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SATURDAY, MAY 4, y935

### Local 574 Under Fire Again

The revocation of the charter of Minneapolis Local 574 by Tobin, the reactionary president of the Teamsters' International, and the attempt, by this simple trick, to "outlaw" the union, coincides with a new conspiracy of the bosses to rob the Minneapolis labor movement of the gains made in the great strikes of 1934.

Local 574 was beyond all question the leader and the inspiring and organizing force of the resurgent movement which put trade unionism on its feet in Minneapolis. Naturally, therefore, the new maneuver of the notorious Citizens' Alliance, operating this time through a stooge organization known as the "Committee of 100," is directed first of all at the stronghold of unionism represented by Local 574. The new conspiracy was pretty well shattered by premature exposure and the savage counter attack of the progressive union forces. Tobin's perfidious action is designed to bolster up the sagging front of the Citizens' Alliance, and most probably was taken in direct agreement with this malodorous association of union haters.

The issue presented here is one of paramount importance to the labor movement of Minneapplis, for its fate is directly involved in the outcome of the new attempt to isolate and destroy the mighty local of Drivers, Helpers and Inside workers. The strategy, now, as in 1934, is to break 574, then crush the other unions one by one; and from the standpoint of the bosses it is a pretty good strategy. But this is all too obvious, and the wide-awake unionists of Minneapolis understand it clearly. They rallied around Local 574 in the strikes of last year and helped to carry it to victory. From all accounts they are responding to the present onslaught with the same essential solidarity. This gives the brightest prospect for another brilliant labor victory and another formidable advance of the cause of unionism in Minneapolis when the smoke of the present battle clears away.

Beyond that, the attempt to "outlaw" Local 574 is a matter of profound concern to the labor movement at large, especially to the unions of newly organized workers. The latter, attempting correctly to exist within the framework of the general labor movement represented by the A. F. of L., are confronted with a dilemma. If they trust to the policies and the leadership of the official heads of the A. F. of L. they get nothing but the run-around. Their strikes are headed off by shameful capitulations masked as "settlements" or, if strikes break out, they are cut to pieces and betrayed.

The bitter experiences of the steel, textile, auto and rubber workers, to mention only a few outstanding examples, all testify to the truth that the new unions have nothing whatever to gain on this road. The workers are beginning to realize this in increasing numbers. The Toledo strike, now spreading to other points, is proof of a deep-seated determination of the workers in the new unions to take things into their own hands and to act on their ow account.

On the other hand, the unions which take the course of direct struggle to enforce their demands, as Local 574 did with such exemplary militancy, run straight up against the irreconcilable antagonism of the reactionary bureaucracy. If Green, Tobin and Co. cannot prevent strikes they try to break them; if they cannot control the unions they try to "outlaw"

What is happening at Minneapolis today will be repeated on a wide scale in the next rise of the class struggle. It is sheer utopianism to expect anything else; the part of wisdom is to understand what is coming and to prepare for it. The case-hardened agents of capital in

the labor movement, tied with a thousand threads to the ruling interests, are incapable of any real struggle against them and completely devoid of any faith in the masses. They interpret-and not without good reasonevery serious struggle of the workers against the bosses as implicitly a struggle against them.

These struggles are bound to increase and multiply; there is no other way for the workers. to protect themselves. The Government will then throw off its mask of benevolence toward the unions and come out openly as a strike breaker. The labor betrayers will supplement this policy by wholesale expulsions of individual militants and whole union organizations. It is absolutely impossible to have a correct trade union policy if this perspective is not taken into account.

The case of local 574 is a test of the capacity of militants to cope with one of the key problems of strategy in the trade union movements. Alert militants in all parts of the country are bound to follow this development closely to see how the attack is met in Minneapolis. Local 574 showed the world how to conduct militant strikes against the heaviest odds and to come out victorious. The simple chronicle of the great battles waged under its banner in 1934 would constitute a handbook of modern strike strategy. And from all appearances the Minneapolis militants are also setting the pace and showing the way for a correct and effective struggle against the expulsion policy of a reactionary. boss-serving officialdom.

Two simple rules govern their strategy, each of equal importance.

First, they do not take the treacherous attack of Tobin lying down. They do not capitulate or give way to despair. They are not taken by surprise; the iron militants of Local 574 knew long ago that Tobin and his ilk are nothing but class enemies disguised as labor leaders. Nothing but treachery was expected

They prepared the ranks for the conspiracy, and Tobin's probable part in it, and took the offensive to mobilize the labor movement for the fight in good time. The fixed policy at Minneapolis is to fight for every position and not to give anything away. Without this spirit no real progress is possible anywhere in the labor movement.

Second, the union does not run away from the Teamsters' International and the A. F. of channel of appeal, up to the highest bodies of tion of the fundamental role of the revolutionary party grew. the A. F. of L.

Meantime they take their case to the Central Labor Union in Minneapolis, appeal directly to every affiliated local union for support and aid in their fight for reinstatement, and prepare to carry the fight to the State Federation of Labor Convention. The answer of Local 574 to the command of a tyrant to get out of intensified campaign deeper into the other locals of the International and the A. F. of L unions generally, especially the unions of Minneapolis and the State of Minnesota.

This tactic goes hand in hand with an or ganizing and recruiting campaign to bring every eligible worker into the union, a militant campaign of agitation against the conspiracy of the bosses and the traitor president of the Teamsters' International, and a notice to the world that the union, which was build into a power of labor at the cost of great sacrifices and not a little blood, is going to fight to the last ditch to maintain its position as the union of the Minneapolis Drivers, Helpers and Inside Workers.

With the present mood of the laboring masses who are animated more and more by the feeling that they have nothing to lose, such a spirit and tactic is the prescription for labor which can be no less an inspiration and a guide might to smash capitalism. to other unions than the heroic strike victories of 1934. The Minneapolis militants are writing a bright new chapter of labor history which contract giving genuine union recognition. will take its place in the text book of the struggle against capitalism and its agents in the trade union movement. In 1935 as in 1934 boards or union officials in Washington. Minneapolis and Toledo lead the way.

CLEVELAND, O., May 1 .-- Approximately 5,000 workers turned out to Public Square to celebrate May Day. It was a real united front demonstration, the first that Cleveland has seen for some yars. The Socialist Party, the Communist Party, the Workers Party, the I.W. W., and several rank and file unions participated in the meeting at Public Square and the parade that followed through the main streets of the city.

The speakers stressed the importance of the fact that a real united as a notice to the masters that the 'idea.

workers of Cleveland will stand 5,000 in Cleveland | solidly together when a common | Debate on WP vs. SP danger threatens. This point was May First Parade especially emphasized by the speaker for the Workers Party, Comrade Nathan Gould. He was the only speaker who mentioned the word "revolution." All the others man-

aged to avoid it some way or other. He started out by referring to the Workers Party as "the revolutionary Workers Party of the United States," and proclaimed proletarian revolution as its ultimate Militants," will defend the S. P. aim, while meantime fighting for and Joseph Carter, administrator better conditions for employed and

Comrade Gould's talk was loudly front of labor had been accom- must be considered as a definite dent League for Industrial Demo-

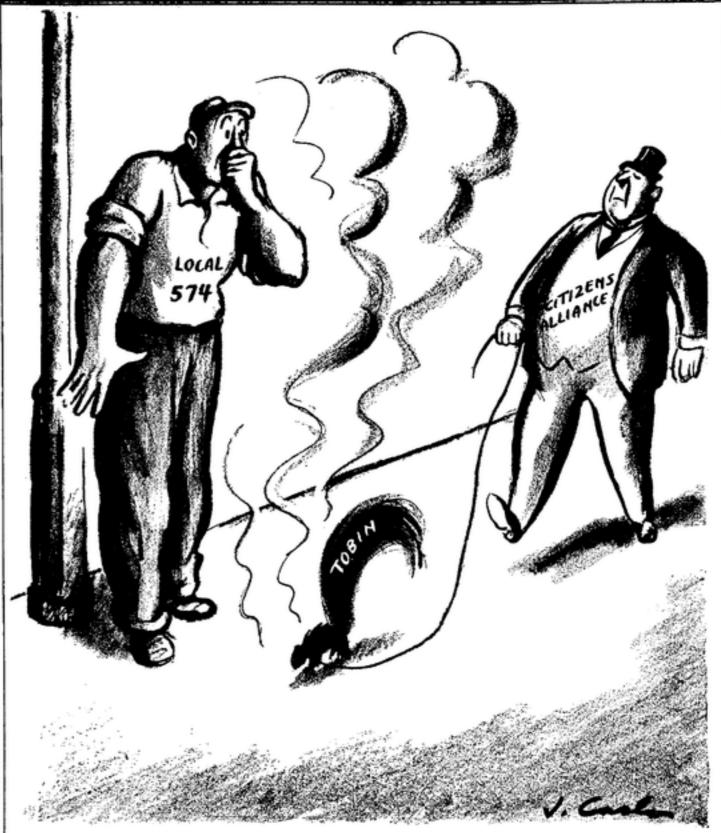
against Fascism and War.

# Scheduled in N. Y.

"Which Party for American La bor? Workers Party or Socialist afternoon at 3 P.M. at New York Washington Main Building, room 581.

Murray Baron, leader of the of the International Workers School unemployed and for the struggle will present the program of the Workers Party.

The debate is under the auspices applicuded and the whole affair of the N.I.U. chapter of the Stuplished and that this should serve victory for the genuine united front cracy and the Discussion Club. All interested are invited.



## Heed the Call of Toledo!

(Continued from Page 1)

made complete, the union got a signed agreement with the firm, and the company union was smashed.

The comrades of the W. P. did not go to sleep after that culminated and at this point the great effort or become arm-chair philosophers trying to live on enthusiasm of the workers was conthe glory of the fight that was past. Patiently they gathered a few progressives in the unions around them. Tirelessly they the marchers to fold up their ban-L. merely because a panic-stricken bureaucrat threw themselves into every struggle that occurred. Eagerly ners under police supervision and wants to get rid of them. They appeal against they read and talked with more experienced comrades in order the expulsion, and announce their intention to deepen their knowledge both of the theory and the practical fine the park proper with their ranks broking. The Times the control of the park proper with their ranks broking the park proper with their ranks broking. The Times the park proper with their ranks broking the park proper with their ranks broking. fight it out at every step and through every tactics of the revolutionary movement. Steadily their convic-

> Thus the tradition of militancy was built up in the Automobile Workers Union in Toledo and to a large extent in other unions. As Oliver Myers, business agent of the Electrical Workers Union in Toledo, stated at the recent A. F. of L. conference in Washington which was passing resolutions as usual and letting it go at that: "We don't do things like this in Toledo. We strike the damned job. We don't come down to Washing- their "respectability" and "patriotton, we go on the picket line."

Distrust of trade union officials who try to make the the International and the A. F. of L. is an workers believe that their hope lies in "cooperation" with the bosses, and government agencies such as the Automobile Labor domitable spirit of the workers' Board, was built up at least among the more progressive will to victory pervaded the ranks workers. Local union officials like Ramsey who played a questionable role in the Auto-Lite strike were undermined.

Week after week demonstrated that a revolutionary party itself. such as the W. P. with a sound trade union policy is a tower of strength to the workers. Not one strike was lost in Toledo this past year. The Auto Workers Federal Union 18384 alone gained thousands of members, signed contracts with every important automobile parts plant in Toledo, and substantially improved conditions.

That is the background of the strike that broke the apathy and peace of the automobile situation last Tuesday and made it impossible for Wm. S. Knudsen himself to get into the Chevrolet plant until strike chairman, Jimmy Roland, granted per- the war preparations of the capital

To the crucial struggle which has now begun the Workers Party pledges anew its fullest support. (As I write these words, a union member comes into the room to report that the strike meeting tonight cheered and cheered again when the telegram of Morris Lewitt, N. Y. District Organizer of the W. P., pledgsuccess and advancement. The bosses and ing support and telling about the picketing of General Motors sioner. their agents in the labor movement who have offices in New York by the W. P., was read.) Well do we know provoked the new struggle in Minneapolis may that if this strike attains its objective and brings General get the surprise of their lives. There is the Motors to its knees a great step will have been taken toward making of a magnificent labor victory there that day when the giant American working-class rises in its

The Strike Committee has outlined a sound policy:

No going back to work except on the basis of a signed

Direct negotiations between strike committee and management-no turning over of authority to negotiate to government

Extension of the strike to every General Motors plant in reformists in the park and stirred that lined the road of the parade.

Establishment of machinery to coordinate the strike and settlement activity on a national scale.

We call upon our Party throughout the land, upon the unions, the unemployed leagues, all working-class organizations, to provide genuine, constant and enthusiastic support to the strike. Respond to every call from the union for help! Assist Party?" will be debated Thursday in manning the picket lines! Call upon any General Motors plants still working to come out on strike! Picket the salesrooms and offices of General Motors! Refuse to buy any General Motors products, automobiles. Frigidaires, etc.!

For a victorious strike!

For decisive defeat of the anti-labor policy of the automobile barons

For a fighting national union of automobile workers! Workers in steel, textiles, rubber, automobiles, mining, every great industry, hear the call of Toledo!

Make the Chevrolet strike the signal for a general series of assaults upon the Roosevelt starvation policy and entrenched American capitalism!

## **May Day March** Biggestin Years | Irish Workers Clubs deserves special mention. This leaflet calls on the workers to "march on May Day

(Continued from Page 1)

siderably dampened by the maladroit arrangements which required

The meeting in the park itself which, except for the speech of Comrade James P. Cannon, was enmilitant, fighting spirit of the workers displayed throughout the parade. The reformist leaders of the unions and of the Socialist Party seemed more concerned to prove ism" to the park commissioner and the capitalist city government than to comply with the spirit of the May Day celebrations. That inof the unions on the march and left them grumbling at the kowtowing the working class. The banner of tactics of their leaders in the park

Cannon Alone Stresses Struggle In his brief speech at the Mall, Comrade Cannon introduced the only note of revolutionary tenor in the whole meeting, sharply distinguishing himself from Antonini, Waldman, Norman Thomas and company by stressing the struggle character of May Day as represented and expressed by the heroic strike in Toledo. He warned against ists and concluded that the only factor working for peace is the revolutionary struggle for the over throw of capitalism. Lively applause greeted his remarks. The speaker for the I.W.W. was cut off by Antonini in abject deference to the command of the park commis-

sioner to stop all speaking after the expiration of the "time limit" the leaders had supinely agreed to. 400 members and sympathizers of the Workers Party gathered at Germania Hall in the evening to round off the day with a celebra for the Spartacus Youth League Fourth International, and Comrades Cannon and E. R. McKinney, speaking for the party, those present with appeals to inpractice them will give way to the ation four abreast the Party com-

still makes the mass of the workers a halt at attention. A wary of a united front with them, spread over the park. reformist union leaders and the S. sire for a true united front between P. "old guard" at Central Park. | all working class parties

By BILL SHERMAN

POLICE HERO

Philadelphia, April 2-Nicholas Scafidi, a policeman who received the Bok award of \$1,000 for bravery in 1928, was sentenced today to serve from 7 to 20 years in the Western Penitentiary for robbery. (News item.)

FASCIST FUTURE FORETOLD

Mussolini, fat and comfortable, spoke to 15,000 Italian workers on April 28. "I know you well. I read in your eyes what are your most intimate hopes and your spirit. I know you are not looking for a comfortable life."

AS RARE AS ALBINO FROGS

"A Socialist Party is a party of the workers. It is a revolutionary Each party member must have his voice in the formation of party program. . . . He must have the right within the party to agitate for changes in management, in program, in tactics. . . But he must confine his efforts to party circles. No Socialist carries his party differences to the capitalist press. . . . No Socialist ever splits his ticket. . . . Every Socialist is first and foremost a discipline propagandist for socialism." Editorial, Socialist Call. Would someone give the habitat of such a Socialist Party and such Socialists as described here? Around these parts they are as rare as albino frogs.

TWO OF A KIND

"Me an' Morgan ain't taxable," say the headlines quoting Dutch Schultz. The comparison of Schultz with the big tax dodger, J. P. Morgan, is certainly apt.

RED OR GREEN BANNERS?

Among the many leaflets issued by the Communist Party and its satellites, the one issued by the Irish Workers Clubs deserves spethe workers to "march on May Day to Union Square under our green banner."

AGAIN PEACE

"House votes \$407,805,261 Bill for navy of treaty strength. Every move to cut appropriation is blocked. Measure calls for 24 new ships, 555 airplanes and an increase with funds from a PWA allotment. At a speed unprecedented in world history this and other nations are preparing for war.

### Phila. W. P. in **May Day Unity**

PHILADELPHIA, May 1-Not in words but by stirring action did the Workers Party, Phila. Branch show how much it desires the unity of the Workers Party flew proudly on the platform in Reyburn Plaza throughout the whole day. From twelve o'clock noon when together with the Socialist Party and many trade unions, the Party marched into the square, until three o'clock, when the Socialist Party closed its meeting the Workers Party banner was side by side with the banner of the other labor organizations Then amid the hush that followed the closing of the meeting, comrade Roberts of the party steppe 1 to the micropaone and in the name of the Party invited the fifteen thousand workers to stay and participate in the Communist Party demonstration which was scheduled on Reyburn Plaza from 3 until 5 o'clock

Several hundred Stalinists booed when Comrade Roberts started to speak but his stirring appeal for unity of the working class changed when he had finished a mighty roar of approval went up 'om he

When the meeting was over the tion fitting for the day and for the Party and its sympathizers marched party, which embodies its essential in the Communist Party parade for spirit. Comrade Reva Craine spoke over two miles. Cheers for the Comrade Trotsky, and many other slogans were roared to the skies berated the cowardly tactics of the and to the interested thousands The end of the parade was just crease their activity and carry the as dramatic as had been the events

militancy of the party more deeply of the whole day. The parade was into the ranks of the unions, so that to end in a park several miles from such tactics and the leaders who Reyburn Plaza. In military formreal and inherent fighting spirit of rades and their sympathizers marched into the park. The path on both sides was lined with thou-The Communist Party parade, sands of Communists and their which had to be carried on separ- sympathizers as the Party marched ately because the sectarian and in behind their banner. In the censplitting tactics of former years | ter of the park the column came to and enables the reformist leaders stepped from the ranks. He raised to sabotage every move for united his hand and "Long live the Workaction, brought together about ers Party" rolled through the park. 50,000 and culminated in a mass Again he raised his hand: "Long meeting at Union Square. The live the United May Day" thundered which the Communist to the sky, with the cheers of the Party leaders introduced into it Communist Party comrades who was of the same kind as that of the could no longer hold back their de-