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Europe Rocks on Brink of New World War

Dillon to Pack Convention of Auto Workers

Faker 'Somewhere in the West' Organizing Sky Blue Locals

By BURKE COCHRAN
TOLEDO, Ohio, Aug. 19.—Dillon and Co. are gridding their loins for the convention of the automobile workers to be held in Detroit, Aug. 26-31. The usually quiet office of Dillon at the Hoffman Building is bustling with activity. Dillon himself is reported to be "somewhere in the middle west." We are informed he will visit Cincinnati, various points in Wisconsin and also St. Louis.

The pleasant news is also released that in the last few weeks the American Federation of Labor has granted charters to two "large" locals in Detroit, while a third "large" local has applied for a charter and will receive one in time to participate in the convention. This spirited campaign of organization has not been confined to Detroit alone. Several cities in Wisconsin, in South Bend, Richmond, Ind., Waukegan, Ill., Cleveland, Ohio, Grand Rapids, Mich., Birmingham, Ala., etc. etc. have had new locals formed recently.

Toledo, because of the successful battles waged at Auto-Lite and the Chevrolet plants, has developed a comparatively strong and large progressive group, out to challenge the rotten "leadership" of Dillon. Toledo has therefore become in a certain sense the beacon light for the automobile workers throughout the country. Therefore the Toledo delegates had to be kept out of Detroit at all costs. Therefore even the discredited former business agent of the Toledo federal local 18394 was used by the executive board to put through a motion to have convention delegates hand-picked by the executive board. The president of the union refuses to allow any democratic discussion on the floor; all motions are ruled out of order; the convention call is not even read and twenty cops are stationed at the entrance of the union hall to terrorize the membership and to prevent any distribution of the progressive program.

The Flint Buick local, it will be recalled, wanted to strike in solidarity with Toledo, during the Chevrolet strike. Dillon had a pretty hard time keeping them out of the fight. It was rumored that some progressives were gaining influence in the Flint local. Therefore one of the militants, Killinger, is brought up on charges by Dillon. The executive committee drops the charges; Dillon proceeds to read him out of the union. No trouble-makers from Flint must be permitted to disturb the convention at Detroit.

Labor Skates "Not Interested"
The progressives are demanding an International union with full jurisdiction over all who work in or around automobile or automobile parts plants. This program is (Continued on Page 2)

Congress Passes Harmless Social Security Program

Big Business Unconcerned About Bill; Completely Ineffectual in Improving Workers Conditions; Passes Burden Onto Labor

By A. J. MUSTE
The Roosevelt administration attaches great importance to the passage of the Social Security Bill last week. The measure provides for federal subsidies for unemployment insurance, the setting up of an old age pension system by taxation of employers and workers, special subsidies for aged persons not covered in the contributory plan and subsidies for certain forms of child welfare.

It is set forth by the administration as a partial but substantial redemption of its pledges to do something for the "forgotten man" and to keep the big fellows in their place though not destroying the

foundations of the capitalist system itself. It is expected to be a vote-getter for Franklin D. in the 1936 elections. If the Supreme Court should declare this and other New Deal measures unconstitutional, Roosevelt still has his choice of campaigning next year as the champion of the masses against the reactionary few for a constitutional amendment; or if economic conditions are fairly good and discontent not sharp, forgetting about the whole business and campaigning as the man who brought back prosperity and did his best for the plain people.

Neither the present Social Security measure nor the other laws enacted by Congress in the closing days of its long session will do anything to relieve immediate distress. Not until the first of next year does a 1 percent tax on payrolls for unemployment insurance go into effect and the full 3 percent tax does not go into effect until January 1, 1938. The contributory old age annuity tax does not go into effect until January 1, 1937. Even after the tax goes into effect it will be some time, of course, before any benefits obtain. So far as the present and immediate future go the hammering away at wage standards via the WPA and other channels in the Rooseveltian gift to the masses. Social Security legislation is a cover under these conditions for the wage-cutting campaign. Little wonder that as the business organs report, no particular enthusiasm is being displayed by the workers over the passage of the act.

Big Business Indifferent
As for the business interests, they are expressing comparatively little alarm over this legislation. They are much more concerned about the measures relating to banking, security and public utilities which Congress is threatening to pass and which might in some slight degree interfere with the piling up of profits and with the "right" of private business to "manage its own affairs." There is good reason for the absence of intense alarm over the social security legislation. In the first place, as we have already pointed out, it is some time before these measures go into effect. In the second place, the

(Continued on Page 3)

Red Scare in Akron Heralds Convention
By RICHARD FERGUSON
AKRON, Aug. 19.—Having carefully laid the groundwork in its campaign against all progressives in the rubber units by a top-head-line blast: "Bar All Reds From International" in the Summit County Labor News, the A. F. of L. bureaucracy yesterday succeeded in outmaneuvering progressives at the Goodyear local, and secured the election of its own slate of "level-headed" delegates to the convention to establish a rubber workers International on September 12.

By utilizing a handful of misguided officials of the local who accused the progressives of "disrupting" the union, which has been so consistently betrayed by the A. F. of L. bureaucrats for over a year and a half with their sabotaging tactics of stalling and actual sell-out, the A. F. of L. "leadership" has shown just what sort of an international they hope to "give" the rubberworkers. The old trick of rounding up members who have long been inactive in the union for this special occasion to get their three delegates elected, was also successful. The progressives got two candidates as alternates.

Unionists in the other rubber locals in the city will profit further from the experience of their fellow progressives at Goodyear, for it is generally conceded that Coleman C. Claherty, rubber organizer, deliberately picked on Goodyear as being the weakest link in the progressives' chain.

The prospects of electing several progressive delegates from the Firestone and Goodrich unions are good, and with the help from at least three other, but smaller, progressive-controlled unions which have had even more bitter experience with Claherty, these delegates should put up a real fight. Information from the union in the deep south and far west indicate that these locals have suffered heavily from the demoralization following the April sell-out agreement.

Mooney Must Be Freed!
(Ed. Note: The Workers Party gives its wholehearted support to the following appeal by comrade Tom Mooney and urges all its members, friends and sympathizers to aid in the greatest cause labor has known.)

Dear Friend:
Our battle for justice is now entering its final stages—the hearings on my writ of habeas corpus begin on September 17 before the California Supreme Court.

Because of your splendid, unflinching support, I am making this personal plea. I am in desperate need of funds for the finishing of this fight, and I am asking you if you won't help me meet my legal expenses before the California Supreme Court—and the United States Supreme Court in the event that it becomes necessary.

I owe five thousand dollars, and it is ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY that I raise sufficient funds to finish this fight for my vindication. Last week I was down to my last penny, and had to secure a loan of five hundred dollars so that the attorneys could proceed with the taking of the depositions of the witnesses who are in the East and unable to appear before the Court.

Your loyal support has always touched the deepest emotions in my heart and it is with sincere regret that I am compelled to call upon you for financial assistance—which I will use for legal work exclusively.

Warm personal regards,
TOM MOONEY
3192L.

P. S. Direct all contributions and communications to Tom Mooney Molders' Defense Committee, Box 1475, San Francisco.

Dunne Slugged In Clash in Mpls. Hosiery Strike

Farmer-Labor Mayor Again Gives Scabs Police Protection

By Northwest Correspondent
MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 19.—Early this morning a mass picket line of five hundred workers battled with police as the latter escorted scores of strike-breakers into the Strutwear plant, where a strike of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers has been on since last Friday.

Roy Weir, organizer for the Central Labor Union in Minneapolis, has been acting as organizer at the Strutwear factory. Weir has been messing around with the situation for months, in a half-hearted, vacillating manner. Finally his hand was forced by the firing of eight union men by the company, with the result that the strike was called without adequate preparation or plan. The blame for the state of affairs is by no means all Weir's, however. Casebeer, an International official of the Hosiery Workers, has been in town for several days now, appearing at union meetings and on the picket line. Casebeer seems to be walking around in a daze, and clings to a policy even more vacillating and aimless than Weir's. Some local workers claim that, for an International official, this man certainly cuts a sorry figure. Others claim that for an International official, he is pretty good.

Last Thursday night it was finally announced that the strike would be called the following morning. Word was sent around, and on Friday morning enough pickets were on hand to block effectively any attempt on the part of the management to open up the plant. The Strutwear plant (which for years has followed a notorious anti-union and low-wage policy) employs about 1,100 workers, mostly young girls. The eight men who were fired, all skilled machine tenders, form the nucleus of the union. About ninety more workers had signed applications to join the union up to last Friday. Since then scores of other workers have come into the union, chiefly the men workers who do the skilled work of machine tending.

After Friday's skirmish, the plant was quiet over the week-end, though it was continually patrolled by a slight picket line.

Police Open Fire
At 5 o'clock Monday morning the picket line began to form around the entrance of the plant. By 6:30 there were 550 pickets and a good sized crowd in their squad cars, until there were 80 or so policemen on hand, the entire shift. Also there appeared on the scene one of the handsome brown armored cars which the police have insisted were purchased by the city solely to protect payrolls in transport.

Scores of 574 men were on the line, from both the General Drivers and the Federal Workers sections. (Continued on Page 2)

Don't Get Old in Missouri!

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—You can get a pension in the state of Missouri if (1) You do not starve to death or commit suicide before you reach the age of 70; (2) If you have been in the state at least (!) nine years and (3) If you can prove that you are destitute and in need of it.

This reactionary piece of legislation, which apparently sprang full blown from the Chamber of Commerce and its tools, the corrupt capitalist politicians, is hailed by the local A. F. of L. press as a great "victory" for the workers and a step forward in the legislative program for "social betterment."

The amount which the lucky ones are going to receive is \$45 a month for couples and \$30 a month for single persons. Six bits a day for the few days they have left after 70 as compensation for the many years of back-breaking toil they have rendered in producing wealth for parasites while eking out a bare existence for themselves—such is the reward that capitalism offers its worn out slaves when it can no longer grind profits from them in the industries.

Thousands Rubbed Off
Needless to say, there are thousands of working class mothers and fathers who will get nothing. They will be unable to prove their "worthiness" to the "expert" social workers who will take their applications. Many thousands of such old workers are not even getting relief, the discrimination against them being equal to that practised against the young workers.

And, of course, the nine years' residence in the state qualification will rule out thousands just as it (Continued on Page 3)

'Thieves Kitchen' Folds Up; Britain Capitulates

Mussolini on a Volcano! Writer Describes Crisis in Italy on the Eve of the Fascist Adventure in Ethiopia

By J. P. MARTIN
PARIS, July 24.—It is now as clear as day that no "compromise" can avert Mussolini's war in Ethiopia. Is this because of the grand manner of Mussolini or because Mussolini is less "peaceful" than the other statesmen? In fact, if one considers the new Italian campaign in Ethiopia from the juridical point of view, and were to take seriously the initial protests, that is to say, the so-called frontier incidents, the basis to the Italian flag and so forth, then Mussolini's undertaking does not appear as a reckless adventure. Millions are not spent nor are thousands of soldiers sacrificed 4,800 kilometers from home for the "honor" of the flag. The bourgeoisie itself scorns such child's play. The truth is that Mussolini would have delayed still further before taking this road, if the difficulties of the internal situation had not impelled him in that direction. It is in this situation that we must seek the cause of the new Italian campaign in Ethiopia and not in the incidents at Ual-Ual or in anything else.

But when Rome openly proclaims that it wants to occupy Abyssinia because "Italy needs to expand," this apparently brutal aim is proclaimed only to deceive the people and especially the toiling masses, who, moreover are not such easy victims to this deception. Forty years ago, in Crispien's time, they said the same thing: "need of expansion," the security of Italy." Since then they have spent millions and sacrificed thousands upon thousands of men for the conquest of other territories in Africa (Libia). Now, the total Italian inhabitants in Libia, Eritria and Somaliland is only around 50,000 (and they are for the most part traders), while the number of Italian emigres every year before the war was 500,000 and even a million. The density of population (137 per kilometer) and the importance of manual labor certainly are heavy problems for Italy which before the war found a relative solution in continental and overseas emigration. At the present time all doors are closed and it can be said that the number of expatriated is equal to the number of repatriated. (From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1931: expatriated—68,461; repatriated—49,827). Can a "road" be opened to the superabundant supply of manual labor by the pillage of Abyssinian territory? This is precisely what the Fascist press wants to have believed in order to justify its war of imperialist banditry in eastern Africa. But the people, as we shall see, are not being taken in by this deception.

Economic Crisis Wracks Italy
However, the imperialist struggle of the Italian bourgeoisie reveals a peculiar character which makes an examination necessary. A war such as Mussolini is about to undertake requires enormous capital (tens of millions); to "pacify" and to "colonize" conquered territories requires still greater available capital. Where will this capital be obtained if one takes into consideration that the annual Italian revenue does not exceed 60 millions, that the public debt has already risen to 152 million lire and that the State budget shows a growing deficit. Recourse to foreign capital will be necessary, as was the case in past wars. Thus, "the right of expansion" which the Italian bourgeoisie demands in the name of its "youth" (read: its "age," since it has come upon the scene very late in the partition of the world) is only the right to be admitted to the booty.

But whether or no they find the necessary foreign capital to carry through the occupation of Abyssinia undertaken by the Italian bourgeoisie the question here is one of division of profits between the thieves. Whatever the result of the handi work which Rome has resolved to make against the King of Kings, the cause of it is less the result of "expansion" which Italy pretends to need, than the attempt to avert the terrible crisis which grips the Fascist regime. This crisis wracks the whole of Italian capitalist society: In short, the new campaign in Abyssinia is a new attempt to prevent the revolution. Let us carefully examine the facts.

As we have already said, the Italian bourgeoisie came very late upon the scene in the division of the world (Continued on Page 3)

Duce Marches Full Speed to War in Africa

Only the International Working Class Can Defeat Him

By MARTIN A. GLEE
Not since the year 1914 has the world been so close to an armed struggle for imperialist conquest as it is today. The stage is all set. Mussolini is prepared to strike. Nothing will stop him. Late reports record the news that an Italian consul has been shot in Ethiopia. The record of pre-August 4, 1914 is again blaring forth its raucous tunes: War! War! War!

The vain and impossible efforts of the League of Nations to stop war has again been proved to the hilt. The Franco-British "peace" committee has collapsed. It has been impossible to reconcile the irreconcilable. If Mussolini has not struck till now, it is not because of man-made agencies, but because of man-made nature in the form of drenching rains and muddy trails that has kept it Duce's belligerency at bay. But now the rainy season in Ethiopia is almost over. In September the rain-soaked clouds will clear. It is then that fascist Italy will attempt its conquest in East Africa.

British Hypocrisy
Here it is necessary to emphasize again that this conflict cannot be localized. Too much imperialist booty is at stake. Too many contending influences are at play. Britain, because it has most to lose from an Italian conquest of Ethiopia, has made every effort to content Mussolini with practically unlimited economic control of most of Ethiopia; but Mussolini wants all. So it is hoping for a speedy solution by Italy before the colonial masses of Africa are aroused and before the Italian masses at home throw off the yoke of Fascism. Hence its hastily convened Cabinet decision to let things remain as they are with the arms embargo against both Italy and Ethiopia standing. Such an embargo can only be an aid to Italy and a blow to Ethiopia. Italy has arms and means of manufacturing more. Ethiopia needs arms, has no means of manufacturing any and so the equilateral embargo is only a piece of Anglo-Saxon fakery disguised under the name of "equal justice for all."

Meanwhile the Giornale D'Italia, fascist mouthpiece, has declared that any effort at applying sanctions (penalties for treaty violations) by England will be treated as a declaration of war! French anxiety over the maintenance of the status quo in Europe, entirely favorable to her, accounts for her seeming neutrality with regard to Italy's desire in Africa. England's decision to leave the matter for League action on September 4, was probably due to just such pressure from France.

U. S. "Neutrality"
Italy's decision to act has already had its repercussions here in the United States. The "keep-the-U.S. out-of-war" crowd is going through the same antics as in the years immediately prior to 1917. The U. S. is going to be "neutral" for six months—in reality this "neutrality" is designed to benefit Italy. Neither the wolf nor the lamb shall be aided in the proud decision. That is, aided by federal means. For there is nothing in the bill to prevent private banking firms from extending loans nor industrialists from shipping non-warlike materials such as steel, scrap iron, etc. to whoever has the cash or the proper credit.

Under the heading, War Talk Aids Steel, in the Wall Street section of the New York Times of August 22, we read the following: "Although the Italo-Ethiopian controversy has managed to disarrange everything else, it appears (Continued on Page 3)

Negro Clerks Upset History

Chicago, Ill.—The old story in American labor history where the Negro, refused admittance into trade unions has taken his stand with the boss to help defeat organized labor, is being reversed in Chicago today.

In a locality where organized labor has been disintegrating for several decades, Retail Clerks Union 901-B exists as one of the few bright spots. In the period following the inauguration of the "New Deal" several locals of the Retail Clerks Union were established in Chicago. Of all of them the only one to survive and prosper was Local 901-B, which was originally laid out to be a Jim Crow local. Because its sister locals have died natural deaths it has fallen heir to a wider field of action, and although preponderantly Negro in composition, it contains an increasing number of white clerks and has lost its "Jim Crow" status.

The most interesting phenomena in this connection is that in a great many cases Negro union clerks have refused to work in stores where the other employees (often white) have been non-union. In many cases these white clerks siding with their white boss against their fellow workers have played the role of scabs. In all cases Retail Clerks Union No. 901-B has failed to lose a single fight in which it was involved. In most cases where an independent store is involved, an hour's picketing in the morning during which all deliveries of bread, milk, ice, and meat are stopped, is sufficient to bring the boss to terms.

The educating of these young workers in the role that they must play as militant trade unionists is being intelligently handled by its pres., J. L. Kelly (Negro), and its organizer, F. W. Simington (white).

Retain Henderson in Sacramento Appeal
NEW YORK CITY.—Raymond W. Henderson, noted labor attorney and a member of the State Executive Committee of the California Socialist Party, has been retained a appeal counsel for Norman Mini, San Quentin Prisoner 57606, according to an announcement made yesterday by Herbert Solow, secretary of the National Sacramento Appeal Committee.

In addition to providing Mini's counsel, the committee advocates release of his seven fellow-workers also railroaded by the Associated Farmers Inc. under the notorious California criminal syndicalism law because of union activities. Mini was defended in trial court by Albert Goldman of Chicago, retained by the Non-Partisan Labor Defense. The latter organization is now associated in the National Sacramento Defense Committee with the Socialist Party, General Defense Committee, Workers Party and other organizations.

Henderson is one of the country's leading experts in criminal syndicalism defense. He was the foremost defender of I.W.W. members against frame-ups under this law 15 years ago and also played a leading role in the Imperial Valley cases a few years ago.

"We will not stop with retaining Henderson," Solow stated in announcing the committee's action. "Nobody can present the legal case better than he, but the court which is keeping Tom Mooney in San Quentin does not consider legal arguments by themselves. The judges want to know whether there is popular demand for the release of these innocent young men and women. Our committee will try to rally unions and all opponents of reaction to give dignified, aggressive expression to their feeling against the criminal syndicalism law and the frame-up perpetrated under it in Sacramento by the anti-union conspirators."

As its first step in popularizing the Sacramento appeal issue, the defense committee will issue a five cent pamphlet on the history of the case, to be circulated by the organizations constituting the joint defense body. The committee has established headquarters at 41 Union Square, Room 707, where further information may be obtained.

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