

NEW MILITANT

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N. P. L. D. to Appeal Criminal Syndicalist Case in Sacramento

NATIONAL ISSUE

Campaign Planned in Labor Movement of Entire Country

First steps to raise the recent Sacramento criminal syndicalism convictions to the level of a nationwide fight with broad, aggressive labor backing, were announced yesterday by the Non-Partisan Labor Defense.

Termed a national "test case" by the Hearst press, and hailed by the California reactionaries as a "model for all states," the Sacramento convictions have become the basis of a drive for new anti-labor laws. The N.P.L.D. has called a conference for Monday afternoon to seek united labor action on behalf of the eight Sacramento prisoners and against the type of prosecution which convicted them.

The N.P.L.D., representing Norman Mini, who refused probation and is now serving a 1 to 14 years sentence in San Quentin, has invited to the conference the International Labor Defense, which represents Mini's seven fellow-prisoners; the National Labor Secretary of the Socialist Party, charged with the S. P.'s defense work; the American Civil Liberties Union; and the General Defense Committee of the I. W. W. The Workers Party, of which the defendant Norman Mini is a member, and many trade unions have already endorsed the work of the N.P.L.D. in the Sacramento case.

If progress is made at this meeting and basis for cooperation laid, expansion of the united defense movement should be relatively easy to achieve, the N.P.L.D. announcement states. Thus far acceptance of the invitation to the conference have been received from the A. C. L. U. and the Socialist Party. The G.D.C. has not yet reached a decision but has acknowledged receipt of the invitation. The I.L.D. alone has not answered the invitation.

Socialist Party Reply
In replying to the N.P.L.D., Paul Porter, National Labor Secretary of the Socialist Party, underlines the N.P.L.D.'s view of the Sacramento fight as one on behalf of trade union and democratic rights which can be won only by a combined legal and mass defense. After outlining S. P. activities in support of the trial defense in Sacramento, Porter goes on to say:

"Despite the fact that we have no political agreement either with the members of the Communist Party or the one member of the Workers Party among the defendants, we are prepared to participate in joint action to aid their appeal against the infamous verdict of Sacramento. Whether or not practical arrangements satisfactory to your organization (N.P.L.D.) to the I.L.D., to our party and to the other organizations you mention, can be made, remains to be seen. Our California comrades, after their experiences in the Sacramento trial, are very sceptical of the possibility of joint work with the I.L.D. We are not without such scepticism ourselves. So important is the issue at stake, however, . . . that we do not wish to close the door on the possibility of joint action. Only a conference such as you suggest can answer the question practically."

Porter's letter concludes by asking the N.P.L.D. to convey the greetings of the National Labor Committee of the S. P. to the Sacramento prisoners, and by naming as delegates of the S. P. to the joint conference Murray Baron, New York trade unionist, and Jack Altman, Business Manager of the Socialist Call.

The N.P.L.D. provided the trial attorney, Albert Goldman of Chicago, and a complete defense for Norman Mini, who was convicted along with the seven others due to the superior pressure on the jury of the labor-hating forces of the state. The N.P.L.D. also bailed out two Communist Party defendants, after the I.L.D. failed to do so for six months; got wide publicity and considerable union backing for all the defendants; built a unified defense movement in California, including the state organization of the S. P., which was soon disrupted by the I.L.D. and C.P. The N.P.L.D. after the trial obtained from a

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Radio Symposium Brings Thousands of Letters

Thousands of letters commenting on the symposium between Thomas, Dennis and Muste have been received by the offices of the League for Political Education under whose auspices the radio broadcast was held. Comrade A. J. Muste defended Communism against his Socialist and Fascist opponents. In a brilliant address, printed in the last issue of the New Militant, Muste pointed to the glaring defects of capitalist society and the need for communism. Workers from many parts of the country have written in, displaying keen interest in the program of the W. P. and commending him on his masterful treatment of the subject.

Slug Pickets in Brutal Sally on Packing Strike

Mayor Praises Police After Attack in Columbus

(Special to New Militant)

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—Eight weeks of grim picketing of the Columbus Packing Co. were climaxed Friday, May 31, by one of the most disgusting instances of flagrant strike-breaking ever perpetrated by any police force.

The meat cutters, members of Local 346, struck when the Company refused to sign a new closed shop contract to replace the one which had expired. Conditions in the plant had driven the workers to a state of desperation. Even under the closed shop, the maximum wage had been about \$8.00 per week, a terrible speedup had been instituted, and many had been forced to apply for supplementary relief.

Immediately, Truck Drivers Local 413 went out on a sympathy strike. The picketing lagged at a slow pace until the entrance of the Franklin County Unemployed League revitalized the strike. Arthur Wedemeyer and James Van Meter, members of the Workers (Continued on Page 3)

Mass Picket Line For Hallett Defense

ALLENTOWN, Pa., June 7.—A mass picket line thrown around Cedar Crest College campus on Monday, June 10, Commencement Day, will be the answer of the trade unions and the Unemployed Leagues to the summary dismissal of Professor Winslow N. Hallett. Plans were completed today for a mobilization of a thousand workers to confront the college authorities and demonstrate to graduates and visitors the indignation of organized labor against the college's refusal to reinstate Dr. Hallett.

ALLENTOWN, Pa. June 6.—With impressive backing from the trade unions, a mass protest meeting was held last night to defend Dr. Winslow N. Hallett, recently dismissed by Cedar Crest College authorities because of his pro-labor activities. Professor Sidney Hook, chairman of the Department of Philosophy of New York University, and Felix Morrow, secretary of the Non-Partisan Labor Defense, were the chief speakers. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Hallett Defense Committee, on which the Central Trades and Labor Council and the leading unions of Allentown are represented.

Earlier in the day, the Cedar College Board of Trustees held a meeting and refused to permit Dr. Hallett to appear to defend himself. The trustees issued a resolution denying that Dr. Hallett was dismissed because he organized the Allentown Local of the American Federation of Teachers and was active in the Pennsylvania Unemployed League, but giving no other reasons why he was fired. To date requests of various professional and labor organizations for a statement of charges against Dr. Hallett have not been answered by the trustees.

Drive Begins for Eight-Page New Militant by August First

Interesting Features and Educational Articles Will Be Attraction in Enlarged Paper; Members, Sympathizers Urged to Support

Beginning August first, Anti-War Day, the New Militant will appear as an eight page publication in an enlarged eight-column format.

With this change we will make a new and a great leap forward. Double space will be available for more news from the field of the class struggle, about the activities of the trade union militants, and for new features as well as for analytical and theoretical articles. The New Militant should become doubly effective—in reality a popular paper and fundamental in character.

The need for this change is obvious. Throughout the country the workers find themselves today face to face with new attacks upon their standard of living and new attacks against their organizations. Momentous battles are on the order of the day. Great events are in the making on an international scale where the extension of Fascism is threatening and the imperialist powers are rushing headlong into another world war. To us this can mean only a much greater responsibility necessitating first of all the strengthening of our party press. This we have accepted as a duty that brooks no delay.

To measure up to this responsibility we will need the most complete cooperation from every party member, from every friend and from every supporter.

Our plans call for a two months campaign to strengthen the party press and to lay the foundation for the eight page weekly. Comrade Swabeck has been placed in charge of carrying this out. During the campaign we aim to accomplish the following:

1. To establish a SECURITY FUND through pledges of monthly payments for a period of one year or six months, with the first installment payable when the first issue of the eight page weekly appears. The goal for this security fund is to be \$50.00 monthly for the first six months at least.

2. Collection of \$2,000 cash contributions for launching the eight-page weekly, including the acquisition of needed additional machinery. To help us reach this goal we make the following requests:

a. That each Party member who is employed contribute a DAY'S PAY to the eight-page weekly.
b. That all our readers and supporters solicit ADVANCE SUBSCRIPTIONS for the eight-page weekly at \$2.00 for a yearly sub, \$1.00 for six months and 65c for three months. One feature of the advance solicitation will be a special three

months subscription in clubs of four, purchasable at \$1.50, prepaid, and selling at 40c each sub.

c. Solicitation of GREETINGS TO THE EIGHT PAGE WEEKLY to be printed in the first issue at 25c per name and \$1.00 per column inch greeting adv.

d. Solicitation of specially increased bundle orders of the first eight-page issue with efforts for effective distribution made accordingly and followed up by increased bundle order sales. The price for single copies will be 5 cents and in bundle orders to agents 3 cents a copy.

e. Special affairs to be arranged by the party branches to greet the appearance of the eight-page weekly and with proceeds to go to the New Militant.

f. Systematic efforts to obtain regular advertisements for the eight-page weekly.

Plans are now being worked out for the establishment of a first class editorial staff and for proposals for the contents and the new and additional features to be carried by the eight-page weekly. Announcements of these plans will be made during the progress of the campaign.

There will be premiums, in the form of valuable books, offered for the best sub getters during this campaign and special inducements for the prospective subscribers as well as for those who send in the most greetings to the eight-page weekly or otherwise carry on particularly effective work for its realization. Announcements will be made in respect to this aspect in future issues.

Material for this campaign will be in the mails within the next couple of days. Meanwhile those of our comrades, readers and supporters who are especially interested in seeing the greatest possible speed applied in reaching the goal set for the eight-page weekly, do not wait! Get to work right away and forward your contributions. Send in your suggestions for the campaign. From this end we shall meet our promise. We feel sure that we are in a position to produce an eight-page weekly that will become a worthy and an authentic spokesman for the revolutionary forces in the United States—a real weapon in the class struggle and an effective organizer for the American and world revolution!

Forward your contribution to lay the foundation for the eight-page weekly. Make all checks and money orders payable to the New Militant, 55 East 11th Street, New York, N. Y.

Ohio Jobless to Meet on June 7

Protest Splitting Move by W.A.A. Chairman In State

(By Special Correspondent)

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—The Executive Committee of the Ohio Unemployed League, in pursuance to a proposal by President Wm. R. Truax, has called a state-wide conference to meet here on June 7-8.

The chief business will be the consideration of the new work relief set-up and the most effective way to combat the latest attempt of the Roosevelt administration to break down wage standards. The last conference of the O.U.L. in March of this year brought over 400 delegates from all parts of the state.

The O.U.L. office reports that it is receiving indignant protests from leagues throughout the state over the announcement that the Workers Alliance of America, David Lasser, chairman, is to hold a state "convention" in Columbus later in June. "What is the idea," writes one county U. L. secretary, "of the W.A.A. coming into Ohio where a state league with tens of thousands of members has existed for over two years and a hundred militant struggles have been fought by the workers under its leadership? Is this promoting unity among the unemployed? What is the difference between the tactic of the Socialist Party leaders of the W.A.A. and the tactic of the now defunct Unemployed Councils who talked united front and practiced disruption? The W.A.A. will no more be able to serve the workers or even to survive at all on this false basis than were the Councils."

Local leagues in the mining section of the state, where Bill Green is well and not favorably known, the asking what kind of an understanding there is between Lasser and Bill Green!

Proposals for a state-wide strike for union rates on relief jobs and for a mass convention of thousands of unemployed and relief workers in Columbus next month, will be considered at Saturday's conference of the Ohio Leagues.

BOSTON (FP).—A New England regional council of teamsters' unions looms as the result of the recent successful strike which tied up motor transportation in western Massachusetts, Connecticut, etc.

N. C. of W. P. to Hold Plenum

The second regular Plenary Session of the National Committee of the Workers Party of the U.S. will be held in New York City, June 14-16.

The meeting will be devoted chiefly to the discussion of fundamental political problems which confront the working class today. Among these are the relations of the Party to the parties and groups in other countries standing on the same program and what steps can and should be taken, in view of the war danger, toward building the Fourth International; developments in the Communist and Socialist parties and the relation of the W. P. towards these organizations; the meaning of recent events in the Soviet Union with special attention to the Franco-Soviet pact; the collapse of the NRA and the perspectives before the American working class.

The work of the party in the trade union field, the unemployed movement and in labor defense will be evaluated and the policy of the Party in these fields elaborated. On the basis of the political decisions, the organizational problems before the party will be dealt with and plans for the summer period outlined.

In this connection careful attention will be given the campaign to make the Party's weekly organ, the New Militant, an eight-page paper by Anti-War day, August first. The Political Committee has already approved this proposal and the National Office is giving the fullest support to the editorial and business staff of the paper in carrying it into effect.

LUMBER STRIKERS WIN INITIAL VICTORY

BREMERTON, Wash. (FP).—The strike of 40,000 men in the logging and sawmill industry in the Pacific northwest got its first taste of victory when the McCormick Lumber Co. settled on a 40-hour week and 50c an hour minimum scale. The previous rate was 45 cents. It has mills in Washington and Oregon.

The strike is still spreading. Federal mediators and union higher-ups are having a hard time in negotiations because there are 1,500 employing firms and because the men, having taken a lot of dirt the last ten years from the bosses, are in no mood to settle unless they get real gains.

Terror Is Used Against Bakers

Solidarity Will Win Strike, Union Leader Says

The third week of the strike of Local 50 of the Bakery and Confectionary Workers International Union finds organized labor pledged to help the men carry on. Financial aid has already come in from many locals in the International. Other A. F. of L. locals have also voted similar aid. The strike is directed against the Gottfried Baking Co. plants of Manhattan and the Bronx. The Baking Trust is lined up solid to smash the strike.

Plans for a mass picketing demonstration are now being worked out as an answer to the attacks of the company's thugs on strike pickets. Such attacks coupled with arrests, police intimidation and fake advertisements in the boss press are the means employed by the company in an effort to overcome the splendid solidarity and spirit of the strikers. On May 22, two strikers, Irving Bach and A. Mueller were first fired on and then brutally attacked with blackjacks by a gang of gorillas led by two of the Gottfried brothers.

Face Smashed In
Bach whose face was smashed beyond recognition is still in the hospital. In other cases where the strikers were not so badly outnumbered the Gottfried gangsters met with such a reception that they will think twice the next time before attacking the fighting men of Local 50. Several strikers have been pinched on cooked-up charges.

Herman Gund, manager of Local 50, interviewed at his office at 709 Broadway, stated that the spirit of the strikers was not only not dimming in face of the boss's terror but rather that it was increasing. Workers throughout the city are refusing to buy the scab bread and many stores, after being picketed, are refusing to handle the scab made products of the Gottfried Baking Co. Mr. Gund paid high tribute to the solidarity of the men on strike. Aid from other sections of the labor movement is coming in, and, he added, "With a continuation of this spirit and solidarity plus the support of organized labor we will be sure to win."

READ THE NEW MILITANT.

Toledo Edison Strike Is Called Off After Paralyzing Industry

Article on Franco-Soviet Alliance on Page Three

On page three of this issue of the New Militant we print a lengthy analysis of the Franco-Soviet Alliance by the International Secretariat of the International Communist League. The impending war will place all working class parties to the highest test. But even today these organizations are laying the groundwork for their future position. The Stalin-Laval communique has definitely committed the Communist parties to a position of social patriotism, i.e., defense of their capitalist fatherlands. We recommend the careful, deliberate study of this article to every revolutionary worker who wants to know how to cope with the problem of war when it comes.

A.F.L. Leaders Split Ranks of Canton Strike

Succeed After Bosses Guns, Clubs and Gas Fail

By JACK WILSON

CANTON, Ohio, June 3.—After successfully resisting for over a week the ruthless terrorism of the Republic Steel Co. here to break up the picket lines, nearly 7,000 steel workers at six plants found themselves split by a more insidious force than the clubs, guns and gas bombs of company thugs—the treachery of A. F. of L. bureaucrats whose misleadership was directly responsible for the "go-back-to-work" vote passed by over half the strikers.

Although 75 workers were sent to hospitals, victims of five brutal provocative company thug attacks, the determination of the pickets to win union recognition was undaunted and firmer picket line was established after each attack than before. Public sympathy was entirely with the strikers as even bourgeois journals criticized the terrorism of the company.

Instead of crystallizing the anti-steel baron sentiment and building a more solid strike movement which spread spontaneously for two days to four plants, the A. F. of L. sent the notorious Akron rubber organizers, who betrayed the rubberworkers, into the scene and they permitted the city officials to hold an "independent" vote of workers on the question of returning to work, giving the company ample opportunity to propagandize for "peace" and thus breaking the back

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New Castle WP Gains In Intensive Drive

NEWCASTLE, Pa., June 1.—After several weeks of intensive activity the Workers Party Branch of Newcastle held a mass meeting May 28 on the "Purpose and Program of the Workers Party." It was enthusiastically received by a good crowd of workers present. The speaker at the meeting was Comrade George Papcun, Akron branch organizer. Comrade Papcun became known for his activities in Newcastle when he helped in the picketing of the relief office by the unemployed who are organized in the "Co-operative Workers of America."

The mass meeting by the Workers Party was a culmination of a series of mass meetings and demonstrations held by the unemployed of this city at which he spoke. As a result of this meeting and the work of the branch in Newcastle, the Workers Party succeeded in organizing a Spartacus Youth Club and has taken into the Party several new members with prospects of gaining more. The workers who came in and advanced from the picket line The branch expects to open a headquarters in Newcastle this week.

Comrade Slavin of Youngstown came down to help in the organization of the Spartacus Youth Club, and he busied himself with the details necessary in putting the Spartacus Youth League on the Newcastle map.

PRESS FRANTIC

Enormous Pressure Causes Cave-In of Strike

BULLETIN
As we go to press news comes from Toledo that the power strike which threatened to shut down power in a radius of 800 square miles and affecting twenty-three cities in three states has been called off pending negotiations on their demand for a 20 percent increase in wages. It is understood that these negotiations are to start Monday with officials of the Henry L. Doherty Company in New York, parent company of the Toledo Edison. Oliver Myers, business agent of the union, attributed the sudden termination of the strike to pressure "from many sources." The union workers voted 237 to 22 to end the strike. The men are to be paid in full for the day of the strike.

(Special to New Militant)

By ART PREIS

TOLEDO, Ohio, June 5.—A strike of employees of the Toledo Edison Co., which supplies the electrical power for Toledo, northwest Ohio, northeast Indiana and southeast Michigan, including a score of communities, began at 7:00 A.M. this morning. 500 maintenance, production and technical workers, members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 245, were the first to walk out. 125 office workers also struck and picketed the Toledo Edison Building. Plans for the strike, announced by Oliver Myers, business agent of the local, indicated that it will not be totally effective until tomorrow morning, as the shut-down will be progressive, only a portion of workers having been called on strikers today.

Hysteria has struck the local press, as well as all the other agencies and groups of the capitalist class of the city. Operation of industrial plants, street cars, street lights and other major sources of electrical consumption has not as yet been seriously curtailed.

Frenzied Attack on Strike
There is a strong possibility that the strike may be suspended or terminated before morning. Terrible pressure is being exerted from every side, press, government, "outstanding citizens," business and church groups—and the international officers of the union—upon the local strikers and their representatives to suspend the strike for arbitration or pending negotiations. A meeting of striking electrical workers will be held at midnight tonight to act upon the suggestion of the international officers that the strike be suspended pending further negotiations.

The striking office workers have already voted in meeting tonight to return to work if the maintenance, production and technical workers decide to accept the proposal of the international officers.

There is a strong feeling in organized labor circles here that such a move may prove to be disastrous for the strikers, as arbitration or negotiations without picket lines will mean another shell-game settlement which will give the workers nothing. Edward F. McGrady, Assistant Secretary of Labor, and notorious government strike-breaker who did such effective work here just three weeks ago in the Chevrolet strike, is expected on the scene momentarily.

Press Demands Violence
The company has already announced its intentions of operating the power and transmission plants in the face of mass picket lines. The newspapers are openly calling for police force and demanding that the plants be operated under any conditions. Should the strike continue and go into full effect, a certain amount of power will be brought into the city from outside Ohio communities. This will be sufficient only for emergency maintenance of electric power for hospitals and similar institutions, it is believed.

The question of the maintenance of the strike rests largely at present upon the position taken by Oliver Myers, in whom the almost sole leadership of the strike now rests. While Myers has been known to

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