

DELO NAŠEGA GIBANJA V TEM IN PROŠLEM LETU

Napredovanje klubov J. S. Z. v aktivnostih

Izvajanje sklepov osmega rednega zbora JSZ.—Več in boljše priredbe.—Izgledi za uspehe v letu 1931

Vzlic depresiji in brezposelnosti so bili posebno eni klubi Jugoslovanske socialistične zveze v prošlem letu izredno aktivni. Dokazali so, da je napredek mogoč, da se novi člani dobe, da se priredbe lahko uspešne in da je mogoče na njih izvajati lepe sporede v delavskem duhu. Videli smo, da kjer je volja za razširjenje "Proletarca", je list dobil mnogo novih naročnikov. Osmi redni zbor J. S. Z., ki se je vršil lansko leto, je začrtal program za delo in dal smernice, ki določajo taktiko klubom in Zvezi. V marsičem se ta program izvaja, v ostalem pa bo treba delo pospešiti v tem letu. Jugoslovanska Socialistična Zveza mora razširiti svoje aktivnosti na vseh poljih kakor še nobenkrat doslej.

Mladinsko gibanje v J. S. Z.

Mladinsko gibanje pod okriljem JSZ. se zadovoljivo razvija. Lani so bili storjeni šele začetni koraki z ustanovitvijo mladinskih angleško govornih pododsekov, toda ne še v vseh klubih. Ako hoče postati socialistično gibanje med našim ljudstvom močno, mora pridobiti več mladine. To je eno poglavje, kateremu se mora letos posvetiti v naši agitaciji vso mogočo pozornost.

Agitacija med ženstvom

V naših klubih je še vse premalo članic. Delavke spadajo v delavsko organizacijo prav tako kakor delavci. Mož in žena vodita boj za obstanek skupno, in boriti se bi morala skupno v delavski organizaciji za socialistični program, ki znači temeljno spremenitev razmer v prid delovnemu ljudstvu. Pridobite ženske v klub in za udeleževanje sej. Klubi, ki imajo seje v takem času, npr. ob nedeljah dopoldne, da se jih ženske običajno ne morejo udeleževati radi domačega dela, naj spremene datum, da omogočijo prihajati na zborovanja tudi članicam.

Širjenje našega tiska

Med našim ljudstvom je polje za širjenje delavske literature še vedno veliko. Cimvečje bo število naročnikov Proletarca, toliko lažja bo agitacija za pojačanje klubov JSZ., toliko večje in boljše bodo naše priredbe in pojačana bo s tem v vseh ozirih tudi Prosvetna matica ter njeno delo.

Vsak klub naj smatra za eno svojih glavnih nalog delovati za razširjenje socialističnih listov, v prvi vrsti svojega glasila "Proletarca". Brez agitacije se krog naročnikov ne bo širil, neglede kakor dober je list. Kadarkoli je prilika, naj se deli socialistične letake in priporočila knjige, take seveda, ki so vredne, da jih delavci čitajo.

Konferenčne organizacije

Konference JSZ. so se izkazale za zelo učinkovito sredstvo v izvrševanju našega dela tako na političnem kot na izobraževalnem polju. V njih lahko sodelujejo ne samo klubi JSZ., nego tudi vse iste organizacije, ki so pridružene Prosvetni matici. Konference JSZ. nudijo priložnost naprednim kulturnim ter podpornim društvom vseh enot in zvez, da delujejo skupaj, in da pošiljajo delegate na skupne konference. Zelo važno je, da imajo konferenčne organizacije aktiven odbor ter sposobnega tajnika, ki ima dovolj prostega časa, da ga posveti delu za Konferenco. Zborovanja naj ne bodo prepogosta, toda ne manj kot dvakrat na leto. Če so dobro zasnovana, in imajo odborniki pripravljena poročila, store lahko zelo veliko v agitacijo za naš tisk, v volilnih kampanjah, za Prosvetno matico in v raznih skupnih akcijah.

Prosvetna matica

Prosvetna matica ima med gotovimi krogi, ki delavskemu gibanju niso naklonjeni, precej nasprotnikov, kar dokazuje, da je to potrebna ustanova. Naša želja je, da bi ji pripadalo vsako napredno kulturno društvo in vsa napredna društva podpornih organizacij. V preteklem letu je bilo v Prosvetni matici do 150 podpornih in kulturnih društev ter klubov. Delo, ki ga vrši Prosvetna matica, ne vpije, toda je važno de'lo. Sodelovala je tudi v prošlem letu z mnogimi delavskimi odri, pomagala pri številnih priredbah, razpečala veliko knjig in sploh storila je na kulturnem polju kolikor je največ mogla. Da pa bo ta ustanova mogla delati v še večjem obsegu, ji je treba pripomoči do večjih virov. Potrebuje namreč 750 do 500 organizacij. Clanarina je nizka—od 50c do \$2 na mesec, oziroma je prostovoljna in društvo samo določi, koliko bo plačevalo na mesec.

Aktivnosti klubov JSZ. konferenc ter Prosvetne matice v letu 1930 so bile zadovoljive. Zavzemimo se vsi skupaj, da morajo biti letos še bolj uspešne. Samo v Clevelandu, Milwaukeeju, Chicagu in Detroitu lahko pridobimo v J. S. Z. najmanj tisoč novih članov, kar se v ta mesta naši ljudje najbolj naseljujejo. Razmere za socialistično agitacijo so ugodne. Povečamo svoje aktivnosti takoj v začetku leta.

NEVARNOST LJUDEM IN HIŠAM



Na sliki je razbit aeroplan, ki je padel z višine 1500 čevljev na Rockaway Beachu, L. I., na dvorišče tik hiše, v kateri stanuje večja družina. Z nevarnostjo, ki preti ljudem in hišam iz zraka, se mnogo ukvarjajo. Izdane so bile razne regulacijske naredbe, po katerih se morajo ravnati letalci, glavni pogoj za varnost pa je pač v izboljševanju letal, da se bodo v stanju spustiti na tla varno tudi v slučaju poškodbe stroja ali kake druge nezgode v konstrukciji letala. Ker se število aeroplanov množi in z njimi tudi zračni promet, naraščajo sorazmerno tudi nevarnosti, kakor je tu opisana. Zanimivo je, da sta se izkobilala oba letalca po padcu le malo poškodovana iz tega aeroplana.

DRAGA "LJUBEZEN", KI JO PLAČUJE NAROD

V Bukarešti jim je že žal, ker so s takim navdušenjem sprejeli Karla ter ga oklicali za kralja, namesto da bi ga držali v inozemstvu. Kralj Karl je razvjen in poleg tega še nepazljiv ljubimec, ki ima žen kakor kak bogat Turek v starih časih. S svojo legitimno ženo kraljico Heleno se še ni pobotal. Ona ve, da jo nima rad, in da ne bo edina, tudi če se vrne k njemu.

Predno se je Karl vrnil, je hotel poravnati nekoliko ljubavnih zadev. Dvorjani to napravijo najraje z denarjem, ali pa, da spravijo človeka s poti. Zizi Lambrino, Karlova ljubica in ena bivših njegovih žen, je dobila za slovo od Karla \$400,00, ob enem se je zavezala, da ne bo od njega nikoli več ničesar tirjala. Magdi Lupescu, s katero je živel, predno se je vrnil v Rumunijo, je dal za slovo pod enakimi pogoji \$100,000. Rumunski kmet in delavec pa plačuje take špale. Svet je res še silno zabit.

Norman Thomas bo govoril v Chicagu

V nedeljo 22. feb. bo predaval v Adelphi teatru v Chicagu Norman Thomas. Angažiral ga je čikaški Open Forum. Vstopnice se bodo dobile tudi v uradu Proletarca.

Naročite knjige

"Cankarjeve družbe".

Štiri knjige 1.10

Dobite jih v
Proletarčevi
knjigarni

"JUSTICA" V ITALIJI NADALJUJE S TIRANIZIRANJEM PROTIVNIKOV

Fašistični sodni tribunal zdaj ne priznava niti liberalnim kritikom.—Vera v Mussolinija peša

Petnajst let zapora zaradi kritikujočih letakov—to je kazni, ki zadene človeka v Mussolinijevi Italiji. Koncem decembra je zasedal v Rimu izjemni fašistični sodni tribunal, isti, ki določa, koga se ustreliti v hrbet, koga se pošlje v izgnanstvo in koga v zapor. Pred tem je zasedal v Trstu in obsodil nekaj Slovencev na smrt in drugim naložil dolge zaporne kazni. Dne 22. decembra je obsodil med drugimi liberalna intelektualca Renzi Rendija in Mario Vinciguerra na 15 let zapora, ker sta izdala letak, v katerem kritizirata fašistično administracijo v Italiji. Nista pozivala ljudstva na upor, nego samo grajala metode Mussolinijeve vlade z liberalnega stališča, in za tak prestopek morata 15 let v ječo. Nekdo, ki je razdal samo par njenih tipkanih letakov, je dobil tri leta zapora. Vsega skupaj je bilo pred izjemnim tribunalom pet obtožencev. V sodno dvorano so bili vselej privedeni uklenjeni drug k drugemu; spremljala jih je oborožena straža šestih karabinerjev. Jetnike so v sodni dvorani imeli v železni kletki. Ta procedura ima prvi namen zatreti vsako odporno mentalnost v obtožencu, in drugič, prikazati jih ljudem s to zunanjo sugestivnostjo kot najnevarnejše kriminalce.

Renzi Rendij slovi kot kritik in prevajalec. Znan je kot književnik tudi izven Italije, posebno v Angliji. Svoječasno je bil poročevalec čikaških "Daily News". Vest o njegovi obsodbi je napravila v Angliji zelo mučen vtis.

Nič čudnega ni, ako delajo take obsodbe v inozemstvu vtis, da fašistična vlada ni tako trd-

na kakor pripovedujejo cenzurirana in pa fašistična poročila iz Italije. Ako človek izda meografičan letak, v katerem pravi, da ni prav, ker vlada počne to in to, in da bi bilo za Italijo bolje, če bi bila konstitucionalna država kakor je npr. Anglija ali Zed. države, ali je Mussolinijeva vlada tako šibka, da se mora takega letaka ustrašiti in obsoditi avtorja na 15 let ječe? Če je vlada trdna, ji tisoče takih kritikujočih letakov ne vzame zaupanja. Saj je kritizirana tudi vlada v Angliji, Zed. državah, Nemčiji itd., napadana v listih, na shodih itd., še celo revolucionarna gibanja delujejo pred njenimi očmi, pa ne polnijo ječ z opozicijonci. V državah z diktaturo je dovoljeno misliti in delati le po ukazih in naredbah. In naj bo diktatura še tako mogočna, prej ali slej pade, in padla bo tudi fašistična v Italiji.

Ponovno štetje brezposelnih

Dasi se zvezna vlada z oziranjem na štetje brezposelnih zelo rada opira na statistiko iz zadnjega aprila, vendarle ni toliko naivna, da bi verjela tistim številkam, zato bo 15. jan. uvedla novo štetje edino z namenom, da dožene, koliko je brezposelnih. To bi lahko storili že pri prvem štetju, ako ne bi bili odgovorni faktorji smatrali vse stvari za nekako nepotrebno in formalnost, pa se števec niso brigali dosti.

Lov na divjačino in ljudi

V prošli lovski sezoni v Wisconsinu so lovci pomotoma ali pa po nesreči ustrelili par dučkov ljudi, med njimi 12 smrtno.

POLOMI BANK ATENTAT NA PRIHRANKE MALIH VLAGATELJEV

Dne 22. decembra je zaprla vrata druga največja banka v Miami, Florida.

V Philadelphiji je 22. dec. prenehala s poslovanjem Bankers' Trust Company, ki ima \$55,000,000 imovine. Uradniki obeh bank pravijo, da so vlagatelji zahtevali svoje vsote v prevelikem številu, kar ju je prisililo ustaviti poslovanje.

V tednu z dne 15. dec. je v North Carolini nehala poslovati enajst bank in dve v South Carolini. V Illinoisu sta isti teden zaprli vrata Pop County State banka v Golconda in First National banka v Kansasu, Ill. Par bank je šlo prošle dneve na kant v West Virginiji, ena v Nebraski in ena v Utah.

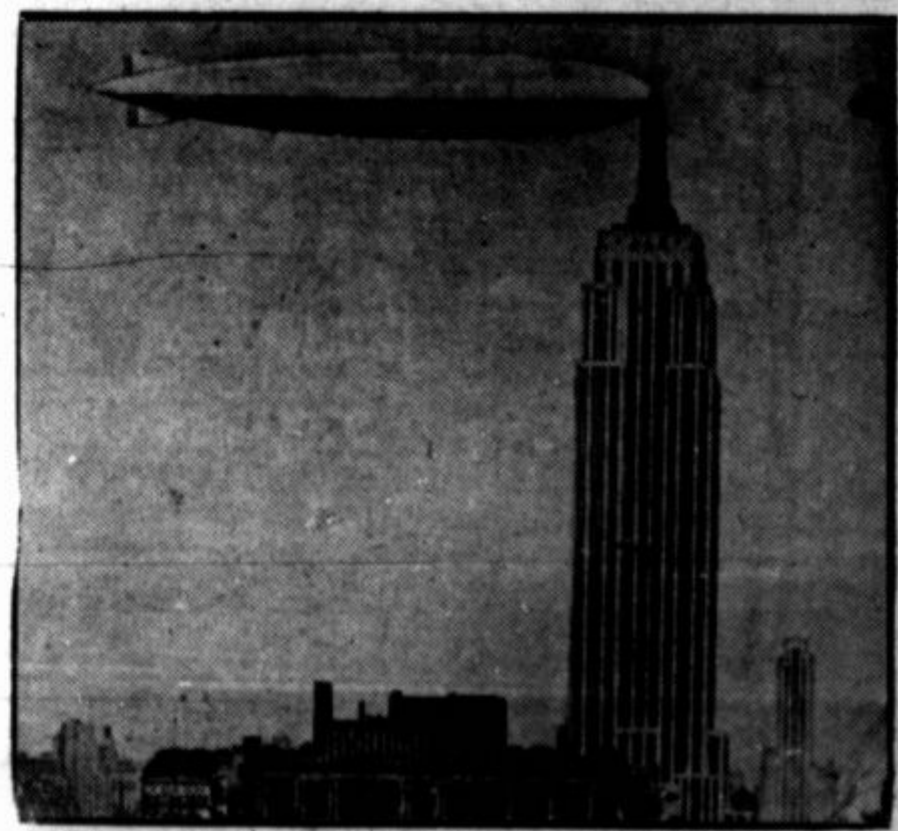
Dne 22. dec. je nehala poslovati First Bank and Trust Co. v Atica, Indiana. Dve sta isti dan zaprli vrata v državi Mississippi, ena v Atlanti, Georgia in Chelsea Bank and Trust Co. v New Yorku. Slednja ima nad 40,000 vlagateljev in njihove vloge znašajo blizu štiriindvajset milijonov dolarjev.

Vlagatelji Millard State banke v Chicagu, katera je zaprla vrata avgusta 1930, so dobili prvih 20% od svojih vlog dne 22. dec. Kdaj dobe ostalo in koliko dobe, tega receiverji, ki upravljajo banko, zdaj še ne vedo. V tem letu je izginilo več sto malih bank, in nekaj primeroma velikih finančnih zavodov.

Federalna radio komisija proti delavskim postajam

Radio postaja Čikaške delavske federacije (WCFL) ima težkoče v bitki z radio postajo čikaške "Tribune". Federalna radio komisija je naklonjena "Tribuni" in predlaga koncesije v reguliranju oddajne moči, njeni postaji na škodo oni, ki jo imajo čikaške unije. Ista komisija tudi predlaga, da se Debsovi radio-postaji v New Yorku licence več ne izda, da se ne drži točno regulacijskih določb pri oddajanju svojega programa. Kakor vse v tej deželi, tako bo kapitalizem monopoliziral tudi zrak za svoje radio postaje.

NOV PRISTAN ZA ZRAKOPLOVE



Zrakoplovi, kakor je ameriški "Los Angeles" ali nemški "Graf Zeppelin", ne morejo pristati drugje kot v krajih, kjer imajo posebno zgrajen pristan zanj, ali pa začasno postavljeno ogrado, k kateremu pričvrstijo trdnostno ladjo. V mestu New York bo služila v ta namen Empire State building kakor razvidite iz slike. Ta sgrajba je visoka 1,248 čevljev.

DVOJNA MERA V POMILOSTITVAH

Vsi kapitalisti, ki so bili v ječi zaradi goljufij, ki so znašale milijone dolarjev, so že pomiloščeni. Mooney in Billings sta še vedno v ječi.

W. T. McGray, bivši guverner države Indiana, je bil leta 1924 obsojen radi goljufij, ki so mu prinesle sto tisoče dolarjev. Začel je kot bančni klerk, postal milijonar in vodilni politik v državi, katera mu je dala guvernersko čast. To je tisti McGray, ki je dejal, takrat ko je bil guverner, da se sramuje, ker je Eugene V. Debs iz iste države (Indiana) kakor on. Smatral je, da dela Debs sramoto Indiani vsled svoje zaporne kazni. Po Debsovi vrnitvi iz zapora je bil poslan v federalno ječo v Atlanto guverner McGray. Debs mu je kompliment vrnil z obrestmi.

Predsednik Coolidge je tega guvernerja avgusta 1927 pomilostil, dne 23. decembra 1930 pa mu je predsednik Hoover vrnil vse državljanske pravice. Debsu jih niso nikoli. Ko je bil v ječi nekaj časa Harry Sinclair, niso z njim prav nič postopali pri z jetnikom. Če že tu in tam pride kak kapitalist v zapor, mu napravijo življenje v jetni upravljaljo banko, zdaj še ne vemo, ali je izginilo ali ne. V tem letu je izginilo več sto malih bank, in nekaj primeroma velikih finančnih zavodov.

Tudi v Monaku imajo revolucionarni val

V mali kneževini Monaku so tistih par tisoč prebivalcev, ki jih deželica ima, upira in demonstira proti svojemu knezu, ker ga dolže, da je on kriv pomanjkanja prosperitete. Igralnice v Monte Karlu delajo slabo, nekaj radi depresije, še več pa, ker jim konkurirajo noveješe igralnice v francoski Riveri.

QUEER WAYS OF ONTARIO

They have some queer ways of doing things in Ontario, Canada.

An old man, 72 years of age, with no friends or relatives, went to the police of Hamilton, Ontario, and asked them to put him in jail. That, he said, would give him the food and shelter he could no longer earn for himself.

Instead, the police looked up his record, found he was eligible to an old age pension, kept him until it was granted, and turned him loose. It is a small pension, which provides only a meager living—but it is his own and these old folks who have been stepchildren of fortune have learned how to make a little money go a long way.

Queer crowd, these Ontario chaps, says Labor. They develop their own power and sell it to themselves at cost, instead of letting "private enterprise" use it to make millions; and they pension off their old folks, instead of sending them to jail. It is just barely possible that the United States might learn something from Ontario.—Exchange.

PUT TO SLEEP?

Everybody is doing something or other to help the unemployed.

Millions of dollars are raised for them—in newspaper headlines.

Jobs for tens of thousands of workers are created—again, in newspaper headlines.

Endless numbers of committees on unemployment have been set up, and respectable citizens and prominent politicians exert themselves to the limit to get into the headlines.

And in the meantime the unemployed are crowding the municipal lodging houses and swelling the breadlines.

There is a strong probability that these combined, co-ordinated, and high-pressed drives will result in enough charity to keep the souls and bones of the unemployed together, just about enough to get them short of the point of ease when they might think more fully and more logically about what would really be helpful to them.

Half-starved people will not think further than a loaf of bread, and so charity will keep them half, or 40 per cent starved.

But what after we pass this crisis?

Unemployment, if not on so large a scale as at present, is bound to stay with us—what then?

The liberality of the donors in the present drives and particularly the lavish publicity given that liberality, will it put to sleep the thought of adequate compulsory unemployment insurance which is the only approach to a rational way of dealing with the problem?

—The Advance.

Einstein As He Is

Mayor James J. Walker of New York the other day extended a formal welcome and the keys of the city to a man who could not possibly become a citizen of the United States and who if he had been in America might have occupied a cell in Atlanta Penitentiary along with Gene Debs. This man is one of the most distinguished citizens of the world, one of the greatest thinkers of all time, but he is a Socialist and a pacifist who has proclaimed and taught steadfast opposition to all war and who has even gone so far as to say in this land of the D. A. R. that a government would not risk war if it thought that 2 per cent of its prospective soldiers would refuse to fight. This man, of course, is Albert Einstein. We hail him not only as the world's greatest scientist but as a comrade in the struggle for peace.—Norman Thomas.

Blame Ourselves, Not The Foreigner

Every nation, as H. N. Brailsford says, will blame the foreigner for its miseries if it has but a plausible excuse.

Ours tried it, in the Russian wheat-selling episode, but did not get very far.

Blaming the hard times on world-wide depression is more plausible—but even so, the United States could have good times all by itself if it were willing to take the right action to secure them.

This country has the greatest home market in the world. Mr Hoover says we consume an average of about 90 per cent of our own production of commodities. We could easily consume the remaining 10 per cent—and set all industries going full blast—by paying the useful workers enough so they could buy the products.

As this will not be done, on account of private ownership of the industries, other far-reaching measures are called for.

Milwaukee Leader.

SEARCHLIGHT

By Donald J. Lotrich

Our 1930 Christmas has been the most commercialized Christmas of them all. We are getting into a habit of saying and repeating these phrases, because each year more and more money is spent and business is made. Not only did the mailman and parcel post man carry tidings and packages of good cheer but there was the radio and the telegraph that carried countless numbers of messages. So once more the big moguls have done a big business and the little ones didn't do so much. What else matters, so long as there are profits? Did the number of unemployed lessen any? Was there less suffering because of Christmas? Every where hymns and carols brought good will to men. Wonder what the 7,000,000 unemployed thought of all this?

The government of the U. S. refuses nearly \$12,000,000 on unearned taxes. That's a lot of money to us who are only used to seeing nickels, dimes and quarters. If all of this money had been turned into some public service, to aid the unemployed we would certainly use it. Since it was returned to large corporations and rich individuals, who hire attorneys and scrutinize every deduction to enable the rich to evade as much of the tax as possible one must call it damnable. Imagine the U. S. Steel Corp. overpaying \$10,000,000, can you? This winter cannot because every man in their office would have to be fired because of this overpayment. Besides there is a whole lot more urgent need to help the unemployed than there is to help these rich. What cares our government about the unemployed worker. Not much because all they do is talk about it. It's the way of the present government and there is only one way to change it. The poor man always helps his poor brother. Get the rich away from the control of the government. Let the workers rule and then and only then can the workers expect anything. That's why the rich so fear Socialism.

Last Friday night Socialist Club No. 1 JSF, held its annual meeting and elected new officers for 1931. After the regular session Peter Bernik its secretary make a report on "policies and activities" of the club. He clearly defined that the purpose of our club was to teach and bring up the people in the spirit of the workers thru plays, recitals, debates and discussions and to give them relaxation with our concerts. In my estimation the report was good and the facts well founded. Comrades Garden, Rak and Kopach have been selected to formulate the English sub-branch. Our club contributed \$10.00 to the Unemployment Fund of the Chicago District S.N.P. Federation.

All we hear and read is unemployment and its consequential collections. But so it must be with our prevailing system and we too must beg our folks to contribute. A fund, under the auspices of the Chicago District S. N. P. J. Federation, for the unemployed will be considerably enlarged if a good attendance will be had at the dance on January 10, 1931. The S. N. P. J. Hall will be used and Johnny Kochevar will play. Many contributions of various merchandise is being received and accepted.

Indiana's former governor who was in jail because he used the mails to defraud has been pardoned by president Hoover and has left Atlanta for his home before Xmas. An embezzler of \$8,000,000 on the west coast has been given a 10 to 100 year sentence. Mooney and Billings against whom the witnesses have falsified are still in prison. There is little hope for them ever coming out alive. Mooney and Billings are labor men. The other two are rich men, or should be rich. That's the difference. Two have money; two have not. But I have often said it is all you can expect. Rich will naturally help the rich. The poor have no one in office to help them. It therefore sums right down to our old pleading. Workers unite, vote your ticket, the Socialist ticket, if you want justice. Do you believe if Upton Sinclair had been elected governor of California that Mooney and Billings would stay behind the bars?

There has been more factional strife among Slovenes during 1930 than there has been in many another years. Lack of unity and all this unrest is bringing us into two distinct divisions with which to begin 1931; those that toil and build and those that try to cause splits and disruptions. Wake up ye old souls who are

biased by the wrong preachings. Join the ranks of the constructive builders and in that way you can help put an end to all of these petty jealousies and minor quarrels.—Awaken

Pioneer Lodge of Chicago has started a Juvenile Slovene School a month ago which has turned out very successfully. At the first lesson 45 young boys and girls signed up and at last Saturday's lesson there were 47. Katka Zupancic who often contributes to Proletariat and the American Family Almanac is the teacher. The outlook for 1931 for our school is excellent.

Reserve January 25, 1931, for our club's next play. Also February 14, 1931, for the Pioneer Valentine Dance.

While you are enjoying yourself at the New Year's Parties, think a little about the poor strikers of Virginia. Norman Thomas made a report on his trip to Danville, Va. and outlined the primitiveness in that district. Everywhere the poor must beg and this is another appeal for them.

Room for Improvement

Harvey S. Firestone furnishes the following statistics to support his contention that we are not suffering from overproduction: 4,000,000 city families have no bathtubs; 3,000,000 families have unplumbed homes; 4,000,000 rural families are doing without electricity; 5,000,000 families lack adequate clothing, food and shelter; 13,000,000 families have no telephone; 7,000,000 families have no automobile; 20,000,000 families haven't a good radio set.—The World Tomorrow.

Vacuum

"Mamma, I have the stomach-ache," said Peggy, aged five. "That's because you haven't had any lunch yet," answered Peggy's mother; "your stomach is empty. You would feel better if you had something in it."

That afternoon the minister called and in the course of conversation remarked that he had been suffering all day with a severe headache.

"That's because it's empty," said Peggy. "You'd feel better if you had something in it."

MORE ENGLISH ARTICLES ON PAGE 5.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS

"Cuba Libre"

All reports that a volcano is bubbling beneath the Machado dictatorship in Cuba which is a nursing of American capitalism and virtually protected by the Platt Amendment, not only have the labor unions been crushed, but the students have demonstrated against the regime and evidence indicates that professional men are now aroused. The recent election was a farce carried out under Machado's police and in plain violation of the Cuban Constitution. Opponents of the dictators have mysteriously disappeared and floating bodies in Havana harbor in recent years give some idea of what is happening.

American capitalists have millions invested in the island and have a big stake in this bloody regime. A manifesto by 100 Cuban women sent to Senator Walsh protests against the military dictatorship and charges the American Ambassador, Harry F. Guggenheim, with being friendly to this regime. A move to inquire into the matter was blocked by Senator Jones of Washington on the ground that a Senate rule forbids consideration of conditions in foreign countries unless requested by the President.

Thus when it is a matter of human life and liberty Cuba is a "foreign" country, but if American capitalist interests are endangered by a rising of the masses Cuba loses its "foreign" status and become an American colony into which American troops are moved. This is the clever use to which the Platt Amendment is put. It is on a level with the gambler who plays with marked cards.

—New Leader.

Office and Power

"There is only one thing better than a Labor government in office: that is a Labor government in power."

So says The London Daily Herald, the paper with over a million circulation which serves as the official organ of the Labor party of England. It describes the difficulties of trying to carry on while in a minority in parliament.

The difficulties are truly great. But, in attempting to carry on under these difficulties, the Labor government had better watch its step lest the Labor government in office should not be followed by a Labor government in power.

The independent Labor party keeps advising the Labor party to be more militant and aggressive.

Without indorsing all of its proposals, the advice, we believe, is good. The MacDonald government—if we are able to judge of it at this distance

—is showing too much caution and timidity. It is compromising too much in order to keep in office. It had better be more aggressive and go down to defeat on some big issue. It could then go before the country in a new election and win. If it continues its present course it will most likely go down on some minor issue and then lose out at the election.

It has, nevertheless, accomplished a great deal, and it is not always given credit for its accomplishments.

It must be given credit for the slum clearance act, the raising of the school-leaving age, the mines act, the consumers' bill, the land bill, the pensions act, the trade union bill, the on the "live register" so that they recognition of Russia, the placing of from 200,000 to 300,000 unemployed might receive unemployment insurance, the extension of widows' pensions to vast numbers of widows who had not been receiving them, the guarantee of the insurance of the new Cunard liners which finds work in Glasgow alone for 5,000 shipyard workers for a period of three years, the \$675,000,000 sanctioned for work schemes which have already found work for nearly 200,000 men, the new scheme for the revival of agriculture, the success in some of its foreign-relations work, the aid it has given to world peace, etc.

—Milwaukee Leader.

Will They Be Freed?

"Sunny Jim" Ralph governor-elect of California, will have it in his power to pardon Mooney and Billings. Liberals were so certain that such would be his course that they urged his election.

Now that he is elected, things seem to have changed a good deal. Governor-elect Ralph has senatorial aspirations, and such do not dovetail with a Mooney pardon. The powerful corporations in California will not stand for a senator from the state who is not thoroughly reliable and the freeing of Tom Mooney and Billings by Gov. Ralph would not be taken in corporate business circles as proof that the governor is of senatorial quality.

What this all means to the two men who have been in jail now for a horribly long 14 years is quite obvious. What the friends of Mooney and Billings can do about it is not at all clear. They certainly ought to storm heaven and earth in and around the liberal and labor movement in the United States.

But again, if there had been a movement aware of its interests and alive to its duties, there would have been no Mooney-Billings case.

—The Advance.

Socialist Physicians Organized to Help People

Dr. Jacob Auslander, a New York physician writes to inform us that a group of physicians in New York have formed an Association of Socialist Physicians and that they invite every physician in the country who believes with them that the present economic order is not what it ought to be, to join the Association. The means of production and distribution, that is, all machinery, the factories, the mines, the railways and all other means upon which people depend for a living, the socialist physicians think, should belong to society as a whole. The immediate purpose which this association dedicates itself to, is of immediate value. They wish to advocate the socialization of medicine, to offer active support to such organizations as The Workers' Health Benefit, The Workingmen's Sick and Death Benefit Society, The Workmen's Circle; they urge the study of occupational diseases and they advocate an adequate program of health, of protection for workers in factories and mines. Other points on their program include compulsory health and accident insurance, low prices for medicinal things, a fight on the abuses in the drug market. Advocacy of social hygiene measures, the dissemination of knowledge of prevention of diseases, birth control, and the fight for legal recognition of the latter. One need not necessarily be a Socialist to support the new group in their enterprise, though it is certain that Socialists will find it in keeping with their beliefs to take a part in this movement.

—Advance.

Loaded With Wheat and No Place to Go

In the reports of congressional activities we have not noticed any bill for the distribution of the wheat which the government owns.

Last time we commented upon this wheat, the government owned about 60,000,000 bushels.

Now it owns more than 100,000,000 bushels.

The grain is in the hands of the National Grain Stabilization Corporation, which was established by the Federal Farm Board.

Something ought to be done with it, for it represents a large part of the surplus wheat of this year and last year. In 1931 there will probably be another surplus, and this old surplus will help to depress the price and keep the farmers in the slough of despond.

What to do? If it were dumped on the market, the price would be depressed at once. That won't do.

It could be given to the unemployed and the otherwise distressed without depressing the price, since thousands upon thousands of these are undernourished and could not buy the wheat or the flour and would not receive enough nourishment from any source. The wheat would simply go unbought and unused, to the physical and mental detriment of those who ought to have it. It could be turned into flour and distributed, or the wheat itself could be distributed, for whole wheat is good food as it stands.

And if other interests, afraid it would cut into their sales, will not permit this to be done, then it could be sent to the starving Chinese.

In either way, it would do some good, and the distribution would remove an embarrassing obstacle that stands in the way of farm relief.—Milwaukee Leader.

Party Discussion

One of the most encouraging signs in years is the revival of discussion in the Socialist Party. Various points of view are being raised regarding political campaigns and programs; the proper attitude towards Russia and Bolshevism; Socialist policy in relation to trade union organizations and issues, and other matters of importance to the members.

The fact that the members are in a questioning mood is a healthy sign. Moreover, in the past five or six years many new members have been admitted and they are eager to participate in the discussion and contribute to the formulation of policies. Their keen interest is also welcomed.

Of the main topics of discussion, political campaigns and the trade unions are as old as the Socialist Party. They have come up in nearly every national convention since the Unity Convention in 1901. Soviet Russia is not a new topic but it is recent, the party having defined its position in national conventions for ten years. The New Leader will at an early date present a digest of the Socialist Party towards Russia as it unfolded since the Bolshevik revolution.

At a recent meeting of the National Executive Committee in Newark it was decided to hold a national conference of the party in May. As a means of contributing to intelligent discussion at this conference the committee urged that locals work out suggestions for the agenda. The present discussion contributes to this end and we hope that locals throughout the country will do likewise.—The New Leader.

A HARD ROAD TO TRAVEL ON

