

# NEW MILITANT

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### Illinois Workers Plan New Hunger March

#### HIT SALES TAX Will Fight to Last Ditch Says IWA Leader

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—A call for a mass mobilization of the unemployed and relief workers of Illinois for a march on the state capital, Tuesday, May 21, was issued tonight by the Illinois Workers Alliance.

The instructions issued to 266 units in 81 counties were released following an emergency conference of the state board members held here. The call, issued by the executive board and signed by Edward C. Morgan, state chairman of the Illinois Workers Alliance said that "the unemployed refuse to starve while there are dozens of ways to raise relief funds."

"The state executive board feels that it is absolutely necessary to vigorously oppose the attempts to starve the unemployed and dispossessed of Illinois," the call stated. "The fight against the sales tax and for the reopening of relief stations continues. We will fight to the last ditch in defending the bread and butch of our people."

#### Calls for National Support

The call of the state executive board of the national movement of the jobless in the fight to reopen the relief stations in this state. "The courageous expression of our Illinois membership in its effective resistance against the closing of relief stations and in opposing the sales tax is commendable," Rasmussen said. "It has aroused the membership in all parts of the country. It is our intention to throw the full support of every affiliate and sympathetic group behind the march of the Illinois Workers Alliance."

"The Workers Alliance of America calls upon all grades unions and other labor organizations to support the fight of our state division. It is imperative that an iron front of the jobless and employed workers be effected in this march. This is a fight that will decide whether the common people of Illinois are to be reduced to further exploitation or whether they will bring to a stop the disgraceful and abhorrent program of a reactionary class government."

### New Castle Jobless Storm Relief Office

By FRED RAYBURN

NEW CASTLE, Pa., May 13.—Despite attempts of local and state police to break their ranks the Co-operative Workers of America are continuing to picket relief offices here. The C. W. of A. is a local unemployed organization with branches throughout Lawrence and adjoining counties. The picketing started on May 2 with the demand for adequate cash relief and the stopping of evictions.

On Thursday evening, May 9, while Governor Earle was preparing to address the American Legion in the "Cathedral," a delegation of the C. W. of A. demanded his appearance before them. The attempt of his secretary to speak in his behalf was turned down by the delegation. Smoked out, the Governor appeared and arranged a meeting at his office in Harrisburg on May 13.

While the delegation was in Harrisburg interviewing the Governor a mass demonstration took place at the local relief office. George Papcun of the Workers Party was the principal speaker. In a spirited and timely address comrade Papcun brought the workers a message of struggle.

A mass meeting is planned by the Workers Party, New Castle branch, in the near future on the program of the Workers Party with comrade Papcun as the speaker.

#### A. J. Muste to Broadcast On Radio May 30, 10 P.M.

Comrade A. J. Muste, National Secretary of the Workers Party, will speak over station WJZ on an NBC hook-up on Thursday, May 30 at 10 P.M. He will represent the revolutionary point of view of the Workers Party in a symposium in which Norman Thomas of the Socialist Party and Lawrence Dennis, Fascist, will represent opposing opinions. All readers of the New Militant and friends of the W. P. are urged to tune in on this broadcast. It is the first time a leading spokesman of the party has given its position over a nationwide hook-up.

### ILGW Pledges To Support Ill. Relief Battle

Prompt action in protest against the stopping of all unemployment relief in Illinois, was taken today by the Dressmakers Union Local 22 of the I.L.G.W.U., an organization of 30,000 workers, one of the largest in the American Federation of Labor. In response to the appeal issued by the Workers Alliance, a national organization of the unemployed, Charles S. Zimmerman, manager of the dressmakers union, immediately wired to Governor Henry Horner of Illinois, vigorously scoring the stopping of relief to the millions of jobless in Illinois and pledging the support of his powerful organization in the fight. The telegram follows in full:

"Thirty Thousand Members of Dressmakers Union Local Twenty-two, I.L.G.W.U., affiliated with the A. F. of L., protest emphatically stopping relief to Illinois jobless. We place our strength and influence behind Illinois Workers Alliance in its fight against hunger and misery and join them in their demand that relief stations be reopened."

A similar protest has been sent to Harry Hopkins, head of the FERA in Washington. At the same time, the dressmakers union sent a message of solidarity and support to Gerry Allard of the Illinois Workers Alliance in Springfield, Illinois.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—3500 union bakers went on strike this morning, demanding a signed contract which guarantees an increase of \$1.65 in the weekly wage scale, elimination of compulsory insurance, and a reduction in the number of day-rate hours.

The strike will also affect 400 union bread salesmen, who will have no bread to deliver. Five of the smaller bakeries have accepted the terms of the union bakers.

### Wage Levels Hit New Low as FDR 'Redistributes' Wealth

NEW YORK (FP). — \$21.86! That's the weekly wage of America's average factory worker after two years of the New Deal. It's the figure for March, 1935, as reported by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Skilled workers received a little more than that—\$24.25. But unskilled found, on the average, only \$17.85 in their pay envelopes, and women workers in industry were paid an even smaller amount, \$15.47.

The general average has risen since March, 1933. Then it was \$14.56. A year later it had climbed to \$20.53. In February of this year it reached \$22.09, but since then it has slipped again.

This \$21.86 represents a monetary wage boost, but only a doubtful gain in real wages. Food prices have jumped at least 35 percent during the same period, government statistics reveal. Clothing and home furnishings cost about 25 percent more than they did when Roosevelt came into office, and rent and other

### Youth Confab Swayed by SYL In Minneapolis

#### Left Wing Delegates Carry the Field

By REGINALD L. BURKE  
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Left wing delegates acting in concert with the Spartacus Youth League in a surprise attack on the reactionary sponsors of the Minnesota "Youth Today Conference" succeeded in wresting away control of the conference.

Overriding the "harmless" plans of the Minneapolis Community Fund, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Junior League, and other individual capitalist and social bigwigs, they passed resolutions favoring the right of youth to strike, opposing militarization, and calling for a solution of the capitalist impasse by the socialist planned economy. A revealing development of the conference was the refusal of Young Communist League delegates to vote for the resolution for a socialist economy.

The Spartacus Youth League of Minneapolis prepared a pamphlet which was issued to the five hundred delegates as they entered the Hotel Hotel where the conference was held. The pamphlet pointed out that the conference was part of a nation-wide move "to mobilize the energy and enthusiasm of Youth for the upholding of the very social system which today dooms millions of young men and women to a future of impotence and despair."

The real purpose of the conference, said the pamphlet, was to demonstrate to wealth contributors that the various social agencies, such as the Community Fund, fulfilled a conservative function in diverting the youth to harmless pursuits.

"The sponsors of the program have very shrewdly arranged it, so they hope, so as to annul the natural radicalism of youth, which if given free play would bring all their plans to naught."

The pamphlet then proceeded to point out how the conference should be organized so that the control could be wrested from the reactionaries.

The pamphlet created a sensation, both among the youth and among the sponsors. The latter, taken completely at a loss, tried several tricks to prevent its circulation. Social workers and members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce came to the distributors and said, "These are just the things we want; give us all you got; we want to distribute them in the meeting for you." Their devices failed, however, to stop the distribution.

Nor did any of the parliamentary tricks of the reactionaries in the meeting itself avail them; the convention swung solidly behind the progressive forces, who good naturedly tolerated the presence of Walter Pitkin (famous windbag, author of "Life Begins at Forty," "How to Get a Job," and other humorous works) who was supposed

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#### Expelled Professor



WINSLOW N. HALLETT

### Allentown CLU Backs Teacher In College Fight

#### N.P.L.D. Organizes Wide Campaign for Reinstatement

ALLENTOWN, Pa., May 22.—Professor Winslow N. Hallett of Cedar Crest College, dismissed for his labor activities by the Board of Trustees, has been joined in his fight for reinstatement in the local college by the Allentown Central Trades and Labor Council and the Pennsylvania Unemployed League.

The central body appointed a committee of four to see the college trustees. If Professor Hallett is not reinstated by May 23, the central body is committed to launching a campaign against the college Professor Hallett, treasurer of local 359 of the American Federation of Teachers, is a delegate to the Central Trades and Labor Council.

#### P.U.L. Protests

The Pennsylvania Unemployed League passed a resolution denouncing the dismissal of Dr. Hallett as a move against organized labor and notified its county organizations to take action. Dr. Hallett is active in the Lehigh County Unemployed League.

Florence Curtis Hanson, national secretary of the American Federation of Teachers, has pledged the support of the national organization to Dr. Hallett's fight for reinstatement. The Allentown and Philadelphia teachers locals have condemned the college trustees. Through the Non-Partisan Labor Defense, North Dakota State College local of the teachers has pledged its support of Dr. Hallett and is rallying Northwestern labor organizations to his fight.

President William F. Curtis and the Board of Trustees of Cedar Crest have refused to give any reason for Dr. Hallett's dismissal. The formal notice contained no charges. The American Association of University Professors, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the American Federation of Teachers have all requested a written statement of the reasons for his dismissal but have been met with stony silence by the trustees. In conversations with Dr. Hallett, however, President Curtis definitely stated that his teaching ability was in no way in question, and admitted that his work in the unions and the unemployed organization were the basis for the trustees' action.

#### Church Considers Case

The Eastern Synod of the Reformed Church, with which Cedar Crest College is connected, is now in session, and liberal ministers have pledged themselves to bring Dr. Hallett's case on the floor of the convention. The Church League for Industrial Democracy, the League for Industrial Democracy, the Non-Partisan Labor Defense and the Committee on Academic Freedom of the Civil Liberties Union have sent telegrams urging the synod to demand Dr. Hallett's reinstatement.

Letters of protest should be sent to the President and Board of Trustees, Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pa.

HARTFORD, Conn. (FP)—Wage boosts have ended a 17-day strike of more than 1,500 union teamsters in the Connecticut valley.

### Central Union Slams Dillon For Settlement

#### Worse than Hitler Toledo Body Finds

TOLEDO, May 17.—The Toledo Central Union, organ of the Toledo Central Labor Union, bears sharp witness to the bare-faced treason of Green, Dillon and Co. in the Chevrolet strike. In addition to the story of the settlement, the paper bears a three column editorial headed "Mussolini—Hitler—Dillon." To quote: "The strikers voted not to allow Dillon the privilege of addressing them until after the vote was taken. When Mr. Dillon came into the meeting hall the animosity felt against him by the workers manifested itself in loud boos from all sides... he flew into a violent rage and told the officers of the union that the charter of the union was revoked... when Taylor tried to pacify him he showed even more plainly his inability to stand the guff... He left the hall amid the boos of the workers who bitterly resented his autocratic and dictatorial attitude."

#### Dillon's Dictatorship

"His dictatorship however had the desired effect. The officers of the union, fearing this one man who had the power to take away from thousands of workers the union charter that they had paid for in strife suffering and money, pleaded with him to return."

"Never in the history of the labor movement have I witnessed such a case of domination, such an arrogant disregard of the rights of workers or such a positive dictatorship over free Americans as was shown by this representative of the A. F. of L. who is hired out of money paid into the Federation treasury by per capita tax on the rank and file."

"Dillon was not alone in assisting the writing of an agreement which was 95 percent in favor of the company. J. A. Wilson, ex-president of the Pattern Makers Association of America, was sent here according to reports as the direct representative of President Green."

"The sabotage practiced against the workers by these high hat, well paid and well fed individuals beggars description in polite language."

#### In Fitting Company

"Mussolini, Hitler, nor any of the present dictators could possibly take a more arrogant stand. The cheap lauding of Mr. Knudson (vice president of the G.M.C.) through the public press by Mr. Dillon had the subservient ring of a political job holder. It is now up to the local unions in Toledo and elsewhere to find out from President Green if hired organizers are placed in the field under his instructions to act as dictators, and to force the rank and file to vote as dictated under pain of being put out of the labor movement."

"If that is the policy of those elected as officers in the A. F. of L. the quicker we workers know it the sooner we will be able to start a fight for American freedom by pursuing the labor movement of dictators who live off the per capita tax of we workers."

### COOLIE WAGES Low Scales Will Drive All Union Rates Down

#### 'Fear of Strikes' Disturbs Bill Green — Would Rather Talk

In the days when black slavery was legal in the South, the slaves had security. They were worth something to their owners; and as a consequence were fed, clothed and sheltered, and given medical care, so that they might be strong and healthy.

The work relief rates just issued by "our" President Roosevelt as a part of his "security" program legalize a new slavery in the South, a slavery of starvation and nakedness, without shelter, without medical care, an endless, hopeless, dismal, slavery that guarantees to millions of "free" Americans an existence worse than that of Indian Pariahs.

#### The Very Minimum

\$19.00 per month is not the minimum wage, as the newspapers headline. Unskilled Southern workers may consider themselves lucky to receive \$19 a month. Not only has Harry Hopkins the right to vary wages within ten per cent, which immediately sets the minimum at \$17.10 instead of \$19.00, but the wages are not paid "for time lost because of voluntary absence, illness, completion or postponement of project, or permanent dismissal."

A worker trying to support himself, his wife and his children, to pay rent, buy food and clothes for all on a wage of \$19 a month may be excused if he is ill from "under-nourishment" or "exposure." But if he is ill his pay ceases, and he must go through the red tape of getting back on relief. The worker falls ill because his wages are too low—according to Roosevelt's "security" program the remedy is to cut his wages, and let the man and his family starve to death while waiting to get on relief.

"The workers' wages depend on the completion or postponement of the project." Every time a job is finished, or postponed by some governmental whim, the worker loses even his pittance during the period when he is neither working nor on relief.

"\$19 a month is not at all the minimum. It is cut in the provisions of the order itself to \$17.10, and will be cut in practice to even lower scales."

Truly the slaves of the old South were fortunate not to live in the era of Roosevelt "Security."

#### Lower Everywhere

\$19 per month is the lowest scale in the lowest zone, the deep South. If the scale will be lower in practice there, it will be proportionately lower throughout the country.

In order to bring every last possible penny out of the unemployed three divisions have been created. The country is divided into four zones, the wages varying according to zone. Labor has been divided into four categories, unskilled, intermediate, skilled, and professional, wages varying according to category. Finally the places of work within the zones are divided according to population, cities of over 100,000, cities of over 50,000, towns of over 25,000, over 5000, and under 5000, wages varying again according to size of the city.

Thus \$19 is set for work in zone 4, for unskilled labor in towns of less than 5000.

The highest wage, for professional, in zone 1, the North, in cities of more than 100,000 is \$94 a month.

#### How Scales Were Determined

The wage scales, say the reports, were determined by checking wage data with other wage information, including civil works earnings, weekly earnings in private industry, construction wage data, etc."

Apparently the procedure followed, was to obtain the lowest possible wage rates from every source, divide the resultant average by two, and proclaim the result as a profound study of the wage levels of workers.

A comparison of wage scales of the Roosevelt relief program with the scales on the PWA shows a catastrophic drop. Under the PWA in the South, zone 4, unskilled labor received 40 cents an hour, skilled labor \$1.00. Under the new "security" program unskilled labor receives 19 cents per hour in cities of over 100,000 (12 cents an hour in rural districts), skilled labor receives 42 cents and hour in cities

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#### Readers Attention! Change of Address

From June 1 the address of the Workers Party, the Spartacus Youth League, the International Workers School, the New Militant and the New International will be 55 East 11th Street, New York City. The Pioneer Publishers remains at the present address, 96 Fifth Avenue.

### Key Lumber Plants Walk Out Industry Tied Up on West Coast

SEATTLE (FP).—With the industry's key plants in Longview finally affected by the strike, 35,000 timber workers are confidently holding their ranks firm.

In an attempt to keep workers at the Long Bell and Weyerhaeuser mills at Longview from going out, the operators offered a peace proposal granting 50 cents an hour, a 40-hour week with time and a half, and recognition of the Sawmill and Timber Workers Union, but not the closed shop. This was rejected by an 8 to 1 vote and 3,000 mill workers walked out.

Strikers are demanding union recognition, abolition of the blacklist, 75 cents an hour, and a 5-day, 30-hour week. Refusal of the Longview workers to accept a separate agreement has strengthened the sentiment for a uniform agreement for the whole industry.

Longview pulp, paper and sulphite workers expect to be out by May 29, the present contract expiring on May 26. The local has al-

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