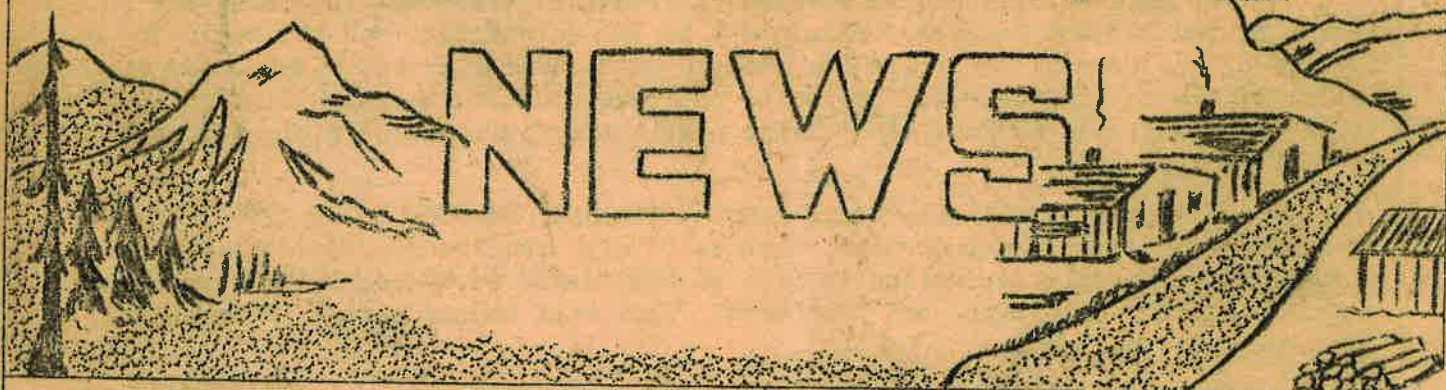


# PROJECT

## NEWS



FOR UNIONIZATION OF THE CAMPS

FOR A PERMANENT WORKS PROGRAM

Official Organ of the Relief Project Workers' Union, 60 Cordova Street West  
Vol. III, No. 5 Thursday, January 6th, 1938.

Price Rebel

## 45 WORKERS JAILED UNION TALENT ON RADIO PROGRAM

DISCRIMINATED SINGLE UNEMPLOYED ARRESTED BY  
AUTHORITIES WHEN THEY DEMONSTRATE

Forty-five Single Unemployed Men, some of them Project Workers who had been fired from unorganized Camps by bull-dozing Foremen, were arrested in Vancouver on Monday afternoon, January 3rd. The boys had gathered into the Organization in the past few weeks, after being turned down cold for relief. Until New Year's they had been existing by various means - shoveling snow, soliciting sheets, etc. but, these methods became exhausted, as well as the workers' patience. They met on Monday morning and a delegation was sent to the authorities to ask for relief and explain their plight. When the delegation reported that the authorities had turned a deaf ear to their pleas and refused to give them relief, the meeting decided to take some form of action to convince the authorities that they were determined to eat, whether they liked it or not.

The meeting decided unanimously to go out on the streets with Cans, and the whole body put on placards, took Cans, and paraded up-town. When the authorities learned of this action, they immediately ordered the Police to arrest the men, with the result that 45 were taken up and kangarooed through closed Court. Some were found guilty and remanded for sentence for a week, others were remanded without being sentenced.

Despite the fact that the authorities are treating the boys in this vicious,

PROGRAM WILL BE WEEKLY OVER CBC STATION

Under auspices of the Entertainment Committee of the Union, a half hour Radio Programme was arranged and successfully given between 1 and 1:30 P.M. New Year's day, from the Chilliwack Radio Station, by the boys of Cultus Lake, Project 19. The Secretary of the Union in Camp, was master of ceremonies, and the program consisted of numbers rendered by talented amateurs of Cultus Lake Camp. The program was so well enjoyed by the radio audience that several phone calls were received at the Radio Station while the boys were there, inquiring about the program and complimenting them.

As a result of the success with this initial program, the local Station has offered to give the boys a half hour on the program every week. The broadcasts are on the hook-up over the C.B.C. Radio Program, on Saturdays between 1 and 1:30 P.M. and could be picked up by good radios in all Camps.

In introducing the program the Master of Ceremonies in a few opening remarks, explained that the program, was the achievement of organization, and hoped that it would be a means of bringing closer friendship and understanding between the local people and the Project Workers. He commented on the aim of the Union to gain a permanent Work and Wage Scheme, so that the Project Workers will be given a chance to live, and asked the support of his listeners, in gaining this object.

(continued on page 8)

PROTEST IMPRISONMENT OF UNEMPLOYED!



# A MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

To date we have had no statements from the Government regarding the future status of the Project Workers. This month to all intent will see the beginning of the end of the present Works Program and the authorities, it would seem, see with the ending of the scheme, also the ending of their responsibility and obligation to the Youth and Unemployed workers, and to the people that trusted their election promise of "Work and Wages".

With our term in the Camps nearing its end, we face a lay-off and a period of weeks of idleness; not so idle, because it will require considerable mental straining and material privation to live on the meagre \$4.00 weekly allowance that the authorities will dole out; and then what? That will depend on our preparations, on our organization.

While there may be some argument and some criticism on points, yet there is one thing that cannot be disputed; and that is, that the present Works Program is the result of Organization. It was the determined, persistent organizational activities of the Relief Project Workers' Union - the organized displays of the single unemployed - the organized publicity campaigns; which exposed to the public the conditions facing the single unemployed men and won for us the present half-measure, Works Scheme.

This present scheme is the result of the organizational efforts of a comparatively weak organization; compared to what we can prepare, now on the Projects against the time we may face unemployment and starvation again. We can begin this ground work, by launching or renewing a drive to enroll into the Union, every worker on the projects. Membership in the Union is the very pivot about which organization rotates. Our goal must be a 100% Union. This will be our best answer to the authorities, should they manoeuvre to put us in the spot we were last summer. To build the Union is the work of every member. Let us start the drive now, and report a successful campaign that shows 100% in results.



THE UNION ROAD —



# union songs

## "IN THE SWEET BYE AND BYE"

Long-haired preachers come out every  
night,  
Try to tell you what's wrong and what's  
right;  
But when asked how 'bout something to  
eat  
They will answer with voices so sweet:

### CHORUS:

You will eat, bye and bye,  
In that glorious land above the sky;  
Work and pray, live on hay,  
You'll get pie in the sky when you die.

And the starvation army they play,  
And they sing and they clap and they  
pray.

Till they get all your coin on the  
drum,

Then they tell you when you are on the  
bum: CHORUS .....

If you fight hard for children and  
wife --

Try to get something good in this  
life --

You're a sinner and bad man, they tell,  
When you die you will sure go to hell.

Workingmen of all countries Unite,  
Side by side we for freedom will fight:  
When the world and its wealth we have  
gained

To the grafters we'll sing this refrain:

### LAST CHORUS:

You will eat, bye and bye.

When you've learned how to cook and to  
fry;

Chop some wood, 'twill do you good,  
And you'll eat in the sweet bye and bye.

## UNION BUTTON TO BE ISSUED SOON

As a result of the general desire of  
the Union Membership for a Button, ar-  
rangements are being made to have a suitable  
Button issued as soon as possible.

The new Button will differ from the  
old ones, both in size and quality. It  
will be a metal Button attractively  
designed and intended to last a long  
time.

The price of the Button will be  
fixed by the cost it will be to make them.

## "THE REBEL GIRL"

There are women of many descriptions  
In this queer world, as everyone knows,  
Some are living in beautiful mansions,  
And are wearing the finest of clothes.  
There are blue-blooded queens and  
princesses,  
Who have charms made of diamond and  
pearl;  
But the only and thoroughbred lady  
Is the Rebel Girl.

### CHORUS:

That's the Rebel Girl, that's the Rebel  
Girl!

To the working class she's a precious  
pearl.

She brings courage, pride and joy  
To the fighting Rebel Boy;

We've had girls before, but we need  
some more

In the Industrial Movement of the World  
For it's great to fight for freedom  
With a Rebel Girl.

Yes, her hands may be hardened from  
labor,

And her dress may not be very fine;  
But a heart in her bosom is beating  
That is true to her class and her kind.  
And the grafters in terror are tremb-  
ling

When her spite and defiance she'll  
hurl;

For the only and thoroughbred lady  
Is the Rebel Girl.

## WORKERS FIRED AND REFUSED TRANSPORTATION

A number of Project Workers have  
been fired of recent from Island Camps,  
in most cases for minor, petty reasons,  
although not arising from organizational  
activities. The men found on being  
discharged, that they had to pay their  
own transportation out of a two or  
three dollars which were handed them  
in Camp.

On arriving in the City, they  
applied at the Provincial Relief Office  
for their Checks and were told to wait  
till they got them through the mail.

So, after working in some cases,  
two months, these Project Workers found  
themselves denied their earnings and  
forced to beg.

Read: "THE PROJECT NEWS"



## PROJECT

PROJECT NO. 8

North Vancouver

Dear Brothers:

A meeting was called last Friday for the purpose of setting up a Local of the R.P.W.U. in this new Camp. The meeting was attended by a great majority of the men. After a brief outline on the policies of the Union a general discussion arose with the result that a functioning Local was set up.

Chairman, Secretary and the various Committees were elected and instructed on their various duties.

Discussion followed on grievances but taking into consideration that this Camp is just new, nothing more was expected. However, the food question was thoroughly discussed, with the result that a new Cook was brought in and there is 100% improvement in the food.

We are quite enthusiastic in building the Union 100% in this Camp; and we have no doubt, but that our Social Committee will be bringing us together in such a way that our stay here will be made more bearable.

Fraternally yours,

PROJECT NO. 17

Duncan, V.I.

Dear Brothers:

We held a very successful meeting last Sunday with the result of gaining a number of new members into the Union. Several new issues were brought up and discussed thoroughly and not having information here regarding same decided to ask the Executive for their advice.

A Resolution was passed unanimously for the continuation of the Camps the year round. We would like to get a copy of the "Pearson Labor Bill" so we can discuss this on the floor.

We are sending \$6.30 for dues, and literature.

Fraternally yours,

PROJECT NO. 20

Saanichton, B.C.

Dear Brothers:

We are holding regular Union meetings which are well attended and progressing favorably in spite of a few disrupters, and we are gradually increasing our membership.

There are a few new members on the Social Committee and we have great confidence in their ability. We have had a couple of Socials already which were very successful.

Enclosed find Money Order for Dues.

Fraternally yours,

PROJECT NO. 14

Hilliers, B.C.

Dear Brother:

We held our weekly meeting on Tuesday which was well attended. We elected a library committee as we are going to start a Workers' Library in this Camp.

We are also holding Educational meetings every Sunday and the History of the Trade Union Movement. A Brother who is well versed on this subject was elected speaker at these meetings. This being a long subject, he is going to give so much every week. This is for the benefit of the new members.

We suggest that a Column be used in each issue of the PROJECT NEWS on this subject.

Fraternally yours,

PROJECT NO. 20

Williams Lake.

Dear Brothers:

Just a few lines to let you know how we are progressing here. We held our first meeting with good attendance. There seems to be great possibility of this Camp being 100% organized. We elected the various Committees, with the Cook on the Social Committee and the Foreman on the Sports Committee.

There are no Grievances as yet in this Camp. There is to be a Card Game for the boys put on by the Elks with supper afterwards in Williams Lake.

We are putting on a campaign for the boys in Spain so you can expect a shipment within the next few days.

Fraternally yours,

PROJECT NO. 18

Duncan, V.I.

Dear Brothers:

A dozen of us arrived here yesterday to find this is a newly opened up Camp, having been in operation only three days. When it is completed it will hold between 60 and 70 men. There is no Recreation Hall or wash-room as yet, but we expect these will be fully completed before the end of the week.

In regards to Union activities, there will be something done within the next few days to start the ball rolling.

In the meantime, send us some literature, especially the Clarion.

Fraternally yours,

NO WALK OUTS



# REPORTS

## PROJECT NO. 21 Thetis Lake

Dear Brothers:

We wish to make a report of the strike which took place in this Camp a couple of weeks ago. Two men were discriminated against because they had visited a neighboring Camp and the Foreman of that camp complained that they were agitators and disrupters. No warning was given of their dismissal until the men had gone to work. When the news came to the men on the job they immediately laid down their tools and came into Camp. Unfortunately the two brothers had left Camp by this time and steps were taken to locate them in Victoria and bring them back to Camp.

In the meantime a meeting was called to decide what was to be done. It was decided we would go on strike till the two were reinstated. Pickets were set up and two men who planned to go to work didn't.

The appearance of the F.D.P. Supervisor and two provincial police ensued. They offered to reinstate the two men, but in another Camp (Project 10) and that these men and the men taking active part in the Strike would not be discriminated against in the future. All this was put in writing and signed by the supervisor and foreman; after which the men decided to accept the offer and the Strike ended.

This is a clear-cut Victory for the Union, which again proves that in Unity there is strength.

We only hope the other Camps are as well organized as this one.

Fraternally yours,

MILLIGAN'S CAMP  
Sooke, V.I.

Dear Brother:

Received Cards and Stamps, but only a few of the boys have not been paid so far, the majority will be signed up after the first of the Month.

The Committees are functioning well; especially the Social Committee, which put on a Whist Drive to aid the boys in Spain and to help out with the literature fund. It is intended to make this a weekly affair.

Fraternally yours,

JOIN THE

RELIEF PROJECT WORKERS' UNION

FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK AND LIVE

## PROJECT NO. 4 Campbell River.

Dear Brother:

Once again we are holding our Meetings and everything is running smoothly. We have increased our membership considerably in the last two weeks, and the majority of the Camp are now Union members.

We realize that there is not much that can be done toward the welfare of the Camp at present; so we are stressing the recruiting of new members till we are 100% organized.

The Entertainment Committee is functioning well, as we have had several well planned Concerts, and the talent is remarkably good. We have had the full co-operation of the staff regarding prizes etc.

Fraternally yours,

PROJECT NO. 19  
Cultus Lake

Dear Brothers:

We had quite a time in this District during the Xmas week.

Through our connections with organizations in Chilliwack we obtained a place on the New Year's Day Radio Program, from 1 to 1:30 and they allowed us to arrange the program as we pleased.

The Union Secretary was asked to speak for five minutes over the air to explain to the people in the District, just what we are doing and our future prospects.

Regarding the membership drive, we are still signing new members up and will have a 100% Camp.

Fraternally yours,

PROJECT NO. 13  
Alberni, B.C.

Dear Brothers:

We received the "Project News" of last issue and while looking through it, noticed how well the other Camps were progressing.

Although we are doing so well ourselves, yet we think something will be developed here. We've had one change of cook so far, a little to the worse, if anything.

We know that a visit from the Provincial Organizer would help us along, and we will try to have something prepared for him.

Fraternally yours,



## PROJECT REPORTS

## PROJECT NO. 10

Powell River

Dear Brothers:

Our Union Meetings are usually held on Sunday, but owing to the fact that we put on a big Social night on Sunday, it was held on Monday with full attendance.

Vancouver has not witnessed a finer turnout of talent than was present to entertain us at our Social. The two chief bands of Powell River were present - the Powell River Band and the famous Hill Billie's Orchestra, with soloists, chief of which was a real artist impersonating the village parson, the latter also giving wonderful selections on an English Concertina.

Jack Ellis, peppy leader of the Hill Billies and Mr. North, leader of the other band, appreciated the applause given by the members of the "tin-canners' community" and the foreman thanked the boys for the write-up in our camp paper - The Duck Lake Gossiper. This paper we have got out has sure taken the fancy of the people of Powell River and District.

They all think it good and it gives the impression that we tin-canners are not a bad bunch of fellows after all. Our Foreman co-operates with us fine and he also is a member of the Powell River Band. He has conducted bands and by arrangement it was made possible for him to conduct the band we had with us - he knows how to handle the conductor's baton.

We also go in for sports here and play a lot of baseball.

At our Union Business Meeting, we took up the matter of supplying Tobacco for those of the boys discriminated against and now in Oskalla for tin-can demonstrations, etc. A Defense Committee was elected and a collection of Tobacco has already been sent in.

Next Sunday we start Open Forum meetings; which will be carried on every alternate Sunday. We have discussed the Trade Union Bill and have passed a resolution against Compulsory Arbitration, also sent a resolution to Pearson protesting against the firing of workers for Union activities.

Fraternally yours,

----- A STEP BACK -----

Deferred Pay will be collected by the Project Workers at Post Offices designated on deferred pay Vouchers (Coupons, not Checks this year) similar to the ones issued by the Federal King Government on closing the Slave Camps. This should be a warning to those who don't feel the need of Organization.

PROJECT NO. 6,  
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Brothers:

The situation in our Camp at the present time is rather quiet. The strength of the organization is over fifty Union Members and we hope to have in the near future a 100% organization.

Now that our Social Committee is really functioning, we are planning to hold a Concert at the C.C.F. Hall in the near vicinity as our Recreation Hall is rather small.

We have just had Brother Colin Cameron, M.L.A. here to have a talk on the Trade Union Bill, as to what its effect will be on the Relief Project Workers. But during the proceedings, owing to the activities of a "stool-pigeon", the foreman was notified and summoned to the "rec". Perhaps you are acquainted with the "stool" namely - Harold Laycock.

Brother Cameron left Camp with the promise that he would return the next evening with the necessary permission to enter the Camp.

Regarding Bro. Doc. Campbell, he was supposed to arrive here to give a talk about two weeks ago, but he never appeared, and at the present moment, his presence here would be very much appreciated.

Pertaining to Union Dues, pay-day will be about the 5th of January and we will send in same immediately afterwards.

## VANCOUVER BUSINESS-MAN ADVOCATES

## FASCISM FOR CANADA AND B.C.

Described as a "well-known B.C. Manufacturer who does business in eighteen countries", M. Leo Sweeney, was quoted recently by the conservative Daily Province, Vancouver newspaper, in a lengthy article, as favorable to "a little bit of Nazi Methods in the political setup of Canada and B.C."

Speaking to a crowd of Businessmen this "B.C. patriot" who makes frequent visits to Germany and other countries, had the audacity to declare that "Patullo must not raise the standard of living too high in British Columbia (as if he does), because it injures his business abroad, as he has to compete with Mussolini, Hitler and the Japanese, and he would like our lives grounded down as in Germany, so that Business profits would be assured to him."



## CANADIANS IN THICK OF FIGHTING WITH VICTORIOUS LOYALIST TROOPS IN SPAIN

Reports of the victorious Loyalist Campaigns on all Fronts, give much praise to the International Brigade of which the Mackenzie-Papineau, Canadian Battalion is a section. A few weeks ago the letter printed below was sent by one of the late joiners of the Battalion, a B.C. Relief Project Worker, to a friend in Vancouver:

Plaza Altozano,  
Albacete, Spain.

Dear Comrade:

I've been in Spain only a short while and have just found time now to write you a few lines about Spain as I have seen it.

In the first place there's so much work to be done we don't very often get much time to write. Trying to learn a little Spanish on the side whenever I get a few minutes to myself.

We have a good cook now, he cooks American style. And the whole country seems to be floating in wine. It seems to be the custom here to have wine twice a day. We only have Coffee in the morning, but he sure can make Coffee.

It gives you great confidence in the Spanish people when you see how they carry on their work in the fight for Freedom. They don't go about screaming or yelling about, but silently go about their work of carrying on production in the rear and holding the ground they're taking at the Front in an organized body and at the same time weeding out all traitors to the Cause of Spanish Democracy and giving them their just dues in their noble fight for freedom that was forced on them by such Scum as Franco- Mussolini and Hitler who glory in destroying the lives of the working people.

But by what I've seen behind the line in Spain, I can frankly say that the Fascist war-mongers will never beat the Spanish people who are proudly and bravely fighting for their freedom and it is only a matter of time now until they are driven into the Sea with the help of the International Brigade which has made history since it has come into being in Spain. At times it is hard to believe that this country is flaming in War until you see the wounded soldiers and then you see its true force with all its horrors.

We had a festival yesterday for the official opening of our new training quarters - a good time was had by all.

We have a good place to swim here, we go swimming quite often. Quite a few of the Vancouver Boys have gone up to the Front the other day.

## THE GROWTH OF TRADE UNIONISM

Under the present system of production of a profit which we call 'Capitalism', two forces stand out, namely: the owners of the machinery and raw material necessary to production - Capitalists, and the owners of the power to labor - Workers.

It would be good if we could dwell here on the early history of Capitalist accumulation, but we have no space, yet one fact is very clear to any student: that from the first stages, a sharp conflict arose between the two above-mentioned forces, Capitalists and Workers, the Luddite movement, the Chartists, the struggle for the Ten-Hour Day, etc.

The cause of all this conflict was, and is today, based upon the fact that the Capitalist desires all he can get, while those who sell their Labor must defend themselves and in order to do this must continually put forward the demand for a larger share of the production of their labors.

In the early days of Capitalism the student will see how the laborers were drawn together in large masses in the early workshops and manufacturing establishments and thus by being able to discuss their grievances collectively on the job grew associations of workers and later Trade Unions. With the growth of or Monopoly Capital into Imperialism higher organizations of Trade Unions came necessary. This is found in Industrial Unions and the highest form, International Federation of Trade Unions.

While we on the Government Projects are not directly hired or work under Capitalists, we have found out by our experiences that the Government is dominated by them and acts in just the same way; striving with all their might to get as much from us for as little returns as possible (remember the slave camps), so that all I have said in the preceding paragraphs refers to us.

So let us go ahead and build our Union on the job.

(To Be Continued)

Another thing I must say, Vancouver is well represented in this fight to free Spain from the hands of the Fascist murderers. And as I write this, I know that you will still be carrying on the struggle of the R.P.W.U. and wishing you all success, possible in getting your demands, I'm closing now, so Good Bye.

- B. C. AMES.





# THE DINNER BELL

by DOC



## THE XMAS SPIRIT

Peace on Earth and goodwill to all men, what a pity that sentiment is not carried out every day in the year. Not that we do not believe in the Spirit of Xmas, Mothers' Day, or such days when we suddenly realize that there are other people on this old Globe other than ourselves. When we suddenly become conscious of their existence and drop our armour of indifference as to their well being; and wishing them well seems to become an obsession for a few days.

For instance, many boys who were discriminated against in obtaining relief, or those who were blacklisted from Camps to return to Vancouver to face starvation or jail - how much genuine Xmas Spirit - how much concern for their fellowman was shown in their cases.

Xmas comes but once a year, but men must live with his fellowmen 365 days in a year and one day's platitudes are not sufficient to atone for 364. Feeling I difference - health, prosperity and general good fortune on Monday to Sunday, Xmas, New Year's, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Labor Day, May Day and every other day.

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## YOUR NEIGHBORS

In a few cases the old Doc's heart is sad, but these cases are few and isolated. All good Union Men realize that the Union has worked hard and diligently to obtain a good Public Opinion and are desirous of keeping it. We as a Union are not killjoys or are we desirous of telling another Brother how he should conduct himself. But when the actions of individual members affect the well-being of the majority, we must certainly caution him as to his actions.

In many Camps located near a small Town many of the boys go in on Saturday night to dance. In a few cases some have conducted themselves in anything but a decent manner.

Now, we admit that how an individual acts is his own concern; but, when we realize that others who know how and do conduct themselves suffer for the sins of

(continued top next column)

a few, then we must caution them if we are to continue to enjoy the affairs staged in the locality where we live and be made to feel Welcome. Otherwise it won't be long before the cold shoulder is given us all. Get interested in the people in your neighborhood - they're good neighbors when you get to know them

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## BROTHERS IN SPAIN

I sat down the other day and sort of got in a reminiscent mood. I was thinking of how I spent last Xmas and the boys who I was with. It suddenly struck me the great number who today are fighting in Spain, that Fascism will be buried there and not raise its cancerous head in Canada. Many of us no doubt have had like thoughts of those splendid fellows who were not content to ~~go to~~ the gates of ~~hell~~ a comrade, but ~~go~~ right inside.

We carry on the traditions of a Union you helped to build and reaction will be our constant enemy and with you we shout - No Pasaran! The boys in Camp have dug down to send you comforts and smokes and we will carry on the torch you flung to us to organize until we have reached the goal of Work and Wages and a decent living for Canadian Youth.

## - FORTY-FIVE WORKERS JAILED -

(continued from page 1)

fascist manner, they were more determined and organized than ever when they appeared in Court, and their spokesman coolly informed the Judge that they were fed-up with starving and depriving themselves - if the authorities would not give them work or relief, they would have to keep them anyway in jail at \$1 a day. Despite the ridiculing cracks made about the boys in the reactionary newspapers, the public is incensed at this injustice to the boys. The Project Workers should give them every support and send protest resolutions to the authorities regarding the arrests.