







THE S.N.P.J. CONVENTION

The Slovene National Benefit Society will open its quadrennial convention on May 22, in Chicago. It will number about 200 delegates, including the supreme officers. They will meet in the most trying times in the history of the SNPJ.

No serious crisis is threatening this organization from within—at least not yet, but from without the signs are not at all promising, in spite of the "New Deal".

The membership of the SNPJ at the close of 1932 numbered 32,797, and the juvenile department 15,498, a total in both departments of 48,259. This number is over 14,000 smaller than it was three years ago.

Such an organization is worth preserving!

And it would be worth while for the young members, enlisted to its ranks from Slovene-American parentage, to study the eventful history of the SNPJ. It would help them to better understand the hard tasks, the labor strikes of the years by, the fights against the forces of darkness and other struggles in which their parents, the builders of the SNPJ had to participate.

There are some amongst our young friends, who cry in unison with the old school conservatives, that "politics" should be divorced from the SNPJ. They have in mind a particular movement, the socialist principles, which flourishes in this organization, but they are not opposed to the politics with which they are in agreement, thru their own political thinking, which they attain under the influence and leadership of precinct politicians and the predatory press.

We don't question their right to have whatever political or religious convictions they choose. But when they are trying to bring the SNPJ into the morass of the cheapest kind of Democratic-Republican politics, they are not serving the

Quite often this organization was attacked for its social orientation and for its support of the Socialist party in the election campaigns. The SNPJ is not a part of the socialist movement in a sense as, for instance, the Workmen's Circle, which is more or less officially connected in party activities. Nevertheless the SNPJ too, contributed quite a share in its endeavor to awaken the Yugoslav and American workers to the light of the new freedom and emancipation, which is Socialism.

The SNPJ had its beginning twenty nine years ago as a progressive fraternal society and was developed into an organization, fitted in the frame of daily struggles of the laboring people. Slovene and other Yugoslav workers were badly in need of such a fraternal society because all

others were either religious or nationalistic and all of them reactionary and unfriendly to the aims of the class-conscious workers. In the field of material benefits as well as in the educational values the work of other Yugoslav fraternal orders cannot be compared to that of the SNPJ. The SNPJ has successfully endeavored to enlighten its membership with the help of its daily paper, a weekly and monthly, with books and lectures. In this way it has showed workers what should be their real aim and purpose in their struggle for a living.

After many years the SNPJ is morally stronger than ever before and economically as sound as it could be under present conditions. The SNPJ is as impregnable as it was, in spite of the long years of struggles against reaction without and within. And in spite of the depression, which took away the means of livelihood to many thousand of members.

We have high hopes that a large majority of delegates, old and young, will lead the trends of the SNPJ in its traditional path, which, in the long years has proven to be for the best interest of the members and the working class in general. And that is as it should be. The SNPJ is a part of the future, not of the sinking past.

Displacement

The tremendous changes taking place in methods of production and distribution of wealth may be judged from the fact that this country now has 1,700 industrial research laboratories as compared with only 200 but 10 years ago.

With almost a ninefold increase in labor-displacing machine-inventing establishments in 10 years, it looks as though there will also be a ninefold increase in unemployment in 10 years unless some radical adjustments are made to fit into the machine age.—Cleveland Citizen.

Practice What You Preach

The government has no place in private business says Railroad Data, published by the committee on public relations of the eastern railroads.

Well, then, why do the railroads encourage the government in private business by accepting loans from the Reconstruction Finance corporation? Practice what you preach, and refuse the loans.

If it wasn't for the government private business would be in worse shape than it is.

This applies to both banks and railroads. The government has come to the aid of both. Hoover's Reconstruction Finance corporation poured hundreds of millions of dollars into them, and failed to bolster them up so they could stand

Prosperity Must Begin at Home

Speaking to the National Press Club at Washington with all the suave persuasiveness that has made him famous, Premier Ramsay MacDonald said:

"In these days more than ever, and in the future even more than today, those problems of labor, of money, of trade or national prosperity, of wealth, of high standards of living, are international problems."

To which, from the American point of view, LABOR enters an emphatic denial. LABOR is anxious to see international relations improved, trade barriers thrown down, industrial as well as political peace insured. But to say that every nation must endure distress until every other nation agrees to meet in conference to settle the ills of the world is to furnish an alibi for lazy politicians and an excuse for industrial robbery.

Take the case of America. About 93 per cent of our commerce moves within our own borders, which means

that 93 per cent of our market is at home. Our crops are ample, our industrial plant can flood even a fairly prosperous market, our resources all but boundless, and 13,000,000 idle workers wait to augment our labor power.

If we were cut off from the rest of the world altogether, we could build a rich living for every human being in the republic. Must we let our people starve until our statesmen and those of the rest of the world agree what can be done about it?

It is America's duty to herself and to the world to rebuild prosperity within her own borders, without waiting on anybody. International conferences, yes; they may be helpful. The highest good times will not come till all the world shares them to some extent. But it is our job to start, start at home; and LABOR refuses to accept any international alibi.—Labor.

The Third Continental Congress

The third Continental Congress held in Washington, D. C., May 6, and 7, was the most educational and inspiring affair ever witnessed by us. The farmer and laborer finally agreed to fight together for their rights.

We arrived in Washington about noon Friday any stayed at a tourist camp which took care of about one thousand delegates. In the evening we went to the Washington Auditorium where we witnessed the Brookwood Labor College players put on five short working-class sketches. They were very good. Between plays labor songs were sung by the delegates.

After the plays the delegates were invited to the Union station to meet the two special New York trains bearing 1400 delegates to the Congress. What a reception! YPSL members led in songs and cheering in which everyone joined.

Saturday morning the Congress was opened by Clarence Senior at 10 A. M. Over 4000 delegates were present.

Organizations represented were the National Farm Holiday Association, Farmers Union and several other farm organizations from different states. The trade union groups who sent delegates were the American Federation of Teachers, several State Federations of Labor, Conference for Progressive Action, Progressive Miners Union, American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Union, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the Railway clerks and numerous other unions which is impossible to mention here.

Some of the larger unemployed organizations represented were National Federation of Unemployed Leagues, Unemployed Councils and the Workers Committee on Unemployment. The Socialist party sponsoring this Congress was well represented as was the different political groups and the JSP. The SNPJ, Workman's Circle, Yugoslav Fraternal Brotherhood and the Poale Zion all had delegates present.

The first session was taken up largely by the adoption of rules and the naming of committees. During the lunch hour, Norman Thomas led a demonstration of several thousand delegates to the Cairo Hotel which discriminated against colored delegates. This was only one of the large colorful demonstrations that took place during the Congress.

Louis Aidich represented branch No. 47 JSF and Joe G. Brinocar the Lincolnite Lodge No. 567 SNPJ, both in Springfield. — Joe G. Brinocar & Louis Aidich, Springfield, Ill.

Identified

Have you ever heard a fellow complain that the unions have done nothing for him? If so, ask him what he has done for the union.

Hitler's Paradise to be a Prison for Conscripts

Events move so swift in Hitler's Germany that they are difficult to chronicle. The sadist debauch continues and Hitler's May Day was stimulated by high-power propaganda. He has not redeemed a single pledge upon which the fate of his regime rests.

He has created an imitation of the Russian OGPU, the dreaded secret police, to combat all activities against his rule; Duesterberg has been removed as second in command of the Stahlihelm and the latter's forces will be merged with Hitler's storm troops.

Only in the Saar Basin, under the control of an international commission, are Germans immune from Hitler's gangsters. Here alone in all Germany are Socialist and Communist papers published and here alone do Socialist and Communist deputies sit in a legislative body.

A section of the Nazis are determined to break up the big accumulations of capital

and that will send German capitalism a little lower in the ditch while the Hitler program rry expand to breaking up the big Prussian Junker estates. Capitalist and Junker have nursed a monster that may well destroy them.

Hitler's May Day address reads like the incoherent drivel of a dope addict. He was to have revealed the glorious things in store for the masses and it turned out to be universal labor conscription! Here is a significant passage from the speech: "A decision by majority vote never means a victory for reason, but for unreason, mediocrity, uncertainty, weakness and cowardice."

He contended that farmers had been neglected but would be assured relief, and unemployment will be abolished by means of private and public enterprises and development of highways. He will "establish a commercial policy that shall insure the stability of industrial production without ruining German agriculture."

The only thing definite in the whole speech was to make conscripts of the German masses. Sober awakening of his drunken followers is certain to come because bombast will not butter bread.

—The New Leader.

SEARCHLIGHT

A lot of us have been very enthusiastic about the Continental Congress For Economic Reconstruction. That enthusiasm hasn't waned. It is our desire to have those comrades and workers who were not at the Congress catch the spirit of our enthusiasm and push forward towards the realization of the whole program adopted by the Congress.

There are two outstanding facts which can be considered unusual and exceedingly important about the Congress. One, that so many different groups of laboring people were able to unite upon one basic program, socialization. And the other, that the Congress remains a permanent organization. These two facts alone deserve the support of every worker.

Our next big job in Illinois shall be to make the Illinois Division of the Congress a huge success. If we can interest the various fraternal, political and union groups to gather and it seems that we should be able to, than the Illinois Division should have a delegation of two thousand people. And if we can make use of the opportunity we can come out of it in good fashion, good contacts and greater Socialist Party.

The new Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Illinois met at Decatur, Ill., on Saturday and Sunday, May 13 and 14 and elected Douglas Anderson of Elipolis, Ill., chairman and Roy Burt of Chicago, secretary. Plans were presented for the building up of the Party but because of lack of finances very little could be ordered done.

What's Doing in Detroit

English sections of branches No. 114 and 115 met on May 12, from 7:30 P. M. until 12:00 P. M., but still the time was insufficient.

The Continental Congress delegates did not give their reports because there was too much other business. On June 10, 1933, a Continental Congress Meeting will be held with a social following. All of the delegates will give a report on the Congress. Non-members are also invited.

On Sunday, May 21, the play R. U. R. will again be dramatized. It will be played at the Bohemian Hall under the auspices of the Wayne County Central Committee.

A City Convention will be held at the Polish hall to select a slate for the coming City election. Every member in good standing must attend. If we are to put on a slate of 9 councilmen, mayor, city clerk, and treasurer, it will require close to 150,000 signatures and \$500.00. Can we accomplish this? Our section went on record to help all they can, but we were in favor of running only 2 councilmen, mayor, and treasurer.

Our committee with club No. 114 has taken action to secure permanent headquarters. Suitable quarters have been located. Donations, such as funds and furniture will be solicited in the near future.

THE FARMER'S DERBY!

