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PLATBLANK  
ARTERY

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Lincoln  
Douglas  
Washington

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# Flatbush Artery

Vol 1 No 2

February, 1938

Whole No 2

## The FLATBUSH ARTERY

monthly organ of Flatbush Branch 3 of the Young Communist League, 1112 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Editors:

- FREDERIK POHL
- JOHN MICHEL
- STAN BROWN

Branch Officers:

- PAUL STILBERMAN, Pres.
- HELEN GLASER, Vice Pres.
- PHYLLIS COOPER, Mem. Dir.

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### PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS -- SAY YOU SAW IT IN THE ARTERY

New York, at 11:00 AM.  
 Saturday, Feb. 12th: Lincoln's Birthday party, Mildred Estrin, 3322 Clarendon Road. 9:00 PM.  
 Saturday, Feb. 19th: March on Wall Street, meeting at Foley Square, City Hall, Sunday, Feb. 20th: Discussion on Collective Security at Phyllis Cooper's, 50 East 19th Street. 8:30 PM. (For dates and places of group meetings, see "Group Goings-On" column on page eight.)

## The Editor's Page

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY is tomorrow.

Lincoln was a great president, one of the two who are generally considered to have been the greatest this country has ever had.

The other, of course, is Washington, whose birthday falls on the 22nd of this month.

Why were these two men great?

I think, and I am supported in this by historical opinion, that it was because these men embodied the spirit of their people; because their actions were a reflection of what the people wanted; because they were, above all else, progressive, willing to break away from precedent when precedent became intolerable.

Washington was not a

member of the proletariat: he was a landed man, and, before the revolution, a commissioned officer in the British army. But Washington was an opponent of oppression and tyranny, which, in his day, took the form of monarchist-feudal domination of America by England. And he used revolutionary means to change this sad condition. The American Revolution of 1776 was a revolution against the subordination of a rising economic form to a dying one: That is, the subordination of the new capitalism to feudalism.

And what did Lincoln do? He didn't fight for a revolution; he fought against one. Why? Because the attempted secession of the South in the Civil War represented not an advance, but a retrogression. The

Southern "slavocracy" tried to restore a primitive feudal system based on the exploitation of Negroes.

Lincoln did not deny the right of men to revolt. He said: "This country, with all its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it."

Similar are the words of the Declaration of Independence: "Whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends (the rights to "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness"), it is the right of the People to alter or abolish it."

Let those who decry the "revolutionary" tactics of the Communists read those two quotations, and then protest our un-Americanism!

# On The Picket Line

by Helen Glaser

**F**LATBUSH PROTESTS Japanese imperialism!

A week ago tonight, February fourth, fifteen members of this branch responded to cards they had received the day before by coming down to picket the F. W. Woolworth store at Flatbush and Tilden Avenues.

Those present agreed that the picket line was entirely successful. Although the pickets confined their expostulations to the signs they were, which were large, beautifully painted ones with slogans like "Japanese Bombs Kill Chinese Women and Children", "Boycott Japanese Goods", "Quarantine the Aggressor", and others, the passersby were definitely made aware that the anti-Japanese boy-

cott is in existence.

The pedestrians, on the whole, seemed sympathetic to the idea, one woman stopping a picket to tell of another store she knew was selling Japanese goods.

No attempts were made to keep people out of the store by obstructing their way or by talking to them, but the store appeared to have fewer customers than ordinary and was almost empty by 9:30.

A humorous incident occurred when a woman walking her dog became entangled in the line. Yanking the dog aside, she remarked, to the dog but loud enough for the pickets to hear: "Come, honey, we must keep out of this. We are American citizens!"

The picket line was

called when the manager of the Woolworth store, after having given representatives of this branch a definite promise to have all Japanese goods off his counters by the first of January, failed to do so and refused to give any definite answer as to when the goods would be removed. It is expected that a committee will be sent to interview him again in the near future, and upon the answer they receive will depend the likelihood of further picketing of this store.

After the picketing, the members returned to branch headquarters for a discussion on Peace and Collective Security.

-:-READ THE DAILY WORKER-:-

## Q U E S T I O N

Will Hirohito lose his grip on  
The proletariat of Nippon?

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## Trotzkyites At The Youth Congress

by Stan Brown

OVER THE WEEKEND of January 28th the "New York State Model Legislature," sponsored by the American Youth Congress, met at CONY. We shan't attempt here to give a full report on this meeting: let it suffice to say that it opened in a blaze of glory and closed two days later with no diminution of interest.

What we will stress is the part played by the Trotzkyite organizations at this congress. (By Trotzkyites, we refer to several groups of assorted YPSLs, Fourth Internationalists, etc.; claiming to be different from each other, but representing the same point of view. What they peddle smells the same no matter what label is on it.)

The activities of this gang became clear and un-

mistakeable on Saturday, the day set aside for panel discussions at which the major work of the Congress was done.

At the panel for Peace, which we attended, the obvious issue was collective security or isolation. The Trotzkyites were of course for the latter policy, and were aided by a scattering of delegates from groups like the "Fellowship of Reconciliation".

It became evident early in the discussion that, of the 250 delegates on the panel, the overwhelming majority favored collective security. But that didn't stop the "real revolutionists". By every tactic -- from quibbling over minor points of parliamentary procedure to open disorder -- they sought to filibuster the session

in a completely disgusting manner. But after all their efforts, the vote on the issue was about four to one for collective security.

At the concluding session of the congress, when the recommendations of the panels were brought before the entire body of delegates for final action, the Trotzkyites continued where they had left off the day before. Their tactics became worse and worse; it is unfortunate that we haven't enough space to describe them all.

You will understand that the 1200 delegates represented 611 organizations of all sorts. We want to emphasize this and to bring up the point that, of all the delegates and speakers, only two people known to us as YCLers took the floor in debate as representatives of the YCL. All the others who spoke for collective security at the panel and at the final session were from YMCA's, peace groups, church groups, and the like.

February, 1938

It is highly important to note that the Trotskyites, with all their perverted policies and disruptive methods of action, secured only one thing -- they became still further isolated from the masses of American youth, of which the recent congress was decidedly typical. In the discussions at the congress it was not the YCL fighting the YPSL -- it was the YPSL fighting everyone else.

Incidentally, it is appropriate to mention what the YCLers did -- and plenty of us were there as representatives of other youth bodies. We distributed no literature of a wildly inflammatory nature, we made no insulting remarks in the course of our speeches. But

---READ THE DAILY WORKER---

Don't forget the

March on Wall Street

Meeting at:

Foley Square

February 19th

11:00 AM.

the policies adopted by the congress were eminently anti-fascist, pro-labor, and progressive.

The entire congress was a valuable lesson, a miniature People's Front, as it were. It was a demonstration of how organizations not in complete accord can yet agree on basic issues and work for the common benefit of all.

The American Youth Congress is not all it could be, but it has certainly gone a long way. Our job now is to build it among the neighborhood clubs here in Flatbush and to boost the Youth Pilgrimage for the passage of the American Youth Act to Washington, which is scheduled for the weekend of March 19th.

(We'll print full details of this in a special bulletin for the next meeting, but start making your plans to go now. Remember, March 19th is only a month away!)

*Branch Boosters*

BOB BASS

BEN and FELICE

MOLLY BERLIND

STAN BROWN

PHYLIS COOPER

JAMES DALE

MILDRED ESTRIN

PAUL FRIEDBERG

HELEN GLASER

JOHN MICHEL

FRED POHL

PAUL SILBERMAN

BOTTY TITELBAUM

(What, only fourteen Branch Boosters! C'est incroyable, as we would say in French, if we spoke French. Being that we don't speak French, we'll simply say: "We don't believe it." After all, comrades, what's a nickel! You'd spend twice that much on a copy of the Sunday Journal-American, if you read the Journal-American, which you don't. Still, it's a thought!)

## The Awful Truth!

THERE ARE THREE kinds of girls in Flatbush, and Lenny Strong knows 'em all by heart. But we warn you, Len, lots of little Lennikins cluttering up the neighborhood wouldn't improve your reputation -- to say nothing of your disposition -- one bit.

The reason for the so-called scared look on Claire's face is no longer a secret to us. She fears a private nemesis of hers will galvanize here at any minute with a yell of "Hey, Unconscious!"

Familiars of the Branch were surprised, at the time of the last issue, to see Danny Weiner, thought to be halfway to Detroit, walk in on a meeting. We know he started, but -- did the wheels start clicking "Dodo

-- Dodo -- Dodo" and force a hurried return?

Even as some things will quicken the pace of the tortoise and cause green peaches to fall as though ripe from the tree, so has come something to upset the profound equanimity of Paul Silberman. We caught him the other night in the Midwood Grill crooning into the shell-like noise receptacle of Dottie T., completely dispelling her usual sang-froid.

Lenny Sonnenberg's O.A. O. has been back from California for some time now. And the status quo still exists, he happily informs us.

WHO'D 'A' THOUGHT IT!

One of the Schultziens bears a burning secret in

her heart.

Helen Glaser has never been kissed.

Stan Brown ditto ditto.

One of the members has direct lineage back to a German feudal baron. And is eligible to the title.

The pater of one of our members made a lot of dough in 1934-37, marketing German imports.

Miriam Bassin is doing all right for herself in spite of a temporary setback.

There seems to be a sudden influence of pulchritude in the branch with the joining of the last few sympathetics. Now the damn women outnumber us males even more!

Several of the Branch personnel are alumni of the Colony Club, a Brooklyn organization whose leadership is violently anti-Communist. Others still claim membership in another group even more unsympathetic to the cause.

# The Daily Worker

by John Michel

IT IS AN INCREDIBLE but unfortunately true fact. Very few of our branch members read the DAILY WORKER every day. And many of those who do read the copies bought by others. Reading a friend's copy is not only indicative of laziness and general do-nothingness, but it proves you are not THINKING.

Comrades, how do you think the DAILY manages to appear regularly? Day after day, without ever missing an issue, it appears on the stands, ready to throw new life and heart into the working-class movement, to provide every forward-thinking worker with entertainment and education. Do you know why this happens?

Newspapers are not run

on hot air and soft soap. There are necessary operating expenses which must be balanced by some sort of an income. Bills must be paid. Ink must be bought, and paper; machinery taken care of; writers, editors, mechanical workers must receive a living wage; offices must be kept clean. All this requires MONEY.

Unlike other papers, the WORKER depends only in very small part on advertising. Its chief income is from the sale of thousands and thousands of copies every day.

Perhaps you've bought the paper semi-occasionally, forgetting it now and again and dismissing the thought with the comforting reflection that the other

thousands of readers would not forget.

But suppose they did! A few days in which the circulation dropped in large amount for such a reason might very well result in the dealers refusing to risk handling it again.

Again, comrades, how can you possibly expect to keep well-posted on world events without reading the DAILY? Certainly not from the bourgeois newspapers!

The DAILY is our newspaper, the reflection of our thoughts and desires.

No one connected in any way with the working-class movement can afford to risk losing touch with the important events of mass and of world interest.

Please realize that your pennies count! It is your Bolshevik duty to get the DAILY: it is your duty to yourself. It is your duty to the cause you represent. THINK, comrades, and then do not fail in your duty.



# Group Goings On

## Current Events Group

What do you know about the recent developments in China, Spain, the Labor movement, the political situation? Nothing? Then come down to the Current Events Group meetings and find out! Everything? Then come down and teach us! Present topics most often touched on are Peace, Collective Security, and the Ludlow Amendment. We meet on alternate Friday nights at the headquarters and everybody's invited.

## Drama Group

The mimes are going full steam ahead, with performances promised to several organizations. They're doing "Virtue Rewarded" and "America, America" for the American League against War and Fascism, and a rumor is recurring that the CP has promised them \$2.00 for

some scenes from "Waiting for Lefty." Wednesday nights, headquarters.

## Arts and Crafts Group

Breathes there a branch member so ill-informed as not to know that this group has been pulling in positively scandalous profits

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For Eats and Sweets

# STEFFEN'S

## CONFECTIONERY AND LUNCHEONETTE

1124 Flatbush Ave.  
Brooklyn

Tel. Defender 3-9898

from the sale of the Russian peasant aprons they make so well? Demand is a way ahead of supply, but they're still taking orders, so place yours now. Sunday afternoons, headquarters, 2:00 o'clock.

## Branch Magazine Group

The newest of the groups is doing right well, except for one thing. Nobody but the staff comes down to the group meetings. This makes the staff feel pretty lonesome, giving them all terrific inferiority complexes. Next meeting is Feb. 17th (Thursday) at 2391, Bedford Avenue. (Michel.) We'll be looking for you.

## Discussions Group

All we know about this group is that it meets at 50 East 19th Street ((Cooper) on Tuesday nights.

:-:READ THE DAILY WORKER:-:

Make your plans NOW for the pilgrimage to Washington for the passage of The American Youth Act on March 19th.