Organ of the Communist League of America

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COPS FIRE ON UNARMED PICKETS

Frisco General Strike Militant Pickets Ctose Alabama Textile Industry Su powerful is the sweep of the Militant Pickets Sweeps Over the Entire Nation Commercial Vehicles A.F.L.Misleaders Betray

by Bosses to Crush Strike

cracy carrying the bosses' colors break the strike. into the ranks of labor, the bosses unleashed a new strikebreaking weapon: a whirlwind series of raids on Communist and other workingclass centres, workers' lantes", dressed as workers, backed jailing them. up by the National Guard and the police, began an unprecedented reign of terror on the night of July 17, which is still going on.

Over three hundred militant workers and strikers were arrested and held on high bail, and a half dozen wokers' headquarters were sacked and destroyed, including those of the Communist Party, the I. W. W. and the Marine Workers Industrial Union.

While the local authorities pre-"lawless vigilantes", and most of the capitalist press reported accordingly, some even attempting to say that workers made the raids, two or three liberal reporters let the real story through. Contradictions

A special dispatch to the New York Times of July 17 is typical of stabled the coast workers in the the lying stories carried by the back with the most damaging anticapitalist press:

The San Francisco Chronicle asserts that the "vigilantes" who raided the radicals' readquarters were organized by conservative labor leaders. The newspaper said that these union men were aroused by evidence that Reds had been masquerading as union strikers and flaunting banners and placards at variance with the aims of the strike.

Thirty-five squads of "vigilantes," said to have been composed chiefly of striking teamsters, according to this version, were sent out in automobiles to make the raids.

The identity of the "vigilantes" has not been officially revealed. At first general opinion was that they were connected with the Committee of 500 organized by prominent citizens yesterday at the behest of Mayor Angelo J. Rossi.

This gag was contradicted in the same issue in a dispatch from the Associated Press, which incidentally gives the bosses' prediction of the raids:

Gives Word of Raids. By The Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 17 .- A series of raids on known Communist "hot spots" were under way here late today. The police are determined to smash the radical

element n San Francisco. Youthful civic Vigilantes aided them. The first indication of the concerted drive against radicals came from Charles Wheeler, vice president of the McCormick Steamship Line, who said in a

talk at the Rotary Club here today that the raids would start soon. He intimated government consent had been obtained for the raids.

Armed with clubs, thirty youthful vigilantes rushed the communistic quarters in the Ruthenberg House at 121 Haight Street, smashing windows and upsetting furniture. The few occupants of the building fled screaming down the street. By the time police arrived the youths had gone. The Ruthenberg House, which also was wrecked, quartered the Workers Theatre, Film Photo League, sports club, school, book shop and library and offices of the International Labor Defense

Signs advocating revolution

and literature were seized. Dolores Park, at Eighteenth and Dolores Streets, was the scene of another civilian demonstration against radicalism. Hardly had speakers mounted soap boxes to exhort their cause when (Continued on Page 4)

Terror Used CAPITALISTS JUBILANT; So powerful is the sweep of the strike tide that it has inundated the very heart of the Bourbon LONGSHOREMEN STILL OUT

San Francisco, July 19 .- Never have labor fakers so clearly "headed strike in order to behead it" as have the reactionaries of the Labor Council led the general strike to disintegration.

Bitterly opposed to the strike, only to be over-ridden by the over-With the general strike at its whelming majority of the local unions, Vandeleur, Kidwell, Casey, and crisis, and the reactionary bureau their clique rode along just long enough to find the first opportunity to

After two days during which the strike was completely victorious, with the bosses on the run, with no sign of any weakening of labor's ranks, Vandeleur's gang suddenly sprang a resolution for arbitration on the general strike committee, Tuesday, simultaneously with the beginmeetings, picket groups and soup ning of raids by troops, police and vigilantes, who began weeding out lines. Thirty-five squads of "vigi- militant workers from picket groups, soup lines and other places, and ued operations and threats to de-

A Phony Vote

The resolution introduced by Vandeleur was claimed to have been passed by the narrow vote of 207 to 180, but the vote was by a show of hands, which Kidwell counted, and the demand by Harry Bridges and others for a roll call was denied by Vandeleur. Bridges later accused for the thirty-hour week. Among Kidwell of miscounting, and declared many unauthorized individuals their other demands are: a twelve voted. Kidwell's only answer was a formal denial.

tended that this work was done by Knife Coast

piled up, as the same issue of a the boss terror against the left contravention of the democratic denewspaper carried both the fake wing, and the reactionary drive cisions of the striking unions, the labor statement of Green's shameful career. This statement was issued from Chicago, with Green en route to the Wisconsin Federation of Labor, on Wednesday, July 18, a day on which the hundred thousand strikers sorely needed the deliberately set up, in accordance backing of the nation's organized workers. Green, in language identical with that of any bourbon reactionary, claimed that "the strike in San Francisco is local in characthe longshoremen. And its seven ter, possessing no national signifi- points represent exactly the viewcance . . . the American Federa- point of the bosses as stated before tion of Labor neither ordered the the beginning of the strike. Like strike nor authorized it."

Knowing that the American working class would react with horror at this traitorous act, Green finished his damnable statement to the press with a formula which criticize-after the rest of the statement !-- with crocodile tears. bosses' refusal to recognize the He said: "When working people are marine unions as representing the engaged in an economic life or strikers, and the bosses' demand death struggle, it does not seem ap- that each individual employer's propriate for their friends to en- workers should hold an election to gage in comment which might be determine their representatives. used against them by their ene-

Press Understood Green

The capitalist press gorged themfor A. F. of L." (World Telegram); the Atlantic coast and elsewhere, Dock Strike" (Herald Tribune); high seas. This is a perfect lay-Strike, Puts Onus on Local Union" AN. Y. Times).

nail with the weapons of terror and all strikes. For the marine workdemoralization. Police, thugs, vigi- ers, this would mean that, with the lantes, National Guard, gas, pistols, rifles, machine guns-and not least the labor fakers, the yellow \$20,000 a year labor fakers who make unity with the bosses and government their crews, and then, when they against the workers.

Green's anti-labor statement was tion which would be a joke. only the most prominent of a whole series issued by A. F. of L. officials. since the issuance by the Board of Other declarations of No Solidarity its seven-point program indicates

John Possehl, president of the Ingineers, issued the least swinish strike. However, there was hope statement: "We have always tried that, once the meaning of the resoto carry out our contracts, but if lution became clear, and especially can you do? Our West Coast or- Longshoremen's Board, the local ganization is one of the best, and unions, pressed by the workers, who are no Communists in it." He add- in order to get a resolution which ed-that he would not say what he makes the general strike meaningwould do if the bosses protested the less, would rally and have the rebroken contracts.

William Hushings, legislative strike remained intact this would agent of the A. F. of L. said he was undoubtedly have happened. not acquainted with the terms of labor contracts on the coast, but added: "Personally, I think con- leur, Kidwell & Co. proceeded to tracts should be kept."

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The resolution is directed against ing marine unions. Time after time, by democratic votes, the waterfront unions have voted halls control, and in addition, the issues unless the bosses agree to families. also arbitrate their differences with Shrewdly timed to coincide with the other marine unions. In direct within the union ranks, William resolutions would have President Green, president of the A. F. of L. Roosevelt call on the waterfront workers and bosses to submit all issues to the National Longshoremen's Board.

> A few hours after the "adoption" Longshoremen's Board issued a seven-point program for the arbi- strike for the thirty hour week. tration settlement. This Board was separate the longshoremen's fight from the fight of the other marine unions who came out in support of the bosses, the Board demands that, instead of the ten marine unions other than the longshoremen being recognized by the bosses for negotiations, there be "collective bargaining with the elected represen-

es" This is identical with the

The "Election" Fake

The meaning of the proposition of the Board and the bosses is that there would not be a vote taken of all the strikers. Instead, each emselves with Green's words. Head- ployer would have an "election" by lines ran, "Green Disavows Strike his employes, including employes on "Green Disavows Responsibility for and including scabs now on the "Green Says A. F. of L. Is Not On out for a crooked election. Moreover, no date is even set for the election, and the Board also re-The bosses are fighting tooth and quires the immediate calling off of resumption of shipping, the shipping bosses could at their leisure weed out all leading elements among the strikers, "clean up" all are good and ready, hold an elec-

The silence of the labor fakers

that they are consenting. The resolution was a serious ternational Union of Operating En- blow to the morale of the general your friends are shot down, what with the interpretation of it by the it is a conservative outfit. There didn't come out for a general strike solution rescinded. If the general

> Steps to Break the Strike Precisely for this reason, Vandeliquidate the strike. They issued

> > (Continued on page 4)

South. 20,000 new fists were clenched in the statewide textile strike that has brought every loom to a standstill in Alabama.

The haven of lynchers and the home of the attempted legal murder of the Scottsboro Boys for the first time in years felt the might of organized and aroused labor when the United Textile Workers issued their call for a general strike of all cotton workers.

Bosses Fear to Open Mills

Militant action in Huntsville where a strong group of strikers closed down six plants that continfeat similar moves has caused the bosses to refrain so far from any attempts to open their mills.

The Alabama strikers are pointing the way to American labor in being the first to initiate the battle dollar weekly minimum wage, elimination of the "stretch-out" system, reinstatement of workers fired the longshoremen and the ten strik- for union activities and collective bargaining.

NRA has already issued stateagainst arbitration of the hiring the first opening wedge of the bosses' battle to defeat the workers' atlongshoremen have repeatedly voted tempt to win tolerable living con-_abor Unions to refuse arbitration of the other ditions for themselves and their of the I.L.G.W.U. have joined the

> The walkout of the 20,000 textile operatives in Alabama becomes a United Textile Workers, the Hosiery Workers in convention a few months back and the National Comof the resolution, the National mittee of the American Federation of Silk workers to call a general

Reliable reports have it that officials of the U.T.W. have been conwith the wishes of the bosses, to ferring for some time now over the question of a national stoppage. This momentous issue facing hundreds of thousands of textile, silk and hosiery workers has now passed beyond the talking stage. Labor scates like MacMahon, who conveniently allowed himself to be talked out of a general strike a couple of months back by vapid phical Union went on strike for a NRA promises, and statements like 30% wage increase on May 16th. that made by the National Committee of the A.F.S.W. to call a general strike "if necessary" can only stem mingles a disavowal of a desire to tatives of their respective employ- the tide and let the favorable moment pass.

Strike Now

The time for the cotton and textile workers to strike is now! Now, when working men throughout the country are joining hands in a formidable move to conquer those rights denied them for years and sporadic actions, the iron is hot for which labor fakers, procrastinators, and timid progressives have been delaying for months-the general strike of all textile, hosiery and silk workers.

ATTENTION!

All unemployed members and sympathizers of the Communist League are to report at the city headquarters Monday, July 23, before noon for important work.

As we go to press news has arrived that National Guardsmen have been mobilized to smash the longshoremen's strike in Portland. Oregon which has been in progress since May 9th. The labor unions in this city are taking a vote tonight on the proposition for a general strike.

. . . SEATLE, Wash., July 20.-Armed with long range tear gas guns, Seattle police attacked striking longshoremen in an effort to smash picket lines. Many were injured by gas.

Baltimore, Md.—Taking their cue from Minneapolis, 574, 1000 members of the Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Helpers Union went on strike following the bosses 'refusal to recognize the union. Picket lines will be augmented by 800 more drivers who are expected out in a day or

New York, N. Y .--- At a membership meeting of the Knit Goods Workers Union branch of the I.L. G.W.U., 18,000 workers ratified a strike proposal and prepared to take immediate action to enforce ments denouncing the strikers in three demands: for the closed shop, a thirty hour week, and a thirty per cent wage increase. 2,000 members of the San Francisco branch

Philadelphia, Pa.—Five thousand members of the Longshoremens Unsignal now for labor in the entire ion here declared themselves in cotton and silk fabric industry to readiness to walk out in support of were under orders from Chief of ?galvanize their forces and to make the general strike in San Francisco. good proposals adopted by the The union is awaiting instructions their way through picket lines and from the 'Frisco strike committee.

Helena, Mont .- Attempts by the bosses to put scabs to work met with firm resistance on the part of on strike since May 8. Picket lines side, were reenforced by 1,500 smelter workers who struck in sympathy with the embattled miners. The National Labor Board is trying feverishly to break the strike but without success. The miners demand a wage increase of 65c an truck. hour and a thirty-hour week.

Publication of all newspapers in this city ceased when the Typogra-Since then, the city has been with out newspapers.

Danielson, Conn.- Five hundred workers at the Dayville plant of the Assawaga Woolen Co. have gone on strike in answer to the bosses refusal to grant a 25% wage increase. Mass picket lines forced the shutting down of the plant.

Kohler, Wis .- The tranquility of this "ideal village", founded by the impossible to obtain by isolated, robber baron W. J. Kohler, was considerably disturbed when more textile workers to take that step than a thousand workers went on strike to enforce their demands for a thirty-hour week and a minimum wage of 65c an hour. Mass picketing continues despite the police

> York, Pa .- Four thousand mempers of the Cigarmakers Union of America went on strike here, following the bosses' refusal to grant the demand for a closed shop. The industry is paralyzed. The pressure of mass picketing has forced most of the cigar manufacturers to -City Organizer. | shut down their plants.

UNIONS MEET TO CONSIDER CALL FOR GENERAL STRIKE

Minnespolis, July 20. (By wire).-Thirty-three pickets were shot with sawed-off shotguns by police who, at the same moment, in two different places, began firing volleys of slugs into groups of pickets.

The authorities apparently had planned the double provocation as the opportunity for bringing in the National Guard, for within a few minutes of the shootings the first truckload of machine gunners arrived on the blood-splotched sidewalks, established military lines, and cleared the district.

Within twenty minutes of the shootings the rest of the battalion of guardsmen, held in readiness at the armory here since the strike

Olsen Threatens Martial Law

BULLETIN One dead and fifty wounded is the toll taken so far by the murderous authorities of Minnea; olis.

Governor Olson backed up the ohslaught by the local police with an announcement that he is prepared to declare martial law. As we go to press no word has yet come from the vast gathering

of all trade union members of Minneapolis.

started on Monday, were widening the area enclosed by military lines. Thirty-five hundred additional National Guardsmen were ordered here at once by Adjutant General E. A. Walsh.

Farmer-Labor Governor Olson is, according to the law, supreme commander of the National Guard. The Adjutant General's authority to order the additional guardsmen must have been previously arranged for with the Governor, which means that the whole manoeuvre was prearranged.

One attack took place on Third Street and Sixth Avenue North, in front of the Slocum Bergen Grocery Company, from which convoys of police cars were preparing to move a merchandise truck. The police

Police Michael Johannes to shoot were armed with the murderous sawed-off shot-gun, favorite deadly weapon of American gangsters. As the scab truck began to move

swaddled around by police cars, a 3,600 copper miners who have been truckload of pickets drew along-Without warning, according to witnesses and newspapermen, the

police fired volley after volley into the tightly-packed strikers. While men fell like flies, the rest courageously advanced on the scab Their defiant advance probably

saved the lives of many, for in hand-to-hand fighting with the put 5,000 men into the field." bloodthirsty police, they prevented them from continuing their gunfire. Despite the number wounded and the truck drivers fighting with their bare hands, they sent two of their attackers to the hospital. Another, a sergeant, was shot by his berserk subordinates when he accidentally got into the line of fire.

The other police attack occurred at the same moment, a block away. ions, to back up the strikers. Witnesses in between heard the shooting break out on both sides simultaneously, as if at a signal. The signal arranged for may have been the moment of arrival of the

A block away, where earlier in tion and the union to permit the the afternoon police lines had been delivery of produce directly to conestablished in preparation for the sumers and small stores in return attempt to move trucks, crowds of for which the farmers will picket strikers and sympathizers were country roads against commercial lined up, when suddenly the police fired into the crowd. Four of the strikers. This solidarity shown by wounded fell here.

The militant answer of the labor movement of Minneapolis came immediately.

Union-driven taxicabs, ice, beer and gasoline trucks which had so far continued to operate by arrangement with the union, immediately went on strike.

The district surrounding strike headquarters was immediately cleared of police by the strikers, including traffic cops. Strike headquarters took over the district and strikers took over the directing of

Strike Headquarters in Command of District

The strikers picked up their wounded and took them to the hospital previously set up in strike headquarters, to prevent maltreatment and arrest of wounded

William Brown, President of the Truck Drivers Union, gave the answer of the workers to the bosses and their hireling government:

"The trucks will not move. There may be an occasional truck get through under escort, but there will be no general movement of trucks. You can depend on that. We will

Vincent Dunne, strike leader, declared that Minneapolis labor will stand solidly in back of the truck drivers and smash the strikebreaking attacks of the authorities. The strike was endorsed last week by the Central Labor Union and its constituent unions. Tonight there is scheduled to take place a gigantic mass meeting of all trade un-

The farmers are backing the strikers one hundred percent.

Farmers Rally to 574 Agreement was arrived at be-

tween the Farm Holiday Associatrucks and to supply food to the the farmers is said by strike leaders here to be one of the most inspiring and decisive steps in the battle to win the demands of the drivers.

The unemployed workers of Minneapolis are also solidly behind the strike. The Minneapolis Central Council of Workers (unemployed) has voted full support of the strike and is supplying pickets.

This vast combination of organized labor, unemployed and farmers can and will drive back this latest onslaught on the elementary rights of workers.

LOCAL 574 APPEALS FOR FUNDS

The Truck Drivers Union published the following appeal in "The Daily Strike Bulletin", organ of the strike:

Local 574 is fighting a battle which is the battle of every working man and woman. Our victory will be yours. Our defeat will be your defeat. Against us are arrayed powerful forces of reaction. We know that the battle will not be an easy one to win. It will require all the resources at our command. We feel justified in calling upon every man and woman in the organized labor movement, upon every friend of the working man, to grant us assistance.

To win a battle of the kind we have engaged in, means MONEY! Local 574 is calling upon YOU to help financially. Every contribution will be a blow struck in our behalf. Send in your de immediately. Money given generously and promptly is doubly effective. Contributions should be sent to the General Headquarters of the Strike Committee of 160, 215 Righth Street South, Minneapolis.

LECTURE

The General Strike Its Role in the Class Struggle

ARNE SWABECK

Sunday, July 22, 8 P.M. at Our New and Spacious Home

Admission 10 cents Questions and Discussion

144 Second Avenue