

retired to a Monastery), is the biggest criminal in the world.

How long this murderous regime will last none can tell; because of the low standard of living of the Italians, as measured by English and American standards, there is practically no unemployment there and this may prolong the power of the Fascisti for an indefinite period. On the other hand, the government today is sitting on the safety valve as truly as tyranny ever did, and it cannot last indefinitely. The length of that tyranny depends not only upon the people of Italy, but upon the good will and assistance of libertarians in other countries. Italians like Garibaldi, Massini and our own Malatesta, as well as many others, have contributed to the thought and development of people in other countries, and we should do likewise. Those who, like the writer, have gone to Italy and enjoyed its glories and its beauties owe a debt to its people who are gagged by the fear of violence and murder, or have been hypnotized by the phrases of Mussolini about Syndicalism and Imperial Rome, and should assist in every way possible to bring about the downfall of this bloody tyrant with his thugs who now oppress Italy's people.

A friend of mine bought some six months ago, sixteen tons of hard coal at \$13.00 a ton; today people are paying, or offering to pay, \$25.00 a ton. She did not have the money, but did have the credit and was able to borrow. An excellent radical, she knows as well as the readers of this paper the advantages of having a little money; she also knows that millions of others unable to pay or borrow even a small sum like \$200 are suffering because of the coal strike, a thing not of their making or one over which they have any control. Such are the blessings of private property for the few and the curse for the many. At the same time we have no faith in and scant sympathy for the proposal of Victor Berger, who wants to nationalize the mines. The Post Office is nationalized and the employees are for the most part scandalously underpaid, and few but themselves care a rap. As long as we get our mail we should worry because the men are underpaid. "It is their problem, not ours," says the average man, and so it would be with the miners. With government ownership and a law forbidding the men to strike, the miners would have as their only weapon of defence an appeal to the public conscience—a vague and indefinable thing, and if definable almost impossible to awaken. Some day the miners will take over the mines, but for ourselves we hope it will not be through nationalization wherein some super-impartial force

called "the public" has the deciding voice. Which reminds us: A member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union in speaking to us yesterday about the present disorganization of the union said: "We haven't won a single case from the impartial chairman in the last few months." Most assuredly not. An "Impartial Chairman" is impartial when the contending bodies are equally strong, but with the union weak why should he, or how can he be impartial. This particular case is a "victory" for the so-called "Communists" and "Lefts" in all but disrupting the union, and as they have now turned their attention to the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, we may expect a similar "victory" there.

Rupert Hughes, the novelist, has brought a storm down on his head for saying that George Washington drank, made his own liquor, danced with pretty women and used profane language. Dr. Cadman, President of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ, who by the way is one of the cleverest humbugs in an organization of humbugs, answers Hughes first by admitting the charges and second by saying that Washington had a better looking face than Hughes. This is a most convincing argument and will not doubt make Hughes sorry he spoke.

Senator Norris of Nebraska, one of the most honest and outspoken men in political life, has made what is in effect an impeachment of President Coolidge by accusing him of violating the constitution of the United States. Said violation being that Mr. Coolidge in appointing men to office asks them to pledge themselves to carry out his policies instead of deciding cases on their merits. These are the so-called non-partisan boards appointed by the President. The latter is not much concerned that certain men call themselves democrats so long as they vote his way. It reminds us of the saying of Mr. Dooley some years ago: "I care not who casts the votes as long as I count them."

Former Mayor Hylan may be vulgar, but he is no fool. Resigning two days before the expiration of his term of office he automatically gets a pension of something over \$5,000 a year. We venture to predict that this will not only not affect his standing in the circles in which he moved, it will improve it. The day after his first election some eight years ago a man said to me: "A fine hunk of cheese we elected for mayor." In the light of recent events it would seem that we are the cheese, not Hylan.

International Workingmen's Association

THE ROAD TO SYNDICALISM:

Independent trade and industrial organizations in every locality; maintenance of self-determination; inter-relationship of all the groups in industrial federations throughout the territory.

Co-ordination of all local organizations into Labor Exchanges.

The members of each local group independently decide for themselves regarding strikes and all other local affairs.

The local unions manage their own funds independently.

Education of members to self-reliance.

Refusal of negotiations, deputations and contracts with State or private employers.

Application of Direct Action: strikes, boycotts, passive resistance.

ONLY THESE METHODS OF STRUGGLE LEAD TO SUCCESS IN DAILY EFFORTS

Propagation and Extension of the General Strike!

Study of the regulation of consumption and of communal (local) affairs.

Study of the process of work (in shop, factory, field, mill, etc.), and the regulation of production through the revolutionary the unions of the workers.

THESE ACTIVITIES AND THESE METHODS ALONE ARE CAPABLE OF ACHIEVING AND PRESERVING THE FREE, SOCIAL COMMUNISTIC SOCIETY (AS AGAINST STATE-RIDDEN COMMUNITIES)

WORKERS, decide for yourselves whether you want to continue on the old road to misery and ruin, or whether you want to take a New Road, the Road to Freedom and well-being for all.

THE STRUGGLE OF THE SYNDICALISTS

The Syndicalists fight against Nationalism, because Nationalism is the fig-leaf covering narrow and selfish capitalist interests.

They believe in the world-wide International of Work, which alone can free the peoples.

They struggle against militarism in every form, because it leads to serfdom, to brutalization, and to defeat.

They fight by means of the invincible power of their economic position and by the aid of the spirit of Solidarity of the workers of the world.

They refuse to acknowledge and they struggle against parliamentary systems and activities, as well as against the conquest of political power, because these are the instruments of the possessing class for the enslavement and oppression of labor.

They neither vote nor stand as candidates, because they do not want to seem to approve of the means of class-rule and wage slavery. In no way do they want to be identified with the tools of tyranny.

They deny and struggle against all political parties, because they serve only to divide the working class and to deceive the proletariat with promises which they can never fulfill.

They depend only upon themselves and upon the creative power of the whole working class.

They fight against every form of centralism (in organization and power), for it means tutelage and the crippling of the spirit and the movement from the very outset.

They stand for Federalism (the co-ordination of independent units) which alone makes progress and justice possible.

If only a part of the working class would enter this new road and fight on our side, the victory would be speedily assured!

WHAT DO THE SYNDICALISTS WANT?

The Syndicalists want to abolish capitalism, the wage and money system.

They want to eliminate the State (the Government), because only the State system makes it possible for a certain class to exploit and rule over the people by means of laws, courts, police, prisons and armies.

They want to put an end to private and state ownership and monopoly of the sources of wealth. They want the land and the means of production (factories, mines, machinery, etc.) placed at the disposal of the manual and mental workers organized for the production and distribution of the products of toil.

They want the freedom of communes, wherein free councils should be established; and therefore they want real Communism, based on justice and equality, and not what falsely passes as such.

They want every one to have the opportunity to work for the common good, according to individual capacity and ability.

They want all human beings to have their food, dress, shelter, education and happiness, according to their needs.

They want to awaken the will to freedom and the knowledge of the Right Way in the hearts and heads of all working men and women, so that the emancipation of mankind can be achieved on this basis.

If you are interested, if you are hungry for liberty and want justice, come to us!

Get Syndicalist literature from the *International Working Men's Association* (I. W. M. A.) per Address: Fritz Kater, Berlin O 34 (Germany).

Fascism a Social Disease

By A. M. SPINOLA

THE majority of the toiling classes and not a few of our comrades believe that fascism is an exclusive Italian product, like *chianti* or *spaghetti*, a merchandise that could be produced or exported at one's will and satisfaction wherever it is desirable.

While fascism confined its fangs within the Savoia's kingdom, it didn't concern us very much, looking at it from a distant point, as an observer will look at a well localized case of small pox epidemic, that will continue its natural course without causing any immediate danger to the rest of the population, but as it spreads far and wide throughout the world it becomes a matter that should be taken into consideration, especially when it is approaching at our very doors.

The whole structure of society weakened and exhausted by the long war struggle, was a well fertilized field for the development of this social malady that stands today as a menace to the progress of the human race.

When fascism made its first appearance in Italy as a panacea to save the monarchial hierarchy of the Savoia's regime, endangered by the social and economical upheaval of that time, it was hailed by the ruling classes and their hirelings as the saviour of their *Patria*.

Its triumphal march into Rome was noted with interest by the rest of the ruling classes of this crazy world, and soon it spread like wildfire with all its deadly effects to Bulgaria, Spain, Peru, Greece and other nations. The plutocrats of France are now looking towards fascism as the only safe lifeboat that could pull them out to safety from the rough and tempestuous political storm that is now raging throughout the republic.

Crossing the Atlantic, the fascism appears now in our neighboring republic of Cuba. Its liberty and life destroying effects are as deadly as those employed by the new Caesar Benito.

The Cuban Federation of Labor (a Syndicalist organization) at its last convention, held in August last, where 200,000 workers were represented, adopted resolutions to start an organizing campaign throughout the sugar, coffee and tobacco fields, a decision which very much irritated the landlords of Cuba, under the management of Wall Street, who were seeing their profits decreasing by the workers' ruthless decision.

Consequently a strike has been declared, for an economical betterment in the main industries of the country, especially in Havana. It was very effective. The manufacturers' association followed the workers' decision with

a lockout, paralyzing thus the entire industry. A panic, not often seen in the labor movement, followed this complete tie-up.

As the movement continued on its natural course the Federation was outlawed by its enemies and the most active members were deported or jailed. More than 100 were sent to Spain alone; another 150 were locked up and tortured on board the naval ship *Marino Gomez*. Among them were several women and a number of their children. During the month of September several "bombs" exploded in Havana City, to be followed by wholesale arrests. The conspirators are showing their hand everywhere in active work to destroy the entire labor movement. Several "mysterious" killings followed the suppression of our press. A veteran of the revolution, now an editor of *El Dia*, a daily paper of the opposition party, was killed on leaving his office after his daily work. The leader of the successful strike of 1924 in the sugar industry, a well-liked comrade was also killed. Death followed the tragic arrest of Comrade Couxart, killed by his captors in the military barracks of "La Cabana," with the excuse that he tried to escape. Many others are missing, just dropped out of sight.

When the paralyzation of city life was completed by the strike and lock-out combined the students of the National University walked out in sympathy with other strikers, and made at the same time some demands of their own. The most active leader in the students' movement, Julio A. Mella, was, among many others, arrested and charged with several "crimes."

Since his last arrest, December 4th, he refused to eat and is now, January 2nd, on a hunger strike.

News that leaks through the military censor from other parts of the country show that the workers and students' movement is spreading fast throughout the country.

In an attempt to reopen the factories and to normalize the industrial situation, military supervisors were appointed by the government; the university was militarized and is menaced with being closed up for a long period of time.

The workers in the sugar fields refuse to obey or take orders from the military supervisors. The sugar cane remains uncut and the mills are at a standstill.

The newly elected President Machado, an old military chieftain, is fulfilling the promises he made to the Wall Street kings, during a banquet in New York, just a month before he took oath of his office. "While I reign the destinies of Cuba there will be law and order and the longest strike will