



Minneapolis Drivers Win In Elections

The elections in the Minneapolis trucking industry, held under the terms of the strike settlement, resulted in a sweeping victory for the union in nearly all of the larger houses. According to latest reports the elections in the 22 market houses—the heart of the struggle in the places involving the control of inside workers—showed that the union carried the elections in 19 out of the 22 houses.

Virtually the same proportion prevailed also in the larger transfer companies. With few exceptions the union carried these also.

According to the terms of the strike settlement the employers are now obliged to recognize the union in all those places where it secured a majority in the elections and to deal with it directly in wage and other negotiations. The union leadership has already formulated its schedule of wage demands and has presented them to the employers. If agreement is not reached the wage dispute will then go to arbitration within ten days.

The capitalist press reports of the elections were misleading. The 166 firms represented in the Employers Advisory Committee all had beaten elections. Many of these are small one-horse concerns. The superficial result showed the union carried approximately one half and lost the other half while a dozen or so others are in contest. What the reports neglected to state is that the union carried the market and the big transfer companies and comes out of the contest more strongly entrenched than ever before.

With this firm base in the heart of the industry the task of eventually lining up the smaller firms is greatly simplified, and the union has already announced a campaign of education and organization to this end.

Labor Leaders Say 'No War on War'

The perfect flunky does not wait for his master's orders, but anticipates the unspoken desire. By the same token, no one offers his services to the enemy more eagerly than the renegade.

Thus Stanley Baldwin calls for increased air forces to "defend" Great Britain's enlarged borders. "Our frontier is now the Rhine,"—and his flunkies among the so-called leaders of British labor fall over their heels in their haste to offer up the workers to the slaughter.

Only a year ago, the British Labor Party issued a ringing call for a General Strike in the event of war. But that was a year ago, and they have since been tipped off by Baldwin that war is really imminent. That changes the situation, of course.

"It is our duty unflinchingly to support our government in all the risks and consequences of fulfilling its duty to take action against a peace-breaker," reads the statement of the National Executive of the Labor Party.

And the general strike as an anti-war weapon is now officially condemned by the Trade Union Council.

"It is not at all likely that this country will ever be the aggressor." Thus piously George Gibson defends the Council's betrayal.

Having agreed to support a defensive war, these labor-skates now proceed to place a definition upon "defensive" generous enough to placate the most ardent imperialist, the most vicious warlord.

"The British frontiers today is the Rhine," says Baldwin, and the labor flunkies call for the defense of British frontiers (defensive war). But the warlords demand even more. Great Britain knows no frontiers; the sun never sets on the British Empire. What of war in the Far East, what of Japan, India, Mongolia?

"We will distinguish," the labor flunkies answer gravely, "between a war of aggressive character, and a war undertaken in defense of the collective peace system . . . duty to take action against a peace-breaker."

What greater assurance could Britain's imperialists demand? This is more than an offer of support, it is an open invitation to war.

Major Angas Arrives With Big "Boom"

Along with all the reports of strikes, lockouts and shootings of striking pickets etc., the press has been carrying during the last few weeks flamboyant reports of a certain book published by the British business analyst, Major L. L. B. Angas, "The Coming American Boom".

By itself the book is scarcely worthy of the attention of a labor weekly, but the peculiar way in which the press extolled it and the fact that the other day the *World-Telegram*, of the Scripps-Howard chain, began publishing the volume in installments, with a headline "The Coming American Boom" on its first page, gives us a very strong premonition that this is the beginning of a great press-agent campaign to boost the already discredited New Deal and to plug up with halibut some of the holes which have been torn into it by continuing unemployment, rising prices and profits and stationary wages.

Few Suckers This Time
The New Dealers and their hired press agents will miss their mark this time, we fear. The striking textile workers who have had their wages of 12 and 13 dollars fixed by "New Deal" law, and who have been beaten and shot by new deal guards will not suddenly take up a new hymn with the NRA, when they learn of Major Angas that the devaluation of the dollar will enable the banks "to increase

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CLIMBING OUT

We are happy to announce to the readers of the *Militant* that the response to our S.O.S. has helped us raise one foot out of the financial rut.

The contributions which kept us above the water line of bankruptcy came entirely from New York. The names of those who threw us the life-line follow:

Downtown Branch	\$10.00
Anon.	10.00
M. M.	9.00
Harlem Branch	4.00
Anonymous, Brooklyn	3.00
Novack and Rice	2.00
Becker	2.00
Kim	1.00
A. Tobin	1.00
N. Bernman	1.00
P. S. N.	1.00

This is just the smallest beginning, comrades. It has helped pay for paper and keep the sheriff at a healthy distance. But it is nothing permanent. Given the same conditions we will be in the same jam next week.

As we go to press we have not yet heard from our out of town branches and sympathizers. We hope they will make the grade in as fine style as New York.

Donations were called for this week because of the emergency. We don't want to continue alarming our readers with distress signals. There are ways this can be avoided:

1. Pledgers should immediately pay up on the obligations they undertook.

2. All outstanding bundle accounts held by branches or individuals should immediately be straightened out and the money forwarded.

3. In another column we publish the details of the closing of the Organization Press Campaign. Those holding coupon books should make a final effort to dispose of them within the next two weeks and turn in books and receipts.

If comrades and friends of the *Militant* work hard to carry out the details outlined above we will be a long way towards stability in the issuance of the paper.

A little perspiration and a little sacrifice is needed. The example of comrade M. M. from the Bronx who turned over \$9.00 in the face of an eviction notice from his home should be an inspiration to everyone. Other comrades not in such straitened circumstances will please take note.

In closing: We are making valiant efforts to make the *Militant* readable and understandable to the average worker. The opportunities are now at hand to spread the *Militant* in every shop, factory and worker's home. A few extra pounds of energy and the *Militant* circulation can take a big leap.

Let's go!

Lid Comes off In Armaments Disclosures

"Oh, my dear, what a stench! And to think, that cat has been dead for only forty-two years. Why does it stink so?"

"Oswald! Replace that cover this very instant, and don't you dare take another peep."

The arms investigation committee is under way, and think of what they discovered. "THERE IS AN INTERNATIONAL ARMS COMBINE!"

It seems that there is in the United States a submarine building company that goes by the shocking title of "Electric Boat Co." (Ownership is as yet undisclosed—see if you can guess, Morgan, DuPont, Rockefeller, Guggenheim.) This "Electric Boat Co." sold submarines all over the world. Wherever some foreign company did the actual building of the submarine the American company got a rake off—for the use of its patents. Whenever the American company got the contract, the foreign "Boat Building" companies were entitled to a cut in the profits—for the use of their patents.

The business worked out something like this.

Busy with Death

Seven years ago, when relations between Chile and Peru were far from harmonious and the controversy involving Tacna-Arica was still boiling, the Electric Boat Co., it was shown, was working day and night for contracts to arm Peru. Representatives of Vickers Ltd. (the British arms manufacturer), ally of the Americans, were just as busy on the other side trying to convince the Chileans to invest in a submarine flotilla or two.

In the meantime the two companies were giving each other advice as to how to proceed, and of course were getting a cut in each other's profits.

About this time the United States Navy enters the scene. The details are too gory, but it seems that an American naval commission was sent down to Peru to help build up the Peruvian navy. Some submarines were sold by the Electric Boat Co., and the admiral's wife took a free trip to Europe.

The "Admiral", Captain Alfred G. Howe, head of the Peruvian naval mission, is hazy about who paid for the trip. It might have been the Electric Boat Co., but "I have forgotten the details. I don't see anything of color about it."

Sir Basil Cleans Up

Sir Basil Zaharoff, notorious international arms manufacturer, is reported to have received about two million dollars in commissions for "business" sent to the American company. The introduction of the name of this multi-millionaire mystery man created rather a furor. He was noted for his impartiality in aiding in the armaments of both the allies and the central powers during the latest world slaughter.

As a result of this international tie-up American patent secrets "leaked" to Germany during the war, and were used in the designing and the building of U-boats that preyed on American ships during the war.

How far the investigation will go it is yet difficult to say. Already several government departments have asked that testimony given by them be kept secret—to avoid complications!

The Fire Behind the Smoke

What has thus far been revealed has been common knowledge for many years. The reasons for their disclosure at the present time is not difficult to see. They will become more clear tomorrow, when the investigation committee turns its eyes to the sale of airplane motors and scrap iron to Japan.

Will the evidence produced result in legislation forbidding the shipment of all arms to foreign countries? We hardly think so. All that is being required of the American armament manufacturers is "not to be hogtied."

"Sell if you must, but for God's sake, don't sell too many guns and ammunition to our direct enemies."

EDUCATIONAL MEETING

The United States Youth Congress

(Report by One of Delegates)

Why Did the Rooseveltians Split It?

What Was Accomplished?

Thursday, Sept. 13 at 8:30 P.M.

144 Second Avenue, N. Y. C.

Spouses: Spartacus Youth League

Textile Strike Sweeps Over Nation; 10 Killed as Workers Defy Thugs, Armed Scabs, Troops; South in Fore

Flying Squads Strike Fear Into Bosses

From out of nowhere thick into the heart of struggle, striking terror in the hearts of scabs, dispersing mill guards like chaff; swift, hard, hurricane-like—the Flying Picket Squads.

For this new weapon in the textile strike struggle, as terrifying to the bosses as were the tanks when first they made their appearance in the World War, the workers are indebted to the heroic truck-drivers of Minneapolis.

In Minneapolis the truckmen's flying squads halted traffic one hundred percent until the town was placed under martial law—a desperate remedy for the bosses to use, and one they will live to regret. Telephone communications sent the pickets speeding to the strategic points, to strike and disappear.

And now, with almost equal effectiveness, the Flying Picket Squads have made their appearance in the textile strike, with what result, let George Sloan, president of the Cotton Textile Institute, testify.

"A flying squadron of 1,500 workers is going from mill to mill and preventing workers from entering the mills," Sloan complains. "In face of coercion and intimidation by persons coming in by fleets of automobiles the workers do not dare enter the mills."

For the rest, let the news reports speak for themselves:

"High Point (North Carolina) police arrested 30 members of a flying squadron but not before five plants had been closed by them. . . Barriers of bayonets withstood the assaults of flying squadrons upon two Greenville mills. . . Time after time the strikers surged forward. . . The mills finally decided to close."

"Flying squadrons of strike shock troops ran rampant through the industrial South and there were calls for Federal military intervention. Mill after mill surrendered before the knife-like thrusts of numerous squadrons."

If Minneapolis did not originate this terrific tactic, it developed it to a point of perfection. It emphasized dramatically for the whole labor movement the value of the squads as a weapon to counteract the new strike weapons of the employers, vomit gas, riot cars and

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Dern Deplores But Workers Are Shot

"The gentlemen may cry 'peace! peace!' but there is no peace."

Secretary of War Dern deplores the use of the militia in industrial conflicts; there is a growing feeling of resentment against it, he admits. But the militia continues to shoot down textile workers, the Governor of South Carolina threatens to proclaim martial law, factories are protected with a ring of bayonets. And the cry is "more troops! more troops!"

How reconcile Dern's pacific utterances with the increasing use of militia in the textile strike, with these blazing headlines:

"Guns Blaze in South Carolina! Helmeted Troops Move to Strike Battle Fronts! 10 Killed, 40 Injured as Deputies Open Fire!"

Stop issuing liberal statements, Mr. Secretary, and stop your troops from killing workers.

Latest reports indicate that textile workers have been removed from the picket line and sent into strike duty on the militia. This second effort to convert honest strikers into scab-protecting gunmen will inevitably fail. The results will recoil upon the heads of the bosses who ordered it. Take heed when you draw the battle-lines too clearly: Government against the Workers. The workers will not fire upon their own.

South Awakens; "Mill Hands" Become Fighting Legions

Only last week, on Sept. 1, a thunderous chorus of "amens" greeted R. R. Lawrence, the president of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor, as he addressed a meeting of 1,000 delegates of textile locals out at Charlotte, North Carolina.

"We fight for the lord and our families," he exclaimed. "The first strike on record was the strike in which Moses led the children of Israel out of slavery from Egypt . . . but it won't take us forty years to win our strike."

The delegates went wild when Lisk, organizer out at Concord, belted: "I fervently believe God is with us in this struggle for ourselves and our families." Again, there arose a wild, chanting chorus of "Amens."

What Do the Prayers Mean?

Does this scene, religiously ecstatic, signify perhaps, that the strike, as far as the south is concerned, is essentially a religious movement, an outlet for pent-up emotions? Events have proved otherwise.

Ever since the Civil War, the ruling classes have been inculcating religion into the "mill hands," as they early "recognized the value of religion as an aid to discipline."

The southern workers are but a generation removed from the "poor whites" who eked out a miserable existence on their tobacco and corn patches in the hills of the interior, or the tenant farmers of the lowlands, who shared their crops with their employers. Suddenly they were huddled into narrow, filthy "mill towns", built so, that if you see one mill town in Charlotte, North Carolina, you know the looks of every mill town from Carolina to Georgia. Compelled to live in these, they were completely secluded from the rest of the world and continually under the beck and call of the mill owner.

The Mill Town

The mill town is private property. The land belongs to the mill owner. The church belongs to the mill owner. The school house belongs to the mill owner. So does the saloon, the Young Men's Christian Association, and the brothel. The school teacher and the preacher are hired and receive their salaries from the mill owner.

The keeper of "law and order" is the company policeman, who is deputized by the county sheriff and is paid a salary by the company. The ruling class has been teaching the "mill hands" loyalty, obedience, and the joys of life after death, for fifty years and has fostered upon them all the age-old superstitions and prejudices against "Yankees", "niggers" and "furriners."

That is why, since 1900, textile capital has steadily been drifting south. The south was the country of "cheap and contented labor". The chambers of Commerce appealed to Northern manufacturers to move southward where "native born, Anglo Saxon labor is cheap, loyal and plentiful."

"Labor in Spartanburg is free, unchangeable, and contented. Strikes are unknown . . . it is faithful and efficient," writes the local Chamber of Commerce in its prospectus.

That was written back in 1927. But the next year the southern ruling class had to fight at Gastonia.

"Cheap" But Not "Contented"

And today the southern textile worker, still living in mill towns where no halls can be hired for meetings and no union organizers are allowed to enter, have shown their backwardness in the labor struggle and labor history of America is a thing of the past.

"Labor is still cheap in the south," wrote a northern correspondent, just before the strike, "but it is no longer contented."

The "free, unchangeable and contented labor" of Spartanburg where "strikes are unknown" has organized fifty strike squads, despite the opposition of the union leaders, has obliterated the line

between the two Carolinas and working on a 110-mile front, has closed over 350 mills in the two states. They have garrisoned the towns "captured" and proceeding southward, are closing down all plants.

Some 650 pickets of a "flying squadron" pushed into Greenville after gaining complete control of Gastonia and all of Gaston county, and are engaged at present in "tying up" the mills in the battle which is destined to be historic in American labor history. "The siege of Greenville".

The Changing South

The class struggle has swept through the "cotton south" and has mobilized the southern workers along with his prejudices and bigotry of a bygone age. What if some southern textile workers chant "Amen" when their picket leader is addressing them. That is but a remnant of the past imposing itself upon their newly awakened class-consciousness, their courage and heroism. They are displaying again that the American worker, once aroused, sweeps aside all "law" and "constitutional formalities" when questions of life are at stake.

The south is the backbone of this historic textile strike.

President Roosevelt may appoint a new board and Hopkins may issue statements that the strikers can starve as far as the federal government is concerned, but the southern worker will have a second thought before he entrusts his life to the care of mediation boards, preachers or the government. Today the south takes its place in the forefront of the class struggle with San Francisco, Portland, Minneapolis and Toledo.

George A. Sloan, President of the Cotton Textile Institute, Inc., who is a very wise man, said, "I am not in a mood to smile. This thing is getting worse by the hour." Worse for Sloan but improving for the workers.

Kensington Strike In Militant Start

Philadelphia, Sept. 3.—The textile strike which is sweeping the country has reached Kensington, the battle-ground of many a bitter struggle between capital and labor.

A demonstration of about 1,000 textile workers took place on MacPherson Square on Labor Day.

There was no holiday spirit. The workers present realized that any concessions granted by the bosses would have to be won in bitter struggle.

Of particular interest was the applause which greeted Alice Hanson's remark . . . "that this was a strike against the government, for the industrialists have taken over the government." She went on to explain life—if it can be called that—in company owned mill villages.

B. Levinson spoke on the right to picket and prevent scabs from working while lawyer Simes denounced the bosses for chiselling.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 P.M. Many of the workers left to picket the Concordia Silk Mill.

Negro-baiters, Anglo-Saxons, Pure Whites take note:

"Before many centuries have elapsed there will not be a single person in America without a certain portion of negro blood."

Not a communist or a "nigger lover" said this but a blue-blooded Englishman, Lord Raglan, chairman of the Anthropological Society.

And those who think that miscegenation is not the best American custom will please look to the skeletons in their closet and those of the most ancestral homes of Georgia and they will find what they didn't expect to find.

Shady Deal Looms in New Negotiations

BULLETIN

The Federal Mediation Board has initiated a peace conference in an effort to end the strike in the textile industry. Francis Gorman, head of the strike committee, has accepted the peace overture of the Board despite his earlier statement that he would refuse arbitration until every mill was closed. George A. Sloan, spokesman for the textile bosses, also agreed to a conference.

Previously, Gorman announced he was going to ask for Federal Troops to "protect strikers". Ten have already been killed and scores injured under the "protection" of National Guardsmen.

These latest developments should cause every textile worker to watch any and all moves of the leadership. Vigilance must be the motto when the Gormans begin to make deals with the bosses.

Thousands of armed scabs, brutal deputies, the greatest military display since the World War, the killing of ten strikers and the wounding of scores, have failed to dam the irresistible strike wave that has flooded the textile industry and stopped the looms from Maine to Mississippi.

One half million workers are out on strike, with the flying picket squads swooping down and closing mill after mill, town after town.

Pressed forward by a militant rank and file, ready to brave tear gas and bayonets, prepared to fight to the finish, even the diffident top leadership has been forced to issue bold statements.

"We shall agree to arbitration only after we have closed all mills in all divisions of the industry," says Francis J. Gorman, heading the strike committee.

Every Loom Idle Is Aim

But the matter has passed out of his hands. The workers will not stop until they have closed every mill in the textile industry.

Far from being dismayed by the blast of gun fire that left ten strikers dead, the Flying Picket Squads have since pressed on to fresh victories.

"The strike is far more serious today than at any time since it began," Arthur G. Besse, spokesman for the woolen textile manufacturers, admitted. The number of mills closing has been "tremendous," he added.

Rendered frantic by the successful onslaughts of the workers, the manufacturers in South Carolina have petitioned Governor Blackwood to declare martial law. The State militia, scabs armed illegally with revolvers, with the full knowledge of the authorities, thousands of special deputies, all these are insufficient.

Can't Get Enough Soldiers

In reply, Blackwood indicated that he might declare sections of South Carolina in a state of insurrection, but, he asserted, he did not have sufficient troops at his disposal to take care of the whole situation.

There are 1,000 Guardsmen on duty in Greenville, S. C. alone. The Governor said it would take three or four thousand troops to enforce a martial law order, and that he did not have that number of troops.

In North Carolina there are more soldiers under arms than at any time since the World War. These include 23 militia units (numbering 1,300 men) with 30 more ready for strike-breaking activities, armed with gas bombs, machine guns, rifles and bayonets.

Nor is this situation confined to the South alone. The Northern manufacturers are mustering their armies of thugs as the workers prepare to descend upon Lawrence, Mass., Dighton, and other centers of scab industry. Their efforts, as they themselves are beginning to admit, will prove of no avail.

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