

CIVILNE SVOBODŠČINE SPET V NEVARNOSTI

Izginjanje malih in šibkih dežel z zemljevida

DRŽAVA, KI JE ŽELELA BITI VELESILA, PROPADLA V DVEH TEDNIH VOJNE. — KOMISAR MOLOTOV "POZABIL" OBSODITI HITLERJEVO "AGRESIJO" V POLJSKO

Poljska republika je šla za čehoslovaško. V dobrem tednu je bila njena odporna moč strta. Poljska vlada, ki je pred nekaj leti zahtevala, da se njeno državo prizna za velesila, je pobegnila v Rumunijo po 18 dnevih vojne.

Vzrki naglega poraza

Vojaske veščaki so vedeli, da Poljska brez ruske pomoči nemške invazije ne bo mogla ustaviti. Vendar so smatrali, da bo poljska armada vztrajala vsaj nekaj mesecev. Toda bila je tako slabo pripravljena in v primeri z nemškim poveljstvom in nemško strategijo tako nesposobna, da je doživela usodne poraze že v prvih dneh vojne. Poljska armada je bila izveščana kvečjemu za nekdanji način vojevanja, ni pa bila v ničemer kos mehanizirani Hitlerjevi vojni sili, ki je prodirala na Poljsko z raznih strani in v potiskala poljske divizije proti notranjosti brez posebne napora.

Trhlost poljske vlade

Poljska je imela napol diktatorski režim. Med ljudstvom ni imel zaslombe, nego le med plemstvom, duhovščino in bogataškim slojem. Socialisti so že v pričetku leta na vlado apelirali, da se naj reorganizira takoli, da bo dobila zaupanje med širokimi ljudskimi sloji poljskega in drugih narodov v republiki, kajti za uspešno odbijanje nacistične nevarnosti potrebuje navdušenje vsakega ljudstva. Toda vlada je pač računala, da jo bo narod podpiral, ker se je bal Hitlerja bolj nego nje, vrh tega se je zanašala na moč svoje armade in tudi na direktno ali vsaj indirektno pomoč Rusije. Ruske armade si ni želela na svoji zemlji, pač pa rusko municijo, ruska vojna letala in potrebščine za armado.

Ukanjeni upi

Ruska armada je na poljsko ozemlje vseno prišla, toda ne v pomoč poljski republiki, nego da "protektira" narodne manjšine na Poljskem (Beloruse in Ukrajince). Mejo je prekoračila 17. sept. Komisar vnanjih zadev Molotov je diplomate v Moskvi obvestil, da je Rusija to primorana storiti, ker poljske vlade ni več in ker je poljska republika nehala eksistirati.

Enostranska graja

V svojem dolgem proglasu se Molotov izraža zelo kritično

V TEJ ŠTEVILKI

Ali smo spet na pragu krantenja civilnih svobodščin, prisilne vojaške službe in persekucij, kakor leta 1917? Mar ne pričajo vsa sedanja znamenja, da se nad nami zbirajo novi oblaki vojne histerije? Po komu bo udarila ploha? Kako so razdeljene sile, ki delujejo za nevtralnost Zed. držav in komu v korist? Citajte o tem poročila in članke v tej in v prihodnjih številkah Proletarca.

"LAHKO JE RUŠITI!"



Na sliki je del bivše ulice v Szecewcu na Poljskem, ki ga je razdejalo nemško topništvo.

PRESOJANJE DOGODKOV DOMA IN PO SVETU

Tajen dogovor o usodi Poljske

Razume se samo po sebi, da je Hitler v tajnem mešetarenju z Rusijo določeno izjavil, da je njegov namen udariti na Poljsko, ako se mu mirno ne poda. Ruska vlada se je morala pri tem odločiti ali za obrambo Poljske, ali pa iti skupno s Hitlerjem, da si jo razdelita. Odločila se je za slednje, kar je razvidno iz Molotovega opravičevanja, v katerem ni Nemčije niti omenil, nego vali vso krivdo za sedanjo tragedijo poljske republike na poljsko vlado. Nacistički tisk je rusko invazijo navdušeno pozdravil, kar je drug dokaz sporazuma. Ne gre pri tem, ali je Rusija upravičena vzeti del razbite republike, v katerem Poljski niso v večini, ampak gre se tu za vprašanje, ali je Rusija odobrila Hitlerjev ukrep za novo podjarmljenje in ekonomsko zaslužjenje poljskega naroda. Iz vseh dosedanjih dogodkov je razvidno, da je to storila.

Kdo bo še na vrsti?

Najbolj v skrbah zaradi te situacije so baltičke dežele in Rumunija. Kdo ve, če nista Rusija in Nemčija v tajni pogodbi (Nadaljevanje na 3. strani.)

Stavkovni boji v Zed. državah so — kar se časopisja tiče — zasenčeni z dogodki v Evropi in Aziji ter s propagando o vprašanju nevtralnosti. Stavki je bilo mnogo prošli in ta mesec in nove se obetajo, ob enem pa se množe tudi zahteve za preprečitev takih bojev s pomočjo zakona, češ, da povzročajo ogromno škodo družbam in delavstvu in s tem ljudstvu v celoti. V slučaju, da se bo sedanja vojna nadaljevala, bo tak zakon res sprejet, posebno še, ker dajejo propagandistom zanj dovolj materiala boji med unijami samimi.

Sovjetska Unija je imela s Poljsko nenapadno pogodbo. Tudi Nemčija jo je imela do lani in jo preklicala, čim se ji je zazdelo, da ji ni več potrebna. Rusija je niti preklicala ni, nego le izjavila, da pogodba z državo, ki je ni več, ne more držati.

Kitajska se čuti izdano, ker je računala v svoji vojni z Japonsko bolj in bolj na rusko pomoč. Zdaj, ko je med Rusijo in Japonsko sklenjeno nekako premirje — morda še kaj več — bo Japonska imela na Kitajskem avobodnejše roke. Ako bi

pokojni ameriški predsednik Wilson prišel nazaj, bi uvidel, da je današnja tajna diplomacija celo bolj zavrtna in tajna, kakor ona, katero je on hotel za zmerom odpraviti.

Newyorška borza ima spet živahnije čase. Imela jih je tudi v prejšnji svetovni vojni. Milijone Američanov se nadeja nove "prosperitete". Najbrže so večinoma že pozabili, kakšen je bil njen konec.

Slučaj Poljske dokazuje, da stare vrste vlade, v katerih se šopiri le gizdavost plemstva in baržunirana visoka duhovščina, niso kos nalogam, pred kakršnimi se je znašla Pilsudskijeva republika, ko si jo je Hitler izbral za svoj jesenski plen.

August Dickstan v Nemčiji je bil pozvan v armado. Izjavil je, da je to proti njegovemu prepričanju. Vojni sod ga je obsodil nemudoma v smrt. Paul Mueller je bil usmrčen zaradi požiga in sabotaže. Najbrže to nista edina v Nemčiji, ki sta nezadovoljstvo javno izpričala in plačala "velezdajstvo" s smrtjo.

Ladjedelnice bodo imele spet veliko dela. V prejšnji svetovni (Nadaljevanje na 5. strani.)

Brzeči dogodki

24. avgusta podpisan nenapadni pakt med Rusijo in Nemčijo.

1. septembra udar nemške armade na Poljsko. Vojna nenapovedana.

3. sept. Anglija in Francija napovedali vojno Nemčiji.

10. sept. Poljske pod vladno nemške armade.

17. sept. Ruska armada bila poslana na Poljsko, da protektira Beloruse in Ukrajince.

17. sept. Poljska vlada pobegnila v Rumunijo.

18. sept. Poljska republika kot samostojna država nehala eksistirati.

Za združenje PM in UMW

Eksekutiva soc. stranke, ki je nedavno zborovala v New Yorku, je apelirala na predsednika unije Progressive Miners in na illinoiskega predsednika unije UMW, da se naj zavzameta za združenje premogarjev v Illinoisu in s tem ustavita bratovski boj, ki je kvaren ne le za njuni uniji nego neposredno za vse druge.

Predsednik UMW je odgovoril, da je njegova unija brezpogojno za združenje, dočim je predsednik unije Progressivnih rudarjev Thomasu sporočil, da je vprašanje združenja stvar članstva. Socialisti bodo z akcijo za zedinjenje obeh unij v Illinoisu nadaljevali.

Težave Jugoslavije vsled vojne

Jugoslavija je vsled sedanje evropske vojne zelo prizadeta. Nemčija zahteva od nje živih surovin na upanje in pa v zameno za nemške izdelke, ki jih bo dostavila, kadar in kolikor bo mogla. Jugoslavija je pripravljena Nemčiji prodati svoj odvešek, toda želi v zameno blago takoli ali pa dobro valuto (angleško, francosko ali ameriško), teh pa Nemčija nima.

Ker se vlada Jugoslavije v teh razmerah boji padanja svoje devizne rezerve je dne 13. sept. prevzela kontrolo nad uvozom in izvozom blaga. Pustila bo uvažati le kar smatra, da absolutno potrebuje, naročila za predmete, o katerih vlada smatra, da je ljudstvo v sedanjih okoliščinah lahko brez njih, pa so preklicana.

Veterani za nevtralnost

Vse ameriške organizacije veteranov so za ohranitev nevtralnosti te dežele. Mnogi izmed njih so vojno okusili.

STARI ZAKONI ZA KRATENJE PRAVIC ŠE VEDNO V VELJAVI

SEDANJI KONFLIKTI V EVROPI IN AZIJI POVEČAVAJO MOŽNOSTI ZA PONOVI TEV HISTERIJE IN REAKCIJE, KAKRŠNA JE VALOVELA V ČASU ZADNJE SVETOVNE VOJNE

Komaj devetnajst let je tega, ko se je ta dežela začela izkopavati iz vojne histerije in popuščati v izjemnih zakonih. Pričeli smo jih dobivati leta 1915 in nato vsako leto ostreje.

Nad časopisi je bila uvedena stroga cenzura. Najbolj prizadeti vsled nje so bili časopisi v tujih jezikih, ako niso imeli posebne odobritve merodajne oblasti, ki jih je proglasila za zanesljivo lojalne.

Listi, kot je Proletarec, so morali mesece in mesece predložiti cenzorjem vse gradivo, ki se je tikalo vojne in razmer z ozirom na vojno, prevedeno tudi v angleščino. Mnoge so s tem uničili, ker jim je bilo v takih ovirah nemogoče vzdržati.

Več sto angleško pisanih radikalnih listov je bilo zadušenih s pomočjo pošte, bodisi, da jih sploh ni hotela razpošiljati, ali pa jim je odvzela privilegij drugega poštne razreda. Skro vsi angleški socialistični listi so izginili.

Socialistične in druge radikalne delavske organizacije marsikje niso več mogle dobiti dvoran niti za zabave, dramske predstave in slične prireditve.

Take težkoče so imeli tudi naši klubi JSZ v večjih mestih. V Clevelandu so člani kluba št. 27 ustanovili v olajšanje svojih aktivnosti pevski zbor "Zarja". V Chicagu so člani kluba št. 1 JSZ in somišljeniki ustanovili samostojno dramsko društvo.

Uredniki delavskih listov so bili čestokrat pozivani pred cenzorje in pred poštne oblasti, da se zagovarjajo, da pojasnujejo in da branijo svoje stališče.

Špijoniranje in denunciranje je bilo "patriotična" čednost, kakor je danes v vseh državah z diktatorskimi režimi.

Tisoči so bili šikanirani samo zato, ker so bili rojeni v takih deželah, katerim so Zed. države napovedale vojno. Italijan, ki je ubil nekje v Indiani Hrvata Dalmatinca, je bil na sodišču oproščen, ker je prisegel, da je umor izvršil v razburjenosti, kajti dotični Dalmatincec se je navduševal za kajzerja in Francjožefa, preklinjal Wilsona in pljunil na ameriško zastavo.

V južnem Illinoisu je patriotična drhal linčala nemškega delavskega agitatorja, dasi ni bil kajzerjevec, nego le človek radikalnih nazorov.

Drhali samopostavljenih patriotov, "dveminutniki" in slični čuvarji patriotizma so udarili v lokalne delavskih organizacij, odnašali poslovne in druge knjige, ako so imeli tako navodilo od oblasti, če pa so prišli le po svojem nagibu, so razbili in strgali vse, kar so dosegli.

Prišli so tudi v urad JSZ in neko noč v urad "Proletarca". Na zapadu, na vzhodu, v južnih državah — vsepovsod je valovela reakcija, ki je imela podporo v od vojne histerije ometenih množicah.

Prišlo je vse nekam nenadoma, v dobrem letu.

To se lahko spet ponovi, kajti razmere in okoliščine za take možnosti so tu. In če se to dogodi, bo zaplamtelo hitreje nego zadnjič.

(Nadaljevanje na 4. strani.)

Komu v korist naj bo nevtralnost Zed. držav?

Predsednik Roosevelt je sklical zvezni kongres na izredno zasedanje z edinim namenom, da spremeni ameriški nevtralnostni zakon. Tak, kakor je sedaj, prepoveduje izvažanje municije in predmetov, ki služijo v oboroževalne svrhe, v dežele, ki so zapletene v vojno. Predsednik želi, da se to prepoved črta in se dovoli prodajati ameriško municijo, vojna letala itd. vsakemu, ki lahko pride sam ponje in plača zanj v gotovini.

Senator Borah in mnogi drugi člani zvezne zbornice so absolutno proti črtanju omenjene točke. Pravijo, da bi spremeni, kakor je predlaga Roosevelt, pomenila prvi korak Zed. držav v vojno na strani Anglije in Francije, kakor zadnjič. "Njuna vojna ni naša vojna," pravi Borah in pritrjuje mu milijone ljudi.

Očividno je Roosevelt povsem drugega mnenja. On je za nevtralnost Zed. držav le v toliko, da se ne vmešamo v vojno z našo oboroženo silo, želi pa pomagati Angliji in Franciji z blagom. Kajti on je uverjen, da je vojna Anglije in Francije neposredno tudi vojna za obrambo interesov te dežele. Sedanji zakon smatra on le za "takozvano nevtralnost", ker je v prid Hitlerju in njegovim zaveznikom.

Za ohranitev sedanjega zakona v nespremenjeni obliki so ljudje odkritih in prikritih namenov.

Posetni nasprotniki spremembe zakona so pristaši ameriške izolacije, pacifisti vseh vrst, razne verske sekte, socialisti in sploh vsi, ki smatrajo, da čim bolj drže Zed. države roke proč od sedanjih konfliktov po svetu, bolj gotovo se bodo obvarovale zagaženja v vojno.

Nepošteni zagovorniki sedanjega zakona so ameriški fašisti, Hitlerjevi agenti, komunisti, ki so svojo taktiko o ameriški nevtralnosti postavili z nog na glavo po sklenitvi pakta med Hitlerjem in Stalinom, irski nacionalisti in slični krogi.

Naravno, da so za odpravo prepovedi pošiljanja municije vsi, ki si obetajo od tega grobnih koristi, dalje mednarodni bankirji, agenti Velike Britanije in Francije.

Pošteni zagovorniki spremembe so pristaši Rooseveltovih nazorov, ki smatrajo — bili v pravem ali ne — da je pomoč Angliji in Franciji pomoč demokraciji; dalje pristaši gibanja, kakršnega zastopa newyorški "New Leader", ki ne želi ničesar bolj kakor propast fašizma v Evropi in Stalinu v Rusiji.

Ako bi bile Zed. države mala dežela, kakor je švicca, ali

švedska, bi bilo vprašanje naše nevtralnosti le stvar omejenih dežel.

Toda Zed. države so po prirodnih virih, industriji, finančah in tudi v možnostih svoje oborožene sile kocka, ki lahko odloči zmago eni ali drugi strani.

Najsibo torej ta dežela nevtralna ali odprto v vojni, nekomu na vsak način pomaga. V sedanji nevtralnosti neposredno Hitlerju; v taki, ki jo predlaga Roosevelt, bi pomagala Angliji. Taka je realistična stran tega vprašanja. V tej borbi se ne gre za nevtralnost, ker te v resničnem življenju med narodi in deželami ni, ampak le komu v korist naj se obrnejo gospodarski in drugi toki te dežele. Ameriško ljudstvo bo pri tem odločevalo prav tako malo kakor je v prejšnji svetovni vojni, ker ni organizirano sebi v korist.

Nasvet, ki ga je vredno upoštevati

Donald J. Lotrich pravi v prejšnji številki v svoji koloni "Searchlight", da bi bilo "Proletarca" z dne 6. septembra dobro poslati vsakemu Jugoslovancu v Ameriki zaradi članka "Naše stališče ob drugi svetovni vojni".

Da, potrebno bi bilo. V tej kritični dobi drvečih dogodkov je važno in nujno, da ljudstvo čita liste, ki služijo miru in pravici. Takih listov je silno malo. Proletarec je eden med njimi. Ogromna večina časopisov vseh vrst je v službi privilegiranih slojev, v službi propagande imperializma ene ali druge dežele, v službi municijske ali kake druge industrije, v službi angleške ali pa nacističke politike.

Prijatelji Proletarca, vi lahko našim agitatorjem veliko pomagate v širjenju tega lista. Vseh Jugoslovancov zanj ne bomo pridobili. Niti ne vseh Slovencev. Lahko pa mu pridobimo TISOČ, tudi DVA tisoč in več NOVIH naročnikov, ako se za to nalogu zavzamemo VSI, ki verujemo, da je v program, kakršnega razglašuje Proletarec, le rešitev delavstva, narodov in vsega človeštva.

KRITIČNA MNENJA, POROČILA IN RAZPRAVE

KOMENTARJI

"Slovenska moška zveza" je imela avgusta to leto v Clevelandu svojo prvo konvencijo. Čemu je te organizacije treba, ne vedo niti člani. Važna točka na konvenciji so bile plače "glavnih" odbornikov. Niso velike, ker jih ni kje vzeti, toda saj čast in naziv "glavni predsednik", "glavni tajnik" itd. tudi nekaj šteje. V pravilih so navedli, da ima SMZ samo enega glavnega podpredsednika. Točko so porušili in izvolili dva. Ko so bile volitve končane, so delegati prve konvencije vstali in navdušeno zapeli "Hej Slovenci". Tako pravi Jože Grdina, ki je bil zapisnikar.

Komunistični "Daily Record" v Chicagu je nekaj časa zdelo miloval Poljsko in jo branil pred Hitlerjevo armado — seveda z varnega mesta. Ko pa je dne 12. sept. pričela moskovska "Pravda" Poljake ostro prijemati in jim očitala, da so zatiralci narodnih manjšin in židov, se je moral okreniti tudi ameriški komunistični tisk, kot se je moral 12. avgusta, ko je nehal pozivati v borbo proti agresorju Hitlerju. Marjionete pač nimajo samostojnosti.

Ljudi, ki bi radi delali "za narod", je mnogo. To smo videli tudi na sedanji konvenciji Hrvatske Bratske Zajednice v Pittsburghu. Eden teh je tudi Drago Grkinič, ki je uradnik v glavnem uradu HBZ. On smatra, da ima kot klerik vse premalo prilike delati za narod, pa je razdelil delegatom cirkular, v katerem jim naznanja, da bi rad postal urednik glasila HBZ. Z obljubami v letaku je zelo radodaren, kakor so politiki, ki se potegujejo, da jim bi volile poverili "delo za narod".

V novih pravilih HBZ je določba, da nihče, ki je odbornik v kakem drugem društvu, ne sme biti odbornik v društvu H. B. Z. To točko so sprejeli proti komunistom z geslom, da nihče

ne more služiti dvema gospodarjema. "Zajedničar" piše, da vpliv, ki ga imajo v društvih Zajednice kot odborniki, uporabljajo za agitacijo v korist društev IWO, v katerih imajo uradniška mesta.

Lemont bo stal letos naivne ameriške Slovence več kot je kdaj znanal kak "milijonski fond", po katerem Janez Jerič tako hrepeni, da se mu ne samo v sanjah, nego tudi kadar mo v spanju, nego tudi kadar za poštenost, ima priliko to dokazati v svojih vrstah, ne pa napadati ustanove, ki so bile pošteno upravljane.

Hrvatski komunistični list "Slobodna Misao" v Kanadi je ministrskemu predsedniku Kingu brzojavno sporočil svoje lojalnost kanadski vladi in ji obljubil pomoč Hrvatom v njeni vojni proti Nemčiji. V isti številki v potu svojega obraza brani, zagovarja in opravičuje Hitlerjev-Stalinov pakt, ki je Nemčiji dal pogum pričeti vojno. Hinavščina je brezmejna.

Rev. Ciril Zupan, ki je župnikoval v Pueblu 45 let, je bil prestavljen v bližnji Canon City za načelnika vzgajališča benediktinskega reda. Novi prečisti gospod župnik fare Marija Pomagaj je Anton Roitz (Roje), ki je bil rojen v Pueblu. Za kaplana so mu dali Američana P. Pavlinesa. Tako je za duše pueblskih rojakov tudi po odhodu starega Cirila izborna preskrbljena, čeprav jim je to gmotno v precejšnje breme. Pa kaj bi z dolarji, ki so posvetna stvar! Ako jih daš cerkvi, ti Bog to dobroto obilno povrne (seveda ne na tem, ampak na drugem svetu).

Ako papež ras kliče, "razrešite, združite se!" kakor komentira J. M. Trunk, bo opravičeno veliko slabše kot Marks s svojim klicem, "delavci vseh narodov, združite se!"

Delavci bi pridobili z združenjem. Toda kako naj se združijo kapitalistični in delavski razred? Ne drugače, kakor da

Nove vrste policijske službe



Na sliko je policaj v Londonu, čigar naloga je v slučaju aeroplanskega napada bržeti na biciklu po ulicah in s piščalko ter napisom opozarjati ljudi, da naj beže v skritišča.

delavski razred hlapčije kapitalističnemu. Tako "združeni" eksistira po vsem kapitalističnem svetu. Kapitalist je kapitalist zato ker delavce izkorišča. Tudi če je ta ali oni kapitalist "dober za ljudi", dejstvo je, da so ljudje še bolj dobri zanj, ker so mu bogastvo oni nakupili. Tudi Roosevelt apelira na kapitaliste, da naj bodo dobri za ljudstvo, pa mu vračajo z napadi na "new deal", dasi je tudi za kapitaliste veliko storil.

Kolumnist Heywood Brown, ki so ga komunisti smatrali za svojega do sklenitve pakta med Nemčijo in Rusijo, je pošiljal svojo kolono "It Seems To Me" tudi komunističnim dnevnikom. Oziroma so jo naročali in mu plačevali zanj. Ker pa se Brown v nji o nemško-ruskemu paktu kritično izraža, so mu jo komunistični listi nehal priobčevati. Oni hočejo, da njihovi čitatelji slišijo samo eno plat zvona.

Namen Slovenske moške zveze, ki ima svoj urad v Barber-tonu, je "zedinjevali, družiti in izobraževati slovenske moške in mladeniče na narodnih principih" ter jih ob enem navduševati "za našo novo in staro domovino".

Tako so sklenili na svoji nedavni konvenciji v Clevelandu. Odbor je predlagal, da se naj v Slovensko moško zvezo sprejema vse Slovence moškega spola v starosti od 16. do 55. leta in pa da naj bo "nepripranska".

Oglasil se je zapisnikar Jože Grdina, ki je dejal, da se pod šifro "nepripranski" krade pravice članom katoliškega prepričanja. Zato je predlagal, da naj bo SMZ načelno katoliška rganizacija in naj se jo v pravilih tudi tako označi. Svoj predlog je utemeljil sledeče:

"Slovenci smo vsi po katoliško krščeni; nimamo ne luteranov, ne mohamedancev in ne pravoslavnikov. Kdor pa je vrgel vero med staro šaro, ga pa tudi ni škoda, če ga ne dobi SMZ." Jožetov predlog je bil poražen z veliko večino in tako je SMZ uradno nepristranska organizacija, Jože pa bo v nji vseeno agitiral za katoliško stvar.

"Glasilo KSKJ" imenuje predsednika slovaške vlade dr. Tiso "za izdajico Slovaške". Ni pa v tej notici v Glasilu KSKJ nikjer povedano, da je dr. Tiso katoliški duhovnik — monsignor — in da je on voditelj klerikalizma na Slovaškem, kakor je

dr. Korošec neovrgljiv vodja slovenskih klerikalcev.

La Parola piše, da so tudi Mussolinijevi agenti v Ameriki spremenili svojo taktiko po vstopu, ki piha iz Rima. Do Hitlerjevega pakta z Rusijo so Mussolinijevi propagandisti v Zed. državah navduševali Italijane za vojno proti Angliji, Franciji in Rusiji, katere hočejo "zadušiti fašistično Italijo in nacijsko Nemčijo". Ker pa se trozveza ni uresničila, namesto nje pa je nastal sporazum med Nemčijo in Rusijo, je postal Mussolini "nevtrelen", prijatelj miru itd. in po tej novi dučejevi liniji se morajo ravnati tudi njegovi evangelisti v inozemstvu.

Slovani so se v tej vojni zopet "postavili". Slovaki so na povelje Hitlerja in svoje vlade udarili po Poljakih, Rusi pa so mirno gledali, ko je Hitlerjeva armada razdejala Varšavo in druga poljska mesta, ki postanejo prej ali slej sovjetska posest. Le Hrvati in Srbi so dali v tej krizi nekoliko dobrega vzgleda.

"Ne igraj se z ognjem"

(Nadaljevanje in konec.)

Herminie, Pa. — Morda sem eden onih redkih ljudi, ki se zanimam za zdravstveno stran delavstva. Zato z zanimanjem čitam tudi statistike o smrtnih slučajih članov naših in drugih organizacij. V društvu, v katerem sem jaz tajnik, je bila do zdaj povprečna starost preminulih članov jako visoka.

V Prosveti sem čital, da je 40% smrtnih slučajev v SNPJ v času pol leta povzročila srčna hiba. Tudi par drugih bolezni zahteva med našim ljudstvom precejšen odstotek življenj.

Kdor čita zdravniške razprave, ve, kaj je glavni vzrok srčnih hibi. Ne samo težko delo, ampak premalo počitka, preveč "družbe" itd. jo pospešuje.

EARL BROWDER ŠE V ZADREGI

Mesec predno je Hitler oznanil, da je sklenil trgovsko in nenapadno pogodbo z Rusijo, je tajnik ameriške komunistične stranke Earl Browder izjavil v svoji knjigi "Fighting For Peace" tudi tole:

"Reakcionarij odprto izpekularajo, da bo sovjetska Unija skušala prebiti Chamberlaina v njegovi lastni igri, sedi v roke Hitlerju prej nego on. Ampak celo tisti, ki sovršajo desno socializma, tega ne morejo verjeti, ker vidijo, da edino sovjetska Unija lovi izdajalske Hitlerjeve agente."

Dne 5. julija je bil Browder povabljen predavati v Charlottesville, Va., o čemer smo že poročali. Tu ga je nekdo vprašal:

"Ali so govorice, da se sovjetska Unija sporazume s Hitlerjem, verjetne?"

Odgovoril je, da je USSR vendar za odločen odpor proti agresorjem, torej v prvi vrsti proti Hitlerju. Svoj odgovor na prej omenjeno vprašanje je podkrepil s sledečim zaključnim stavkom:

"Za tak sporazum je prav toliko možnosti kot zame, da bi me Ameriška trgovska komora izvolila za svojega predsednika."

Čez dva dobra tedna pozneje je bil podpisan in Browder ga je moral braniti, ali pa ga obsoditi in pustiti komunistično gibanje, kot so to storili mnogi drugi komunisti po svetu. Je res nerodno. Na vsakem shodu je govoril proti nacizmu, temu smrtnemu sovražniku komunizma, ki mu je treba steti glavo in pokončati njegovo agresivnost skupno z demokratičnimi deželami enkrat za vselej. Podpiral je v ta namen gibanje za vojno proti Hitlerju, a nato je moral v 24 urah na vse to pozabiti in se mučiti s pojasnjevanjem in dokazovanjem, da Hitler prav za prav ni slab, ampak falota sta le premierja

To je vzrok, da v svojih dopisih ne opevam "zlate kapljice" in ponočevanja. Mnogo čitateljev je zoper tiste dopise, v katerih se poroča le kaj je kdo jedel, pil in kako ter kolikokrat plesal in do kdaj je trajalo rajanje.

Tudi ni pošteno hvaliti v dopisih brozge in lokalov. Kdor želi to oglašati, naj plača za prostor, kakor sem moral plačevati oglase jaz, dokler sem imel trgovino in dal Prosveti \$60 na leto in veliko raznim drugim listom. In to ne samo v enem letu, nego vsako leto.

Ta neljubi preprič je nastal zaradi tega, ker on in jaz potujemo po tem distriktu kot zastopnika časopisov. On za "Prosveto", jaz za "Proletarca". Ni bil moj namen njemu tekmovali. Pa se je primerilo, da so mi ponudili tu in tam naročnino tudi za Prosveeto. Nekdo na primer mi je rekel, vzemi, ali pa ustavi, njemu ne plačam! Do bi se take ljudi, da ko se jim enkrat zameriš ne marajo imeti več opravka s tabo.

Tako sem postal tudi za Prosveeto potovalni agitator.

V Prosveti z dne 31. avgusta dela A. Zidanšek vtis, da sem se o govoru F. A. Vidra v Imperialu v svojem dopisu istotako v Prosveti slabo izrazil. To dokazuje, da je Tone tisto slabo čital ali pa nalašč narobe razumel. Podpisani je 1. 1935 govoril v West Newtonu na prireditvi federacije SNPJ. Takratni pomožni upravitelj Proletarca J. Rak, ki je bil navzoč, je pisal, da je Zornik dobro govoril za delavske koristi, ampak ljudje ga niso hoteli razumeti. Pa se nisem nič žejil radi tega, ker sam dobro vem, da je tako. O F. Vidru sem zapisal, da je govoril tako kakor je mislil, ne glede ako je nasprotnikom všeč ali ne.

A. Zidanšek mi dalje očita, da me ni še nobeno društvo povabilo za govornika. On ve, da v ta namen vabijo le člane gl. odbora, da se člani z njimi se-

znajo in pa ker pripomre, da k boljšim udeležbam. So mi pa društva že mnogokrat poverila tudi na tem polju kako takonalo, v kateri je potrebno govoriti z odra. Tako sem nastopil že na stotinah prireditev, na shodih in dvoranah, na piknikih in na uličnih shodih.

Tudi Zidanškov odgovor o Rev. Coxu ni bil pravičen. Niti ni resnično, da sem kdaj dopisnike zmerjal v Prosveti z bedaki, kritiziral pa sem njega. Ni moja navada tritati prostor v časopisih s preprič, ker vem, da žele ljudje poučne članke, ne pa špetire in dopise o klobasah.

Te polemike nisem povzročil jaz, nego A. Z. Napadel me je osebno in me v Prosveti z dne 31. avgusta ščipal o stvarih, o katerih se mi je zdelo potrebno povedati tudi svojo stran. Sicer to ni bilo prvo "špikanje", a podpisani se je zaradi miru premagoval, zavedajoč se, da pametni ljudje sami vedo, kdo je kdo. A tudi potrpežljivost ima meje.

Nisem jaz edini, s katerega se je Zidanšek skušal norčevati. Isto je počel glede Naceta Zlembergerja, ki ima za SNPJ in na delavskem polju vsakekor večje zasluge kakor kak A. Zidanšek.

On se opisuje za junaka, ki je bil hraber že v strokovnih unijah v Avstriji. Učil se je za mesarja in postal mesarski pomočnik. Mislim, da je nekoč pisal, da je šel delati v rovi še jako mlad. Ako je zdaj star 74 let, je bil rojen l. 1865. Pravi, da Antona Zornika še ni bilo na svetu, ko se je on že učil mesarskega posla. Ker sem se jaz rodil l. 1880, je bil on takrat star do 15 let, in čudno, že v otroških letih je delal v rovu in bil voditelj pri napadu na skebe! Sicer se o tem ne mislim pripraviti. Glavno je, če je res koristil rudarjem, in ako je bilo res tako kakor piše, kajti takrat delavci v Avstriji še niso imeli volilne pravice in pravi agitatorji z onih dni trdijo, da je bilo organizatorno delo silno težavno. Težko, da so mogli biti 14-letni fantje za napoveditelji, če so še celo izkušeni moške imeli težko delo.

Tudi se mi čudno zdi, da se je najprvo izuril za mesarja, nato pa je šel delati v rudnik. Tak hrust bi v svoji obrti, ki se je najprvo naučil, nedvomno boljše opravil. Tudi v Ameriki bi si bil tako močan mesarski pomočnik dobil delo v svoji stroki, ker jih je manjkalo.

Vzrok, čemu odgovarjam v tem listu, sem pojasnil v dopisu v prejšnji številki.

Anton Zornik.

Zbor jugoslovanskih eselpistov

Jugoslovanska federacija S. L. P. (Socialist Labor Party) je imela svojo XXVIII. redno konvencijo 2., 3. in 4. septembra v Milwaukeeju. Udeležilo se je 18 rednih in 8 bratskih delegatov ter odborniki in funkcionarji "Radničke Borbe", ki je glasilo jugoslovanskih eselpistov.

Dasi je jugoslovanska sekcija SLP v zadnjih desetih letih vsled raznih vzrokov zelo nazadovala, ima še zmerom toliko udanih ji članov in pristavev, da vzdržuje glasilo in razne aktivnosti pridruženih skupin.

V soboto 2. sept. so imeli prireditve v korist "Radničke Borbe", na kateri so klubi (ograniki) in posamezniki prispevali nad \$4.000, ali \$500 več kot na lanski prireditvi. V korist angleškega glasila SLP, tednika "Weekly People", pa so priredili banket, na katerem so klubi in posamezniki prispevali nad \$1.100. To se glasi nevrjetno, ampak kdor pozna to skupino, ve, da se je pomanjkanja požrtvovalnosti ne more očitati. "R. B." piše, da je bil ta zbor najuspešnejši v zgodovini njihovega gibanja. V imenu njihove stranke jih je pozdravil neki J. P. Quinn, ki je udeleženec njihovega banketa baje silno navdušil z ugotovitvijo, da se je zaeno z vojno dne 3. sept. pričela tudi svetovna revolucija.

Travers Clement pride na prihodnjo sejo kluba št. 1 JSZ

Chicago. — V petek 22. septembra se vrši redna seja kluba št. 1 JSZ, katere se udeležijo tudi glavni tajnik soc. stranke Travers Clement. Poročal bo o sklepih prošle seje eksekutive S. P., ki se je vršila pred par tedni v New Yorku, o strankni akciji proti gibanju, da se to deželo zaplete v vojno, o njenih namerah v prihodnji volilni kampanji itd.

S. Clement bo radevolje odgovarjal na vprašanja in vsakdo bo k njegovim izjavam lahko povedal svoje mnenje. Članstvo je prošeno, da pride na sejo točno ob 8. zvečer, da z rednim delom toliko prej končamo.

Dramski odsek bo poročal o pripravah za prihodnjo predstavo, ki bo dne 29. oktobra v dvorani SNPJ, in tajnik o finančnem stanju kluba. — P. O.

ZENITEV v dvorani SNPJ v Chicagu v nedeljo 29. oktobra.

STARI ZAKONI ZA KRATENJE PRAVIC ŠE VEDNO V VELJAVI

(Nadaljevanje s 1. strani.)

Zakon iz leta 1916, ki je z drugimi vred legaliziral omejeno stanje je le suspendiran. UVELJAVLJEN bo preko noči, čim bo v njegov namen predsednik ali pa kongres proglasil IZJEMNO stanje, ali kakor pravijo v svojem tehničnem jeziku oni, "national emergency".

Sedanji predsednik veruje v demokracijo. Tudi takratni predsednik Wilson je veroval v njo. Toda po proglasitvi "national emergency" je za ljudstvo izgubila svoj pravi pomen. Enako ga bo izgubila sedaj, če bo izjemno stanje znova nastalo. Najbolj v nevarnosti so delavske organizacije. Bratomorni boj med unijami AFL in CIO je veda na mlin reakcije, ki zahteva, da se naj med organiziranim delavstvom napravi red z ZAKONI. Kake delujejo taki zakoni, smo videli tu v prejšnji svetovni vojni in vidimo v totalitarnih državah.

Ameriško ljudstvo je v nevarnosti za civilne svobodščine, kakor je bilo leta 1925. Potrebno je, da se v svojo korist za potek razmer dobro zanima, da bdi nad kongresom in nad visokimi uradniki v Washingtonu in v glavnih mestih posameznih držav.

Zelo potrebno je, da pazi, kaj počne Ameriška trgovska komora, kaj delajo razne "patriotične" in fašistične organizacije. V "izjemnem stanju" bodo te sedaj divjale mnogo huje kot v debi prejšnje svetovne vojne, kajti fašizem takrat še ni bil trajna ustanova.

Zdaj je čas, da si ljudstvo varuje svoje svobodščine in se organizira v njih obrambo. Kajti v izjemnem stanju jih bo izgubilo tisto minuto, ko bo uradno proglašeno.

DRŽITE JESTVINE SVEŽE IN VARNE ZA VEČ DNI

Jedila za vroče dni je lahko pripraviti!



Sedaj po novi nizki ceni 5 kub. čevljev model samo \$149.50

Prihrani na času — Prihrani na denju — Prihrani denar — Oglejte si ga takoj!

Kako lahko je hraniti v poletju jedila v Servel Electrolux plinskem hladilniku. Sveže soljive, sadje, okusno zmazano solato in priboljške... osvežujoče pijače... domaš hladod, vse to se lahko napravi hitro, z lahkoto in poceni.

Svojestven način zmrzovanja mesa, sadija, soljiva in preostalih jedi, ki se vam ne skvarijo in posuše.

LAHKA NABAVA! Malo napladi. (Malenkostni prenosni stroški.) Ostalo z vašim mesečnim računom za plin.

SERVEL ELECTROLUX DEALERS and Public Service Company of Northern Illinois

Labor Says: KEEP OUT!

It is pleasing to find labor practically unanimous in its desire that America should keep out of the European war.

The president of the American Federation of Labor, William Green, in his Labor day address at Duluth and in his writings and letters, emphasizes the necessity that our country should keep from becoming entangled. This is an agreeable contrast with the pro-war attitude of the leaders of the federation in 1917. It should have a powerful effect in stemming the tide toward war.

This country must be neutral in its actions, although, as President Roosevelt said in his fireside chat, the people cannot be expected to be neutral in their thoughts.

Labor, for example, knows well that the Nazi chieftains destroyed the labor unions in Germany and that the Fascist chieftains destroyed the labor unions in Italy. There are very few working men who are not sympathetic with the anti-Nazi side in the war.

But that does not cause them to desire that America should enter the conflict. War makes changes that are not contemplated when a country goes into war.

If the United States were to enter the war, the conscription of youth, the plans for which are already in the files at Washington, would be launched at once. The espionage act would be revived and freedom of speech, press and assemblage would disappear.

But that might not be all. If the conflict went on long enough, it might end in a Fascist dictatorship in our own country and the complete destruction of unions, co-operatives, liberal political parties, etc.

Thus fighting "for democracy" might destroy democracy. Gallup polls have indicated that a great many people want this country to keep out of the war but believe that it can't keep out.

That is ridiculous. It can keep out if it wants so. It can't go in unless it wants to.

There is a calamity right here at home which Americans would do well to become excited about. It is the calamity of unemployment. Profits made by selling products to the belligerent countries may create a temporary boom and employ some of the unemployed. If so, it will be a very unhealthy and very temporary solution of the problem of unemployment. But America can solve this problem on a peacetime basis. It should set about to do it, and not go crazy over Europe.

—Milwaukee Post.

YSPL GATHER AT CLEVELAND IN INSPIRING CONVENTION

War Threat Met With Demand That America Avoid Conflict

The Tenth National Convention of the Young People's Socialist League assembled in Cleveland on September 1 and concluded on September 4. In the recent history of the League this was the most encouraging convention. It represented a more serious and determined youth section than the Socialist Party has had in years. The political maturity of the League, reached after the bitter struggles of the last few years has told in effectiveness of the organization.

Norman Thomas, national chairman of the Socialist Party, and Travers Clement, national secretary of the Party, addressed the convention. Thomas spoke on Sunday evening at the huge mass meeting attended by 4,000 people. The theme of the meeting was "Keep America Out of War." Al Hamilton, national chairman of the Y. P. S. L., and Roy Reuther, member of the Socialist Party NEC and an organizer for the United Auto Workers, also addressed the meeting.

This convention came at a fateful time. In the midst of its deliberations came the news that the world had gone to war once again. This was a

solemn moment for Young Socialists, all of whom are of the generation that will have to suffer in the front line trenches of this war. The convention solemnly reaffirmed its allegiance to the workers of the world and its determination to defy the war mongers with its rallying cry, "We are not your army, this is not our War."

Several huge public demonstrations were held and attracted much public comment favorable to the slogans raised. The Communists were shamed for their Soviet non-aggression pact and they had no reply. There was a huge demonstration for Thomas at the radio and railroad stations. Thomas addressed the nation over a national hook-up following Roosevelt's talk.

The convention received reports from the national secretary on the growth of the League since the 1937 convention. They showed very healthy gains. These gains were evidenced by the fact that one third of the convention were members who had joined since 1937.

Important resolutions on war and the 1940 elections were adopted and pledged to be carried out within the power of the League.

For Adequate Living

To the gentlemen, on all sides of the compass, who still regard even the 25 cents per hour minimum of the Wage-and-Hour Act as the devil's invention and as a godless invasion of property rights, we recommend the following figures:

A woman living alone and wishing to maintain a normal existence requires no less than \$1,160 per year. A working woman living with her family may get along on about \$100 a year less. These totals, recently made public by the New York State Labor Department, represent a scientific measurement of the minimum cost of living.

The budgets cover a wide variety of items, ranging from food, housing and clothing to personal care and recreation. What is of outstanding interest is that total annual expenses were found to vary little in cities of different sizes. The woman living with her family needs \$1,050.08 in New York City; \$1,072.38 in communities with a population of 100,000 and over, except New York; \$1,071.16 in those of 50,000 and under 100,000; \$1,080.45 in those of 25,000 and under 50,000; and \$1,125.26 in those of 20,000 and under 25,000. For a woman living alone the comparable figures are \$1,168.17, \$1,136.96, \$1,149.74, \$1,189.14 and \$1,182.51.

Breaking down these totals into weekly earnings, it appears that a woman worker, no matter where she lives and works, must have no less than \$22 a week the year around for an adequate existence. In trade where employment is irregular or seasonal, it is no less clear that her earnings must be considerably higher to break even on her annual budget.

These standards of adequacy, mind you, contain no luxury items. Below this scale of living lie the levels of cramped, insecure and unhappy existence. Above it are the standards of a fuller, happier life in the direction of which the trade unions and the millions of workers associated with them are headed.—Advance.

VISITORS

Chicago.—Anton Jankovich, long time active in securing subscribers for Proletarec, ads for our American Family Almanac, and active in all other of our activities, as well as SNPJ doings, and more recently, for Cankar's Herald in Cleveland, stopped at the S. L. Center last week.

Ain't it about time to be pointing out to the poor people how they could have been rich if they only had saved the sales tax on the things they couldn't buy?—"A. G."

Cook County Party News

Chicago.—Starting Sept. 16, Cook County will hold a series of weekly Saturday Night Socials at the homes of different comrades. Those of you who've wondered what to do with yourselves on Saturday nights, and have wanted to have a good time with congenial company, will have a place to go from now on. Admission to the socials will be only 25c.

Sat. Sept. 23—Party at Emma Kay's, 5416 Dorchester.

Sat. Sept. 30—Social at Miller's, 2628 W. Chicago Ave.

Sat. Oct. 7—Cocktail Party at Eva Cowan's, 1505 N. Dearborn.

Recruiting Drive

The National Executive Committee has ordered a recruiting drive to start in October for 1,000 new members. Let's beat the gun and top our quota. We all know people who are friendly to the Party. Ask them to join now and help build up the only Party which fought against the last war and is fighting against the new world war. Determine — dare — do. Let that be our motto.

Meetings

The unemployed League meets Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 8 P. M. at 549 W. Randolph.

The Cooperative League meets Saturday, Sept. 23 at 4 P. M. at 1505 N. Dearborn.

Build The Weekly Call

The Socialist Call goes on a weekly basis with the next issue. A good deal of hard work is needed to continue it on that basis. Go after your friends and shopmates and get subs from them. Order a bundle for yourself and sell or distribute it to your friends and neighbors. Each branch should order a bundle of CALLS and assign a quota of CALL sales to every member. We need a weekly CALL to fight the war. Build the CALL.

Harry Fleischman, Organizer.

BRANCH MEETING

Chicago.—An important meeting of Branch 1 JSF, will be held Friday, Sept. 22, at the Center. All members please keep the date in mind and attend. The dramatics Committee will have some definite information for this meeting about our next major Branch undertaking—a dramatic presentation in October. We will also hear our Cook County delegates and National secretary Travers Clement report on the decisions made at the NEC meeting held in New York recently.

Every member should attend.

On Discarding An Old Linotype Machine

Years ago one of my linotype machines went on the blink, after about 20 years of faithful service, during which it set millions of lines of what I'm proud to believe was mind-liberating material. During recent years the good machine next to the obsolescent one would go haywire now and then, and in order to get it going again, the operator would take workable parts from the dead one and put them on the live one. It was as though a living person was taking an eye today and a finger tomorrow from a corpse in order to keep functioning. The time came, at last, when all the good parts were gone, so what was left had to be junked. Now, junking a linotype is something of an emotional experience.

It was saddening to see the junk man wield his sledgehammer and break the thing into pieces. The machine which had set the writings of Joseph McCabe, Bertrand Russell, Will Durant, H. G. Wells, Eugene V. Debs, and hundreds of others, was no more. Later I learned that this pile of junk went to a big junkman who hauled lots of scrap for Japan, so I'm compelled to conclude that the mechanism that had set some of the world's best literature was soon to be turned into bullets to kill more Chinese.

Business is business. A Minneapolis manufacturer of artificial limbs, according to a press report recently, gave Chinese officials quotations on 50,000 artificial arms and legs. His price was too high, so the officials hunted up another manufacturer who could supply them with the machinery that makes artificial limbs.

We're wonderfully practical, we Americans. We supply Japan with the scrap to make shells to kill and maim Chinese, and then we take money from the Chinese for machinery to make artificial limbs.

H. J. in the American Freeman.

TIME FOR SANITY

The vast and violent wastage of natural resources in the hunt for private profit that went on during the 19th century must be arrested and reversed by the establishment of a collective economy for the whole world.—H. G. Wells.

Every absurdity has a champion to defend it, for error is always talkative.—Goldsmith.

Something About The Artists

In Which Some Famous Men Are Taken Off Their Pedestals and Examined

Far too often we are naive and uncritical when names of men famous in history books pass before our eyes in our daily reading.

The reason primarily, it seems to me, for assuming an uncritical attitude is that in most cases we are not familiar enough with the many historical characters who pass as great men of genius. Also, our school teachers never taught us anything but praise for all authors, poets, painters, et cetera. Never a critical word about any of them was to be heard, and never a hint as to what class their art served, or what class they helped keep suppressed and in misery.

Furthermore, a large part of the blame for this naive rests on the fact that we simply read the author's or poet's most famous work and let it go at that, then forming our opinion of the man with this alone, instead of looking deeper into his life; observing closer to see who owned him, how he lived, who he served with his art, and whether or not he touched upon the realities of life in the period in which he lived.

Shakespeare Gave The Poor The "Go-By"

When we run across Shakespeare, we invariably think of him as the world's greatest genius with the pen. He was just that.

This man was gifted with the most marvelous tongue that has yet appeared on earth. Golden, glowing, gorgeous words poured out of him at a moment's notice all his life; he covered everything he wrote with the glamour of poetry. This gift was his fortune; but also, it was a trap, because it saved him the need of thinking. It is a trap for us, because it tempts us into sharing his emotions without thinking. But force yourself to think, ask yourself what is the actual value of the ideas the mighty poet is expressing, and you discover that many of them are commonplace, many are worldly and cheap, many are the harsh prejudice of his time and class.

But in all his 40 years not once does Shakespeare show any revolutionary feelings. There was plenty of revolt, both political and social, in his day, but it did not effect him. There had been two centuries of social protest before he was born, so if Shakespeare had wanted to cast in his lot with the poor he had his opportunity. But there was nothing of that sort in him. He was a brilliant youth who had come up to London, poor and friendless, to become intimate with noble earls and wealthy gentlemen, to dedicate his poems and sonnets to them, and have his plays produced by their licensed companies. If they proved faithful, if they insulted and humiliated a man of genius, if their brilliant ladies and dashing maids of honor intrigued with him and then betrayed him — he would fly into a rage and write plays of almost insane fury, such as "Timon of Athens" and "King Lear," or pictures of grim and somber cruelty such as "Measure for Measure." But when these plays failed, he would learn his lesson and go back to writing romantic dreams, pretty fairy stories like "A Winter's Tale" and "The Tempest." In these letters we find the wistful sadness of the old man who has learned that life is not the beautiful thing it ought to be, but who sights in vain for an all-powerful magician to come and set it right. Again, you see, the "good man" theory; while the social classes whose destiny it is to abolish parasitism are the object of Shakespeare's haughty

and aristocratic sneers.

Joan of Arc arose to inspire her people to drive out her country's invaders; and the English burned her as a witch. A hundred and sixty years had passed—surely time enough for sober second thought, surely time for England's national poet to do what he could to wipe this blot from his country's good name. But the maid of Orleans had to look elsewhere for vindication than to Shakespeare, friend of the rich and powerful, who never advocated an unpopular cause in all his forty plays. He represents Joan according to the basest of the prejudices of his "groundlings": a vain, boastful creature, unchaste, and not denying her unchastity.

The only way a poor person of any sort could get Shakespeare to take him seriously was by being a devoted servant of some wealthy and powerful person; for example, Old Adam in "As You Like It," a part which, according to tradition, was played by Shakespeare himself. But when the common people try to do something for themselves, they are clowns and fools, yokels and tavern roysterers. Take the comedy scenes in "Midsummer Night's Dream," when working people actually attempt to give a play. Shakespeare thinks that no idea could be more absurd. But nowadays working people give many plays in England; there are radical theatre groups producing a new dramatic literature, in which it does not always happen that poor people are bores, while ladies and gentlemen are refined and gracious.

Scotland's Robert Burns

The last two centuries saw many great actors come and go. Most of them solved social and political problems simply by having nothing to do with them.

One notable exception to this rule was a headstrong, impatient youth, disgusted by the falsities and shams of conventional religion of the time, named Robert Burns, who, in his early youth, leaped into fame all over Scotland.

While other poets and authors were shrinking in horror from the execution of King Louis, and throwing in their lot with reaction, Burns stood by the down-trodden of the earth and voiced their feelings to the end. Not merely he the national poet of Scotland; he is, in spite of the handicap of dialect, the voice of the peasant and the land-slave throughout the English-speaking world. When he writes "the rank is but the guinea's stamp," he is the voice of the labor movement in England and of democracy in America. His work is beloved by humble people; you would be surprised to know how widely it is read — perhaps more widely than any other poetry among the poor.

The people know the voice, they know this heart, with all its loves and hates, its longings and griefs. There is no man who has come from the toiling masses, self thought and self-made, who expressed their feelings so completely. And note that he has, not merely beauty and passion, but keen insight and power of brain; he can think for his people, as well as feel with them. He is not a bit afraid to use his art to preach and to scold, to discuss moral problems, to storm at social injustice and to ridicule church dogma.

(To be continued)

Virtue and truth are one. Look for the truth in everything, and follow it, and you will then be living justly before God.—Meredith.

All Men Are Brothers

At this time, when the capitalist order again faces a crisis which calls for blood sacrifices, it is in order for Socialists to recall that theirs is an international philosophy and an international movement. Whatever else we may be forced to do, nothing must be permitted to cause us to lose sight of the fact that the workers of all lands are brothers.

Socialists hate dictators, but they will continue to extend the hand of fraternity to the victims of political dictatorship in Germany, in Poland, in Italy and in Russia, as well as to the serfs of economic dictatorship in Britain and France.

There is no real reason why the workers of one nation should slaughter their class brothers of another nation. That they are forced to do so is the final evidence which convicts the economic order which places national interest against human interests.

There is no excuse for conflict and poverty in the world today. Nature has been bountiful to man and man has improved upon her gifts. Today there are resources which, if dedicated to the common good, would assure to everyone a high standard of security and plenty.

Socialists are not only opposed to war. More important than that, they offer a program for peace. Stop the exploitation of workers for the profit of owners. Let all men work together for the common good and let all nations co-operate as fellow citizens of the world. Then wars will end as a matter of course.

The Socialist program for peace can be made a reality. We, in America, can hasten the day by putting our own house in order—by ending the exploitation of man by man—by socializing the means of life and dedicating the nation's wealth to the service of the nation's people.—Reading Labor Advocate.



For three consecutive Sundays now, Comrade Maynard C. Krueger has participated in the University of Chicago Round Table discussions which are broadcast over the National Broadcasting Co. network. The time of the broadcast is 1:30 p. m. Chicago Daylight Saving Time. The discussion centered on the rise in price of commodities because of the European war and the discussion was quite timely and certainly quite instructive. Professor Krueger brought out the fact that a year after the World War began, the prices were not any higher than when the war began, despite the fact that there was a considerable boom and demand for commodities and also a rush for foodstuffs. Naturally, prices were raised immediately after the big demand for commodities came, just as happened in the past three weeks, but after a year of the war, they receded back to the old positions. Professor Krueger mentioned two other very important points. One, that there is liable to be a bigger price rise in the United States because our government is manufacturing armaments and battlestuffs instead of commodities and food-stuffs which could be used by the people because, if the same people were making useful merchandise and food, such commodities would be more plentiful and therefore considerably less costly. The other point was the America should not get itself involved in the European struggle. Our friends should arrange to listen in during the fall and winter months to the Round Table discussions because they do bring out a lot of important information which is helpful and occasionally, bring out, through Professor Krueger, a pretty clear Socialist view point.

We thought that we had something when Russia signed a non-aggression treaty with Germany. We had hardly gotten used to the idea when Russia burst another bomb, and startled the already upset workers, by going into Poland with its army to protect the minority of the Ukraine and of Western Poland. The whole thing looks like this was a predetermined move. That is, it looks like Hitler and Stalin agreed to have this done and laid plans to do it. And it looks as if the plans are carrying out their wishes to perfection. Now the question is, why does Russia want some of its own land back? Why does it want to involve itself in a war or least, why do the Russians want to expose themselves to the possibility of an attack when there was no need for it? We must not forget that Hitler let Poland take a part of Czechoslovakia when he dismembered that country. Is it possible that he is repeating that same game with the Russians? And is it possible that the Russians are going to fall into his trap? Or is it possible that the Russians are smart enough to know what is what and may surprise Hitler at his own game? Whatever it is, the world is puzzled. It may be that the Russians have united with the Germans to crush British imperialism. That's really the only logical answer one can give at this stage. The fact that Russia is advancing into a good deal of Poland without any struggle, is another thought for conjecture. The Russians have been peaceful so long that they evidently feel mighty enough to go into a desperate conflict, and they are starting the world by playing this secret game and pulling secret punches.

American Socialist Stand on War

Chicago, Ill.—The Socialist Party of the United States has pledged the support of its organization and its members to all constructive forces which are dedicated to keeping America out of war and war out of the world.

"In this task the Socialists of the United States seek the support of men and women of good will," said the statement signed by Norman Thomas, national chairman, and Travers Clement, national secretary.

The statement flayed Reich Chancellor Hitler for his guilt in starting the war but it warned the American people that this is not a war between dictatorship and democracy.

Characterizing the new World War as a war between empires, the Socialist statement pointed out that "Hitler's peculiar wickedness in the minds of many derives largely from the fact that he treats the minority groups of the white race which have fallen under his power as older imperialisms have treated the colored races in Africa, Asia and America."

"The American people can keep out of war," the statement said, "but only if they assert their power to control their own destiny; to vote on their own wars; to find their prosperity and production for peace and not in war trade."

