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League for Industrial Democracy

NEWS-BULLETIN

VOL. VII, No. 3

70 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

MAY, 1929

June Conference on Municipal Progress  
June 27-30, 1929-Camp Tamiment, Pa.

**I**N a large number of municipalities of the United States, municipal elections will be held this year. Progressives of various stripes are realizing increasingly the importance of the control of municipal government in the interest of the people.

In an attempt to indicate something of the rôle the progressive and radical forces of the community should play in the reconstruction of municipal government, the League for Industrial Democracy this year is arranging a conference in late June at Camp Tamiment, Forest Park, Pennsylvania, on "A Program for Municipal Government."

The conference sessions, which will begin on Thursday evening, June 27, and be concluded on Sunday, June 30, are tentatively as follows:

Thursday Evening, June 27, 8 P. M.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS AS THEY ARE

- A. Structural Forms (Mayor-Council, city manager, and commission).
- B. How City Governments Are Controlled. (Machines and the relations of graft to business.)

Friday Morning, June 28, 9:30 A. M.

A BRIGHTER PICTURE

What Socialists Have Done in Power: In Milwaukee, Reading, Vienna, Russia, etc.

Friday Afternoon, June 28.—RECREATION.

Friday Evening, June 28, 8 P. M.

MUNICIPAL PROGRAM ON SPECIFIC SERVICES

- Housing.
- Public Utilities.
- Marketing.
- Transit.
- Taxation.

Saturday Morning, June 29, 9:30.

THE CITY AND ITS CITIZENS

- The Schools.
- Public Health.
- Labor Protection:
  - The Right to Organize.
  - Municipal Insurance.
- Newspapers.
- Race Relations.

Saturday Afternoon, June 29.—RECREATION.

Saturday Evening, June 29, 8 P. M.

HOW CAN PROGRESSIVES TAKE POWER?

- A. Party or Non-partisan Action?
- B. An Immediate Policy.

Also a Social and Dramatic Program.

Sunday Morning, June 30, 9:30 A. M.

THE CITY OF THE FUTURE

On Friday afternoon, a special session will be held, devoted to undergraduate problems, led by Norman Studer, Editor of *The New Student*.

A number of New York students who have been giving especial attention to the subject will speak at a short special session of Saturday afternoon on "The Invisible Government of New York City." The discussion will be based on research into the activities of the present administration in New York City by Hillman Bishop and Joseph Weiss of Columbia; Ethel Lurie and Mamie Vexlerank of Hunter.

Among those who have already expressed their willingness to serve are:

Frederic C. Howe, author of "European Cities at Work," "The City of Hope of Democracy," "Confessions of a Reformer," etc.

Carl D. Thompson, Secretary of the Public Ownership League of America.

Luther Gulick (probably), Director of the National Bureau of Public Administration.

Louis H. Pink, New York attorney, author of "The New Day in Housing," member of the State Housing Commission, New York State.

Joseph McGoldrick, Department of Government, Columbia University.

J. S. Potofsky, Assistant Secretary of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, which is now conducting some important housing experiments.

James H. Maurer, City Councillor, Reading, Pa., formerly President Pennsylvania Federation of Labor.

Lewis Mumford (probably), author of "The Story of Utopias," etc.

Louis Waldman, attorney, former candidate for Governor on the Socialist Party ticket.

Louis Brownlow, architect of Radburn, the "Motor-Age City," a venture of the City Housing Corporation.

B. Charney Vladeck, Business Manager, *Jewish Daily Forward*; former Alderman of the City of New York.

Percy R. Williams, secretary, Henry George Foundation of America.

Dr. Jessie Hughan, author, teacher.

Louis P. Goldberg, New York attorney.

Frank Crosswaith, United Colored Socialists of America.

Kenneth M. Spence, N. Y. attorney.

Robert Hoffman, Charles Solomon, Harry W. Laidler and others.

Norman Thomas, as in former years, will act as chairman of the various sessions.

### The Camp and the Rates

*Location of the Camp.*—Camp Tamiment, organized a few years ago by the Rand School of Social Science, is a spot of unusual loveliness. It is situated in the heart of the Blue Mountains, 2,000 feet above sea level, in the eastern part of Pennsylvania.

*How to Reach Camp.*—The Camp is reached from New York by taking the Hudson Tube to Hoboken; thence via the Lackawanna & Western Railroad to Stroudsburg. An autobus meets all trains at Stroudsburg.

The round trip fare from Hoboken to Stroudsburg via the D. L. & W. is \$5.37. The auto bus from Stroudsburg to the Camp one way costs \$1.00.

The best trains from New York generally leave Hoboken at 10:20 A. M., 2:20 P. M. and 4:20 P. M. (Eastern Standard Time. This should be confirmed on time table issued in June.) The Camp is slightly less than 3½ hours' distance from New York. By motor car via Port Jervis it is 112 miles. The time adopted at the Camp is Eastern Standard.

*Accommodations.*—The cabins of the Camp are situated on the banks of a spring-fed lake about a mile in length. A

large dining hall divides the men's and women's cabins. The attractive social hall, accommodating several hundred people, is built over the edge of the lake, away from the cabins, and another enclosed social hall, used for afternoon teas, assemblies and dances, is now in operation.

The camp recreations include walking, swimming, rowing, canoeing, tennis and baseball. Boats and canoes are provided to the campers free of charge.

*Rates per Day (Room and Board).*—The majority of bungalows accommodate three, four and six guests. The League has secured a very special rate of \$4.00 a day for its guests. (Ordinary rate, \$6.)

*Special Rates to College Undergraduates.*—The Board of Directors has been enabled this year, as a result of a specific appropriation, to make a special rate of \$2.50 a day for L. I. D. student members who are now (May, 1929) undergraduates in colleges and universities.

*Conference Tickets.*—Tickets of admission for the entire conference will be \$3.00, in addition to board and lodging rates. Those desiring to attend the conference are urged to send applications with the conference fee of \$3 at the earliest opportunity to the L. I. D. Let us know immediately if possible, whether you can come.

The mail and express address is Camp Tamiment, Forest Park, Pa.

## L. I. D. Lectures

### Laidler Concludes College Trip

**H**ARRY W. LAIDLER returned to New York following his eleven weeks' trip to the South and Pacific Coast in the latter part of March. During this trip he gave some 125 talks in 35 colleges and universities and before a large number of city audiences, addressing between twelve and thirteen thousand college students and over five thousand in city groups.

Doctor Laidler found throughout the country an increased feeling of insecurity among all classes of people, resulting from the rapid technical changes in industry, the development of trusts and combines, the rise of the chain stores, the devitalizing effect of mass production, the refusal of many corporations to hire men above the age of forty or fifty, and other forces. The South, with its growing industrialism, was showing an increased interest in labor questions. Throughout the South and West a dramatic struggle was being staged between the great public utility corporations and electrical consumers, while a vigorous fight for the extension of public ownership might be anticipated within the next few years in the far West. The West, with the development of the great corporations with headquarters in the East, in retail trading as well as in manufacture, banking, public utilities and natural resources, is developing a fear of being increasingly "bled" by Eastern capitalists. It is hard to find a community that regards itself as really prosperous. "Prosperity, of course, we have, but it's in the next town or state."

"Among the college body," writes Mr. Laidler, "there is perhaps less interest than at some periods in abstract economic theories either of classical or socialist economics, though in the University of California I found a class of over 200 taking up theories of future social orders. There is, I feel, increasing interest in concrete work for better labor conditions, a broader internationalism and improved race conditions. The student Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. are doing

much along these lines. There is a growing interest in the Students in Industry movement and the students who learn about the lives of the worker at first hand are getting a valuable experience. The discussion method is gaining the ascendancy over the lecture method not only in such experiments as Rollins College, Reed College and the Experimental College at the University of Wisconsin, but in many other institutions. Women students are increasingly demanding the same privileges as men students. The post-war hysteria is largely a thing of the past. Mencken, I think, is losing his grip on the student mind, and an increasing number of college men and women—though as yet a small minority—are turning from a negative cynical attitude toward a desire for constructive social activity.

"On the other hand, some of the schools of business administration are developing even more than formerly a 'go-getter' psychology and military officers in many college R. O. T. C.'s are doing all they can to give a military mind-set to the students.

"I found everywhere that the League through such lecturers as Norman Thomas and Paul Blanshard, through its pamphlets, its researches and its other activities, had won a very real place in the campus life as well as in the progressive life of the community, and feel more strongly than ever the very great value of that work and the need of pushing it with ever greater vigor."

The March issue of the *Bulletin* described Mr. Laidler's trip from New York to the South and the Pacific Coast. Following his two weeks' stay in California, he arrived at Eugene, Oregon, on February 27, and there addressed a group of college students and townspeople at Villard Hall on "Bernard Shaw and Modern Socialism," under the auspices of the Liberal Club. The following morning he addressed a small group on "Whither American Industry." Prof. C. B. Norman presided at the evening lecture. Al Bristol, of the student body, and Rev. Ernest M. Whitesmith cooperated.

The following day Mr. Laidler went to Salem, Oregon, and spoke at afternoon and evening meetings at Willamette University under the auspices of the college Y. M. C. A. Several students and professors joined the League. Harold Shellhart became student representative. On March 1, Mr. Laidler spoke at Pacific College, Newberg, before the college assembly, followed by an address before some 150 members of the Portland City Club on "Wanted: A New Political Alignment." That evening he was entertained at a supper at Reed College, and later addressed the students and faculty of that institution on "Problems Facing American Labor."

On Saturday noon, Mr. Laidler spoke at the large monthly luncheon of the Portland branch of the Association of University Women on "Barnard Shaw," and the following afternoon, at the home of Miss K. L. Trevett on the work of the League for Industrial Democracy. Other addresses in Portland were: Sunday night, March 3, "The People's Fight for Electrical Power," under the auspices of the Socialist Party.

March 4, talks before a class at Reed College, a ministerial group at the Portland Y. M. C. A., Oregon Council for the Prevention of War, and the Portland Labor Council.

March 5, an address before the student body of Lincoln High School on "The Coöperative World in the Making."

Mr. Laidler's next stop was in Seattle, where he addressed four classes at the University of Washington, the Pilgrim Club of the University and two informal meetings of ministers and students.

Starting East, Mr. Laidler spoke in Missoula, Montana, on Saturday, March 9, before some forty students and professors at the University Church at Missoula, of which Rev. John R. Hahn is the pastor, and on Sunday at the morning and evening services of this church on "Roads to Peace" and "Power Control." His other addresses in the Northwest were as follows:

Monday, March 11, International Union College; Wednesday and Thursday, March 13 and 14, at the Assembly and at Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. meetings of Jamestown College, Jamestown, N. D.; Thursday and Friday, at North Dakota Agricultural College at Fargo, under the auspices of the Pi Gamma Nu, and before several economic and history classes; Saturday, March 16, before the Saturday Lunch Club in Minneapolis and the St. Paul Council for the Prevention of War; Sunday, March 17, before the Young people's meeting at the Community Church, St. Paul, and at the Community Church Forum.

On Doctor Laidler's final day in the Twin Cities he had a crowded program, beginning with a chapel talk at Hamline University at 9:40 A. M., and continuing with an address before combined classes in economics, a luncheon meeting before the St. Paul Y. W. C. A., afternoon lectures at Macalister College and the University of Minnesota and a dinner meeting of the Y. W. C. A. in Minneapolis.

The following day he arrived at Madison, Wisconsin, and spoke in Professor Perlman's class on "Recent Developments in European Socialist Thought"; at the weekly luncheon of the Social Science faculty and at a meeting arranged under the auspices of the university at 4:30. He also participated in an informal discussion at supper at the Experimental College of the university. On March 20, Doctor Laidler addressed the Socialist Party of Milwaukee on "Bernard Shaw," and on Friday, the 22nd, delivered his last talk before Meadville Theological Seminary. From there he went to New York to meet an appointment on March 25th.

The following week, Mr. Laidler returned to Buffalo and discussed the question: "Is Strife Inevitable?" at the Conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. On Sunday, April 7, he spoke at the Pilgrim Evangelical Church on "War," and at a dinner of the Socialist Party. Following the Easter vacation on the 8th he addressed a class on Labor Problems at the Buffalo State Teachers' College, and spoke that night in Rochester at the Y. W. C. A., where steps were taken toward the organization of a city chapter.

## Thomas and Porter Report

IT is always a question in my mind how many people read or are interested in a catalogue of places the officers of the L. I. D. go to speak, but there is no question at all that in this *Bulletin* there is no space for anything much more than a list of names and places. So here goes.

Since the last report I have spoken anywhere from one to a dozen times at the following colleges and universities: Princeton Liberal Conference; University of Michigan Round Table; Albion and Battle Creek Colleges, Michigan; Iowa State College at Ames; Milliken University; University of Wisconsin; Junior College at Cicero, Ill.; the University of Chicago; Northwestern University; Drury College, Springfield, Mo.; Franklin College, Franklin, Ind.; Ohio Wesleyan University; Rollins College Institute of Statesmanship, Winter Park, Florida; Cornell University; Physicians and Surgeons' Club, Medical Center, New York City; Dartmouth College; Brown University; Intercollegiate Liberal Club Conference at Baltimore, Md.; Colgate College; Hunter College; and the International House, Columbia University. I addressed forums and other types of public meetings, large and small, in Chicago, Woodstock, Ill.; Louisville, Ky.; Arlington Avenue Presbyterian Church, East Orange, N. J.; Philadelphia Association of History Teachers; Socialist Party Forum in Pottstown, Pa., and similar Socialist forums in New York City, Albany and Schenectady; various types of church forums in Hartford, Conn., White Plains, New York, Winchester, Mass., and New York City; the Academy of Political Science in Philadelphia; the Municipal Conference in New York City, and the Cloth Hat and Cap Workers' convention, the Madison Square Garden rally and the Philadelphia meeting on May Day. I also broadcast a series of three talks over WOR in the period arranged by the student Y. M. C. A.

It will appear from the foregoing list that we have no trouble in getting dates. There is a steadily increasing interest, not only in the general educational work of the L. I. D., but also in the political situation. But neither prairies, mountains, nor cities are on fire with zeal to form a new party. Stock market gambling is doing a great deal of harm psychologically as well as economically, although it is not true that workers and farmers generally are trying to get rich on Wall Street or succeeding so well that unemployment doesn't bother them. In short, the situation is precisely that in which a continuance of our work is most necessary and sufficiently hopeful to keep us at it.

May I conclude by expressing my great appreciation of the hospitality I met wherever I went and my high regard for the character of work that is being done by certain students in college groups.

At the time of writing this report Paul Porter is finishing college work in the Middle West preparatory to going South to help with the relief situation in the Southern textile strike area. Much of Mr. Porter's work in recent weeks has been of a pioneer variety in colleges in which we had little contact and where it was impossible to make careful arrangements long in advance. He has especially been working on the organizing end of things. Before he started for the Middle West he did an excellent piece of work in Johns Hopkins and Goucher College preparatory to the Intercollegiate Liberal Club conference, reported elsewhere in this issue.

Mr. Porter on his Mid Western trip has visited the University of Kentucky, Transylvania College, Lexington, Ky., Extension Classes of school teachers at St. Joseph, Mo., groups in Maryville, Mo.; Park College, Parkville, Mo.; the University of Nebraska, the Kansas City Junior College, and, in Iowa, Simpson College, Iowa State College, Drake University, Central College and Parsons College. In Iowa we are grateful for the help of Mr. E. R. Hinckley of the State Y. M. C. A.

N. T.

# Colleges Discuss Social Problems

## New England States

*Harvard.* The Harvard Socialist Club has recently secured nation-wide publicity in connection with the publication of *The Harvard Progressive*, the first copy of which contained an article entitled "President Lowell Should Explain." The article was written by Gardner Jackson, chairman of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee, and revealed important evidence in the Sacco-Vanzetti case which was suppressed in President Lowell's report.

"When it became known to the Boston papers that the leading article was a criticism of President Lowell's action in the Sacco-Vanzetti case," writes Lawrence B. Cohen, Jr., president of the club, "the newsboys whom we had engaged came and told us that they had been threatened with the loss of their jobs if they helped us (this was a day before the paper was due to appear and we were held up for some days). Finally we secured another corps only to have these also withdraw. Meanwhile I had applied for a newsboy license for myself and a few other members only to learn that it would take two weeks to get them."

However, through local help, newsboys were finally employed and the entire issue was almost sold out the first day, as the Boston newspapers had given good advertising.

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology.* James H. Sheldon, president of the Fellowship of Youth for Peace and a member of the Socialist Club, has recently been active in bringing the matter of military training before the students of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. President Stratton of the M. I. T. turned down a request, so the students interpreted it, of the Tech Liberal Club, that they be allowed to discuss military training in the college buildings. Mr. Sheldon secured the services of Tucker P. Smith of New York, Secretary of the Committee on Militarism and Education, and hired a large room in a hotel just off the Tech campus.

Other members of the Harvard Socialist Club handed out leaflets for two days, and some 125 men were present. President Stratton afterwards stated that the students were mistaken in thinking that he had denied them the use of college buildings. He simply felt that it was inadvisable to have such a meeting held. Gardner Jackson has been asked to discuss the Sacco-Vanzetti case under the auspices of the Liberal Club at the M. I. T. following President Stratton's explanation of his attitude on free speech.

Mr. Cohen, Alfred Baker Lewis and others are assisting the League in securing membership from Wellesley, Radcliffe and adjoining colleges. The Club has also decided that whenever it has a little spare money in its treasury to present books to the college library. Among the books already presented are "The Story of Civil Liberties in the U. S.," "Letters to Judd," and "Boston."

*Yale.* J. B. Whitelaw, this year's student correspondent of the L. I. D. for the Yale Liberal Club, reports that the Club elected officers for the coming year and that it has a remarkable group of members pledged to activity next season. E. S. Seltzer, Secretary of the Club, will be student correspondent. During the last month or so the Liberal Club had Alexander Meiklejohn as one of its speakers. Professor Meiklejohn gave an address to an enthusiastic and packed house on "Experiments in College Education." The Club also cooperated with the Christian Association in scheduling a talk for C. F. Andrews on "India." A delegation of about thirty went to the League of Nations Model Assembly at Mt. Holyoke College on April 13.

*Smith.* Miss Stella Eskin, President of the Why Club, reports a few meetings for discussion on current events and of educational systems here and abroad. Many of the Club members are ardent attendants at the meetings of the Northampton Progressive Club.

## Middle Atlantic States

*Cornell.* Cornell Liberal Club reports the most active chapter for years and gave an enthusiastic reception to Norman Thomas on April 13. Other meetings were as follows:

February 13, Professor Woodward on "The Liberal College"; February 20, Professor Becker on "A Comparison of the French and Russian Revolution"; February 27, Noel Sargent on "The Philosophy of Capitalism"; March 6, a club discussion on "Public Utilities Propaganda"; March 8, Professor Gaetano Salvemini on "Fascism"; March 18, John F. Frey on "The Injunction in Labor Disputes"; March 26, Fay Grover, Secretary Central Trades and Labor Council of Ithaca, on "Trades Unions and Company Unions in the Railroads." Miss Molly H. Wilson is the Secretary of the Cornell Liberal Club, and Helen Schlanck, Chairman of Publicity for Cornell Liberal Club.

*Columbia.* Under the able leadership of Nathaniel Weyl, the Columbia Social Problems Club is having an active season. The March meeting was devoted to "Trends toward Socialism" with Morris Hillquit as the speaker. A number of members of the Club are working hard in connection with municipal problems so as to be able to do effective work during the next campaign.

*Syracuse.* The members of the Liberal Club at Syracuse have been cooperating with a number of other organizations in progressive activities. On March 24 a number of them attended the Student Church and Stanley High spoke on "The White Man's Chickens." They assisted in arranging convocation with Harry Elmer Barnes as a speaker. Professor Barnes spoke on his conception of "The Place of Religion in a Secular Age." This address caused much excitement in the local papers. Many of the members of the Liberal Club, writes Marjorie Farley, have been very active in supporting and forming a new Progressive Party on the campus, the first party ever in existence here. "Despite the fact that we failed to place in office our main candidate for the presidency of the student body we did elect three of the seven candidates we nominated for senatorships, eight out of ten women, and we succeeded in stirring up some thought on the subject."

*Bryn Mawr.* Bryn Mawr students report that the address by Norman Thomas on "Enemies of Democracy," on Feb. 16, brought out an attendance of about 250 and aroused a decided interest in social and economic organizations. Caroline Thompson has consented to act as student representative.

*C. C. N. Y.* The Liberal Club of the evening session of the College of the City of New York reports interesting meetings during February and March, as follows:

February 27, "The Menace of Militarism," by George Pershing; March 6, "The Machine: A Blessing or a Menace?" Henry Jager; March 20, "Labor Injunctions," Louis Waldman. Ettie F. Frauenglass is secretary.

A new organization has been formed in C. C. N. Y. known as the Open Forum, under the leadership of Winston Dancis, Abe Kaufman and others.

*Biblical Seminary.* The Biblical Seminary of New York reports a meeting for Paul Blanshard on March 7.

Doris Harpole, of Pittsburgh, reports that Professors Ralph E. Turner and Ralph S. Boots of the University, will address the student Chapter in May on "Capitalism—Democracy—and the Modern City." The Liberal Club of the University of Pittsburgh, which is not affiliated with the L. I. D. though our relations with it have been close and friendly, was first denied a room at the University and then disbanded because of its activities for striking miners and more recently for Mooney and Billings.

## West and South

*Wisconsin.* The Wisconsin Liberal Club has been continuing its activity in behalf of Mooney and Billings, circulating clubs throughout the country and urging students to join the Intercollegiate Committee for the release of these men. This season's meetings of the club are as follows:

December 6, Paul Porter, "Labor's Challenge to the Student"; January 15, discussion of Mooney-Billings case; February 26, discussion of the Cruiser Bill; March 5, Norman Thomas on "Another Inaugural Address"; March 20, Campbell Dickson, football coach, on "Intercollegiate Athletics." Following Mr. Dickson's address the club passed resolutions urging President Frank to call a conference of the Big Ten Presidents to raise scholastic requirements for football players. A letter was also adopted to be sent to British student clubs assuring them that the Cruiser Bill would cause no harm. The club is now planning to have reports on current events presented through standing committees on European, Pan-American and East affairs; national, state, university and industrial affairs. Sidney Hertzberg is student correspondent.

Mr. Laidler spoke under the auspices of the university on "Whither American Industry," on March 19.

*Meadville Theological School* had three meetings in March, held at this institution, as follows:

March 6, a debate, "Resolved, that a Workers' Revolution in the United States is Probable and Desirable," with Robert H. Hart affirmative and Eugene W. Sutherland negative; March 14, Scott Nearing on "What is Communism?" March 22, Harry W. Laidler, on "Unemployment and Socialism." Other speakers this spring are Lillian Herstein of the Chicago Teachers' Union, and Paul H. Douglas of the University of Chicago.

*Albion College.* Sidney Adler of Albion reports meetings before the Albion L. I. D., which is incorporated in the Y. M. C. A., as a cabinet project as follows: George R. Kirkpatrick, on "Why I Voted Socialist"; Rosika Schwimmer, on "Peace"; Norman Thomas, on "Race, Fraternity and Religion." Mr. Adler reported an attendance of 800 at Mr. Thomas' meeting.

*Garrett Biblical Institute.* Mr. R. Walden Anderson reports that some fifteen members have joined the L. I. D. "We had close to 150 Garrett men out to hear Norman Thomas here when he spoke at the Northwestern chapel service. We will try to hold some definite L. I. D. meetings next quarter."

*The University of Michigan.* Joseph B. Cherry of the Michigan Round Table reports that Prof. P. M. Jask has been scheduled to speak before the Round Table on "Literary Radicals," and Prof. R. Remer on "How the Orient Views Imperialism."

Mr. John Selden of the University of Illinois sends the following report regarding the student conference of Foreign Relations at the University of Illinois from February 22 to 24: "The conference was held under the joint auspices of the Campus Churches and the Y. M. C. A. Dr. W. W. Sweet of the university, one of the speakers, contrasted the World War with previous wars. The World War, he declared, was a lieutenants' and sergeants' war, as they were the ones to carry the actual fighting, while the generals stayed behind the lines and telephoned their orders to the front. Modern wars do not make heroes in the same way as did past wars. After the Civil War those elected presidents for some years had served as generals. Now there are very few 'heroes' in political office. Mud and cooties don't add to the glamor of war. War is becoming less enticing. You must think of patriotism in terms of peace, not war."

*Tulane University.* Herman Bloomstein of Tulane University reports three meetings in February and March on "Upstream," by Leonard Greenberg; "Leo Tolstoy," by Ben Kaplan, and "The Brass Check," by Charles Swadesh. "The

group," declares Mr. Bloomstein, "continues to grow in number and is becoming very much interested in socialism and social thinking, especially in the line of student activities."

*Willamette University.* Harold Shellhart of Willamette reports that there is an increasing interest in industrial subjects at this college. Doctor Laidler addressed several groups of students the latter part of February, while in March George Pearson spoke on "Employees' Attempts to Stabilize the Lumber Industry," and "The Modern Industrial Relations." Mr. Shellhart reports that this group is doing wonders to see the present industrial condition as it is. It is led by Dean Roy Hewitt of the Willamette Law School. "We have at least fifteen of twenty students virtually interested in this subject. Several have joined the L. I. D., and we may be able to organize a chapter this spring or fall."

*University of Oregon.* The student discussion group at the university cooperated with the Liberal Club of Eugene in a meeting for Stitt J. Wilson in December, and Doctor Laidler on "Bernard Shaw" in February. The discussion group, declared Al Bristol, meets once a week with an average attendance of 15. It is not affiliated as yet with any organization. The Liberal Club meets once a month, and contains college students, faculty members and townspeople.

*Reed College.* The Social Science Club of Reed College reports of late a number of valuable discussion meetings, with Kenneth Harlan on "Portland Public Utilities"; Bert Haury on "The Shipping Board"; Oswald West, on "The Home Rule Bill," and George Wheeler and Ray Clifton, on "Power Control." Maure Goldschmidt is president of the club.

Other reports have been received from Lewis E. Copeland of Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas; Donald Carmony of Indiana Central College; Carl Burke of Colorado College; H. G. Holt of James Milliken College; Leonard J. Kramer of Elmhurst College; Rollo R. Way of Oberlin; Harry Grossman of the University of North Carolina; Ken Morgan of Ohio Wesleyan; Mary Lee Korn of Rollins.

### N. Y. Chapter Lunch on Radio May 18

"A Municipal Program for New York City, 1929-33"  
Hon. ARTHUR J. W. HILLY, Corporation Counsel,  
N. Y. C.; NORMAN THOMAS, and a Prominent  
REPUBLICAN, Speakers.

Hotel Manger, Seventh Ave. and 50th St.  
Saturday, May 18th, at 12:15.

The Main Speeches of the three Speakers will be broadcast through the courtesy of the National Broadcasting Company over Station W. E. A. F. from 1:30 to 2:30 P. M.

Members and Friends who desire to attend this luncheon are advised to send in their reservations early. The charge to members will be \$1.25, to non-members \$1.50. Reservations at this rate must reach the office by Friday the Seventeenth. Reservations made day of the luncheon or at the door will be \$1.50 for members and \$1.75 for non-members. Students who show registration cards will be admitted to the speaking at 1:30 for 25 cents, and others for 50 cents, up to the capacity of the room.

In order that the speeches may start promptly at 1:30 P. M. service will begin promptly at 12:30 P. M. We would not advise anyone to listen in in preference to attending the luncheon, as radio listeners will miss the discussion period following the main speakers. This lively period is always a feature of the L. I. D. luncheons. This luncheon is being broadcast by W. E. A. F. as an experiment. Whether next year's luncheons will be broadcast will depend in part on the response. Members and friends will help the work of the L. I. D. considerably if they express their appreciation by a letter or card to the National Broadcasting Company, Fifth Ave., at 55th St., N. Y. C.

## The Intercollegiate Liberal Conference

**I**N order to create greater interest in liberal thought on the part of college students and to inspire them to strengthen existing Liberal Clubs and form new ones on campuses where none now exist, the Johns Hopkins Liberal Club, in cooperation with the Goucher College Ethics Club, called an Intercollegiate Liberal Conference, which met in Baltimore April 19, 20 and 21.

The conference was attended by more than seventy-five students from Johns Hopkins, Goucher, George Washington, Yale, Princeton, St. John's College, University of Maryland, Hood, American University, Maryland State Normal School and Maryland College for Women.

The subject of the conference was "Liberalism in Colleges." The keynote was sounded in the opening address on April 19 by Father John A. Ryan, of Washington, who spoke on "The Meaning of Liberalism." Declaring that the liberal attitude was that which permitted the greatest liberty and freedom, Father Ryan pointed out its consequences in the various spheres of life—in education, in economics, in politics and in religion.

The next morning we split up our conference into four discussion groups, meeting simultaneously, at each of which a member of the Hopkins Club delivered a previously prepared report. The topics were "The Labor Party Movement in the United States," "Dollar Diplomacy," "Proposed Roads to Freedom," and "The League of Nations and World Peace."

Following these meetings we attended a luncheon in honor of Norman Thomas, at which Mr. Thomas spoke on "Our Interdependent World and How We Run It." In the afternoon we listened to reports from the colleges represented as to the nature of the liberal activity, if any, on their campuses, the attitude of the authorities, and the possibility of liberal groups. We also received reports from the chairmen of the morning discussion groups as to the opinion of their respective groups on the topic discussed.

That evening, at the most important and largest attended session of the conference, Norman Thomas again spoke on "The College Student as a Potential Voter." As in the afternoon, Mr. Thomas delivered a vigorous, stimulating address that commanded the attention of all the delegates and awakened in them a high degree of enthusiasm for the liberal cause.

"Students in Industry" was the topic taken by Mr. Walter Ludwig, Executive Director of Pioneer Youth, for the morning session on the last day of the conference. Following his interesting talk Mr. Ludwig led the discussion, during which those members of the group who had worked in industry recounted their experiences.

In the afternoon at the last conference meeting, V. F. Calverton, editor of the *Modern Quarterly*, delivered an inspiring address on "What the Student Can Do." Mr. Calverton scored the apathy that prevails on our campuses and urged the students to organize Liberal Clubs. A motion was carried providing for the appointment of a committee composed of one student from each school in the vicinity represented at the conference, to keep in touch with each other and render mutual assistance.

In the calibre of the speakers, the quality of the discussion and the number and enthusiasm of the delegates, the promoters of the conference realized their fondest hopes. The George Washington students returned home resolved to strengthen their Liberal Club, the University of Maryland delegation determined to organize one. We expect that next fall a similar group will be started at Morgan College, and perhaps also at St. John's College and American University. As Hood, Goucher, and Hopkins already have clubs, we hope to have next year a strong group of cooperating clubs in Maryland and the District of Columbia, with perhaps our conference as an annual affair.

JOEL I. SEIDMAN, JOHN HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.

## L. I. D. Finances

**W**E HAVE never used this Bulletin for begging. We shall not so use it now. We must in fairness tell you that in spite of an increase in membership and in the number of small gifts, the loss of certain large gifts puts us under an unusual financial strain. It forced us among other things to omit the April Bulletin. It now forces us to tell you that to finish out the year on the basis we had planned we must raise between \$9,000 and \$10,000 not now even in sight. Can any of you help us by increased gifts, new gifts or lists of possible new givers? This statement applies to the regular L. I. D. Budget. The special appeal for relief for Southern textile strikers is to meet an extra emergency and is separately handled, as you will note by the statement published elsewhere in this issue.

### Our Officers for 1929-1930

**A**S a result of the recent election, the following will serve as officers of the League for Industrial Democracy for the coming year:

*President:* Robert Morss Lovett, Professor of English Literature, University of Chicago, and an editor of *The New Republic*.

*Vice-Presidents:* John Haynes Holmes, author, pastor of the Community Church, New York; Vladimir Karapetoff, inventor, professor of Electrical Engineering, Cornell University; Florence Kelley, General Secretary of the National Consumers' League; James H. Maurer, City Councillor, Reading, Penn., former President of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor; Alexander Meiklejohn, Head of the Experimental College, University of Wisconsin.

*Treasurer:* Stuart Chase, Director of Labor Bureau, Inc., author of "Your Money's Worth," "The Tragedy of Waste."  
*Executive Directors:* Harry W. Laidler and Norman Thomas.

*Field Secretary:* Paul Porter, University of Kansas, 1928.

*Assistant to the Directors:* Bertha Dubrow.

#### Members of the Board of Directors:

Devere Allen, Editor of *The World Tomorrow*.

Forrest Bailey, Director of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Hillman Bishop, Secretary, New York Chapter, L. I. D.

Paul Blanshard, Associate Editor of *The Nation*.

Leroy E. Bowman, Secretary of the City Recreation Committee and National Community Center Association.

McAlister Coleman, writer, author of "Pioneers of Freedom."

H. W. L. Dana, lecturer, New School for Social Research.  
Jerome Davis, author, Professor of Applied Philanthropy, Yale Divinity School.

Solon DeLeon, editor of the *American Labor Year Book*.

Elisabeth Gilman, Director of the Baltimore Open Forum.

Jesse H. Holmes, Professor of Philosophy, Swarthmore.

Jessie W. Hughan, high school teacher, author of "What Socialism Is," "Introduction to the Study of International Government," etc.

Paul Jones, Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation.  
Nicholas Kelley, New York attorney, former assistant secretary of the United States Treasury.

Broadus Mitchell, Professor of Economics, Johns Hopkins.

William Pickens, author, Field Secretary, Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mary R. Sanford, Publicist.

Vida D. Scudder, author, Professor Emeritus of English Literature, Wellesley College.

Helen Phelps Stokes, Publicist.

Norman Studer, editor of the *New Student*.

Bertha Poole Weyl, Executive Committee, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, N. Y.

## Our Annual Dinner

ON March 15th, at the Aldine Club, the L. I. D. held its Annual Dinner, smaller this year than usual but, on that very account, more intimate and informal than some of our larger dinners have been. The subject was "The Economics of Peace." Paul Blanshard presided, Paul Porter made a brief report of the work of the League, the essential features of which have already appeared in our *Bulletin*. Marvelous to say, there was no collection speech!

The first speaker on the program was George Soule, editor of *The New Republic*, who talked about the use of embargoes against aggressor nations as a possible means of enforcing peace. He declared:

"If we can go so far as to declare that we shall not assert the right to trade with an internationally declared aggressor, and if we can help to maintain the international machinery to prevent and define aggression, we shall have made a long step toward the cessation of competitive naval building."

Mr. Soule, however, believed that our main job was to join the effort to prevent war situations from arising. "Continuous international consultation on every subject of importance, avoidance of provocation on our own part, checks on the mischievous practices of economic nationalism—these things are of vastly more importance than plans for future wars."

Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard, of *The Nation*, in an earnest and impressive speech took up the question of tariffs and peace. By quotation and illustration he brought home his contention that "It [the tariff] is the most purely selfish doctrine in the world, this one that we shall build up industries that cannot by themselves compete with foreigners, and are kept alive artificially merely because of national boundary lines. It carries with it the policy that we shall deliberately injure our fellow human beings under other flags, shall at a moment's notice ruin them or cripple their markets, throw them out of jobs, or even play into the hands of the great capitalists who are so prone to accept a foreign tariff as an excuse for knocking down the wages of their working people."

Dr. Raymond Leslie Buell, Research Director of the Foreign Policy Association, carried on the theme from the standpoint of the economic relations of powerful nations to backward territories which they hold as colonies or in some sort of economic fiefdom. In particular he criticized the United States for its closed door policy in Porto Rico and the Philippines, a policy less enlightened than that of most European countries, especially since the inauguration of the mandate system under the League of Nations. In Cuba, continued Dr. Buell, the United States will neither inquire into the grave charges against President Machado's dictatorship nor permit the people to revolt. In general the commercial policy of the United States is marked by (1) a high tariff policy which embitters our relations with Canada, France, Argentine and other countries; (2) a policy of promoting foreign trade and subsidizing a merchant marine; (3) rigorous protection of American investments abroad even by force of arms. The continuance of this last policy makes it futile to talk of renouncing war.

Norman Thomas, in opening the discussion, urged that to establish peace requires more than merely to avert war. It requires not panaceas but a philosophy of world coöperation and a program for dealing with such economic problems as the other speakers had raised. World coöperation, he felt, could not be achieved by international capitalism.

It was on this point that most of the discussion from the floor was concentrated. Several questioners thought it possible that the remarkable growth of international capitalism would solve some of the economic problems under discussion and bring peace. Mr. Thomas replied: (1) that in spite of the undoubted growth of international capitalism, capitalism in many of its manifestations was intensely nationalistic and

was not likely to altogether forego its allegiance with nationalism, not only because of conditions for profit and power, which welcomes national backing, but also because this national patriotism of capitalism had proved very useful in diverting the working class, and (2) that should we get an international capitalism strong enough to prevent national war, its power to exploit the working classes in the stronger nations and the backward peoples would be great enough to turn the class struggle into a veritable class war.

## For Strikers' Relief

JUST when the country was settling down to believe the advertisements of Southern Chambers of Commerce about cheap and docile labor, the textile workers in Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina answered by a series of strikes, organized and unorganized, against ten to twelve hour shifts, low wages and the stretch-out system which has multiplied by three in some cases the number of looms each worker must tend. The L. I. D. is very proud that it organized the Emergency Committee for Strikers' Relief, which functioned fairly and effectively to give relief in Passaic, New Bedford and the coal fields. Now the Emergency Committee is going into action again. John Herling, our L. I. D. part time membership secretary, has volunteered to act as the secretary for the committee. We are sending our Field Secretary, Paul Porter, to look over the situation and make sure that relief in various districts is effectively used. We are doing this not because the L. I. D. is rich or has raised its budget. We are still about \$10,000 short on the budget for the year, which, as we have said elsewhere, is forcing various economies and causing us considerable worry. But this sort of work is an extra, something to which to give outside of what we do for our own activities. We justify our existence in part by doing it. Hence in this *Bulletin* we repeat the appeal which the Emergency Committee is mailing out:

"Throughout the South driven and underpaid textile workers are striking. They are revolting against inhuman working conditions and starvation wages. Strikes are being courageously carried on in three widely separate areas.

"Paul Blanshard, our representative who has just returned from a survey of the field, says:

"'You can't live decently in America on \$12 a week. And most of the Southern textile workers average about that. They work the 10 and 11 hour day, the 12 hour night, and have no right of organization. In South Carolina, the cotton-mill workers have no outside help whatever, except what may come from this committee. In Elizabethton, Tennessee, and Gastonia the union strikes must be supported if conditions are to be improved. I cannot stress too emphatically the need for immediate aid.'

"In this crisis, we turn again to you for help. These workers and their families are in urgent need of relief, the bare necessities of life. In the past in response to our appeals you helped keep alive the miners and the New Bedford workers. We can count on you once more to be generous in your response. Men, women and children down there are literally at the point of starvation. A representative of this committee will be in the field to see to it that whatever you give goes to those most in need, allocating all money to the three strike areas without discrimination except in case the Workers International Relief should make its own separate appeal for North Carolina strikes under Communist leadership to lists that duplicate ours. In any case the need is tremendous. Please act promptly. Send your check or money order TODAY to Forrest Bailey, Room 931, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City."

## The Chicago Chapter Discusses Power

CHOOSING the subject of Power Control as the most apt of several important subjects suggested for discussion, the Chicago Chapter of the L. I. D. concentrated the whole of its winter efforts upon this topic. The plan of action called for a series of study groups culminating in a general conference. In order to combine that conference with the Chicago Forum's discussion of the same topic and to coincide with the Chicago visit of Norman Thomas, the date of the conference was set for March 2 and 3.

The preparatory studies were of rates and regulation and of public ownership—Israel Labovits presiding over the first section and Clifford C. Wilson over the second. Mr. Labovits, fresh from a personal study of Public Regulation in Minnesota, led the group into detailed study of the rate structure and the farce of regulation.

As the conference was planned, an engineer from the Utilities was to survey the construction problem for us. Paul H. Douglas, David H. Lillienthal and George Kirkpatrick were to speak as economist, lecturer on Public Regulation, and exponent of Public Ownership respectively, and Norman Thomas was to give a general survey of the problem before the Chicago Forum. Primarily the Thomas speech was scheduled as a debate but, unfortunately for us, the League of Women voters had recently so shown Vivian, Public Utilities champion to be long on words but ridiculously short on ideas that the Utilities did not dare risk a man on the same platform with Norman Thomas, nor even before us—thus defaulting both in their promise to the Forum and to us.

Paul H. Douglas's speech was profound. Among the high lights of his speech were:

The increase in rates has been far more rapid than that of costs.

"The power and coal problem is interwoven because at present we have long-distance hydro-electric power transmission with short-distance coal power transmission. . . . Since the mines are closer to consumption . . . I think it quite clear that we are going to burn more coal close to the mine mouth and transmit over high voltage into the cities."

That with the growing tendency toward central generating plants and long-distance transmission, the power problem will become as much of an interstate problem as those of transportation or disease, further complicating an extremely complex situation.

That customer ownership involves only a small percentage of the stock and no control.

That regulation has not proved satisfactory.

That under the pretense of higher service costs, the domestic consumer has been saddled with the burden of paying the utilities profits.

Florence Curtis Hanson, speaking at the dinner table, told the story of the Utilities' invasion of the schools.

On Sunday morning the subjects of regulation and public ownership of the electric utilities were discussed. David R. Lillienthal, member of the Chicago Bar Association, and lecturer on public utilities at Northwestern University, talked about regulation. He told something of its development down to the present time and explained the workings of the State Commerce Commissions of today. These commissions act much as a court, judging the cases brought to them by the public or a utility or by their own members. In rate cases there is much confusion, since rates must be based on the value of the utility's property, it never being certain whether original or reproduction cost should be used.

The discussion subsequent to this talk was followed by a lecture on public ownership by George R. Kirkpatrick, prominent Socialist Party member. He explained the relatively low costs of installing and maintaining a hydro-electric system because of the vast assistance of nature, and stated that adopting private ownership of these utilities was almost like giving away vast amounts of the nation's wealth every year.

In order to effect great public saving, he advocated public ownership of the electric utilities, and pointed to its success on a large scale in the province of Ontario, and on a smaller scale in cities both large and small in the United States. The talk closed with a discussion of the millions spent annually by the utilities for advertising and propaganda in the schools and in the press.

The conference was brought to a splendid close on Sunday afternoon with Norman Thomas surveying the entire power problem before the Chicago Forum.

CYNTHIA AND HAROLD READE.

## New York Chapter

The principal activity of the New York Chapter of the League has been a series of luncheons on questions of general political and economic interest.

At Town Hall Club, 123 West 43rd Street.

- October 27, "Africa Slave or Free?"  
DR. RAYMOND BUELL, Research Director of the Foreign Policy Association.  
DR. W. E. B. DUBOIS, Editor of *The Crisis*.
- November 24, "What Next? A Political Symposium."  
DR. HENRY MOSCOWITZ.  
WALTER L. CHANDLER.  
NORMAN THOMAS.
- February 16, "Censorship."  
JOHN S. SUMNER.  
MORRIS L. ERNST.
- March 3, "The Crisis in American Trade Unionism."  
A. J. MUSTE.  
HARRY F. WARD.  
MORRIS HILLQUIT.
- April 20, "The Mooney-Billings Case—Is it a Frame-Up?"  
LEMUEL PARTON.  
ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS.  
ROGER BALDWIN.
- May 18, "A Municipal Program for New York City, 1929-33."  
A well known Republican.  
ARTHUR J. W. HILLY.  
NORMAN THOMAS.

In January the New York Chapter held a membership meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Frank, at which John Strachey spoke on "British Labor Faces Power."

The annual meeting of the New York Chapter was held Friday evening, May 3rd, at the home of Misses Jessie W. and Evelyn W. Hughan, 171 West 12th St. Dr. Harry Laidler spoke on his trip through the colleges, and Paul Blanshard on the textile situation.

## Membership Campaign

THE membership campaign proceeds with results that are satisfactory, but by no means what they can be. A goodly percentage of our members have responded to our call for aid. Mrs. Mary Raoul Millis, captain for Georgia, has been splendid in her support. Alfred Baker Lewis has been active in Massachusetts as have Mrs. Isabelle Friedman and Frederick V. Field in New York. The point, however, is that with our slogan, "Every member get a member," the response has not been what it ought to be.

What is eminently pleasing is the nation-wide character of the new members. Southern and western states that were only sparsely represented in the League now have enthusiastic members. In the wake of Harry Laidler's tour of the country came many new names, and Paul Porter trekking round the mid-west keeps the office staff busy sending literature to the latest additions to the League.

JOHN HERLING,

Membership Secretary.