

of the human race are constantly being hammered into the minds of the youth. Can anyone doubt the supreme fanaticism which embraces these children, holding them in the shackles until they are laid at rest in the grave? And why? Simply because the apostles of the great Lord (holy be his name) utilize the moment when the brain of the child is raw, so they can plant their bigotry without any hindrances. . . . Why then shouldn't we come to these children's rescue and offer them an anti-toxin so to speak. . . . We who advocate an ideal which is based on nothing more than "truth-seeking," reserve not only the right, but a moral obligation to humanity, to wrest the children from under the dark cloaks, and open their eyes so they can behold the beautiful rays of the sun. . . . This we could and should do, if we are true to ourselves and to our ideals. That we will achieve a great deal by opening for the children educational classes, there is no question in my mind. If they obediently follow in the footsteps of the dark preachers, there is no logical reason in the world why we should fail to draw them to our ranks, if the proper environment could be prepared for them. Surely, we will encounter many obstacles, such as the antagonism of parents who would not want the children to differ from them, but through hard labor and unceasing effort, we can overcome all obstacles, for once the child will enter, all barriers will be left behind. . . .

Permit me, if you please, to tell you my experience of coming in contact with children during the past summer. One of our groups opened a children's camp for ten weeks. In that camp were admitted children of all classes. Some were of radical parents, but most of them were not. Naturally they were sent to camp for the purpose of enjoying the summer vacation only. But, aside from giving them all the pleasures we could afford, we introduced sketches of life in which they themselves took part and which proved to be very successful, both in the art of presentation (considering of course their youth and inexperience) and the effect it had on them. That, and the idealistic environment, inspired them so much, when the camp came to closing, they cried bitterly, not wanting to go back to their homes. How can it be explained? It surely would be conceit to think that these children are already prepared to accept the doctrines of anarchism. Positively not. The field, however, for spreading our thoughts is an immense one, and we surely could do great work were we to devote our efforts to the young generation.

In summing up I want to urge upon all serious-minded anarchists to begin a movement for organizing schools, camps, or other faculties of that char-

acter, where we can gather the children and teach them our principles and ideals. In attempting such a course, we can hope for a new era in the anarchist movement.

International Notes

By SLOVAK

HOLLAND.—*De Branding* and *De Moker*, two Dutch monthlies of youthful workers of Holland publish a call for participation in the International Anti-militarist Congress to be held in Vienna, Austria, on August 1st. Other interesting articles report on the convention held at Bloemendaal by the "Vrije Jeugd Verbond" in which especially matters of the press unification and policies of the youths movement were discussed.

JAPAN.—Report of Yoshisaka Shunzo, director of Japanese factory inspection, states that 610,000 workers of that land are housed in dormitories attached to factories, and that more than half of the number of toilers are "recruited" on the contract system. The farmer labor party of Japan, officially born on December 1st of last year, died three hours later by being dissolved officially by the government.

SWEDEN.—The law providing for duty of civilian character in place of military service for conscientious objectors on religious grounds has been expanded so as to include also objectors on ethical grounds. But when the drums speak, will there be much difference after all?

The publishers of *Brand*, the organ of the young socialists-anarchist federation of that land, is preparing the publication of the complete works of Kropotkin, translated into Swedish by Albert Jensen. "The French Revolution" is the first to appear, in Stockholm.

NORWAY.—In its issue of January 25th, *Revolt*, the monthly published by the socialist-anarchist union of Norway, reports the 25th anniversary of the parent body out of which evolved ultimately the existing two organizations of the youth of that country.

COLOMBIA.—In Baranquilla, Colombia, an anarchist weekly has been started under the name *Via Libre*.

PARAGUAY.—*La Protesta* reports that the paper receives communications from Paraguay which to them can not quite faithfully transmit a correct idea of what is going on in the ranks of the toilers of that land, as the language of those reports is heavily interlarded with Guaraní Indian words unintelligible to the editors. It may be remembered that once upon a time Paraguay was a Jesuit empire building experimental station in which the native language was favored and developed to prevent corroding contact from the outside world. After the driving out of the Jesuits in Latin America, dictators held the tamed yet brave people under an iron rule, a people who bled in the defense of its task masters against the united forces of Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina to such a degree that the male population was almost exterminated. From these letters can be understood that the self-defense activity of labor is intensifying its efforts. For many months already the carpenters of Encarnacion are in an unbreakable strike against the most powerful establishment of the line in the country. The local labor center, an integral part of the "Centro Obrero Reginal" is developing

an active written propaganda of regularly issued leaflets.

ARGENTINA.—In the Carcel de Viedma, territory of Rio Negro, five workers are being held under conditions that recall the incidents of horror issuing upon an indignant world in 1897 from the Bastille of Montjuich, Barcelona, Spain. They were sentenced for a crime that was fastened upon them (to shield the real guilty parties of a deed of revenged sexual offense), to a total of 83 years. One was not even tried on account of insanity from tortures. "Comite pro presos politicos" has taken up nation-wide defense agitation.

CHINA.—The People's Struggle Federation of China (a proletarian organization based on libertarian syndicalist principles) has issued a manifesto to the Chinese Proletariat. We extract therefrom the following:

"Our martyrs, fellow workers Huan-Ai and Pau-Sen-Tchen have been assassinated four years ago by the government upon demand of the capitalists. Since then, the revolutionary labor movement has been ruthlessly persecuted by the employers who are supported by the government.

The Kuo-Min-Tang Party, and with it the communists, participate in this shameful onslaught against the freedom-loving labor movement. They mislead the masses and follow the tactics of the conquest of the organization. One side wants a national revolution, while the others place themselves under the folds of the Communist banner for a "dictatorship of the proletariat." In reality, the proletariat is being oppressed with an iron fist under this dictatorship."

The manifesto closes with an appeal to the working class to arm itself because "the emancipation of the workers could be but the task of the workers themselves."

ITALY.—*Fede* of Rome publishes an Italian translation of Alexander Berkman's *Russian Revolution and the Communist Party*. "Casa Editrice Sociale" of Milan has issued the first complete Italian translation of Peter Kropotkin's *Mutual Aid*. And *Ethics* by the same author is in preparation in translation by Luigi Fabbri.

BRAZIL.—Already for over two years a number of active comrades have been held in confinement in the death dealing desert land of Oyapoc, a kind of Brazilian brand of Siberia of unsupportable heat. Four have already succumbed; they are Jose Maria Fernandez Varela, Jose Alves Nascimento, Nicolas Paradas and Nino Martias. Five succeeded in escaping. The following six comrades are still there and not expected to live long. Manuel Perreiro Gomes, Tomas D. Broche, Jose Baptista da Silva, Biophilo Panclasta, Pero O. Motta and Antonio Selgado.

The anarchist daily *La Protesta*, of Buenos Aires, Argentina, reports from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, an item of interest to those believing that human beings can not exist if left alone by paternalism of any kind. It seems that the Polish naturalist Stanislaw Przyjemski has discovered in the valley of the river Doce, in the state of Espirito Santo a community of Poles established in the year 1873 and since entirely forgotten. There are some one thousand individuals who for three generations have lived in absolute isolation, using still their Polish language, are hale and hearty, like well the hot climate, and not knowing nor caring if any of their folks are left in the fatherland far away. Not even the rest of the 150,000 Poles living in Brazil had the least knowledge of the existence of these people. How long will their happiness last now that they are discovered?

not last more than forty-eight hours. I will deal with them with a strong hand." Honorable Machado perhaps had forgotten that an unseen "strong hand" may arise from the human wreckage which he is trampling over today and put a stop to his dreams.

The entire situation proves to us that fascism is not a product of a certain country or climate; it is the effect of the contortion of capitalist society in its last deadly struggle for existence.

International Notes

TO All the Revolutionary Organizations of the World: Fellow-workers: Two years have already elapsed since revolutionary Bulgaria is in the grip of a horrible nightmare. For more than two years bloodthirsty reaction throttles the whole country and ceaselessly threatens the destruction of everything that can be considered as revolutionary and freedom-loving. Since the state of siege had been proclaimed on 9th June, 1923, the government declared itself in favour of oppressive measures which have become more and more brutal as time passed. The insurrection of September was drowned in blood and there was no end to provocative measures. After the attempt in the Sofia Cathedral, the ruthless persecutions took, during the last four months, a most frightful aspect. The noblest sons of the people—whether Anarchists, Communists, or followers of the Peasants' Party, or belonging to no party whatever—are martyred and massacred in the most savage manner. It is impossible to describe the countless misdeeds and crimes of that government of henchmen. A martyrdom which hardly has its equal in the history of humanity.

The number of victims is gigantic; yet, the figures mean little in themselves. They cannot describe the horrible deeds of bloodthirsty savagery perpetrated by the Bulgarian authorities. An inquiry should be set up not so much for the purpose of bringing about the end of the horrors—the Bulgarian people alone could do this—but with a view of establishing the facts and of pinning down the murderers to the world's pillory. Such an inquiry is the more necessary as the persecutions, arrests and assassinations of workers and intellectuals still continues. After having murdered hundreds and thousands of people, court-martials complete the task of destruction of revolutionists. Thousands are being handed over to be court-martialled, being made responsible for fictitious crimes which have never been committed. Hundreds of prisoners have already received sentences of death and the number of executed is mounting up steadily. And

"Justice" continues to ask for fresh victims. The prisons are overcrowded and thousands of prisoners who await an unknown fate undergo unheard-of tortures. Thousands of others are ruthlessly persecuted and most of them flee abroad so as to escape imprisonment and death.

All these unfortunate victims must be helped. The fearless fighters in such an unequal struggle must be given support. The Defence Committee for Bulgarian Anarchists which has constituted itself and is sending out this appeal to the proletariat all the world over, asks you to give your moral and material help to the task it has undertaken. Hundreds of our comrades suffer in jail and are tortured under a truly devilish regime. Dozens of others are still free, it is true, but are being persecuted and hunted down. They seek refuge in a safe country, so as to pick up their strength for fresh battles. We are convinced that the workers abroad will take our appeal to heart and will lend their help to our Bulgarian brothers.

The address of the Defence Committee for Bulgarian Anarchists is Berthe Fabert, Librairie Internationale, 14 Rue Petit, Paris 19, France.

Anarchist and Anarcho-Syndicalist and other anti-authoritarian Esperantists have begun publishing a new international review in Esperanto. The review is the organ of the anti-State Esperantist World League (*Tutmonda Lig. De Esperantistaj Senstatinoj*—TIES) and is issued in Berlin. Address: Arthur Bolle, Berlin, Treskowstr 58. The first number contains important articles, report of the 2nd Congress of the I. W. M. A., an article by R. Rocker on the struggle for the daily bread, an article by P. Ramus on Anarchism, Syndicalism and Antimilitarism. The TIES'S task is to publish information and translations from journals, reports, pamphlets and books to be made use of by all libertarian organizations and groups.

The congress of the Portuguese General Confederation of Labor took place in Santarem (Central Portugal). The success of the Congress will be a milestone in the history of Portugal's revolutionary syndicalist organization. By that Congress the Portuguese proletariat, united in the only national labor body of the country—the C. G. T.—has given a palpable proof of its capacities to grapple resolutely with the problems at stake which today occupy the minds of the labor movement. And especially is this of great importance owing to the critical situation in which the working-class finds itself nowadays. The debates at the

Congress were of a high level of sincerity.

The wonderful moral unity which reigned at the Congress silenced the handful of Bolsheviks who intended to addict themselves to various manoeuvres, as per order from Moscow. The Congress expressed over and over again its sympathies to the I. W. M. A. by the ovation it gave to the latter's representative, fellow worker A. Borghi, and ratified enthusiastically its affiliation to the International. The Portuguese organization is one of the best sections of the I. W. M. A.; the members are moved by an excellent fighting spirit and are fully conscious of their revolutionary mission. Even if the future have great dangers in store—inasmuch as the nationalist bourgeoisie and the military camarilla dream of a proletarian dictatorship as it exists in Spain, we are convinced that the valiant Portuguese workers will shatter to nought all the dark plots of capitalist and militarist reaction.

The administration of the law in Germany has as everywhere else a reactionary bias. Thus it is that flagrant cases of high treason or sedition, sometimes even leading to disorders with heavy casualties, have passed unpunished when the culprits have been reactionaries. The trial and virtual acquittal of Ludendorff and Hitler is only one conspicuous example from amongst many. The recent Monarchist conspiracy in Bavaria, in which Prince Rupprecht appears to be involved, is having no legal consequences. Had a similar radical conspiracy been discovered the ringleaders would long ago have been in prison. Even the "High Court for the Defense of the Republic," which was created after the murder of Dr. Rathenau, has acquired an anti-Republican bias. Its chief function has become the persecution of revolutionary workers. For a long time it was comparatively safe for almost any Monarchist to murder almost any Republican. The terrible record of several hundred assassinations committed by Monarchists, most of whom have been punished merely nominally or not at all, is testimony to what the maladministration of justice can do.

The "Defensive" in Poland is a police organization analogous with the "Ochrana" in Tsarist Russia and the "Cheka" in Soviet Russia. Indeed, it is partly a survival of the Ochrana, some of its members having been spies for the Tsarist Government.

It has its branches all over Poland. It is particularly vigilant wherever there is an industrial population. Its chief purpose is to destroy the so-

called subversive movements, and to this end it uses all the methods of terrorism so familiar in Eastern and Central Europe. "Subversive" movements are of two kinds in Poland. The one is carried on by revolutionary labor and by the Communist party, which has an old organization and a large following amongst the masses. The other is carried on by the national minorities, especially by the White Russians and Ukrainians. Their struggle for freedom would make a terrible story if it were to be told in full. Most of the suffering inflicted by the Terror will never come to light.

A Terror like the Polish could not fail to stir up acts of desperation and vengeance. The treatment awaiting those who fall into the hands of the gendarmerie persuades many to resist arrest by force of arms. The spies of the "Defensive" are in almost every factory. If they are found out by the workmen they are exposed to murderous reprisals, especially if it is discovered that they have already brought men and women to penal servitude or death. Workmen who take vengeance on agents of the "Defensive" are themselves almost inevitably doomed to summary trial and execution. But although the Terror punishes the crimes it has itself provoked, in the eyes of the Polish masses, its victims are heroes and martyrs.

Signor Farinacci's, Chief Lieutenant of Mussolini, prediction that by the end of the year there will be no more opposition papers in Italy is about to be fulfilled. The "Risorgimento" and the "Mondo," the only two opposition papers left in Rome, continue to be seized every day. The Socialist newspapers "Avanti," "Giustizia," and "Unita" of Milan, and the "Lavoro" of Genoa, which were suspended after the Zaniboni attempt against Mussolini's life, have been allowed to reappear, but must abstain from any comment, limiting themselves to the publication of facts and news, the latter given out either from Government sources or by the Stefani News Agency.

The best opposition newspaper, the "Corriere Della Sera," which for nearly two generations has been the most important journal in Italy, and one of the leading publications in Europe, has now made drastic changes in its staff and its political orientation. It became a Fascist organ.

A conference of Delegates of the Syndicalist Union of Italy emigrated to France was held in Paris. The conference of the Syndicalist Union held in Italy some months earlier and details of which were reported by us at the time. The task of rebuilding

the Syndicalist Unions, begun in Italy, was to be continued by the strengthening of the ties between all the Italian Syndicalists that have emigrated abroad.

The representation at the Paris Conference gives a distinctly expressive picture of the deep devastation wrought among the Syndicalist organizations of Italy. It was clear that the leading energies of a great number of local unions were compelled to flee abroad because of their unions being destroyed and of themselves being relentlessly persecuted. Among the delegates present at the Paris Conference were representatives of the Labor Exchange of Piacenze, of the Executives of the Labor Exchange of Bologna, of the Syndicalist Union of Prato Carnico, of the Miners' Union of Piacenze. There were also representatives of the Sestri Ponente Labor Exchange, of the local union of Livorno and of the railwaymen's union of the same city, of the Syndicalist Metal Workers' Union of Bolzanetto, of the Labor Exchange of Bazzano, Borgonovo and Taranto. Also attended: The secretary of the Mantua Labor Exchange, members of the Executive of the Syndicalist Union of Spezia, members of the Secretariat of Piombino, Elba and Maremma Labor Exchanges and of Vado Ligure, one of the secretaries of the Casale Montferrato Labor Exchange. There were also delegates from various groups of emigrants. The Executive of the Syndicalist Union of Italy was represented by A. Borghi, and the I. W. M. A. by A. Schapiro.

The most important question was that of the united front. The situation seems to be the following in Italy: the revolutionary syndicalist organizations of the U. S. I. are destroyed; they can just manage to lead a miserable and hard existence of illegality. On the other hand the reformist unions are left almost unmolested by the Fascists. This situation led a number of anarchists to be, more than ever, in favor of joining the reformist trade unions organizations for rendering these more revolutionary. The Conference decided against this line of action and declared as follows in the resolution it has adopted:

"In accordance with the discussions and the letters and declarations received from Italian syndicalist workers refugees, and taking into consideration the latest developments in the labor world such as the C. G. T. Congresses in France, the oppression of free labor organizations in Russia, the submission of the unions to the Communist party, the assent given by the corrupt unions of France to the war policy of its colonial imperialism, the philo-fascist declarations of the Italian General Confederation of Labor (affiliated to Am-

sterdam); considering also the naked reality of the life of the working class in all countries, the Conference appeals to the revolutionary proletariat not to co-operate with its betrayers, but to renew its confidence to the libertarian labor movement; not to limit its activities to the refusal of co-operation with the authoritarian and centralistic organizations, but to develop these activities with a view to building up a libertarian labor movement such as the U. S. I. represented in Italy and the I. W. M. A. represents on the international field and in the bosom of which are united all the energies of every country for the continuation of the great struggles.

LECTURES ON ANARCHISM

Arranged by the
International Anarchist Group
of New York

at the WORKERS' CENTRE
219 Second Avenue New York City

February 3, 1926

"Is Syndicalism a Practical Anarchist
Philosophy"

GUSTAVE FREITAG

February 10, 1926

"The Anarchist Position in the Labor
Movement"

HIPPOLYTE HAVEL

February 17, 1926

"The Anarchist Movement — Debts
and Credits"

GEORGE S. SELDES

February 24, 1926

"The Radical and His Child"

ALEXIS FERM

QUESTIONS and DISCUSSION

PHILADELPHIA LECTURES ON ANARCHISM

February 2, 1926

"A Wanderer in Italy"

HARRY KELLY

February 9, 1926

"Anarchism for Anarchists"

ABE WINOKOUR

February 16, 1926

"Anarchism in Theory and Practice"

HIPPOLYTE HAVEL

February 23, 1926

"Subject to be Announced"

ALEXANDER BROWN

EN ROUTE

HIPPOLYTE HAVEL

will speak on

"THE ANARCHIST POSITION IN
THE LABOR MOVEMENT"

in PHILADELPHIA—January 26th

AT THE LABOR LYCEUM

8th and Locust Streets

in WASHINGTON, D. C.—Jan. 28th

1817 Kenyon Street

in BALTIMORE—January 29th

AT THE PROGRESSIVE LABOR LYCEUM

Lexington and Asquith Streets

in WILMINGTON, DEL.—Jan. 31st

AT THE WORKMEN'S CIRCLE LYCEUM

in READING, PA.

To be Announced

used it as a fitting and effective rebuke of their treatment by the industrial barons? What the reform and revolutionary forces should now do is to taboo the courts that so construed the law. Every man who aided and abetted that outrage should be put under the ban and driven from the society of honorable people until he learns fairness. Put a tag on him and let him take the reward which he has justly earned, and shunned by every one who dissents from that ruling. Make the price of your friendship to be straight and kind and honorable dealing. Let no economic or political crook call you friend.

Carried to its logical ultimate, all the king's murderers and all the king's guns would look like thirty cents beside the taboo!

Talk about peace and how to bring it about. Nothing easier if the lure of the lucre were not so lusty. Men may have almost whatever they want on earth if they but pay the price. The price of peace is peace. We can't adopt warlike tactics and methods and have peace. Whoever aids and abets war is a disturber of the peace and responsible for the disasters that follow. If when the European war broke out every neutral nation, or rather every nation that made pretensions of neutrality, had tabooed the warring governments, had cut off all communications and connections whatsoever—mail, railroad, commercial, social or whatnot—there would have been saved to the world billions of treasure and millions of human souls and oceans of misery that have been worse than wasted in this rulers' saturnalia of death and destruction.

Ah! what a scene for the warlords, this play of plutonian powers on a world-wide field of human agony and mammonistic magnificence! How they must laugh over their wine after one of these exhibitions of cataclysmic folly of the fools!

So long as rulers are depended upon so long will wars occur. When the periods of peace are long enough to grow a crop of social revolutionists and not long enough for them to ripen into mature cosmopolitans, the world will have its harvest time of thistles in the gardens of the kings. I know of no antidote for kingship (and this means all rulership of man by man) so effective as the *taboo*. Five million men in America with this weapon (and the women can wield it as well as the men) firmly in hand can do more than twenty millions with the ballot, because the ballot necessarily means conflict, aggression, invasion and a challenge to battle, while the taboo means that each sympathizer remain upon his own

hearth and refuse to wad his enemy's guns.

The Chinese use the taboo rather than resort to force or war. When a Chinaman does some criminal or unsocial act meriting ostracism the community applies the taboo, and he makes amends—or moves on. The taboo isolates as much as though one were on a lonely island in mid-ocean all alone.

Some while ago the Japanese government made some preferential trade demands upon the Chinese which were unjust and humiliating. The Chinese protested. The Japanese insisted that it was acquiescence or war. Rather than armed conflict the Chinese submitted. The Japanese were jubilant. But victory is not always gain. They could send their goods to China, but the Chinese would not buy, and in a comparatively short time it was demonstrated that the boycott was far more effective, economical and humane than war.

The boycott—the taboo—recommends itself to all aggrieved people. Let your enemy alone—Surely you should be free, without question, to associate or trade with whomsoever you choose. To deny this freedom is futile if you and your class but apply the boycott to those who presume to do so. Your weakness becomes strength.

International Notes

Germany is one of the few countries in which exists a Syndicalist-Anarchist youth movement. Before the war the young generation was not organized separately; the youth were within the ranks of the Syndicalist movement. During the war and especially after it, a strong current passed through the entire youth of Germany; it found finally its expression in the organization of separate youth associations. Effervescence went on for some time within this movement, and finally the various tendencies crystallized themselves out. To begin with, it was the movement of the proletarian youth which differentiated itself from that of the middle-class youth. Then, followed the splitting-up process within the proletarian youth itself. A social-democratic youth movement was first in the field; then came a Communist youth, and finally the Syndicalist-Anarchist youth also organized itself.

The latter movement went its own way. It was anxious to build up its own movement and would not affiliate to the F. A. U. D. This was not objected to by the F. A. U. D. which, in many ways, helped its closely related youth. Most of the members of the Syndicalist-Anarchist youth were members of the Syndicalist trade unions and would take an active part in the organizing

work as well as in the struggles. It often happens that the older members of the youth organization—in the ages of from 19 to 23—would sit on the executives of the local unions, livening these up by their sprightly spirits.

The last Congress of the F. A. U. D. had examined the problem of youth within its own organizations. This was rendered necessary because of the F. A. U. D. having to consider the problem of the future status of the "overgrown" youth. The question arose as to the desirability of creating a special youth and apprentice sections within the Syndicalist unions. But the younger comrades were against this plan, as they insisted upon being more than mere apprentice sections; they wanted to remain an independent youth movement. The former Congresses of the F. A. U. D. had refrained from creating these independent youth sections, while the representatives of the Syndicalist-Anarchist youth had undertaken to influence their movement in the Anarcho-Syndicalist direction. This could not, of course, be imposed upon them, but was to be left for time and their own development. The anti-organizing and anti-syndicalist tendencies which had still existed were to be successfully met by those who stood by organization and the Syndicalist struggle. The Fifth Congress of the Syndicalist-Anarchist youth was to situate itself towards the F. A. U. D.

That Congress was held in Erfurt. The report, presented by fellow worker Rotsler on behalf of the Central Information Bureau, states that about 60 local groups with a membership of about 1,000 are affiliated to the Syndicalist-Anarchist Youth of Germany (SAJD). The organ of that body—*Junge Anarchisten*—has a circulation of 4,000 copies. The entire work in the movement is carried out by honorary office-bearers.

The Congress discussed a number of important questions. A kind of declaration of principles was before the Congress, and it was adopted. In this declaration is stated the attitude of the organization towards the class-struggle which is affirmative; the political parties and the central (reformist) unions are rejected; the principle of organization is affirmed; the daily struggle is admitted; militarism and military organizations of every kind—from the Fascists through the Banner of Empire Organizations, up to the Red Advance Guard Fighting League and the Young Red Storm (both of the latter are Communist bodies)—are condemned, indicating at the same time that the defense of the social revolution must not be handed over to any military or political organization, but should be carried out by the workers and their economic organizations.

International Notes

By SLOVAK

GERMANY.—Expropriation and immolation of the princes takes up considerable space in the columns of the press in Germany, and it is bewildering to read the arguments advanced in favor of participation in the voting, in the present case labelled as "People's decision." Four issues of *Der Freie Arbeiter*, organ of publicity of the federation of the communist anarchists of Germany devote ten columns out of a total of 42 to the subject, and *Der Syndicalist*, organ of the free workmen's union of Germany (Anarcho-syndicalist) in three issues 27 columns out of a total of 72 to that marvelous discussion. And appalling it is to read furthermore the comments favorable contained in an international anarchist symposium, where Max Nettlau, the indefatigable historian of the movement seems to be the only one using good sense in dealing with the subject. It almost reads like the apologetic effusions in the press of all shades of the radical left of all lands trying to justify the ideology and action of debacle of radicalism that paralleled the breakdown universal in the structure of humanity of 1914 and after.

A first meeting of War Resisters' International Council was held in Berlin. Present were members of the council from Germany, Austria, Great Britain, Holland, Scandinavia and by substitute also Czecho-Slovakia. French member of council was refused passport on account of opposition voiced against the Moroccan war.

The republic of Germany is reported to lead in political prisoners, having 7,000 in confinement. We are sorry not to have figures on hand for comparison with the "good olden monarchical times."

The number of unemployed in Germany is still rising: there are a few millions of them. Never before was the unemployment wave so great. The central government as well as the governments of the various states are trying to remedy increasing starvation and misery by state relief. The unemployed are also sent to the so-called distress-work. But these various palliatives are insufficient to improve the miserable life of the unemployed. The crisis is becoming steadily more acute. The reformist Federation of Trade Unions has sent a memorandum to the Government in which it is said that the state alone could save the situation, and that the state insurance schemes should be carried out. It is clear that these unions have not learned anything from

the experience of the past years, else they might have known by now that state and governments are always on the side of the capitalists. The weakness of state aid is best seen in the way unemployment relief is being regulated. The employed workers have to pay a weekly contribution to the state unemployment fund, and relief is given out of this fund. Thus, it is not the state but the workers themselves who are compelled to lay aside for the time they will be out of work. The state obtains this way the reputation of a charitable institution, although it is nothing of the kind. Yet the reformist trade unions participate in this swindle, thus helping to keep the workers in ignorance of the true character of state and authority.

PORTUGAL.—Labor passes through one of the worst crises. To up-to-date application of methods of modern production capitalists of Portugal prefer increased pauperization of working masses by wage reductions, especially industries where labor has but insufficient organization. Hand in hand with this goes political reaction, though organized labor had openly beaten incipient fascism, the "liberal" government seems not to know it, sentencing the leaders of the "victorious" movement of the working class to deportation to Cabo Verde and Guinea, and all organized and individual protests have not brought freedom to the afflicted, not even transfer to more healthful regions than those fever lands.

The "A Batalha" publishes the principles of the revolutionary youth of Portugal as they will be laid before the next (second) congress of the Syndicalist Youth of that country. Here are a number of extracts:

1. *Anarchist foundations.*—The syndicalist youth opposes any kind of authority as well as all written laws and existing social institutions. It aims at the destruction of present society and the erection of a new society built on the principle of freedom and justice which guarantees to every individual welfare and liberty.

2. *Revolutionary syndicalism as the method of action.*—The Syndicalist Youth recognizes the class struggle and proclaims war against capitalism. It opposes private property and demands for every member of society sufficient means of existence and proclaims its solidarity with the labor organizations which lead the economic struggle for emancipation, like the revolutionary syndicalist organizations or any other libertarian or trade union bodies fighting against capitalist society.

3. *Anti-militarist propaganda.*—The armies are a danger for the whole

world; they are barbarous institutions oppressing, by their weight, the ignorant masses. Every noble feeling is callously killed in youth when in barracks; militarism is the enemy of the proletariat; it turns its power against the workers whenever these fight for better conditions of life. Military service is to be rejected. An intensive propaganda against militarism is to be undertaken.

4. *Anti-authoritarian propaganda.* Inasmuch as the existence of authority oppresses the initiative of the individual, it is necessary to fight authority. Disobedience of law and the revolt of the individual and of the masses against authority is necessary.

5. *Revolutionary action.*—Every propaganda, every action must be directed against the ruling classes. The revolutionary and libertarian principles must never be lost sight of in any action that may be undertaken.

6. *Opposition to political parties.* All political parties, may they call themselves "revolutionary" are to be fought against. The syndicalist youth is equally opposed to the bourgeois parties as well as to the Communist Party, and considers the latter a party of destruction of the revolutionary movement.

7. *Common action.*—In actions against capitalist society and the state, the close union with the syndicalist, anarchist and revolutionary organizations will be aimed at.

MEXICO.—The socialist government, with Calles at its head, has attempted with the aid of the reformist—or rather yellow-regional Confederation of Labor of Mexico (C. R. O. M.) to destroy the revolutionary textile workers' union affiliated to the anarcho-syndicalist General Confederation of Labor (C. G. T.), which is the Mexican section of the I. W. M. A. With this end in view, the CROM reached an agreement with the capitalists: in every dispute between workers and employers a member of the CROM will act as adviser to the employers. This led to the result that the workers often enough turn against the CROM. This happened in the Carolina factory, Mexico City, where 2,000 workers, belonging to the CROM, are working. The CROM officials signed an arrangement with the employers that the workers of the factory would not go out on strike, all disputes being settled by arbitration. When the workers found it out, they turned their backs upon the CROM and joined the CGT. The CROM then applied to the government for military aid against the factory workers. This led to serious fighting between the troops and the workers and induced the latter still further to stick to the CGT.