

Flirtation Walk

NOT only have the Warner Brothers been supporting the Republican fascists (Merriam's re-election as Governor of California) on the western front, but they have also supported the Farley-Roosevelt-Tammany machine on the eastern front. This fits right in with their consistent policy of producing anti-workingclass and anti-Soviet films.

Not very long ago Mr. Farley was fed his celebrated luncheon at the Warner studio. Shortly afterward he loaned Warners the United States Navy for *Here Comes the Navy!* Now they produce *Flirtation Walk*, a sugary sentimental glorification of militarism, the United States Army and West Point. Their next film in this series is one entitled *Devil Dogs*, about the Marines. No wonder William Randolph Hearst has transferred his Marion Davies and his Cosmopolitan Productions from M.G.M. to the Warners.

That leading sentimentalist and tear-jerker, Frank Borzage, who glorified war (*No Greater Glory*, Columbia) with no small measure of success, directed *Flirtation Walk*. When it became necessary for Warners to sell the Army to the movie fans the producers had to get an expert. What a combination: a sugarcoated director, a pair of very popular musical comedy actors, and patriotic military music fused with glib jazz!

The result: Miss Regina Crewe speaking for Hearst in the New York American says: "No soul can be so dead as not to vibrate in something akin to patriotic fervor at the inspiring scenes of our own Military Academy and the gallant youths who are the land's defenders." The story, however, is conventional and banal. There is the enlisted private, who makes it known that he comes from an aristocratic family, so that in the end he (again quoting Miss Crewe) "emerges a full-fledged nephew of his Uncle Sam winning his own self-respect, the admiration of his buddies, and the affections of Miss Keeler" (the general's daughter).

People expecting another "harmless" 42nd Street or Gold Diggers packed the Strand. After the final sequence with its feverish patriotic music and marching West Pointers there was applause—by three Army officers in my row.

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Between Ourselves

SEVERAL features of the next 48-page quarterly issue, dated January 1 and marking the first anniversary of the weekly NEW MASSES, can now be announced. They are:

A report on the Saar, by Ilya Ehrenbourg, who has been assigned by THE NEW MASSES to make a first hand investigation.

A debate on the Workers' Social Insurance Bill, (H. R. 7598) between Miss Mary Van Kleeck and Dr. I. M. Rubinow. Miss Van Kleeck and Dr. Rubinow have each written their first statements; Miss Van Kleeck is now preparing her rebuttal to Dr. Rubinow, and he will have the final rejoinder. The entire debate will be published in the one issue.

In the Nazis' Torture House, by Karl Billinger, a narrative by a former prisoner of the Nazis, dealing with the notorious Columbia House in Berlin (where Thaelmann was imprisoned.) This first hand account

compares with Louis Adamic's *Torture in Belgrade*, which THE NEW MASSES published in its last monthly issue, September, 1933.

A review of the proletarian literature of 1934 by Granville Hicks.

New Masses Lectures

The Friday night forums at the Auditorium on Bleecker Street have been suspended for the month of December.

Michael Gold, now on tour for THE NEW MASSES, will lecture on "The Crisis in Modern Literature" in the following cities:

Indianapolis—Saturday evening, December 15, at the Lincoln Room, Hotel Lincoln; auspices John Reed Club.

Cincinnati—Monday evening, December 17, Auditorium of Hamilton County Memorial Bldg., Elm Street, just south of Music Bldg.; auspices Pen and Hammer.

Pittsburgh—Wednesday evening, December 19, Carnegie Lecture Hall, Schenley Park, Oakland; auspices Pen and Hammer.

Philadelphia—Thursday evening, December 20, Musician's Hall, 120 North 18th Street; auspices John Reed Club.

Newark—Friday evening, December 21; auspices Jack London Club.

Russell T. Limbach, staff artist of THE NEW MASSES, will give a "Chalk Talk" at the Daily Worker Banquet at the New International Hall, 42 Wenonah Street, Roxbury, Mass., Sunday evening, December 9.

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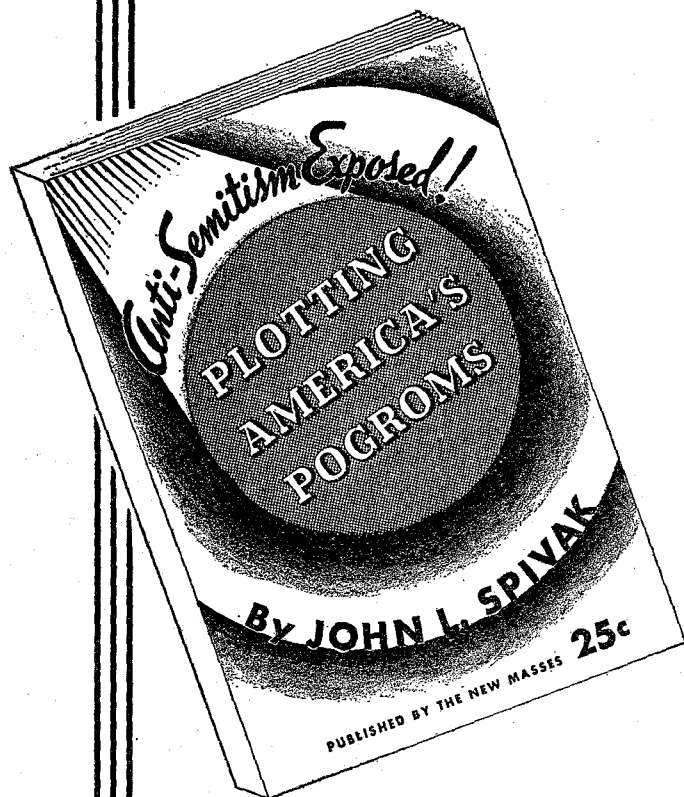
MILWAUKEE—December 9th—2:30 P. M. Milwaukee Auditorium.

CHICAGO—December 9th—8:30 P. M. Hotel Sherman.
(Grand Ballroom) Randolph Street at Clark.
Chairman: Llewelyn Jones, critic and writer.

DETROIT—December 10th—8:30 P. M. Maccabee Auditorium.
5050 Woodward at Putnam.
Chairman: Samuel B. Keene

CLEVELAND—December 11th—8:30 P. M. Engineers Auditorium.
Ontario and St. Clair.

Read His Pamphlet



which is now out. THE NEW MASSES has published the revelations by John L. Spivak on *Plotting America's Pogrom* which created a nation-wide stir on publication in the magazine. The pamphlet is of 96 pages, with a two-color cover, and retails for 25 cents. It should have the widest possible distribution. Those wishing to get this pamphlet in quantities should send in their orders to THE NEW MASSES, 31 East 27th Street, with cash at the following rates: In quantities up to 5 at 25 cents each, plus postage (2c per copy); quantities of 6-25, 22 cents postpaid; 26-100, 20 cents; 101-300, 18 cents; 301-500, 16 cents; 501-1,000, 14 cents; 1,001 or more, 12 cents.

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