit-ins. And the Alliance never forgets that among these unemployed are the hundreds of thousands of "employables" to whom the Federal Government promised jobs many relief checks ago. The fight for jobs still remains the basic task of the organized unemployed, all the while the cry for milk and shoes and a bed is dinned at the District Offices.

**I**T IS not much better on WPA. It is not surprising that the administration of Colonel Brehon Somervell, a southerner with barracks background, should be biased and rigid, that rules are harsh and inflexible until they are to be applied to Negroes and other minorities, when they are made even harsher. Not a week passes but a case of clear discrimination is written into the Alliance records, and Moe Howard, battling grievance chairman, has to deliver a verbal lashing to one of the Colonel's yes-men. A Negro professional put to housework, an Italian clerk set to ditch-digging, a Jew transferred for no reason off a project—just part of the day's injustices for which the only solution is the Workers Alliance, WPA Division.

But the worst plight of all these who are being kicked around in this city is that of the so-called "Non-Settlement" case. "Settlement" is something which thousands have without knowing it, but if you don't have it and you need it, you are just out of luck, because it isn't easily obtained. "Settlement" is the legal language for the proof that you have resided in this city and state for the required space of years. If you haven't got "settlement", you don't get relief. (You get a kind of handout, for a limited time.)

There are hundreds of people in New York today who haven't "settlement." Some of them have lived here for years; but if they married the wrong person (from the relief point of view—one without "settlement"), or if a relative turns up in some part of the country to which they can, presto! be attached, they lose "settlement" and relief. And it's happening every day.

Most of the victims are Negroes from the South, and Puerto Ricans. There is only one thing they can do with "non-settlement" cases. Deport them. Send them back where they came from. It may be to certain



THE LITTLE GIRL ON THE LEFT IS CARRYING A BAG OF FOOD FOR SITDOWNERS IN A RELIEF BUREAU PICKETED BY ALLIANCE MEMBERS.



starvation, it may be to a family which will curse their birth, but out they must go.

**T**HESE are the conditions with which the Alliance must contend. These and pay cuts (the professionals just got another steep clip in the weekly check); and the closing of projects; sweatshop conditions among the sewing women; 50 cents a day carfare outlay among laborers earning \$14 a week—these and a variety of other problems which bring heartaches and headaches to the organizers and grievance chairmen of the hundreds of locals, but which are also training thousands of

workers to watch out for their own interests, to string along with their friends and hold out till election day for their enemies.

The Workers Alliance is the champion of the project workers and the unemployed. But is more than that. It is a key sector of the labor front, a conscious force for progress, a jealous guardian of the economic and civil rights of the people.

No wonder the enemies of all forward-looking American elements hate and fear the Workers Alliance! No wonder the progressive and labor movement has learned to admire and respect it!

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# Higher Education

## A SHORT STORY



by Louis Petrigni

**J**OE was acting pretty nasty to his father these days. The old man took it kinda quiet too. Maybe he knew what was griping Joe. But he couldn't do anything about it. So he said nothing. Maybe it would've done them both good to talk things over. But the old man was hurt. And Joe, well Joe was young. . . .

He was a good kid, though. Growing up in a depression did nobody any good. He had to forget a lot of his dreams—and it wasn't easy. This Howard Hughes flight got under his skin. He scanned every inch of newsprint on the story. What guts that guy had, even if he was a millionaire! And what luck to be free. Imagine being able to shoot up into that blue sky and go anywhere in the world you wanted to. Boy! Even if he had a flivver . . .

For what seemed the thousandth time since he began work, Joe turned his eyes on the clock. Cripes! only three in the morning. Three more hours to go. Then it would be Sunday and he could sleep. He turned to his job on the conveyor again but his mind soared. He had to think fast to keep his brain from becoming dulled by the monotonous pounding of the belt. Twelve hours a day on the conveyor belt was no cinch. You stayed in one spot for twelve hours. Four more and he'd have been in Paris—if he were Hughes. But Joe stayed in that one spot. He looked at the clock again. Ten after. At this rate he'd be wishing his whole damned life away.

Here he was only eighteen. That left a lot of twelve-hour days ahead of him. He looked around. There was Tim and John and the others. They'd been in factory work for more than twenty years. At one time they'd been like him. Young, alive, ambitious. Now look at them. They went straight from youth into old age. It

was hard to look at their fatigue-scarred faces. They no longer glanced at the clock. But they'd tell you their troubles. ". . . family needs new clothes." ". . . Anna's in the hospital again. Too many babies, doc said." ". . . Jim's got T.B." He looked at them and felt he was looking at himself. He shuddered.

If only he could've stayed in school. He'd have been a doctor, lawyer or engineer. Something worth while. Gives a guy a chance to make something of himself. He'd have made a good aviator, too. When he was a kid his old man took him for an hour's ride on a plane. He remembered how silent and thrilled he'd been. He felt this is where people ought to be.

Goddamn it, why in hell did my father take me out of school? He knew I wanted to go to college. Why didn't he save some dough for me? He always said that one of his three kids would go to college so that at least one of them would amount to something. And what happened? He didn't have to save his money . . . his firm wouldn't fire him . . . hadn't he been a faithful employee for eighteen years? Joe remembered the old man coming home and saying he'd been fired. Too old. Damn it! Now all three of his kids were working in factories. Big hours. Small pay. Jesus! some life. Twelve hours a day on the conveyor belt—fifteen minutes for lunch. One hour to go to work. One hour to get home, two. Twelve hours working, fourteen, one hour to eat before work and one hour after, sixteen, and if you didn't go to some crappy movie or out with the fellows you got eight hours sleep which made one helluva life.

By the time quitting time rolled around Joe felt more and more embittered toward his father. "It's his fault," he muttered as he rang out his time card. Riding home,





he picked up the Sunday paper and began reading. He turned to the want ads. Then he saw it. "*Wanted, college graduates. Possibility of acquiring a steady position at a high salary. Apply at—*" Joe thrust the paper angrily from him. Hell! that's the plant I work for . . . college graduates . . . high salaries . . .

THE next week the college graduates came around in white shirts with pads and pencils. They took notes on how the men performed their tasks. At lunch time Joe struck up a conversation with one of them. He was a nice guy. Not very different from Joe. Clear-eyed, ambitious. Oh, yes, he'd gotten out of college three months ago. The four years had cost his father \$4,000 but it was worth it. Sure he expected to get a position with the company. The reason they had them check the different jobs was because they were going to have a test so that the company would be able to gauge their qualifications. That procedure went on for three weeks.

One day Joe was surprised to find four of the college graduates working on the conveyor belt. He questioned the fellow he'd been friendly with. It seemed that when the company held the tests only one out of the five had managed to get a white-collar job. The other four were offered laborers' jobs . . . and because they needed the money and jobs were scarce, they accepted.

Joe did a lot of thinking that day. Nothing seemed to make sense. Imagine that! Spending 4,000 bucks for an education and winding up next to a guy that never went to college! There's something screwy somewhere! He thought of his old man. He'd been unfair to him. It was more than just the old man keeping him out of school. Four thousand bucks kept him out . . . and even that was a phoney investment. With all that dough spent . . . with all those years put in over a flock of books, and still there was no guarantee you could use what you learned. Like training a guy to be a pole-vaulter then handing him a shotput. Screwy. Screwy as hell. Kinda sloppy planning, too. Brings up a lot

"JOE WAS  
HANDED A LEAFLET . . ."

of questions, Joe thought, young guys like me need answers to.

Coming out of the factory that day Joe was handed a leaflet telling him that the union had come in and that the first meeting was next Sunday.

Here was a chance for him . . . and the college guys . . . to ask a lot of questions. Here the answers would be the McCoy.



# The LABOR PRESS-II

## *The Cafeteria Call*

Published monthly by  
Cafeteria Employees Union, Local 302

Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance,  
and Bartenders' International League of America, affiliated  
to the American Federation of Labor

SECOND OF A SERIES

by

Steve Gilligan

**T**HE check machine is always near the door and when you come in you grab a stub and the machine gives forth a mighty **BONG!** or a rather frail **bing**. This lets the cashier and the management know you're in. Simple. If you go by the checks the cashier'll yell out Check! in rising tones of half-command and half-reproach.

After you get your check you'll head for the silverware stands, pick out what you need, snatch a tray and push your way through a lot of hungry people to the food counter.

What I'm trying to get at is this. If you enter a New York cafeteria, go through all the processes so laboriously outlined above, and get up close to the counter so you can see the colored union button on the neat babe puddling out coffee, you'll know you're in one of New York's better eating places. All because of that union button. Simple. And the union is the Cafeteria Employees Union, Local 302.

But, as we say in the back room, things were different once. So different that hundreds, if not thousands, of potentially good union members were driven from the organization's ranks into open shops because of plain and fancy thievery, petty blackmail, contract sell-outs, sleight-of-hand dues collecting, etc., by the gang of brigands who once dominated Local 302.

After the merger of the Food Workers Industrial Union and Local 302, the better elements of both got together and built a solid unity against the ally of the open shop employer, the racketeer. The combined forces for honest trade unionism sharpened up the axe and called in District Attorney Tom Dewey to swing it. He did.

Mayor LaGuardia, in June, 1937, wrote Secretary-Treasurer Sam Kramberg:

"I am very happy to know that your union has cleaned house.

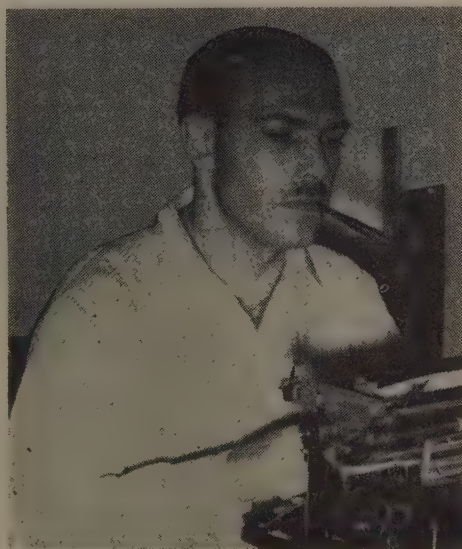
"I recall clearly an instance in my office about three years ago when representatives of the employees rejected an offer of a closed shop. It was apparent that they were interested in exploitation and racketeering rather than the interests of the workers they were supposed to represent. . . ."

Local 302 had plenty to do. It wasn't just a matter of taking over and running a smooth apparatus. Nothing was in order . . . except the good, eager intentions of the rank and filers who set out to plan a union program.

The tremendous New York field hadn't even been dented previously. A hardboiled organizing campaign got under way and shops were signing right and left. Contracts were made public to the membership. Dozens of meetings were held. Out of a cauldron of honest discussion sound decisions were born to be put into effect and adhered to by the whole membership. The new spirit pushed the membership figures steadily upward and a year ago this month New York City's Horn and Hardart Automats were struck.

The value of an official union publication was realized when the Volume I, Number 1 issue of the *Cafeteria Call* in July, 1937, was followed with Number 2 in August. John L. Spivak and William Randorf were responsible for these two issues. The August issue's subject matter showed this despite the difficult-to-read, gotten-up-in-a-hurry makeup. The hardhitting lead story on the Automat strike boiled the whole thing down to essentials and if a more thorough distribution had been planned, the entire New York public would have known the actual inside.

The sharp exposure in the same issue of the William



**ALFRED HIRSCH**  
Editor of the *Call*

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD  
AND GENERAL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR OF HIS  
LOCAL IN BETWEEN ISSUES.





THE CALL BEING BUNDLED OUT FOR SHOP DISTRIBUTION.

J. Flynn Detective Agency and its thug, scab and phoney voter importations for the NLRB election at Washington Irving High School, should have been scattered far and wide. Flynn, himself, in all his porcine glory, was there to supervise the arrival of truckloads of ineligible part-time workers and floaters who had been instructed and intimidated into voting against the union by company officials. Affidavits have been filed to this effect. On the same question, the *Cafeteria Call* said: "After the polls had closed, it was found that close to 4,000 employees had voted, though only 2,700 were entitled to vote."

The rest of that August issue bears the warmarks of a union in constant battle. Forty-four pickets exercising their legal rights in front of the Zoo Cafeteria in Central Park were hauled into court on charge of violating an ordinance forbidding the exhibition of "any sign or placard" in a public park without a permit. Fortunately, Magistrate Anna M. Kross dismissed the charges when she stated that the ordinance was "never intended to apply to picketing."

There's a story of the Consumers Cooperative Services, operating ten cafeterias in New York City, signing with 302. An excellent article exposing the hiring of labor spies, stoolpigeons, etc., by some of the nation's largest hotels and restaurants. A lengthy piece deals with the setting up of a "complaint department" by the union to settle every kind of difficulty extant. And considering

the past reactionary-led history of the union, this was a high in trade union democracy. One amusing story tells of the now well-established "coffee sitdown" used during the strike at the Windsor Coffee Shop. Simple. Just before noon (the BIG hour!) enough strikers enter the shop to occupy every available seat. They order coffee and take an hour and a half to drink it. Customers unintelligent enough to pass the picket line couldn't find seats anyway. President William Mesevich is interviewed on the unemployment situation; the complete transcript of a broadcast is published in which former Health Commissioner Shirley W. Wynne and Cafeteria Division Director Arthur Bary discuss the union's role in maintaining the public health through the vigilance of the membership on the job; a detailed organizational article on the Childs' drive; a full page report on the conference of 11 AFL locals charting a campaign to organize 200,000 workers employed in New York's catering industry; a good editorial page with a cartoon by Jacob Burck winds up the 8-page paper.

FROM August, 1937, to May, 1938, there was no *Call*. The usual obstacles of poor finances, inadequate help and a dormant sense of values, kept the publication date leaping ahead like the rabbit on a whippet track. By this time the local had swelled its roster to approximately 10,000 members, achieved a significant position in the International, and had welded the membership into a powerful, united force in the interest of the cafeteria



worker. The International had reached 200,000 members, a 100 per cent increase in two years.

In the latter part of March, a definite prospectus was mapped out for re-publication of the *Call*. The growing membership and the necessity for reaching this vast number with full news of union moves and activities uncommunicable in any other way, spurred the appointment of Alfred Hirsch as managing editor, and an editorial board consisting of Costas Dritsas, George Keuseyan, Alex Spiegel, Harold Roberts and Joseph Stelcen. Hirsch, a member of the American Newspaper Guild, was also put in charge of general social and athletic activities to round out a full-sized job.

Today, the union has taken hold of the publication problem and paved the way for mailing the *Call* to every member through the facilities of a second class permit.

The *Call* has become the complete news bulletin for the membership and its columns have grown livelier with each issue. Each issue shows a more stabilized placement of material and the settling down to printing a union paper that must, perforce, carry *all* the union news.

**T**HE May issue, although not as two-fisted as the previous year's issues, nevertheless showed the wide range of union work. Greatest emphasis was placed on the impending contract with the Affiliated Restaurateurs, Inc., and May Day. The new contract dealt with the eight-hour day, a week's vacation with pay, the abolition of circulation of a blacklist, various foolproof clauses to prevent chiseling on wages and hours, "no discrimination" clauses, and the creation of a "Board of Adjustment" to iron out contractual tangles between the union and the Restaurateurs.

Front page stuff also included a report on the Local 16 elections wherein a coalition group completely defeated a "progressive" faction who were supported in their redbaiting campaign by David Stern's be-rouged slattern, the *New York Post*. An advance story on the August convention of the International at San Fran-

cisco breaks the tape for the beginning of regular releases on the approaching meet.

Among the features are a down-to-earth story by Irving Mitchell, a 302 member just returned with a group of union brothers from active service in Spain; an historical story on May Day; an informative article on the union fund drive for Mooney and Billings; a couple of columns and an editorial page with a reader's voice department.

The June issue, ten pages, pointed which way the *Call* was going. An extra two pages carried the full text of the new 8-hour day contracts signed with the Affiliated Restaurateurs, Inc.

This will go down as a bright mark in the history of 302. Here's a union with a former reputation blacker than Tom Girdler's heart, finally out in the clear, signing wide-open contracts and printing these contracts for the entire membership to read. This may not seem like much, but when one remembers that 302, prior to the present administration, used to make contracts in back alleys. . . !

Here, too, one may stress the value of a union publication. Signing contracts in public and publishing them are feats never undertaken in backward unions. Here, too, was an opportunity to reach a waiting membership. The June issue found its way into cafeteria workers' back pockets and lockers all over the city. The contracts were read, studied and analyzed. No member could say: *Fat chance ever seein' that contract!* No sir. Here it was in black and white . . . either an achievement for or a mark against the administration. Important is the fact that the membership had an opportunity to judge . . . only through the facilities of the *Call*.

**T**HE high standard set by the June issue is maintained in July and August. The latter, a pre-convention number, is also ten pages and carries the text of the chain store contract.

The *Call*, with 8-10 pages and 10,000 circulation, is



THE *CALL* IS JUDGED FAVORABLY IN THE LARGE PRIVATE LOUNGE AND READING ROOM SET ASIDE FOR UNION SISTERS. SPECIAL FEATURE COLUMNS SLANTED TO THE WOMAN ARE AN ADDED ATTRACTION.



one of the largest papers published by an individual local. Its influence as an organizer has not begun to be felt because of the lack of proper distribution. It should be used at shop doors instead of leaflets. Now, like many other union papers, it is best fitted for inside educational work. The false theory, however, usually crops up that the union paper is a "peacetime" feature. Something of a luxury, an indulgence. As soon as the going gets rough, as soon as strike committees start whirlwinding around headquarters, and great drives begin, and tremendous expenses are incurred, then the tendency has been to curtail publication. This is a sacrifice of a union's greatest weapon, particularly in urban locations.

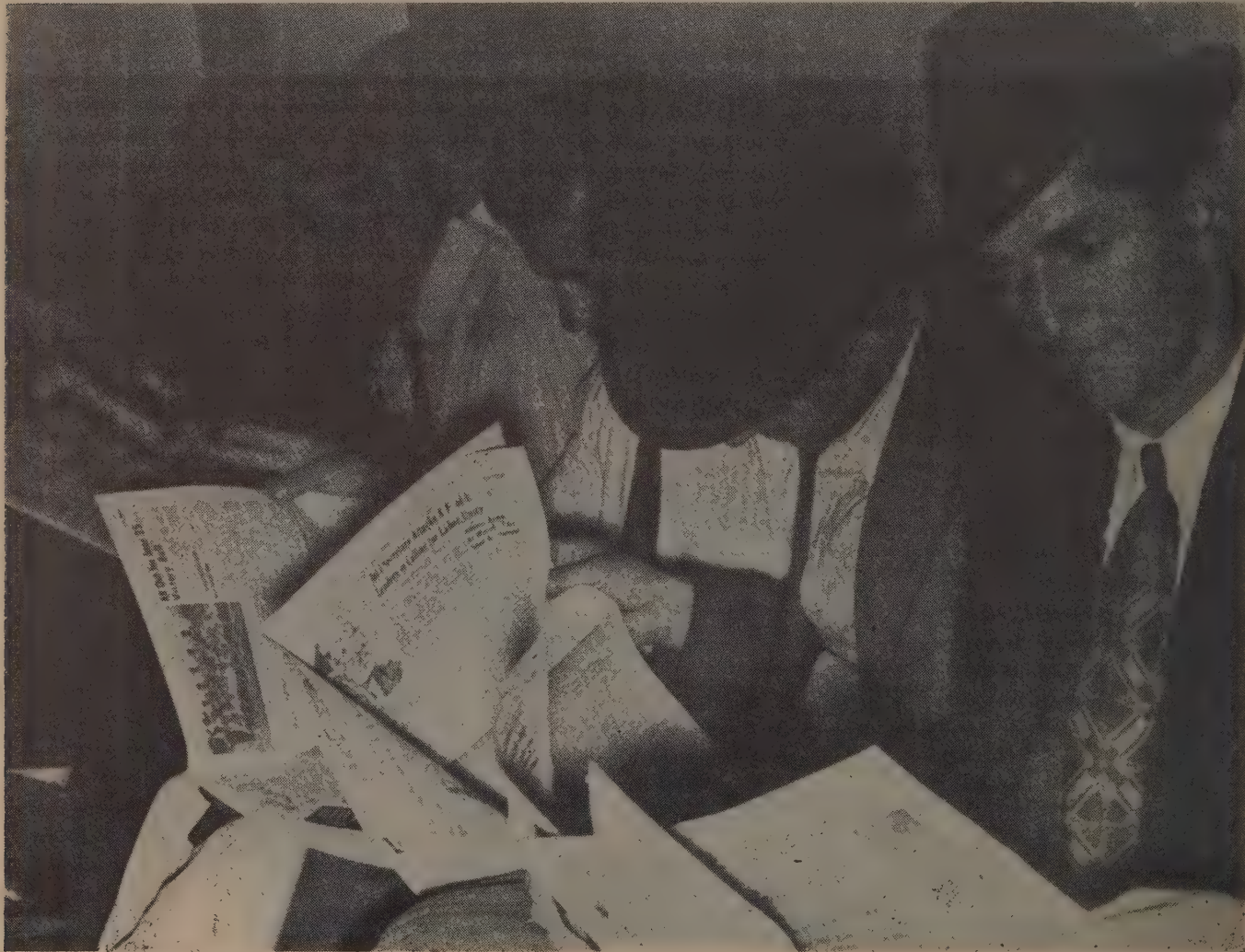
Whereas, let us say, the *Call* acts as a central link for intramural activities and becomes a contact medium between headquarters and the individual member, in time of great actions the paper should play its greatest role. Harking back to the *Pilot's* (National Maritime Union) experience in reaching the general public and raising

thousands of dollars, a trade union paper must be ready at all times to take to the street. This requires flexible assignments of personnel in union offices where the help doubles in everything, including brass. This, too, means that the actual staff handling a publication should be augmented regularly. A parallel procedure would be to establish labor journalism classes with students elected or appointed by shop groups, etc.

The *Call*, a distinctly better paper, replete with excellent subject matter, carrying in every inch vital educational and informational material, needs more attention in the thousand-and-one details necessary to publication. Limiting the staff is unwise. As good trade unionists, we must have adequate emergency replacements on tap. We recommend to all union papers doing such a swell job on the labor front, that additions be made to staffs as often and as quickly as possible. There are no excuses. We need people for our papers. We must get them and we can from within our own unions.

And the neat babe who puddles out coffee in a crowded cafeteria may wind up turning in good copy if we made it our business to suggest it.

A GROUP OF UNEMPLOYED UNION BROTHERS READING THE *CALL* IN THE SPACIOUS MEETING HALL.





# THE GIRLS AND 'BABS'

by JAY MOORE

**N**OW, I've never read Barbara Hutton Mdivani Haugwitz-Reventlow's diary, but I'll bet you it goes like this:

"Got up real early today, about noon, and had a most delicious breakfast in bed. Tried on my new peacock lounging pyjamas. Rested. Went to another of those cocktail parties. Dined. Danced. Made round of the night clubs. Got home in a blaze of sunlight. What a life!"

Now, I ask you, what could be more strenuous than that?

Compare it, for instance, with the day of one of Babs' "Girlfriends" who works in a Woolworth's five-and dime emporium. Let's hear how a sweet blonde, whom we'll call "House-furnishings" because that's the department she works in, spends her day:

"I get up at 8:15, dress, and rush to work. I don't eat any breakfast. I can't afford it. I work from 9:30 to 6, with an hour for lunch, and a fifteen minute rest period. In the evenings I sometimes go to the movies. But most of the time I'm so tired the only thing I want to do is sleep."

The other girls work the same hours, and are equally tired when they get home. Attractive, brown-eyed "Hardware" wants to "get out in the fresh air" after working in the hot store all day. A tall, blue-eyed blonde, who works in the office of one of the stores, likes to see shows, but can't on her salary, so she only goes "when-ever I can get a sucker to take me." But most of the time, the girls sleep. They have to, so they can keep going.

Now, Barbara may have it a little easier than the girls who earned \$32,624,988.00 for Woolworth's in 1936—a net profit of \$550 on each girl every month—but don't forget, Babs has the added handicap of having to worry about her money, all \$45,000,000 or so, of it. That's no cinch, you know. You'll admit that the Woolworth girls don't have this worry. Our tall blonde confirms this:

"I make \$15.60 a week, just like the rest of the girls," says she. "I get the same salary after five and a half years as a girl who has only been in the store six months. They don't consider length of service at all."

Not all the girls are lucky enough to have a full-time job, and the salary that goes with it. Take the pretty brunette who used to work the 6 to 10:30 night shift, making \$4.60 for her week's labor. Was she the sole support of her family? "Gosh, we couldn't survive," she answers.

Babs also has her clothes troubles. What with hav-



BABS' "GIRLFRIENDS" TAKE A SNACK DURING RECENT WOOLWORTH STRIKE: ON PAGE 28: SITDOWNERS AT REST.

ing to pay \$6,000 for ermine coats, and getting all her dresses from Paris. And fashions change so often, you know!

Babs' "Girlfriends" like nice clothes, too. "Sure I'd like to buy lots of clothes," declares "Hardware" wistfully, "but I can't afford it." The tall blonde backs her up: "See this dress I'm wearing? It cost about \$3, and it'll have to last all summer." And the others say the same thing: they like nice clothes, but the nearest they come to Paris is Fourteenth Street.

**B**UT here's poor Barbara's biggest problem of all—husbands! She has an awful time with them. Not only that, but she has to support them! She settled three million bucks on her Prince when she married him in 1933. But then she made the mistake of giving him some polo ponies (could he help it if he preferred horses?) and she had to go to the expense of divorcing him. But that didn't stop her. The day after she got her divorce she added a Count to her list of titles. This time she gave him a mere \$1,000,000. (Seems that the boys demand plenty for having to live with her.) And now her Count is insulted when she offers him a quarter of a million to scam. \$5,000,000 is more his style.

Do Woolworth girls have so much marital trouble? Well, of course they don't go in for title hunting, nor would they indulge in the poor girl's version of that game—marrying for money. But the girls have their



own difficulties. "Hardware" is getting married in October. Her fiance is unemployed. She'll have to support both on her \$15.60 per. P.S.: Woolworth's doesn't give you a raise when you get married. They don't give you time off for a honeymoon, either.

A nice redhead who works in the office, has a similar problem. She hopes to get married next year. Her hubby-to-be is working, but she will have to continue to work after they are married. No, she doesn't think it is ideal for both husband and wife to work. But what is she to do about it?

The other girls aren't married although they hope to be eventually. And you can take it from them, there aren't any Princes, Barons, Earls or Marquises who frequent the five and dime stores.

The next time you go into Woolworth's, take a look at the manager. You'll find he's very charming. That's what the girls tell me. You see, he's hired for his charm. 'Tis said that girls work better for a man who can make their hearts go pitter-patter. The company has a rule that managers may not take the girls out, but, of course this rule is conveniently overlooked when it helps to keep the girls content, and gets more work from them. No, none of the girls in this interview have had any experience with this. Their friends have. But our girls are all union members and they've been wised up.

Now, you mustn't think the company overlooks the education of its girls. It teaches them punctuality by having them check in at 9:20, although they only get paid from 9:30 on. It also tries to teach the virtue of tardiness, if virtue it be. The girls aren't through for the day until ten minutes after the 6 o'clock curfew.

They are also taught economics, as a cute organizer

for the Department Store Employees Union, who used to work in Woolworth's, will attest. "When the girls want a drink of water, they have to take it at the fountain," she relates. "But this water is warm. So we used to take seltzer. You see, if you turn the faucet on a root beer keg a certain way, only seltzer comes out. It doesn't cost the company anything. But one day we were caught at it, and after that they charged us a cent for every drink."

And there is the sign in the basement of one of the stores: "Please turn out the light—We have no shares in Edison."

"HOUSE-FURNISHINGS" tells us about this lesson in "honesty". "A girl in my store finds a purse with \$7 and a pair of false teeth in it. The manager takes the money and puts it in the cash register . . . and didn't even let the girl keep the false teeth!"

Babs gets mighty bored sometimes. So she has to throw little parties that really "cost hardly anything. I should say not more than five thousand dollars," as she once remarked. Of course, that's nothing if it amuses you.

You won't find a Woolworth girl wondering how to amuse herself. "Night Shift" tells you: "I used to wait on customers, work in the office, and paint signs. Oh, you have to be versatile to work in Woolworth's."

Babs' boosters claim she gives large sums to charity. She herself says she donates \$50,000 a year to worthy causes. Does this have anything to do with income tax avoidance?

When Babs' "girlfriends" are asked to play make-believe and imagine they had her millions, they are disposed to use it generously.

"I'd build up a pension fund, so women who have worked in Woolworth's for fifteen, twenty and twenty-five years, wouldn't have to be floorwalkers," says the tall blonde. "I'd help my family first, and give the rest away to the needy," declares "Hardware". "General Utility", a slim, peaches-and-cream brunette, just can't imagine having so much money. "It seems too much like a dream."

Babs isolates herself from her "Girlfriends." Witness the way she avoided them during the strike last year. The girls will tell you that she could have learned something about comradeship from the strikers. "You can't imagine what comradeship there was," they tell you.

We know what Babs thinks of the girls—she just doesn't think of them at all. But what is their opinion of fair Barbara? You can take your choice of these:

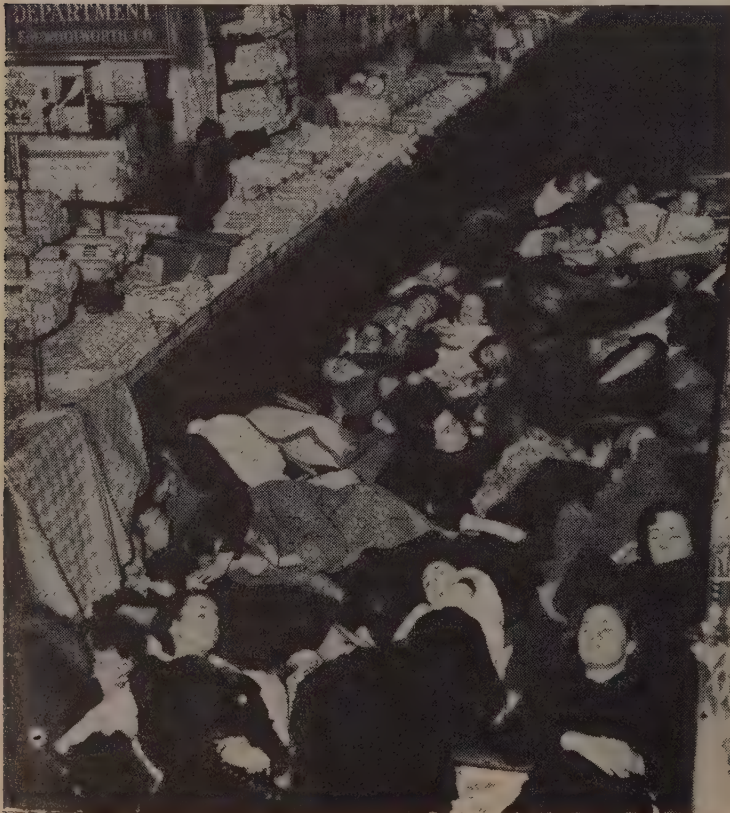
"She's not to blame for the way she acts," the tall blonde generously states, "she's just a victim of our social system . . . no one should inherit so much money."

"She sees what's going on . . . she reads the papers . . . she should have enough intelligence to know what to do with her money," says "General Utility".

"House-furnishings" contributes a scornful "She's not worth my thoughts."

The cute little organizer is more to the point: "After standing behind a counter all day in the heat, developing varicose veins, and trying to figure out how you can get along on what they pay you, and then you read all about the fun she's having . . . the only way you can describe her is that she's a rat."

Or perhaps you prefer "Hardware's" classic: "She stinks!"





# LABOR SPORTS

by BERT MORTON

## The Furriers Joint Council

THERE is plenty activity over at 250 West 26th Street, in New York. It's the headquarters for the Furriers Joint Council. A thirty thousand dollar renovation job on the building is in progress . . . the educational and social programs are going along in full swing . . . the membership has already reached the vicinity of 15,000 . . . and their sports program is developing into large and interesting dimensions.

As in the case of other unions, the realization of the importance of sports in the building of unity and cooperation within the union did not hit the leaders of the Joint Council until recent years. It wasn't until 1934 that the first semblance of an athletic program was presented to the Council membership. In that year, a basketball and a soccer team were formed, with only a few members participating on each.

During the next three years, the number of teams and participants slowly but surely grew, until, at the beginning of this year, there were seven Varsity teams in action on the various sport fronts. These included a handball team, two soccer squads, basketball, baseball, swimming, and track and field. Some four hundred

union members are now taking part in Varsity sports.

It was not until recent months that any concrete plans for the mass participation of the union membership in an intra-mural athletic program, were formulated. Now, with the appointment of Manny Wideroff as the new Director of Athletics some four weeks ago, these plans are rapidly approaching reality.

The plans are still far from fulfillment, however, the main handicap at present being one with which most unions are faced in their endeavors to fulfill the athletic needs of their members—lack of finances. However, the first step in the right direction was taken a short time ago, when the Council obtained the use of a swimming pool and a gym. Twice weekly, Council members may use the swimming and gymnastic facilities at a nominal fee. Instruction is offered free of charge by qualified union members.

Other activities arranged to make members sports-conscious include weekly smokers, at which prominent sports celebrities are invited to speak; hiking parties, picnics, and beach parties. A social recreation room has also been opened in the Council's headquarters, where ping-pong, backgammon, and badminton may be played.

Sports Director Wideroff states that all this does not even begin to answer the needs of the vast majority of the membership. An estimated four hundred take

### FURRIERS BASEBALL TEAM

Bottom Row, l. to r.: SAUL KIMMEL, Catcher; MASCOT; SID HANFUSS, Outfielder. Second Row, l. to r.: SOL KUTCHER, Outfielder; IZZY WEISMAN, Catcher; AL BONGAR, 1st Baseman; DAVE FEATHER, Outfielder; H. AXELBERD, Pitcher. Third Row, l. to r.: GRETEL SPIRO, Educational Director; DAVE APTAKER, Pitcher; SOL SELVIN, 3rd Baseman; AL LESSER, 2nd Baseman; JULIUS BERGER, Athletic Supervisor. Last Row, l. to r.: BEN GRICHEWSKY, Short Stop; IRVING SCHWARTZ, Manager-Pitcher; EMIL STETCOWICZ, Catch. On Page 30: THE CHAMP BASEBALL TEAM IN THE MAY DAY PARADE.







advantage of the pool and gym, and a comparatively small number of members participate in the other activities. The rest have been, as yet, completely untouched by the Council's athletic program. To remedy this situation, extensive intra-mural plans have been evolved.

**T**HE problem of the Joint Council is unique in that its average membership is middle-aged. The peculiar nature of their work, furthermore, results, almost without exception, in ill-health. After ten or fifteen years in the fur industry—which is about the length of service of the average Council member—practically all suffer either from an occupational disease, or some other ailment or deformity. Therefore, stress must be laid primarily on the building up of health.

As for the rest of the intra-mural program, with an eye again on the health requirements of the members, emphasis will be laid on instruction. Achievement tests will be given to all members, in order to find out what sports they are most proficient in. They will be organized into teams according to their aptitudes, and, besides taking part in actual competition, they will also receive instruction in these sports, as well as in others in which they are not so proficient. Plans for leagues, and borough and inter-borough competition between unions are already being laid.

Despite this emphasis on intra-mural activities, it must not be assumed that Varsity sports will be neglected. For the Joint Council, like everybody else, still takes pride in being able to beat its rivals in league play with the representatives of other unions. Nor has the Council been lacking in its share of victories.

Only this year, the Council's basketball quintet won the National Trade Union Basketball Championship, improving on its 1937 record, when it only won the metropolitan title. Its soccer team likewise was city

champ among the trade unions in 1937, while the current baseball nine is holding its own in group "A" of the Trade Unions Athletic Association baseball league, being tied for first place with the United Shoe Workers at this writing.

**T**HE Council is also right out in front when it comes to starting things. On July 23 of this year it sponsored the first national trade union track meet, at Omaha, Nebraska. It also originated a new twist during its last strike, when it kept the strikers amused by holding boxing exhibitions in the St. Nicholas Arena. Featuring such first-rate boxers as Mickey Gelb, former European middleweight champ, Sam Courtney, Murray Elkins, and others (all members of the Council, by the way), the affair proved quite a hit with the members.

Now, with its extensive intra-mural plans, the Joint Council promises to be in the van again, this time in a movement that is already gaining force in union athletic activities everywhere. There is every indication that the tendency in the sports programs of trade unions in the future, will be more and more toward mass participation of their members, rather than the restriction of these programs to the specialized few, in "Varsity" competition. As Director Wideroff says, "We do not believe in placing over-emphasis on Varsity sports."

With the added impetus supplied by the recent influx of several hundred younger members—and the eagerness of youth to be in the thick of things—as well as the aforementioned goals as a motivating force, it seems quite likely that the Furriers Joint Council will very shortly be leading the way to new heights in the field of intra-union athletics. Manny Wideroff voices this enthusiastic belief with an invitation to "Come around in four months and you'll see our program in full swing."

We'll take him up on that.





# THE TRAIL

by  
**Benjamin Siminow**

**A**UGUST is the month when wise hikers get their union-made two-weeks vacation. The last two weeks of this month will usually prove the most enjoyable, way up thar in the mountings. The mosquitos are dead and buried, the "midgets" are still not in full bloom, the sun has started to slant off high noon, the nights are clear and cool.

A few tips on the extended trip are in order. Place: White Mountains of New Hampshire, Green Mountains of Vermont, the Adirondacks of New York State, Katahdin of Maine, most popular. For trail maps, exhaustive notes on water, dangerous spots, shelters, etc., all absolutely necessary, write the Appalachian Mountain Club, 5 Joy Street, Boston, Mass., for the AMC Guide Book. Mention the region you will be traveling in.

**Transportation:** Hitch, of course. Take two days for the trip, sleep in tourist cabin for \$1.00; arise very early, go to sleep late, travel fast.

**Clothes:** Plan out the lightest, coolest, and most effective wet-weather gear you can, for *you will need it!* A typical outfit would be a sou'wester

(Cape Cod) oilskin hat, light poncho, oilskin leggings to fit over your moccasin boot-tops, and up to the crotch or waist. Plenty of room for invention here, but better let me know of your ideas, to make sure you aren't heading for trouble. Most popular knapsack is the wooden frame with duffle-back attached, next is a toss-up between the imported frame rucksack and the Adirondack Pack Basket. These packs, by the way, will not be much good for one-day trips. Buy a close-knit wool blanket to roll into, or get a light-weight sleeping bag made of down feathers, wool, and down-proof balloon-cloth, or *alligator cloth*. Six or eight-inch boots with moccasin type sole and hobnails are of first importance. One pair of work pants with the cuffs cut off for the men; culottes (divided skirts), work pants or light-weight ski pants for the women, both sexes to change to shorts in good weather. Beware of breeches that are tight

around the knees when the leg is lifted high, as in climbing up a rocky slide. Wear the usual undergarments. A poloshirt will do for warm weather for the outer shirt; on coolish days, a lightweight wool mixture, or a cotton shirt with wool sweater outside.

Carry a bandana for the head. Take along some article for cold weather. Wool is best in all cases. leather is poorest, for it is heavy, and becomes wet and cold in rain. For the feet, use a lightweight cashmere sock next to the feet, and a heavier wool stocking outside—important for comfort and warmth, as well as to protect the soles of the feet. Carry also a pair of moccasins or sneakers for a change after the day's hike.

**Equipment and Food** cannot be fully discussed in this limited space. It is sufficient to point out that the things to keep in mind are lightness, compactness and concentration of food value. Stay away from all canned or bottled goods (which contain water) because of their bulk and excessive weight. Buy no expensive accessories, think carefully about your cooking equipment, remember all the details that are important.

## METROPOLITAN HIKING SCHEDULES

### Boot and Pack Outdoor Club

**August 6-7:** Camping somewhere near Sloatsburg in new territory. Chambers St. Ferry 12:30 P.M. Leader, John Bonora. Cost \$1.65..

**August 13-14:** Trip to new Black Ash Lake. Chambers St. Ferry 7:00 A.M. Leader, Bill Weintraub. Cost \$1.55.

### New York Hiking Club

**August 6 to 7:** OVERNIGHT TO TORNE POND—Meet at W. 42nd St. Ferry to leave at 2.45 P.M. Saturday. Cost \$1.80.

**August 7:** Bear Mt. for Swimming—To meet Overnight Group at Popolopen Gorge. Easy going. Meet W. 42nd St. Ferry to leave at 9:15 A.M. Cost \$1.25.

**August 21:** Morristown National Historical Park—Points of interest outlined by leader. Meet Barclay St. Ferry to leave at 9:45 A.M. Bring bathing suits. Easy going. Cost \$1.10.

**August 28:** Arden to Kanawauke for Swimming—Easy going. Meet Chambers St. Ferry to leave 8:00 A.M. Cost \$1.25; small additional charge for swimming.

**September 3-4-5:** OVERNIGHT—Stone

Memorial for first night and "Ga-Nus-Quah Stone Giants" for second night. Meet Chambers St. Ferry to leave at 1:50 P.M. Saturday. Taxi to Wesley Chapel. Cost \$1.45.

### N. Y. University Outdoor Club

**August 13-14:** Black Rocks Shelter—Our favorite shelter Campfire and sing-song at night. Bring food for four meals. Meet Chambers St. Ferry 12:25 P.M. Leader, Daniel Miller. Fare \$1.25.

**August 28:** Excursion to Jones Beach—Those desiring may leave Saturday and camp overnight. Meet leader (Sol



Paperman) at Jamaica Station at 9:45 A.M. Take L.I.R.R. from Penn Station at 9:30 A.M. Buy ticket to Wantagh. Bus from Wantagh to Jones Beach, 10c.

## Nature Friends of America

**August 6-7: WEEKEND TRIP, TORNE POND**—Meet at W. 42nd St. Ferry Saturday at 3:35 P.M. Fare \$1.80. Motorists meet at Bear Mt. R.R. station at 5:17 P.M. Tent or poncho required. Bring bathing suit. Leader, Ben Siminow.

**August 14: Swimming at Riis Park, Rockaway**—Meet at Flatbush and Nostrand Aves., Brooklyn at 9 A.M. Reached by West Side IRT express (East Siders change at Nevins St.), Flatbush trolley, Nostrand Trolley or Bay Pkway-Ave. J Bus. Meet at the Green Lines (Rockaway express) bus stop. Cost for transportation and locker, about 50c. In the evening we will have a campfire at Breezy Point. Bring bathing suit and food for lunch and supper. Leader, Ben Bognen.

**August 20-21: WEEKEND AT SURPRISE LAKE**—Meet Saturday at Chambers St. Ferry at 8:55 A.M. Train to Midvale, \$1.30 round trip. Public Service Bus from Midvale at 10:55 A.M., \$1.10 round trip to Lakeside. Motorists meet at Lakeside at 11:45 A.M. Bring tent or poncho and swimming suit. Total cost, \$2.40. Leader, Nat Leslie.

**Aug. 27-28: WEEKEND at Fire Island Beach**—Meet at L.I.R.R. station at Jamaica (Sutphin Blvd.) at 9:20 A.M. Saturday. Fare to Bayshore, \$1.30 round trip. Ferry from Bayshore to Point O'Woods. Fire Island, leaves 10:30 A.M., fare \$1.20 round trip. People wishing to take the L.I.R.R. at stations in New York, Queens or Brooklyn are asked to communicate with the hike leader, Morty Greenfield. Bring tent or poncho and swim suit. Motorists meet at ferry before 10:30 A.M.

**Sept. 3-4-5: LABOR DAY WEEKEND** Rambling in the Ramapo Mts. Bring tent or poncho if you have them; if you don't have them, come along anyway. Don't forget food and blanket. First group meets leader, Nat Leslie at 9:00 A.M. Saturday at the Dixie Bus Terminal, 241 W. 42nd St. near 8th Ave., fare 90c round trip. Motorists meet at Sloatsburg at 10:25. Second group takes the Short Line Bus from Dixie Terminal Saturday at 2:30 P.M. Meet leader at Sloatsburg. Buy one way ticket 75c, if there are ten people, buy a ten trip ticket for 60c apiece. Leader will supply return tickets for 45c. Motorists meet at Sloatsburg at 3:40 P.M. Third group takes the Short Line bus from Dixie Terminal on Sunday at 9:15 A.M. Meet leader at Sloatsburg. Same directions for procuring tickets as second group. Motorists meet at Sloatsburg at 10:25 A.M. Bring swim suit.

## New York Ramblers

**August 7: CANOE TRIP**—Paddling along the Pompton and Passaic Rivers. Bring bathing suits, balls, etc. In case of rain, this trip will be postponed to following Sunday. Meet Chambers St. Ferry to make 9:15 A.M. boat. Hostess, Hilda Morrison. Cost \$1.50.

**August 20-21: OVERNIGHT TRIP**—Stopping at the Stockbridge Mt. Shelter. Sunday will be spent on the trails in the Interstate Park and swim at one of our favorite swimming holes. Bring food for two days, blanket or sleeping bag, poncho, flashlight, canteen, utensils and bathing suit. Meet Chambers St. Ferry, Saturday, to make 12:30 boat. Leader, Jack Spivack. Cost \$1.60.

**September 3-4-5: LABOR DAY WEEK-END**—Three days on the AT in the Pocosinos, and we will sleep in. Our climbs will range from 1170 feet to 2355, all

with unsurpassed views. Detailed information will be sent upon request by the Leader, Lucille J. Casden, 226 E. 53rd St., N. Y., before August 25.

## Wanderbirds

**August 7: Montauk Point, L. I.**—Meet Penn. Sta. L. I. room, before 8:30 A.M. Sound and surf bathing. 5 miles. Cost \$1.50.

**August 14: Atlantic Highlands**—Meet at Battery Landing before 9:30 A.M. "Yankee" steamer down the Bay. 4 miles of walking, and bathing. Cost 75c.

**August 21: Budd Lake, N. J.**—Meet at Barclay St. Ferry before 9:00 A.M., to Netcong. Walk to lake for bathing and canoeing. 5 miles. Cost \$1.25.

**August 28: Brooks Lake**—Meet at W. 42nd St. Ferry before 9:18 A.M., to Bear Mt. Walk through Hell Hole to Lake for ideal bathing. 5 miles. Cost \$1.25.



"He's in a hurry!"

Bruce Currie



# CAMERA...

by  
**LUCY ASHJIAN**

Member  
PHOTO LEAGUE

## Portraits

Some people seem to think that portraiture must necessarily be indoor studio work. For some strange reason you take only *snapshots* of people outdoors. For really good portraits many beginning amateurs come to believe they need strong lights in special reflectors placed in certain positions dictated by published diagrams.

Yet much of the finest portrait work has been done by natural light. Edward Weston, one of America's foremost photographers, photographs his subjects under the open sky.

While summer is still with us, then, why not try some portraits of your friends and relatives with the natural illumination which the sun furnishes gratis? If you handle the problem with intelligence and have the picture enlarged, the results will compare favorably with professional work and look less artificial.

First of all, let us consider the camera. If you have a double extension camera, you can take closeups without difficulty. It is best to have a plate camera with a ground glass back. This is the most versatile type of camera for all around amateur work. With it you can examine the image just as it will be recorded on the film. You can detect faults in the background and, with the use of a dark cloth, adjust your focus with great care. If, however, you have a camera which will not permit your coming so close to the subject, you can buy a portrait attachment for the lens. This is really a supplementary lens which changes the focal length of the camera lens and allows you to approach nearer the subject.

Rigidity of the camera and fine focusing being so important, acquire a tripod if you possibly can. Sooner or later you will have to have one anyway if you take any interest at all in the quality of your work.

Now we come to one of the most

important elements of outdoor portraits: lighting. Here we are tempted to lay down a blanket rule, because the advice is so often disregarded, and say that a portrait should never be taken in strong sunlight. When the sun is bright and direct, it casts very harsh, contrasty shadows. The resulting picture is a study in black and white rather than a delicate gradation of grays ranging from the lightest to the deepest in a pleasing blend. Some subjects, of course, call for strong rendering and can stand a greater degree of contrast than others. But on the whole, the most successful portraits will be made in the shade or on a cloudy day when the light is diffused.

Experiment with the sun in different positions in the sky, and you will learn a great deal about the use of light in photography. Even though the light is diffused, the effects will be different, depending on whether the sun is almost overhead or low on the horizon, assuming that the subject is facing the same direction.

One of the most difficult things to control in outdoor portrait work is the background. Just when you are concentrating on the lighting and trying to get the right expression in your subject's eyes, you will suddenly discover that there is a branch growing right out of the model's head. In this case you will be lucky, because too often the discovery comes after the negative is developed. If you wish to include natural surroundings in the picture, you must be careful that they do not take attention away from the subject's face. If the picture is being taken out in the open, the background in the distance can often be made so out-of-focus that it is indistinguishable. This is done by taking the picture with a wide lens opening and a fast shutter speed. With the lens aperture at its widest, the depth of focus is reduced to a minimum and the background is thrown out of focus.

Many persons get around the problem of background by using the sky as background. This is an excellent idea, but it is necessary to choose a

position where the camera need not be so low as to distort the feature. When using the sky as background, you can control its tone by the use of filters. Without a filter you will have a white backdrop. With a yellow or green filter you will have some tone, depending on the density. With a red filter you can achieve a much deeper tone, but unfortunately you will also be altering the flesh tones of your subject. The lips will come out too white and, since the skin is made up primarily of red tones, too much of the skin tones will be erased.

These are some of the technical things to watch in taking outdoor portraits. You will learn by doing, and you may be surprised at the excellent results.

You can take indoor portraits, too, by natural light, especially in the summer when the light is strong. Place your subject near a window and use a reflector for throwing back the light on the shadowed side of the face. Anything white will do: a sheet draped on a chair, a large white piece of cardboard, etc. Here you will definitely need a tripod, because the exposure may require speeds of one-tenth of a second, half a second, or even more.

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# Miss AMERICA

by Mary Booth

## After the Ball Game

when the crowd comes over to your place for a cold buffet supper, you might try out this punch. It's a swell thirst quencher: half beer, half ginger ale and some grated lemon rind (you can buy a hand grater in the Five & Ten). A tidbit to make your buffet supper a success is celery stuffed with cream cheese and anchovy paste. It's an excellent combination. Add very little of the paste for it is salty, and you will need to taste the mixture constantly to be sure you have the right proportion. Have the following ready for use to pep up sandwiches: lettuce, cress, parsley, lemon, paprika, hardboiled egg and olives.

## Your Best Friends Will Tell You

that summer is the time when we perspire most and never know what to do about it. If you take plenty of baths and wear cotton dresses, just dusting under your arms with a mixture of boric acid and talcum powder acts as a good deodorant and is less messy than the cream pastes on the market. A solution of baking soda in warm water is good too. But if you want to make sure that the best dress is not going to be stained, better use a perspiration suppressor. Most effective suppressors contain aluminum chloride. You can buy a

15% solution of aluminum chloride at the drugstore. Apply to affected parts and let dry before putting on your dress, for this chemical is very hard on fabrics. If you find this solution irritating, dilute with water or stop using altogether. Another suppressor which is cheap and effective is a 2% solution of formaldehyde.

## Lift Mop Of Hair

The newest style in hairdressing is to raise the hair high up on the head, tying up the mass of curls on top of the head. If we don't care for that style, we can improve our appearance tremendously by lifting the thick wad of front hair which hangs down almost to our eyebrows. This makes the face older, and heavier and destroys the neatness of your face outline and gives an extremely crowded and messy appearance, despite curls. So brush your hair directly back from the hairline, arranging the curls on the other side of the hairline. In this hot weather season, it is a good idea to keep your hair thinned out—for comfort and for a neat and smart appearance.

## Cause For Complaint

How often have you gone to the butchers prepared to take a beating on the meat you buy? You ask vaguely for a "good" roast or steak and then let the meat retailer select the cut. Did you ever inquire as to whether your butcher sells government graded meat? Of course, government graded meat is not yet sold in all markets but this is a service which is rapidly expanding and will be extended as fast as we consumers demand its protection.

Think what a blessing it would be to walk confidently into the meat market knowing that you will get the grade of meat needed for the dish you are preparing—not paying the price of sirloin steak for a chuck steak. The government grading stamp is purple also and runs straight through the meat so that each cut of meat is marked. This purple stamp is a harmless vegetable coloring which usually disappears when the meat is cooked.

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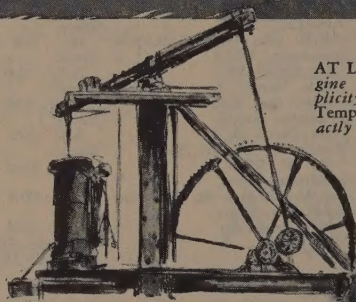
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AT RIGHT: THE GENTLEMAN PAINTER. Rubens leaves his native town on a foreign mission.



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