

## MINNEAPOLIS DRIVERS VICTORIOUS

### Green & Co. Declare War On Militants

Playing, as usual, squarely into the hands of the vigilantes, citizens' alliances, American Legion thugs, and other avowed enemies of all organized labor, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, announces that he plans a relentless and organized war on the "reds" within the ranks.

### The Reactionary Program

The three-points of the program are in part:  
 First: To call upon all subordinate organized units to ferret out the Communists within its ranks and to expel them from membership.

Second: "We shall call upon the proper governmental authorities to protect trade unionists who seek to comply with agreements made with employers through collective bargaining, against the attacks of Communists who seek to compel them through force, intimidation, violence, to become identified with the Communist organization."  
 Third: "The Executive Council will call upon the Department of Labor to deport alien Communists... who are deportable under the immigration statute."

Translate these three points on the anti-Red program, and they mean: First: To call upon the Minneapolis red-baiting program of the employers, who also want to rid labor of its "Communist" i.e. militant, elements. Second, that the cops will be called in to support trade-union bureaucrats in their self-outs of the workers, against the revolt of the rank-and-file. Third, that Green will support the Department of Labor's strike-breaking deportation policy.

The situation becomes particularly ominous when one bears in mind that the next convention of the A. F. of L. will be held shortly—October 3—in San Francisco, and that handpicked delegates are more than likely to railroad through the anti-Red program of the executive council.

### Fascist Bands Will Approve

Thus, on the scene where organized labor is most menaced by lawless, quasi-Fascist mobs, the instigators of the lawlessness and terror will be able to point to the approval of the American Federation of Labor, of organized labor.  
 The bosses who broke the San Francisco general strike by the use of armed thugs, aided by police, will be able to say: "We were only making war on the Reds, just as the A. F. of L. was forced to do."

Bill Green's rule is threatened. Locals are in open rebellion, and the seething discontent is beginning to force its way into the ranks of the top leadership. The war against this rebellion will be masked as a war against the "Reds" (not even the bosses are more adept than Green at drawing the red-herring across the trail) but all the dissatisfied elements will be smashed before the war is over—if Green has his way.

**Minneapolis Shows the Way**  
 The answer of the workers who won the glorious battle of Minneapolis should be the answer of all trade unionists to Bill Green's latest pronouncement. They refused to be diverted by Tobin's and Green's red-herring, and they continued under their own militant leadership to win one of the most significant victories in the history of labor in the last 15 years.

Trade-union membership belongs to all workers, regardless of their political affiliations and convictions, who are willing to actively fight for improvement of workers' conditions. The most active members have been the leftward moving members, who are in revolt against Bill Green's policy of betrayal.  
 And they are the ones Bill Green is seeking to expel.  
 Make no mistake about it, when the anti-Red drive gets into full swing, all militant trade-union leaders and members will be declared "reds", and all militant trade-union tactics condemned as "originating in Moscow".

### NEW IDEA DEFENDS PROFIT SYSTEM, SAYS SECRETARY

For such timid capitalists—if such there be—who were seriously concerned lest the New Deal assail their sacred rights to profit off the sweat and blood of the workingman, Secretary of Commerce Roper has issued a soothing reassurance.

"To the business man let me say," he said in a radio address, "that your government and the masses of people resent unthinking statements or subtle suggestions that the profit motive in American life has been or is to be abolished."

With recent disclosures to the effect that milk companies have been enjoying 300 per cent profit while dairy farmers were begging for a government pittance, with textile companies enjoying 370 per cent increase in profits, with General Motors showing a 16 per cent increase in profits, and Dupont a 50 cents extra dividend, the honorable secretary's assurances would seem to be superfluous.

Nor do the starving masses need to be told that the profit motive still rules. How strongly it rules, and how unscrupulously, they will further discover when the prices of food, and other necessities of life, begin to rocket this winter.

### Japan Prepares Seizure of Chinese Eastern Railroad

The Soviet officials of the Chinese Eastern Railway seized last week are still being kept in prison by the Manchukuoan authorities who refuse to free them. Their release has been refused despite repeated protests on the part of Soviet Russia, even threatening to temporarily suspend all negotiations for the sale of the road. Japan, arrogant bully of the East, has merely continued its incarceration of the Line's officials, thereby hoping to force the Soviet Union to agree to their terms.

Following the seizure of Manchuria by Japan, the latter's warlords, sensing the weakness of the Workers' Republic, forcibly seized control of the Chinese Eastern Railway, which had formerly been owned jointly by Soviet Russia and China. Forced by the protestations of the Soviets to relinquish part of the control to the Russian officials, Japan has since then been attempting

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### An Open Letter to the C. P. and S. P. on the United Front

To the Communist Party of the United States  
 To the Socialist Party of the United States  
 Dear Comrades:  
 You are now considering the establishment of a united front of common struggle for certain immediate aims. Formally such a proposal has been made by the Communist Party to the Socialist Party, and naturally we urge its acceptance.

It is a fact well known to you that we have consistently advocated the united front of Communist and Socialist organizations. When others rejected this idea we remained steadfast in our conviction of its imperative necessity and its feasibility. Particularly in face of the advancing Fascist menace in Europe and its developing tendencies also in the United States did we persist in our demand for a united front of common action against the class enemy. Our concern can be only that of the needs of our class. That is the only point of view which has any meaning and from that point of view the realization of the united front will mean a victory for the working class.

It is not necessary for us to restate here the pressing needs of the united front of Communist and Socialist organizations; they have been stated often enough. But we feel that it is necessary for us to emphasize that the united front must be genuine in its substance and in its objectives. This would mean first of all that it must include all Communist and Socialist organizations ready to accept a program of common struggle and ready to collaborate loyally in carrying it into actual life. It would mean

### Labor Skates Stall General Textile Strike

The much heralded textile union general strike threatens to join the much heralded steel strike into a siding.

Already the timorous, the treacherous, textile union leaders are paving the way for the sell-out.

The special "strike committee", headed by Francis J. Gorman, first vice-president of the United Textile Workers, is hopeful that "President Roosevelt or someone else with real authority" will be able to avert the walkout.

The President's sop to the demands of the workers, in the form of a reduction of hours from 40 to 36, is hailed by Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, as a "living symbol of the NRA" (which it is) and "a new approach to real economic democracy".

Having thus prepared the workers with these fine, militant slogans for a battle to the death, the finishing touches to the strike campaign is supplied by William Green, president of the A. F. of L.

Green has appointed a committee to cooperate with the general strike committee. Green's committee comprises John L. Lewis, Matthew Woll, Frank Morrison, and similar fire-breathers, all claiming to champion the most promised conflagration that might arise in union circles, and to put out all scattered flames of revolt as well.

In a word, the leaders of the textile union are not only stalling on the strike issue, but such preparations as they are making are in the direction of strangling the strike should it begin.

The only hope for the strike, if it is called, is that the workers themselves may rebel against such obviously lukewarm leadership, and demand a genuine rank-and-file strike committee, responsible neither to Bill Green, nor to the NRA, but representing the needs and demands of the workers in the textile industry.

### FOOD PRICES RISE 22 PERCENT

Coincidental with the reports of increased corporation profits and increased unemployment (359,000 laid off between June and July of this year—Francis Perkins) come those of rising food prices.

Food prices on July 31 reached the highest point in 30 months, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Where a worker paid 90 cents for food in April 1933, he today has to pay \$1.10, an increase of 22 percent.

the extension of its scope to embrace every live force in the labor movement, to embrace the trade unions and the largest possible mass of workers willing to cooperate; and it would mean also the engaging in actions of a militant character which will serve in the greatest measure to defend the rights of our class against the vicious attacks of the common enemy. In our opinion this cannot be accomplished by means of a non-aggression pact which denies the freedom of criticism within the limits of loyal collaboration in the united front. We hold that the independence of organization of the participants and this freedom of criticism on a comradely basis is imperative to give to the united front that genuine dynamic character that is so essential for it to record a real gain for the working class.

We do not presume to lay down any conditions in advance for the creation of a united front or for our collaboration with the other organizations in it. The conditions and the objectives, we believe, can best be worked out by common consultation of representatives of the various organizations. Therefore, we declare ourselves ready to participate in such consultations; we declare ourselves ready to collaborate loyally with you and the other workers' organizations in attaining such aims that may be commonly agreed upon in a genuine united front. We urge its speedy realization and await your answer.

Fraternal yours,  
 National Committee  
 Communist League of America  
 ARNE SWABECK  
 Secretary

### Local 574 Wins Right to Represent Inside Men; Discrimination Barred

#### Agreement Answers Lies and Slanders

#### The Strike Triumphant

The stirring news of the victory of the Minneapolis strike will give heart and hope to every class conscious and union conscious worker in the United States. It comes as a beacon light on the dark sea of defeats that have engulfed the labor unions in the second strike movement under the NRA. The thrilling outcome of the battle will give confidence to the doubting worker that labor need not lose and capitalism can be defeated. It will strengthen the conviction in the minds of every revolutionist that the policies of consistent class struggle are the only method of crowning the struggles of the working class with success.

But the working class has little time to rejoice. Bigger and fiercer battles are ahead. It must forge its weapons and prepare. Let the workers learn and assimilate the lessons of Minneapolis and they will have gained an invaluable addition to the arsenal of class weapons against capital. And Minneapolis is rich in lessons, so rich that if but a part of them are digested the proletariat will take a huge stride forward.

With hardly an exception practically all of the major problems of strike strategy were telescoped in the battle of 574. Lack of space does not permit us to deal with all of them, but to mention them in part: maintaining a picket line to cope with scabs, feeding five thousand strikers and their families, providing relief to the more destitute of the workers, holding high the morale of the strikers for the long weeks of the struggle, answering the lies, the calumnies and the slanders of the boss press and radio, conducting negotiations with the employers and federal arbitrators, gaining the support of workers in other unions, combatting the police and the city officials.

These are the customary problems faced by the workers when they rebel for better conditions. But the Minneapolis strike was complicated with other and far more perplexing matters. From the very word go, the strike was faced with a vehement "red" scare of the bosses, kept alive for its entire duration. This was joined in by the International President of the Teamsters, Tobin, who declared the strike illegal at the very outset. Then, to make confusion worse confounded, a farmer-labor governor, having the confidence of the overwhelming majority of the workers, dealt some deadly blows at the strike while pretending friendship. A backward rank-and-file, fighting mad, but steeped in all the prejudices that the bosses had inculcated into them for years finishes the picture.

Any other leadership than the one in Minneapolis would have foundered on the rocks of this stupendous problem. This is not because of the personal qualities or the integrity of the men, although that contributed heavily, but rather because the tactics they pursued were Marxian from beginning to end. They were thoroughly fused with the workers in the ranks. They carried on their work in the trade union not with the purpose of some sensational stunt. Building on organization, leading it to victory and helping the workers learn from their own experiences in the class struggle—that was their aim.

Previous issues of the Militant have commented on the military-efficient organization of the strike apparatus. But it does not hurt to repeat some of them, for it is on this very thing that success was founded. To enumerate: the picket line on wheels ready to move at a moment's notice, in contact at every step with strike headquarters—the commissary serving five thousand strikers daily on the solid assumption that an army travels on its belly—the Ladies Auxiliary giving the women a direct interest in the struggle, making them an encouragement and an aid instead of a drag on the strikers—the mobilization of the unemployed for support—and finally the daily strike bulletin, which we can safely say is one of the greatest contributions to strike strategy in recent times. Here was a paper that inspired the strikers, answered the lies of the boss press day in, day out, fanned their flagging enthusiasm, warned them of traps set by the bosses and arbitrators, showed the class lines of the struggle and performed a thousand and one other services. This was the unshakable foundation of the strike.

Yet all of this would have been wrecked by the "red" scare had the union leaders not been prepared to meet it. In Frisco the cry of "Communist" tore a deep hole into the strike front. In Minneapolis it was a complete dud. The leaders faced the issue squarely. They did not rush into print denying the accusations. Nor did they shout their opinions to the wide world. They explained to the men that this was part of a plot of the bosses to evade the issues, sow confusion and division in the ranks and thus smash the strike. The results are known. The red-scare fell on deaf ears.

Quite as important, if not more so, was the role of Governor Olson. With a cunning play of demagoguery and harmless attacks on the employers he established himself as the "friend" of the strikers. So much so, that when he called the troops onto the streets and declared martial law, opinion was general among the drivers that it was done in their interest. Pickets began to rely on Olson's soldiers. Knowing the class nature of the state, the leaders saw how fatal such an attitude would be for the strike. They were quick to act. The Organizer, at the risk of incurring the displeasure of the union men, pointed out the real purpose of the troops—to break the strike. But they did not confine themselves to denunciation. Only experience would teach the strikers. A test of the right of picketing was decided upon. And then... by raiding the strike headquarters, imprisoning the leaders and the best pickets, Olson taught the strikers more about Olson than all the editorials in the world could have done. A different opinion of the Governor of Minnesota and the purpose of the state now pervades not a few members of 574.

The union saw to it that the struggle against Olson be further pushed by exerting the severest pressure on Olson's men, the conservative leaders of the Central Labor Union. The biggest barrier to Olson's game was the support of the drivers by the entire Minneapolis labor movement. By adroit and skillful tactics the leaders of 574 forced the heads of the C.L.U. to give their assistance to the drivers and not to condemn them. When the union called upon the officials to declare a general strike in answer to the raid on the headquarters, they resisted but they were on the carpet. They brought pressure to bear on Olson and he released the strike leaders and restored the hall. While the officials of the C. L. U. and the Minnesota State Federation of Labor were successful in preventing a general strike, their answer was a living demonstration to the workers of Minneapolis of the stuff these "leaders" are made. A general strike is not an end in itself. It is a means to an end. And the conservatives at the head of the Minneapolis labor movement deprived 574 of this powerful means. The rank and file will draw the proper conclusions!

In the gratifying conclusion of the battle there lie the features that distinguish the Minneapolis strike from all others in recent times. For the first time in years militants, indigenous to the industry, have entered an A. F. of L. union; converted it from a craft to an industrial union; built it up patiently and quietly; prepared carefully and struck at the proper moment; combined organization with militancy and political wisdom, and emerged from a five week's strike against insuperable odds with victory in their laps. And on top of all this, what is almost unprecedented in such strikes—not only is the union intact but the leadership is still in the hands of the genuine militants.

The example of the Minneapolis leadership will be an inspiration everywhere!  
 It can and will be repeated!

### 574 Acts in Enforcement of Settlement

Minneapolis, Aug. 22.—Triumphant 574 is celebrating tonight.

The Minneapolis drivers have battled through five weeks of the toughest strike struggle in recent times and have emerged from it with a victory that will warm the hearts of the militants from Maine to California.

In the most significant duel in years between reaction, the bosses, the governor, the soldiers, the cops, the press, the radio, the church, on the one side and the dauntless militancy of 574 supported by the Minneapolis working class on the other, labor has won.

### Defeating a Mighty Foe

The enemy was powerful.  
 It flooded the press with a Niagara of vituperation against the union and its leaders.

It impressed its paid agent, Daniel J. Tobin International Teamsters President into service to denounce the leadership as Communists.

It barked into the radio after day in a never-ending tirade against the "Communists who wanted to overthrow established law and order."

It murdered two unarmed workers in cold blood and did not even make the pretense of apprehending their assassins.

It raided the union headquarters.  
 It imprisoned the leaders and the best militants in a military stockade.

It declared martial law, gave free rein to the troops who strangled the picketing that had tied up Minneapolis trucking tight as a drum.

This Citizens Alliance wanted to smash 574 and organized labor. But though it was backed by all the gold of Wall Street, it has cracked like an egg shell under the fist of the truckers union.

The settlement, agreed to by the union and proposed by P. A. Donahue, who had been sent here from Washington after the raw frame-up by Haas and Dunnigan had been exposed by the rank and file of 574, gives the union the most important of the demands for which they fought.

### Win On Major Issue

The paramount demand of the strike—the recognition of the inside men in the market firms—has been granted the union.

All the strikers are to be restored to their jobs without discrimination and on the basis of seniority.  
 Although certain concessions have been made, as in the wage scale and on the elections to determine the right of the union to represent the drivers, nevertheless the capitulation of the bosses on the cardinal issues, made the union feel strong enough to yield on these questions.

### Statement of Dunne

The statement of Vincent B. Dunne, strike leader, summarizes the position of the union on the settlement:  
 "The action of the membership tonight, in adopting the settlement as recommended by the Strike Committee of 100, gives Local 574 substantially what it has fought and bled for since the beginning of the strike more than five weeks ago. While the Union has accepted certain modifications of its original demands, the settlement establishes the basis for the unconditional return of all strikers without discrimination, and leaves the right of Local 574 to represent the inside men in the market—the basic issue in the strike—unchallenged. The settlement differs in some respects from the Haas-Dunnigan plan which the union had adopted as a minimum, but it is so close to it in fundamentals that the committee felt justified in recommending its acceptance, and the membership by an almost unanimous vote endorsed this recommendation.

"We consider as fundamental in the settlement the fact that previous attempts to discriminate against strikers and active pickets in re-employment, is entirely eliminated."  
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