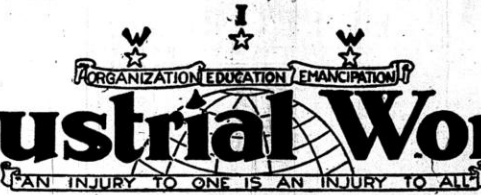


ONE UNION  
ONE LABEL  
ONE ENEMY



★  
OFFICIAL ORGAN  
of the  
Industrial Workers  
of the World  
★

VOL XXI—No. 49—(WHOLE No. 209)

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CHICAGO, ILL., FEBRUARY 24, 1940

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office at Chicago, Illinois, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Five Cents a Copy

## California's Scrambled Politics Mix Groups In Mess of Confusion

**A Communist Hero Forgets Promise When He  
Reaches Will Barrel; Proposed Laws Show  
Bosses Want to Discard Democracy Pretense**

If one sat down and really tried to dope out the Los Angeles "Merry-Go-Round," he would wind up "punch drunk" and a fit subject for one of the insane institutions that California is noted for. In fact, he would be a fit subject to be elected to the state assembly or senate or to join the Communist party, all of which are a part and parcel of this comedy.

## County to Fingerprint Employees

**It's An Old Custom  
In This Part of  
Sun-kissed State**

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors have ordered all county employees to be fingerprinted and the records kept in a confidential file. They claim that the recent grand jury disclosed that undesirable characters had obtained employment at the General Hospital. This will effect 42,000 workers in the county.

## Can't Cut Pay-Cost Rules

**Railway Labor Act  
Applies in Case  
Of Bankrupt Road**

NEW YORK.—The railroad brotherhood won an important round in their fight against wage cuts by railroad bankruptcy when the U. S. circuit court of appeals voided two rulings by Judge Harlan B. Hows of Vermont which permitted receivers of the Rutland Railroad to cut wages from 10 to 30 per cent and to reemploy employees "when you have the money."

## Old Handbill Ornament Thrown Out

DES Moines.—The horse-and-buggy days are gone and so is Des Moines' 50-year-old anti-handbill ordinance. It was ruled unconstitutional by Judge C. Edgar Kettering.

It was not until last year that the ordinance was to prevent the streets being littered with the possibility that a wind-blown handbill might frighten a horse.



**JOHN NOCIO**  
Lewis rails, "He done as wrong" while the membership, big and strong—

Works and streets to raise the "jack." But John will tell 'em whom to back.

## CUT BANK OIL PIPE LINE JOB TO BEGIN SOON

SPOKANE, Wash. (WNS)—Construction work on the proposed oil pipeline from Cut Bank, Mont. to Spokane is to begin within a short time.

Definite word was received here recently from Salt Lake City through a press dispatch which quoted W. H. Melville as saying that work would be started soon.

Plans for the line which is expected to appreciably reduce the operating expenses of the sponsor, the Inland Empire Refiners, Inc., have already been approved. Melville said that it is expected to approximate \$2,500,000.

Melville, president of the company which has a plant a mile north of Hilliard—IGAO.

## DIES INVITED TO SNOOP IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 17.—(WNS)—According to the daily capitalist sheets, Marin Die is about to move his investigation to Los Angeles and investigate un-American activities in the movie industry.

Roger Jessup, chairman of the Los Angeles County board of supervisors has sent a letter to Die, asking that his un-American investigating committee be brought to Los Angeles to investigate the California Youth Legislature which is charged by the Los Angeles youth commission as being "communist dominated."—413208.

## Wisconsin Law Horns in

**More Restrain  
On Workers' Right  
To Pull Strike**

MADISON, Wis.—Strike action before a strike vote is taken is illegal, it was ruled Feb. 16 by the Wisconsin Employment Relations Board, set up under last year's Republican-acted anti-labor bills to replace the former State Labor Relations Board.

Accusing four AFL unions of unfair practices, the board ordered them to stop picketing two truck Milwaukee hotels.

"The NLRB has no provision and congress has never attempted to legislate in reference to unfair labor practices committed by employers," the board commented. "Wisconsin, by passage of the employment relations law, has created a tribunal authorized to pass upon and determine questions raised by activities of employers."

The board argued that the workers had "caused their own discharge" by walking out before a strike vote was taken. Hence they had no status as employees.

## War Brews Revolt in Australia

**Pressure Forces  
Slaves to Use  
Of Job Action**

SYDNEY, Australia.—It will be a banner year for the IWW. The dry bones of revolt against the system are stirring to life again even here. Workers are beginning to look for the Industrial Worker and there are many signs of reviving rank and file job action in industry.

Now that the great Russian Myth has been exploded, the worker under pressure must turn to an organization where he can have a part in the control of it. Mass dissatisfaction is being expressed in the trade unions under Arbitration and Communist control.

Miners are using the "lightning strike," stopping work at pit head, for the shorter work day.

Job committees are being elected on relief work here and in Newcast. There is a big undercurrent of protest against a bill for war and destruction "with nothing left over for construction."

Shiploads of soldiers have sailed away, and two ships have brought in people from other lands—poor, despairing people, driven from their war-torn countries.

The munition industry goes for lack of materials. Timber for building work is lacking while our war forests stand to be burned or wasted for want of initiative to use them, and export logs for want of all possible system.

Labour leaders who here as in England supported the war, against Hitler are now horrified at the result. Surely, a revolution is on the way.—A. Westbrooke.

## 13 Women in WPA Freed; One Goes to Jail

MINNEAPOLIS.—Thirteen women WPA workers who were convicted of conspiracy for participating in the sewing project demonstration against pay cuts here last July were put on probation for 15 months because of Minnie Kohn, was sentenced to 45 days in the workhouse after Jovoe had branded her as a "ring leader" in the demonstrations.

In sentencing sentences Feb. 10, Jovoe recalled briefly the events of the sewing project demonstrations during which one relief client called fit duty on the picket line was shot to death and a beaten policeman died of a heart attack. Many women had insisted on going to work on the street project.

The judge also indicated that he had planned stiffer punishment for Dorothy Green, but he placed her on probation for 15 months because of recent tragedies at her home. Her granddaughter had died in a fire and her son and daughter had been injured.

Among the women who received probation terms from 12 to 18 months were Mrs. Sigma Adams and Mrs. Helen Colquhoun, who collapsed during the long trial of defendants.

Remaining to be sentenced are five men who pleaded nolle contendere in a technical move to end the legal fight and another now serving a jail sentence for a parole violation. Seventeen other men were sentenced recently, 14 through prison or workhouse terms of three to six months.

Of the 165 persons originally indicted on conspiracy charges and arrested by 12 men "sensational" newspaper publisher following the building trades

## CHICAGO TO GIVE INDUSTRIAL WORKER BENEFIT MARCH 9

CHICAGO.—Outstanding in the series of winter entertainments given by the IWW General Membership branch, entered will be the one new in preparation for Saturday, March 9. This is the prediction of the committee in charge, and the committee is working hard to make good on its promise.

The affair is being held for the benefit of the Industrial Worker and Dance music, entertainment, and refreshments, asking all friends and fellow workers to "make a date" with the Wobblies for the evening of March 9 at 232 North Avenue.

To accommodate a bigger than usual crowd the Blue Hall at the above address has been retained. Dance music, entertainment, and refreshments, will, according to all present indications, be of the Wobblies' best. The Industrial Worker looks forward to the affair and hopes you do too.—Editor.

## MORE STRIKERS TO TRY TELEPHONE TECHNIQUE

NEW YORK.—The successful telephone picketing technique through which office workers brought the Credit Repair House Inc. to terms is about to be used again. Officers of the United Electrical Radio and Machine workers are planning a telephone campaign against the Underwood Elliott Fisher Co., struck on Feb. 15.

The walkout of the firm's 250 typewriter repairmen here and in Newark, southern Connecticut and northern New Jersey.

The union's main demand, equal pay for equal work. Under the present weekly scale, which ranges from \$13 to \$16, there are more than 17 cents pay for employees doing the same work, the union charges.

Other demands include recognition and solution in the workweek from 37 to 45 hours. A 20-man picket line is being maintained in front of the company's main office in New York.

## Steel Stamping Plant Crew Set to Go; Tells Committee to Say When

**Employer Offers Contract Which  
Men Refuse as Jumble of Words;  
They Stick up for Rights on Job**

LORAIN, OHIO.—(WNS)—"Don't contract any unnecessary debts in the next six to eight weeks; don't trade in your old car for a new one; don't buy a refrigerator, furniture, clothes or anything else you can do without, and prepare yourself for a coming out party as the winter begins to thaw itself out. The spring is here soon, and the leaves will be out and so will we, on strike."

This is the keynote of organizer Cedwall's report to the members of Steel Stamping IWW job branch of Lorain. On Feb. 17 they unanimously reject the Steel Stamping Company's proposed contract and, unanimously vote in their union hall to authorize the shop committee to call a strike at their discretion.

The success of the hallyoon can be measured by a report of the state department of public assistance for the week ended Feb. 3. It showed 1,846 new cases on the relief rolls for a total of 5,975 persons and brought the state total to 69,456 persons.

The major factor in the upward trend was private employment which nets 6,072 persons back to the rolls. It was the eighth consecutive week that industry had created an adverse influence, reported The Philadelphia Record.

Workingmen's Fists Are Strong  
And even the owners of the Steel Stamping Company will attempt to that as they shudder at the possibility of the company's best and most expensive desk as Frank Elkovich, former coal miner, talks in a deep, sharp aggressive voice climaxed his thoughts as a duly elected member of the IWW shop committee by shaking his large left fist in the boss' face while with the right one he pounds at the boss' desk. This conference became so heated that times that Brogan, and Gould, Jr., owners, were forced to leave the conference in order that they could calm their nerves. The power of organization is felt for not once would the owner dare say to the shop committee to get the hell out; on the contrary, they are the ones that leave their own offices while the IWW shop committee sit back and prepare their next round of bitter debate.

When You Die  
"You old so and so" we'll send you eight dollars worth of flowers for your funeral and the sooner the better!" is the sentiment of the IWW workers at this shop against Ed. Gould, Jr., part owner as he creates a burning issue over an alleged misappropriation of the workers' "finances" which is, they say, used to send flowers to their fellow workers when they pass on for their share of "pie in the sky."

It seemed as if the workers here (Continued on page 4)

## Vote For Me - I'm Smart!

Work for Overalls,  
And They're Worn Out  
WATSONVILLE, Calif. (WNS)—Home by the overall sons of the bear-paw boys are wearing at a SRA camp about eight miles from here and might easily come to the conclusion that there has been no cotton grown in America for the past 10 years or so. Still the hillbillies are contented. It seems to be the hope time they have had in a done time.

The CANDIDATE

ABOLITION OF THE WAGE SYSTEM

EDITORIAL

ONE BIG UNION OF ALL THE WORKERS

Industrial Worker

"An Injury to One is an Injury to All" ONE UNION—ONE LABEL—ONE ENEMY

OFFICIAL ORGAN Industrial Workers of the World

Published every week at 2422 N. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill.

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Carl Keller, Editor and Business Manager

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GANDY WAGES

Railroad track workers are looking forward to a poor year. The fact is that the heavier rail shipping that is in prospect will force the roads to invest more than usual in maintenance of track and roadbeds.

There has been some talk of raising the minimum pay for railroad workers from 30 cents an hour to 40 cents through action by the wage and hour administration. Counsel for Class 1 railroads told federal administrators that if this were done there would be a big loss of jobs through further mechanization.

CAN'T CLOSE PLANT

Another stultic down south of the Rio Grande which has American big business puzzled is one pulled on the American Smelting and Refining Company. It appears the company wants to close its plant because it is unprofitable.

REGULATION

The trend toward regulation and control of labor relations by centralized government authority in the United States seems as funny to us as the Nazi "Labor Front" in Germany.

PROFITS

Somewhere we read recently a statement to the effect that "profits are only a by-product of industry" and that the real purpose of production is to supply humanity with the things it needs.

PATRIOTS

Besides being the last refuge of a scoundrel, patriotism is often an opiate for the poverty-stricken worker who gets a kick out of feeling big because he belongs to a great nation.

Attacks on labor unionism by its "open and avowed" enemies have had enough, but they are as nothing compared to the rather-handed attacks of the professed friends of labor.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

BUFFALO Fellow Worker R. Schwier is acting secretary of the Buffalo IWW branch.

MANHATTAN I/O 510 Address communications for the Manhattan I/O 510 branch to A. Ignatz who is the incoming secretary.

I/O 510 BALLOT The period of nomination for GOC members is now open. All members are advised to consult branch minutes.

LU. No. 140 GOC I am functioning as GOC member for IU No. 170s. Anyone wishing to get in touch with an organizing business may do so by writing to Route 4, Box 445, Santa Cruz, Calif.—Lily Ashford, GOC Member.

CHICAGO There will be a regular General Membership meeting, Feb. 23, 8 p. m. at 2422 N. Halsted St., Chicago.—Br. Secy.

MANY NEW YORK COFS DROP FASCIST ORDER

NEW YORK (AP)—A questionnaire to determine how many members of the New York police force belonged to the fascist Christian Front showed that only 27 retained membership in that organization.

DOES HE CLAIM CREDIT? When our biggest business credit for more religion to solve the nation's ills, we wonder if they mean the kind exemplified by Father J. A. Drope of Homestead, Pa.

BAKED BEANS The Department of Agriculture graders rated 21 brands of pork and beans, New England Style, and 34 brands of pork and beans with tomato sauce.

THE PREAMBLE

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who own the employing class, have all the good things of life.

GRAND JURY TO PROBE WIRE TAPPING

TULSA—Evidence brought out at NLRB hearings of wire-tapping by the Industrial Workers of America in an effort to break the 15-month strike of the Oil Workers Union resulted in an order for a grand jury investigation.

COMING EVENTS

CHICAGO Saturday, March 9, 8 p. m.: Dance and entertainment for the benefit of the Industrial Workers of America.

BUFFALO Saturday, Feb. 24: A social, supper, and entertainment will be given at 107 N. MTW hall, 186 Seneca St.

OAKLAND Every Sunday afternoon, 2:30: Open Forum at the IWW hall, 428 10th Street.

DETROIT Saturday, February 24, 8 p. m.: Entertainment and dance sponsored by the Industrial Workers of America.

Grand Opening ENTERTAINMENT, DANCE to be held at the NEW IWW HALL

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE (COR. E. 13 ST.) NEW YORK CITY Saturday, February 24 8 p. m.

MUSIC BY THE PORT CHESTER BOYS Admission 25 cents Come and bring your friends. Good time for all. Refreshments Served

Capitalist System Is Top-heavy

Was it Austrians or Germans that saved Great Britain at Waterloo? The answer is neither. It was the "top-heavy" system of the day.

It is more honorable to look to honorable men than to "wobblers." Likewise it is more honorable to help those that act than it is to help those who do not.

The source of human intelligence, the press, worries that FDR has been abusive toward business—that he is really a loose business promoter.

U. S. business has lost its confidence and the AFL demands government restore it. Like losing one's job, it is a matter of store clothes. Bridge work?

Here Hitler is giving the low-down of the new World War conditions which led to the rise of the Nazi movement.

There was a Nazi movement because of the fact that one must not be, but must be oneself? Some familiar, doesn't it?

Self, fellow workers, employees and bankers have used that tactic for years and years. It's not new.

AFL should be banned for insinuating government "ified" business's confidence.

The art of trade has but little value for most workers and the rest of it had. Each business man dreams that he is ideally fitted to open a place and exploit trade, hire workers and manage them as if they were a machine.

Still they hire the grand delusion of capitalism and how to arrange things so that all will be happy and prosperous in a "disorganized world"—so called by capitalism itself.

That it is the system has grown taphewy with businessmen, both in the sense of genuine service, simple profit taking and outright racketeering, court calendars and law enforcement.

Still the sandwich will not feed the six men that came to dinner. These men—merchants, manufacturers—were and are self-supporting. They helped themselves. No one asked them.

They cannot argue that they heard a call, that a small voice whispered in their ears. If they do, we can always say the whisper they heard came out of the corner of their own mouth on the side of the good card.

They don't add to trade on the basis of their workers, but jump on the tail of the super or foreman who stands near by for that purpose. He, in turn, jumps on the tail of the man who stands near by on the line so they have felt the impress of the bosses' feet. They call this game "tail jumping"; wage slavery, in company with it.

What a waste of planning! Just like two farmers who spent all their waking moments in trading horses, plows or what have you, both were satisfied the other was

Capitalist System Is Top-heavy

guzzled. Unfortunately, the traders' asses suffered and there was no crop—they had to eat the night.

"Employers have a right to let their employees or the public know what they think about labor unions. Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union wrote to NLRB officials yesterday (Feb. 4). He criticized the government agency's order restraining Ford Motor Company officials from distributing pamphlets at the company's plant in St. Louisville, Mass."

This is kind of involved. I do not know if the cost of those pamphlets can be taken from the workers' pockets. Neither do I know if it is the workers' civil rights that should be protected, especially in such a case as this one. Furthermore, they should be permitted to buy literature of their own choosing in open market and then through the agencies of the Ford Motor Company.

However, if the Ford Motor Company has deducted the cost of literature from labor compensation, the workers may well argue that the worth of the literature does not make up for the money lost.

In view of the muddled (tricky) conditions of the circumstances, I must disagree with Mr. Hays and compliment NLRB for playing safe first.

It may be, too, the workers' effort to reach the Industrial Worker rather than the Ford Co. pamphlets and if the company has retained the price of the Worker, it is forming a "closed shop" for the formation of pamphlets, the rights of the Industrial Worker have been invaded and we are deeply concerned.

I pretend to see leaflets split in the mental perceptions of our deep thinkers in Washington—maybe elsewhere.

But that doesn't mean that we must look up disarrangement to the desired repair job on our economic system; we will repair as Christ made green apples—and nations all over the world will follow suit just from pure jealousy. But if you expect to keep your money in the workers' pockets you can also expect them to mop off governmental heads through moral action of hired hand.

No, I don't think you will repair the system; you'll first wait for The Man Who Came to Dinner.

REGULATED COAL PRODUCTION PROVES FOOL

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. The third week of regulated coal production does not speak favorably for the plan. According to a statement of the district president of the United Mine Workers of America, 1,000 miners have lost their jobs since the regulation.

Miners have had to feel no shadow of hope for a good many days but it has never availed them anything except more misery and privation.

Another statement, given by the secretary of mines, shows that production fell off by one-half the tonnage from previous weeks. The implication is plain: the regulation of coal production will in no way improve employment conditions.

As the miners' ranks swell out and like other fringed nostrans leaves the miners disgruntled and disillusioned, some other drastic proposition to delude the miners will spring forth from the imagination of mine bosses and be greeted by the mine union officials. These latter will never be able to think of something other good or bad on their own account.—Alex Bar.

Put 'War Clause in Discult Slaves' Pact KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Union workers at Long-Water Blast, Co. are today forgetting the possibility that U. S. may enter the war. A new agreement signed provides that employees who enlist or are drafted into the military must be reinstated after honorable discharge from the service.

FOR THE FOUR HOUR DAY AND THE FOUR DAY WEEK

Letters to the Editor

Use War to Clean up

Mellow Worker Editor: With the drums of war sounding in the U.S. now is the time for...

These trials could be offered by Pearl Harbor and his nobles, by Harry Bennett with his Ford service...

For war correspondents in the first line trenches and would spare Whitcomb McGee, Blake Carter, Bernard Padgett, and the Associated Press correspondents and editors...

Should the war get too tough then the Kwaniso, Wetser, Boy Scouts, and the Black of California...

Should this army of all white out there all the stock and stockholders would be confiscated and shipped over there wholesale...

These European refugees now in this country yapping what a wonderful place the U. S. is and who tell workers how lucky they are...

A special boat-load of professional flag wavers led by Kate Smith, Eddie Cantor, and Walter Winchell and the DAR with the WCTU would be sent at once to bolster up the morale of the boys...

In case we run out of boats we could use rafts. All labor fakery, politicians, pimps, finks, and parasites would be put aboard...

The National Maritime Union has recently issued an agreement empowering the shipowners to reject any seamen they can find fault with...

When a tree dies, a parasitical fungus flourishes and grows big and fat. Such is the condition of our so-called maritime union...

The SUP, or whatever it is that gives it a semblance of life, seems to have a moribund complex. It lives dead things. It is forcing its members to work under a contract that died last year...

It is not a Communist, but "the ACLU will be sorely tried when it comes to sitting out the aspiring Moscow leaders."

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'Nell R. Bee' Still Virgin

The front page cartoon showing Nell R. Bee (National Labor Relations Board) as a worn out wench is certainly a fair interpretation of her...

Labor is often used as a means to catch suckers and to make profits for the owners. You can get a bottle of anything from hereup to hydrophobia...

WPA STUDY SHOWS TREND IN U. S. FARM TECHNICS. Agriculture is steadily developing in the direction of large-scale industry...

ALDERMEN DROP PLAN TO PUBLISH RELIEF LISTS. Under fire from labor unions and liberal journals, the city council has backed down...

California Factories Set December Record. California factories employed more persons and paid their more wages in December 1939 than during any other December...

Bull Players Draw \$15 Jobsless Benefit. Jefferson City, Mo., (AP)—Professional baseball players on St. Louis and Kansas City teams are receiving unemployment insurance checks up to \$15 a week...

Milk Drivers Demand \$266,000 For Men Laid Off. CIBICAGO.—The Milk Wagon Drivers' Local of the Int. Bro. of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen, and Helpers (AFEL) and 185 of its members are suing in superior court to collect \$266,000 in six cents a gallon...

Shophmen Try to Make Craft Unions Work. NEW YORK. (AP)—A new plan tried to settle jurisdictional disputes among the nation's 400,000 railroad shopmen without appealing to employers...

Free Fingerprinting For Hoosegounders. OAKLAND, Calif.—A 7th and Broadway toilet joint here fingerprints and mugshots of persons who they come in here to check checks. This is called cooperation with the police force...

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Six of 11 persons seized in the middle of the night by FBI agents who raided their homes. They are shown in federal court where they were charged with the recruiting of volunteers for the loyalist forces during the Spanish civil war.

Stinkum for Seamen Wears 'Union' Label

Ship and Waterfront Men Need Organization That Will Make Industry-Wide Strike Possible

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Capitalism and Culture

By PETER LANE

This is a very peculiar life. I thousands in China are killed in battle, we pay less attention than if our next-door neighbor has broken his foot...

Job for Workers. We find then, that with an expanding capitalism, there is a trend toward increasing the number and a well-known fact. But, the capitalist, as an artist, faces with the necessity of further increasing the authority over a rising working class...

No National Culture. No longer is there any such thing as a "national" or even group culture. The artist, facing with the necessity of further increasing the authority over a rising working class...

Menu for Today "Red Hot Republic Dogs" by BILL FECKZO. Just nine years ago last Xmas, Cousin Mary and I attended a sermon on the "Birth of Christ" in St. Stephen's church in the City of Bridgeport...

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