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LETTO—VOL. XXXIV.

Vojna Japonske na Kitajskem v tretjem letu

NAD 3 MILIJONE UBITIH IN RANJENIH.— JAPONSKI MILITARIZEM PROVOCIRA SOVJETSKO UNIJO IN IMPERIALISTIČNE SILE.— ANGLIJA SE IZOGIBA SPOPADU

V vojni na Kitajskem ki je je sklepla Japonska 7. julija pred dvema letoma, je bilo že štiri milijone ubitih in ranjenih, večinoma Kitajci, ker se vojna vrši na njihovem ozemlju. V temu uradno ni vojna, ker je Japonska ni nikoli napovedala. Tak je namreč sedanji običaj. Hitler je ni napovedal ne čehoslovaški, ne Avstriji, in Italiji ne Etiopiji in ne Albani. Nemčija in Italija sta bili v vojni proti češki republike, a sta ves čas tajili, da sta v vojni.

Japanske izgube

V tej vojni in Aziji, ki uradno nih ni vojna, ima tudi Japonska velike izgube, ki pa so kaj pada veliko manjše nego kitajske. Ker Kitajska nima dovolj letal in ne sposobnih letalcev, ne more dati prebivalstvu na Japonskem o ku si t učinkove krate, kakršne mejejo japonski letali na kitajskih mesta.

Japonska priznava, da je bilo na Kitajskem ubitih 70,000 njenih vojakov. Pravilno število je kajpada mnogo višje. Ranjenih je bilo gotovo, kakih par sto tisoč. Japonska armada na Kitajskem in v Mandžuriji šteje eden in četrto milijona mož. V denarju jo ta vojna stane povprečno štiri milijone dolarjev na dan.

Japanske pridobitve

V dveh letih vojne je Japonska okupirala tretjino Kitajske.

"Cankarjev Glasnik" in naš pokret

Ekssekutiva JSZ se je na svoji redni seji 7. julija pečala tudi z namigi z Clevelandom, da je naš pokret s svojim vodstvom in glasilom nasproten reviji "Cankarjev Glasnik" in sabotira agitacijo zanjo. To napačno mnenje pridno neti v sovraštvo do socialističnega gibanja pittsburghski "Naprej" in njegovi prišasti v Clevelandu.

JSZ je na svojem zadnjem zboru leta 1936 v posebni rezoluciji izjavila, da se načelno strinja z akcijo provizoričnega odbora v Clevelandu za ustavnitev revije in počast spominu Ivana Cankarja, in ob enem je zbor pooblastil ekssekutivo JSZ, da naj posveti reviji svojo pozornost, to je, da naj jo naše gibanje podpira, ako bo urejena v smislu delavske kulture. Znala je izhajati julija 1937, torej eno leto po našem zboru.

Naši sodrugi v raznih krajih — pred vsem v Clevelandu, kjer je sedež Cankarjeve ustanove, so bili med prvimi, ki so agitirali za pridobitev naročnikov revije. Ampak če to agitacijsko delo ni napredovalo kot bi kdo rad, ni naša kriva, pač pa posledica razmer in pa premajhnega števila onih, ki jim bi bilo za čitanje tuda kaj boljšega kot navadnega žurnalja. Proletarec se bori z enakimi težkočami od početka.

Vsa namigavanja o naročniku dopisov proti agitaciji za "Cankarjev Glasnik" so brez podlage. Hujskanje "Napreja" in njegovih ljudi z ozirom na "Cankarjev Glasnik" ima prozoren namen oslabiti pokret, kateri je gotovim ljudem trin peti, in s tem koncem konca škodi "Cankarjevemu Glasniku" in "Proletarcu". To dejstvo je

Septembra to leto bi se imel vršiti XII. redni zbor JSZ in Prosvetne matice. Ekssekutiva je že večkrat razpravljala o predlogih za odložitev zборa na prihodnje leto, toda smo končno ostali pri prvotnem sklepu, da se vrši letos.

Odbor JSZ in Prosvetne matice je na seji dne 7. julija spet imel pred sabo priporočila nekaterih klubov in posameznikov, da se zbor odloži iz vzroka, ker smatrajo, da bo prihodnje leto (zaradi volitev) zanj več zanimanja kot ga je letos,

in pa vsled možnosti, da se do takrat situacija v ameriški socialistični stranki in v delavskem gibanju v obče razčisti in bo delegatom laglje sklepati brez predsednikov, kar bo načelo gibanju še pospreno v korist.

To mnenje je večina odbora na omenjeni seji sprejela za najpravilnejše in najboljše v korist JSZ in Prosvetni matice ter sklenila zbor odložiti na prihodnje leto.

Sugestirano je bilo, da naj ekssekutiva takoj določi tudi datum prihodnjega zboru. Pri-

čel bi se bodisi na praznik 30. maja, ki pade drugo leto na četrtek, in bi trajal tako potrebno do nedelje popoldne. Ali pa 4. julija, ki pade tudi na četrtek, ker ima ob tem prazniku več ljudi počitnice kot pa meseca maja. Odbor ni ob tem še nič definitivnega sklenil, ker je za to dovolj časa in je potrebno počakati tudi priporočil od klubov JSZ in konferenčni Prosvetne matice. Ravno tako o vprašanju kje naj se vrši.

Razprava o odnosnih JSZ do sicer stranke s tem odpade.

Ali se AFM iz sednjega svojega prisnika na kongres, ki je podaljal delovne ure pri WPA, ne pa meže teh delavcev, kaj načila? Članek o tem je na prvi strani.

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PROLETAREC

CHICAGO, ILL., July 12, 1939

EDUCATION
ORGANIZATION
CO-OPERATIVE
COMMONWEALTH

VOL. XXXIV.

Finish and Well Done

Proving again in no uncertain terms that "where there is a will there is a way," Branch 1 JSF, with the cooperation of all its members and friends "put across" its picnic last Tuesday in grand and splendid style.

Keg's spacious picnic grove to its full length and width teemed with humanity from early morning till late into the night of a perfect picnic day which earlier threatened to be one of the worse, with dark skies full of heavy low-hanging clouds and the humidity so low it was oppressive.

The crowd came early and stayed late; the kitchen and bar did a humming business while crowds jammed the dance floor and took refuge in the shaded spots with their balloons and lunch baskets.

Tombola found many enthusiasts and the game went merrily on throughout the afternoon.

A young lady from Melrose Park, Helen Krosel, went home a beautiful gold wrist watch the richer.

To all who gave gifts or made cash donations; to all who worked at the stands or helped in any other way to make the picnic the grand success it was, "thanks" for your willing co-operation through which we were able to keep things moving smoothly and in a comradely spirit.

The following individuals, groups and business houses contributed gifts for the Tombola game:

Universal Furniture Store, Dutka Jewelry Store, Frank's Meat Market, Pelikan Drug Store, Havili Fruit Store, SNPJ girls, Krejci Candy Store, Reliable Liquor Store, Douglas Clothing Store, Spatt Knitting Mills, The Thrift Shop, Cermak Hardware Store, F. H. Ondrus & Son, Kozelka Hardware Store, 26th Street Juvenile Shop, Tabor Bros., Mrs. J. Thaler, Mrs. Anton Zaitz, Mrs. F. Udovich, Mrs. F. Vider, Mrs. R. Bozicnik, Mary Over and Wencel's Dairy.

Our members should reciprocate by patronizing those who patronize us.

Cash donations were made by following: **Frank Omahen, Frank Flor, Dr. J. J. Zaverik, and John Hochevar. Ernest Dresler made the signs.**

We hoped and planned to make this picnic in financial returns equal last year's. We succeed and are satisfied.

JOHN BULL BROUGHT IT ON HIMSELF

England's troubles in China were brought on by her own dilly-dallying.

There was a minority labor government in England, with Ramsay MacDonald as premier, when the Tories succeeded in undermining the labor government by appealing to the vanity of MacDonald. He left the labor government in the lurch and went over to the "nationalists." They formed a so-called nationalist government, retaining him as their premier for a while, until they got ready to throw him overboard.

It was along about that time when Japan took possession of Manchuria. Japan was a member of the League of Nations. The action was in violation of the league covenant. If England and France had taken a strong stand they would have been upheld by the other countries in the league and could easily have stopped the Japanese aggression in its tracks.

Instead, England temporized. A commission was appointed which whitewashed the Japanese. The Tories almost applauded the Japanese aggression.

Having had her way in Manchuria, Japan was emboldened. The rest has followed in due order. Incidentally the United States, which tried to stop the Japanese aggression in Manchuria with strong notes, was left out on the limb. Under these circumstances, ought Uncle Sam to pull the British chestnuts out of the fire now?

—Milwaukee Post.

Portrait of an American

BY LOUIS UNTERMEYER

He slobbers over sentimental plays

And sniffs over sentimental songs.

He tells you often how he sadly longs

For the ideals of the dear old days.

In gatherings he is the first to raise

His voice against "our country's shameful wrongs."

He storms at greed. His hard, flat tone prolongs

The hymns and mumbled platitudes of praise.

The heard him in his office Friday past.

"Look here," he said, "their talk is all a bluff;

You mark my words, this thing will never last.

Let them walk out—they'll come back quick enough.

We'll have all hands at work—and working fast!

How do they think we're running this for—love?"

FROM A SMALL GIRL

HIDDEN TAXES

There are no less than 157 hidden taxes in the cost of a funeral, a recent survey shows.

When you pay your electric light bill you are paying 49 hidden taxes.

In the price of a pair of shoes \$12, in purchasing a dress \$2, in purchasing a pound of coffee 60¢, in a pair of silk stockings 56¢, and 61¢ when you purchase a movie ticket.

By far the greatest number of taxes are paid by the motorist who stops at a gas station for a dollar's worth of gas and at the same time purchases a package of cigarettes.

Henry Ford himself helped create the floating turntable depicting all processes in the manufacture of fliers at the New York World's Fair, it is reported.

We know just what he contributed—the idea that automats do all the work.

It is not only arrogant, but profane, for a man to disregard the world's opinion of himself.—Cicero.

Our Doings

By JOSEPH DRASLER

EVERYBODY CAME

Chicago, Ill. — The Fourth of July picnic held by Branch 1 JSF out at Keg's Grove was as revealing as a mirror in showing very plainly what heights of success can be reached through organized endeavor of our group and our following here in Chicago.

In Reading, Pennsylvania, known far and wide for its Socialist and labor activities, the success of their first big summer picnic is being followed up with plans for a second. Our next affair will be "Sava's" picnic at Kobal's in Clarendon Hills, on Sunday, August 27, which will be followed by the Branch play in October. A few years ago we used to fill in the beautiful autumn season with an outing to the old familiar "hrábiček" in Willow Springs. Perhaps this year too, we'll see.

RECORD-BREAKING MONTH

Secretary of Branch 1, Charles Potelec, reports that the month of June, was, financially, the very best in many years. During that month members really dug into their pockets with the result that a lot of stamps were pasted in membership books. Over sixty dollars was collected in membership dues in that one month alone.

COMRADES BUSY

In Pueblo and Walsenburg, Colorado, where huge SNPJ thirty-fifth anniversary celebrations were held our active comrades went to work among the huge crowd in attendance and collected over \$25 for the Sustaining Fund of Proletarec. The same good news is reported from a number of sections of Pennsylvania and Ohio. In other cities, as listed in the Slovene section under "Přípravek k JSZ" picnics are being sponsored for the benefit of our paper. This is the sort of activity that will carry Proletarec through the summer, lul-

FREE CZECHO-SLOVAKIA LIVES!

Despite the protests of the Nazis, the New York World's Fair pavilion erected by Czechoslovakia before the Nazi coup has been opened to the public. Dr. Edward Beneš, president of the republic before Hitler's conquest, dedicated the pavilion in the following words:

I am speaking to you today on behalf of one of the oldest countries in Europe, a liberty-loving country, a peace-loving country. And I speak in the name of a highly cultured people, a politically-developed people in the heart of that old continent. The Czech-Slovak nation, proud and dignified in its temporary distress, sends to you—to the great American people—its cordial greetings and its profound and sincere thanks for your kind hospitality, unforgettable for us in the face of the conditions under which we are forced to live today.

The time seems dark for us and for the fate of all small nations in Europe. But thanks to this great land of freedom and its democratic government, we Czechs, Slovaks and Carpatho-Russians still can show to the world how an humble yet free and democratic people can work—and why that people will never die.

Thanks to America

I consider it my duty and my privilege first of all to express thanks to the American people and to its government which refused to recognize the occupation by military force of the Republic of Czechoslovakia, and which continues to recognize the representatives of the Czech-Slovak people in this country. This act of international law and order, of justice and fairness, has helped us to underline in the face of the whole world the sound, firm basis of the legal existence of our State, in spite of what happened in Europe during the last months.

This pavilion, ladies and gentlemen, is the free and independent Czech-Slovakia of the near past, and the free and independent Czechoslovakia of the near future. All that you see around you was made in free Czechoslovakia. We wish to show to the millions of visitors to this World's Fair the fruitful and creative efforts of the Czechs, Slovaks and Carpatho-Russians—although recent events have made it practically impossible to do everything that was planned during the period of our free existence. One can compare these achievements with the news which we receive daily from the occupied territory. On the one side, we see in this pavilion the results of a free and democratic regime. On the other hand, we see the conditions of a nation under the rule of brute force. It is not necessary to make any other comment.

As president of the free Czechoslovak republic I lent all my support to the idea that the Czech-Slovak state and nation should be worthily represented at this great New York World's Fair.

I wanted the friendly relations of the United States of America and the Czech-Slovak republic to be further strengthened, especially by the development of our mutual economic relations; which had attained an extraordinary degree just before the events of the last year in Europe. I am sure that the violent changes in Europe will not destroy these strong ties of collaboration and that the near future will show these relations stronger than ever.

Allow those 10,000,000 Czechs, Slovaks and Carpatho-Russians in the occupied territory, who believe in their happy future national life, now temporarily lost, to hear us free people and our free manifestation of this hope today. I am sure somehow, they

will send in your application now for classes forming.

LAST CALL!

For the Moonlight Dance Cruise Saturday nite, July 15 on the S. S. Theodore Roosevelt, leaving the Navy Pier at 9:30 P. M. This is your opportunity to escape the terrific Chicago heat for one evening.

PARTY LITERATURE

Socialism States Its Case on War is the title of an attractive little pamphlet by Norman Thomas just issued by the National Office. The price is 2¢ per copy, \$1 for 55 copies. Get a bunch of these pamphlets and sell it to all your friends.

A new issue of the **Socialist Review** has come off the press and can be secured from the County Office. Among the articles are "Fascist Tactics in Latin America" by a leader of the APRA Party of Peru, "Labor's New Battle Front" by Frank Trager and "Last Days in Spain" by Louis Aragon. Price only 15¢. Get your copy now.

VISITORS

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Matkovich of West Allis, Wisconsin, visited at the Slovene Labor Center last week.

From Girard, Ohio John Taneck, Mrs. Sophie Taneck, and from Warren, Ohio John, Louis, Paul and Marie Galetti, stopped at the Slovene Labor Center.

Chinese, spoken by 475,000,000 people, is the first language of the world.

The only way to have a friend is to be one.—Emerson.

HARVEST TIME



REFLECTIONS

By RAYMOND S. HOFSES

"WOULDN'T YOU DO THE SAME THING IF YOU HAD THE CHANCE?"

Socialists of twenty-five or more years ago will recognize that question. It was what was hurled at them when they complained that capitalist laws sanctioned the exploitation of workers by owners. The opponents of Socialism were supercilious those days. In high-browed and airy fashion they disposed of us with a question which implied that might makes right, and they'd leave us with a condescending pat on the back and a snooty remark about the survival of the fittest.

Well, those same "antis" aren't so self-assured right now. They don't realize it, but they are being pinched by their own philosophy. Just now many of them have rueful memories of lifetime savings which were "frozen" back in 1933 . . . of mortgage foreclosures which sent them tumbling from the ranks of home owners . . . of steady jobs which have disappeared. They wouldn't like it if I were to shove down their throats the fact that what has happened of them is part and parcel of the principle—or lack of principle—which they expressed when they so smugly said, "Wouldn't you do it?" *

tention of preserving the private profit economy "socializing" (a democratic term for "regimenting") millions of people under the guise of "social security" to stave off the day when the wealth of the nation will be socialized FOR the people. Perhaps you do not accept WPA, NYA, direct relief and unemployment doles as suitable substitutes for plenty and security. But if you were one of the big beneficiaries of the profit racket—wouldn't you do it?

On the international scene we see nations competing in brigandage. Italy steals Ethiopia; Japan rapes China; all capitalist nations are massing their murder machinery against the day when rivalries for loot will result in war. Some day German rulers will send German workers out to die in defense of profits. British rulers and French rulers and Italian rulers and American rulers will do the same thing. They're all ready to sacrifice their dupes for their own profit. But then, if you were on the top of the heap, wouldn't you do it? *

"MIGHT MAKES RIGHT!" Isn't that what anti-Socialists used to tell us? *

Now look where that philosophy got us.

What the world still needs to learn is that might is a dangerous thing unless it is directed and guided by intelligence. It was because the great majority of people failed to understand the truth that they permitted the unjust profit system to continue until it has already brought about one world war and now threatens to result in another.

Socialists know that all the evils which have already come to plague the earth's peoples are the RESULTS of the private profit racket. Socialists know that the ONE WAY to end those evils is by abolishing the racket and establishing a system of acclaimed production for the common good.

Socialists would unite the might of millions who are now denied happiness and hope to establish a truly social society. If you understood the law of cause and effect, and if you saw how you could build a better world for your children—wouldn't you do it?

ONE THIRD STARVE

Chicago, Ill. — A recent survey by the Department of Labor shows that 15% of Chicago's families in 1938 received less than \$1500 income; 7% earned less than \$500; 13.7% earned less than \$600; 22.1% earned less than \$750; 32.1% earned less than \$1000; and 43.4% earned less than \$1250.

Don't you think it's high time to do something about conditions that keep over one third of the population in poverty and dire want all the time?

Sure it is! And the way to do it is to abolish the private profit system which allows one man to exploit hundreds and butter, allowing them to work only when he can do so at a profit.

BILLINGS

San Francisco. — The possibility that technicalities in the state legal code relating to second convictions may permit Governor Olsen of California to pardon Warren K. Billings is the latest and most hopeful development in the long fight to free Tom Mooney's co-defendant.

JOURNALISM

(One of America's oldest and most beloved journalists was tendered a banquet by his fellow-editors, and surprised his hosts by the following words.)

There is no such thing in America as an independent press, unless it is in the country town.

You know it and I know it. There is not one of you who dares to write his honest opinions, and if you did you know beforehand that it would never appear in print.

I am paid \$150.00 a week for keeping my honest opinion out of the paper I am connected with—others of you are paid similar salaries for similar things—and any of you who would be so foolish as to write his honest opinions would be out on the streets looking for another job.

The business of the New York journalist is to destroy the truth, to lie outright, to pervert, to vilify, to fawn at the feet of Mammon, and to sell his race and his country for his daily bread.

You know this and I know it, and what folly is this to be boasting an "Independent Press."

We are the tools and vassals of rich men behind the scenes. We are the jumping-jacks; they pull the strings and we dance. Our talents, our possibilities and our lives are all the property of other men. We are intellectual prostitutes.

The fire you kindle for your enemy often burns yourself more than him.

Chinese proverb.

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(Translated from the Slovene by LOUIS ADAMIC)