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Unite For the Unemployed! Resist Attack of Bosses and Government

The activity of the Communists and Left wing in presenting the facts about the unemployment crisis in the United States and in making demands upon the bosses and the government for work or compensation for the unemployed workers, have drawn the fire and wrath of the capitalist class and various governmental agencies upon the Communists. Hoover and Wall Street, Tammany Hall and Whalen, Mathew Woll and Secretary of Labor Davis, et al, are endeavoring to screen the acute misery of millions of unemployed workers by raising the cry of "RED" around the burning issue of unemployment.

Close upon the heels of the unemployment demonstrations on March 6th, a vicious campaign against the radical groups, particularly focusing upon the Communists has begun. For the moment it takes its most violent and vicious form in New York City under the leadership of Commissioner of Police Whalen and his official thugs, promptly endorsed by Mayor James Walker and the business men of the city. This campaign against the Communists is taking numerous forms. Among these are:

The Proposed Frameups and Police Brutality

1. The arrest of Communist leaders and an endeavor to railroad them to prison for their activity among the unemployed. Every known obstacle was utilized to prevent the release on bail of the New York arrested. Only after repeated efforts and after exorbitant bail (\$12,500 each) had been placed, were they released, to stand trial on charges of felonious assault and provoking an unlawful assembly at the March 6th Union Square demonstration in New York City. The outcome of the New York trials will to an extent determine the scale of repression and terror against the Communist movement and labor in general in other sections of the country. But already in many parts of the country efforts are made to railroad the Communists.

2. A wave of terror, brutality and provocation against the radicals and Communists and any rising militancy by the workers. Every form of weapon—club and blackjack, gun and horses, machine guns and tear gas—is either brought into play or held ready for use against the unemployed and those leading the struggle on their behalf. Almost every capitalist paper in the country reports the extremes to which the loud-mouthed Whalen and others like him went in their brutality against men, women and children gathered at the unemployment meetings and demonstrations.

The Labor Spy and Blacklist of Militants

3. The method of OPEN LABOR SPYING and BLACKLISTING on behalf of the employers by police and other governmental agents, thus plainly showing that government and law are instruments of the capitalist class. Police Commissioner Whalen of New York has declared that he has turned over the names of alleged Communists to employers that they may be dismissed and deprived of a livelihood because of the opinions they hold; and that he favors and will pursue such a blacklisting policy in the future. Whalen admits that he maintains stool-pigeons in radical organizations, particularly among the Communists, to frame evidence against the radicals; and that, further, he instructs his stool-pigeons to provoke violence and

riots. He thereby admits responsibility for the trouble and brutality at the Union Square demonstration. What Whalen boasts about (until such time as the business men and higher-ups told him to be more discreet) is also done more quietly by police, Federal men, etc. throughout the country. The use of the Labor Spy

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Heavy Unemployment Among Clothing Workers

NEW YORK—Unemployment has sharply affected the members in the clothing industry, according to reports of officials of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union. The busy season, which usually starts about November 15th in the bigger shops, has failed to absorb thousands of union members. It is estimated that 5 to 10% of the union membership is totally unemployed during the present season, which will end about May 1; that another 20% have been able to get in only two to six weeks' work; and another 30% have had only part time employment, three days out of five. Half of the New York membership has been totally or partially unemployed during the season.

The Aberle Mill Strike in Philly

by M. K. Whitten

The greatest labor demonstration in this city since the Battle of Broad Street in 1910 between the police and thousands of striking street car men, took place on March 9th, when a crowd estimated by the capitalist papers at 35,000, met at the open air funeral of Carl Mackley, 23 year old textile worker of Kensington. In McPherson Square, in the heart of that great working class district, this vast crowd gathered to pay its last respects to the murdered strike picket. His death occurred on March 6th when he was shot by a strikebreaker employed in the Aberle Mill, where a strike involving more than a thousand workers has been stubbornly fought for over a month. Despite the vicious injunction issued by Judge McDevitt, which prohibited more than 4 pickets, despite the utmost brutality of the police who arrested persons living in the neighborhood, merely for being on their own steps when ordered to go indoors, and who have even stopped school children from passing the mill, the strike has been fought with all the vigor and courage that the workers of Kensington are noted for.

Since the demonstration before the bier of Carl Mackley, the striking workers have maintained their militant fighting spirit. Within a week another shooting has taken place. A strikebreaker, Peter Marpone, fired three times into a crowd about his home to protest his scabbing. Fourteen persons were wounded.

Militancy of Strikers Outstanding

Fighting took place also at the Rogers Hosliery Mill in Germantown where nearly a hundred strikers, half of them girls, were arrested. The Rogers strike is called in sympathy with the Aberle strike. The Aberle Mill textile strike is led by the A. F. of L. The militancy of the strikers has had the A. F. of L. officials worried. The bureaucrats are cooperating with the politicians in every way to get the strike

The Springfield and Indianapolis Miners Conventions

The deep crisis in the Miners Union, for years the backbone of the organized labor movement in America, was dramatized during the past week by the simultaneous holding of two conventions. One convention met in Indianapolis under the chairmanship of John L. Lewis and put the stamp of approval on his reactionary policy. The other convention met in Springfield, Ill., with Alex Howat of Kansas presiding. The Springfield convention which represented a bloc between the Illinois organization, controlled by Fishwick, the Howat-Brophy Progressive group and the long-dormant Socialist elements, proclaimed the formal split with the Lewis organization on a national scale and announced itself as the "reorganized" U. M. W. of A.

About one thousand delegates attended the Lewis convention at Indianapolis. Of these the only solid bloc came from the anthracite, the great majority of the bituminous "delegates" being payroll agents representing defunct local unions in the disrupted districts. The bulk of the soft coal miners who retain organization in the U. M. W. of A. were represented at Springfield. 475 delegates attended this convention. Of these, Illinois, the largest remaining

district organization of the U. M. W. of A. sent 313 delegates. The Kansas district, which broke from the Lewis organization in a body, sent 45, Ohio 28, Arkansas 19, Oklahoma 15, Iowan 13, Pennsylvania 7, Indiana 6, Missouri 5, Wyoming 3, and Kentucky 1.

The Springfield convention concluded its sessions Saturday, March 15, with the election of National Officers for the "reorganized U. M. W. of A." Alex Howat, famous leader of the Kansas miners, was elected President by acclamation. Adolph Germer, former national secretary of the Socialist party and prior to that a National Executive Board member of the U. M. W. of A., was elected vice-president, defeating Powers Hapgood. John H. Walker, president of the Illinois Federation of Labor, was elected secretary-treasurer. The Indianapolis convention adjourned its sessions over the week-end awaiting the address of President Green of the A. F. of L. scheduled for Monday. The appearance of Green at this convention indicates the decision of the A. F. of L. Executive Council to support the Lewis faction against the Springfield insurgent body.

Split in Miners Deepens

The holding of the rival conventions and the actions taken by them have the effect of deepening and confirming the split which has been long brewing in the miners' organization and reduce the prospects of an early re-unification to the minimum. The action of the Springfield convention in appealing to Green to call a "unity" convention under A. F. of L. auspices is construed as a diplomatic gesture to aid the fight of the new union for A. F. of L. support. The Lewis convention declared war on the Springfield gathering and demanded action of the A. F. of L. against its participants. The events of the week are the undoubted prelude to a long-drawn-out struggle between the two organizations for supremacy in which court action, appeals to the A. F. of L. and open battle in the coal fields will all be resorted to. A duplication of the historic United Garment Workers-Amalgamated Clothing Workers contest is to be anticipated in its many aspects.

The depth of the rank and file revolt against corruption and reactionary leadership in the United Mine Workers, despite the absence of the Communistic Left wing which is split off in the National Miners Union, was graphically revealed at Springfield. This revolt is directed against the Fishwick-Farrington machine as well as against Lewis. It rose like a tornado on the very first day of the Springfield convention, sweeping Fishwick out of the chair and installing Howat in his place and sending the credentials of Farrington back to the credentials committee after a savage attack on him from the floor led by Brophy and the Progressive bloc. It was further shown in the bitter and angry assault on the Illinois officials, whose policies and actions have been in no way different from those of Lewis, as "crooks and cheaters", which accompanied the demand for their removal; in the inability to hold the entire Illinois delegation in line for the seating of Farrington; in a number of progressive amendments to the constitution, and in various other proposals which got the support of a majority or of a strong minority of the convention.

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"arbitrated". The mayor has appointed an "impartial arbitrator" and is endeavoring to settle the matter. At the time of this writing, the Aberle Mill bosses had agreed to arbitration which will no doubt result in a sellout of these militant strikers.

The demonstration at the funeral of Mackley was handled very gingerly by the authorities. They realize the possibilities of what might happen if the thousands of unemployed desperate workers in that district become aroused. The A. F. of L. bureaucrats have all the while acted their usual role of lightning rods to divert the wrath and militancy of the workers. Yet the significance of this tremendous gathering, as well as the continued fighting spirit of the strikers, is a lesson that should be of great value to class conscious workers and to Communists.

Kensington is the very heart of in-

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Monarchist Spain Refuses Entry to Trotsky

Monarchist Spain has added itself to the list of capitalist states that refuses admission to L. D. Trotsky for necessary medical attention. So Trotsky, exiled by the bureaucrat Stalin, remains at Constantinople, where thousands of Russian White Guards infest the city and are a constant menace to the life of Trotsky.

The imperialist powers and the Stalinist bureaucracy alike reject Trotsky, the organizer and leader of the Red Army, the leader of the victorious Petrograd Soviet and Lenin's comrade and co-worker. The workers of the world will yet seal their condemnation of Stalin and his bureaucracy that persecute, imprison and even shoot the Opposition, the Bolshevik-Leninists, the standard bearers of the international proletarian revolution