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Labor Skates, Mayor, Bosses Form Alliance To Smash Local 574

Minn. State Federation Officials Line Up with Open Shop Employers in Fight Against Militant Unionism

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Aug. 28.—Crusading to Make Minneapolis Safe-for-Profits, an unholy alliance has been formed between Minnesota State Federation of Labor officials, the notorious Citizens Alliance, and the Farmer-Labor mayor, to crush Drivers Local 574, sword and shield of labor in the Northwest.

Behind the closed doors of Mayor Thomas F. Latimer's office the conspiracy to smash militant unionism in Minneapolis was hatched. Spread over the capitalist rags are headlines: "Labor Chiefs Ask Drive on 'Incorrigibles'" and "Racketeering in Strikes Hit by Labor Leaders"; "Unwarranted Interference by Outside Unions Opposed" and "Citizens Alliance Joins Labor in Racket Fight"; "Offers Entire Facilities to Help Stamp Out Incorporables," etc., etc., ad nauseum.

That the high officials of the State Federation brazenly dare to appear in the broad daylight before all of Minneapolis labor arm-in-arm with the worst foe of unionism, the Citizens Alliance, is a clear sign that they no longer feel secure. No less significant is the fact that, during the famous drivers strikes of last summer, they were very wary of a similar move made by Dan Tobin, mogul of the Teamsters International. The spectre of fighting unionism, dreaded by them far more than any bosses' association, is moving the fakery into action.

It is openly admitted by these elites in their joint statement with the mayor that what they are most concerned with is "outside interference" in strikes, falling to mention 574 by name but obviously referring to them. And while ranting against this so-called "interference" (read: solidarity) they deliberately overlook their comrades-in-arms, the Citizens Alliance, which never loses a minute in "interfering," i.e. helping, other employers in a like situation and is owned body and soul by Wall Street.

The ferocity of their opposition to 574 has as its immediate cause in two recent struggles in this city—the strikes in the Ornamental Iron Works and the Strutwear Hosiery Mill. In both cases members of 574 stepped in after A. F. of L. leaders had hopelessly bungled the situation. In both cases 574 stepped in only on the official request for assistance by the local unions involved. And in both cases the tactics of 574 turned a certain defeat into a favorable chance for victory. As previously reported in the NEW MILITANT, it was Roy Weir, organizer for the C.I.U., whose tactics brought nothing but disaster and demoralization into the ranks of the Hosiery workers. 574 put the strike on its feet and the leader of that local, Vincent R. Dunne, was badly beaten by the cops so that this aim might be achieved.

Uphold Police Action in Strikes
The timely and effective action of the Drivers Union has made them the source of hope and courage for all unorganized and newly organized workers in Minneapolis. This is what makes the labor skates so fearful. And because of this they have agreed "to uphold Mayor Latimer if he finds it necessary to use firm police measures to prevent illegal picketing in future industrial controversies." Even open strike-breaking is not beneath them!

The use of police in strikes is nothing new for Mayor Latimer. A demagogue, elected against Bledy Bainbridge, on promise to keep the cops away from strikes, he personally supervised the herding of scabs and provided them with police convoys in the first strike actions under his administration. Everything might have proceeded smoothly, with scabs filling the places of strikers, if 574 had not intervened. Then Latimer could have remained the "friend of labor" and the Farmer-Labor Party might have been able to continue to pose as the "workingmen's party." Discredit.

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your subscription has EXPIRED. We urge you to send in your renewal by return mail, thus insuring the receipt of your copy without interruption.

U.S. Rubber Barons Seek Profits in African War

AKRON, Ohio, Aug. 26.—Rubber workers received a grim reminder of the world significance of Mussolini's brutal aggression in Ethiopia this week as they were ordered in the mechanical departments of the large factories to bring out of storage molds used to make gas-masks.

It is very evident that the rubber barons, who increased their fortunes by millions in the disastrous World War, already anticipate more bloody profits from the precarious world situation of today.

Teachers Win Victory Over Green Machine

Militants Defeat Move To Oust New York Progressives

CLEVELAND, O., Aug. 29.—Progressive forces at the convention of the American Federation of Teachers and the entire labor movement scored a significant victory at today's session. The Lefkowitz-Linville motion to revoke the charter of the New York Teachers Union which would have meant expulsion of the progressive elements was defeated by a roll call vote of 100 to 79.

In similar fashion the entire slate of the progressive forces was elected as follows: Raymond P. Lowry, Cleveland, Pres.; Geo. Davis, Cleveland, Sec'y-Treas.; and members of the Executive Council: Chas. J. Hendley (N. Y.), Ralph Ahlstrom (Minn.), Maynard Krueger (Chicago), Walter Bergman (Detroit), Anna C. Dart (San Francisco), Mary Grossman (Philadelphia), Florence Hannon (Chicago), Mercedes Nelson (Minn.), W. B. Satterthwaite (Seattle), E. R. Weinberger (W. Va.), Claude Williams (Ark.), C. Wells (Wis.), Mary Merrick (Chicago).

The great surprise of the elections was the election to the Executive Council of Chas. J. Hendley of New York, representing the minority opposition in Local 5 and the defeat of Abraham J. Lefkowitz who was also a candidate for that body.

Green's Splitting Telegram
A significant factor in the victory of the progressives was the impudent and intimidating telegram from Pres. Green of the A. F. of L. which shocked and aroused the delegates when it was read to the convention at yesterday's session. Miss Selma Borchardt, legislative representative of the A. F. of L. at Washington, and a Lefkowitz adherent, admitted on the floor of the convention that she had arranged to have Green send the telegram to the convention at the "psychological moment." But the

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Imperialist Carnage Awaits Mussolini's Raid on Ethiopia

Tyrant-in-Chief Bill Green Dictates Auto Union Heads

Overrides Overwhelming Vote of Membership Defeating Dillon for Office at Convention in Detroit

DETROIT, Aug. 30.—Dictator William Green, who crawls on all fours before the bosses and the President, threw into the waste basket the democratic decisions of the convention of the auto workers now in session, overrode the crushing defeat administered to Dillon and his machine, and handpicked the incoming Executive Council and officers from the worst reactionary heels in the auto industry.

DETROIT, Aug. 28.—Burke Cochran, correspondent for the NEW MILITANT, was ordered out of the convention of the United Automobile Workers held at the Fort Shelby Hotel by Francis J. Dillon, chairman, although he had previously received a press card from the resolutions committee of the convention. He has sent in a written protest to the resolutions committee and demanding that he be allowed to sit with other representatives of the press.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 28.—The constitutional convention of the United Automobile Workers, meeting at the Fort Shelby Hotel here in Detroit is entering into its fourth day. As yet the convention has nothing more substantial to report than the adoption of a few minor resolutions and a name for the union, "The International Union of United Automobile Workers of America."

The Dillon machine has come fully geared to this convention. It was determined to place its heavy hands around the throat of the International from the start; to place the automobile worker in a strait-jacket and to dampen his ardor.

The first session opened with a blowing of bugles and a fanfare of drums. First, the usual quota of about thirty men was charged "with the honor and responsibility of proceeding to Suite 1873 of this hotel and there conveying to the President of the American Federation of Labor your desire to usher him to this convention." As Pres. Green entered the convention hall the chorus sang "How-do-you-do, Mr. Green?" Then after a long speech full of pathos and deep feeling, Green presented, "with a deep and sincere consciousness of the solemnity of this occasion" a charter to the United Automobile Workers.

"There it is," he cried. "It is yours." Quieting down a little, he explained that the charter gave the union jurisdiction over production workers only and that for a temporary period, the officers to function under the charter would be designated by the Pres. of the American Federation of Labor.

Green Pleads, Cajoles, Whines
The next day the handpicked res-

Pass Guffey Bill; Blow to Mine Workers

Legalizes Company Unions; Stifles Strike Movements

The passage of the Guffey-Snyder Coal Bill just before Congress adjourned undoubtedly brought great satisfaction to the officials at the United Mine Workers headquarters. It has now become law. But what will it mean to the mine camps.

About 450,000 soft coal miners, wracked by the twin scourge of unemployment and low wages, have time and again asserted their demand for a six-hour workday and the six dollar a day scale. The present contract with the coal operators expired on April first and the union officials were empowered to call a strike to gain these main demands; but they preferred to place their hopes in the passage of the Guffey Bill. Three times the projected and again postponed national strike was called off in anticipation of the passage of the bill. It was on the Roosevelt administration's "must" list and it was supported jointly by the large coal operators and the U.M.W. officials.

Cancels Strike Action

Of course, the Guffey Bill will in no sense meet the demands of the coal miners. The fact that it enjoined the support of the large coal operators should make this perfectly clear. But this is not all. The same as the anticipation of the passage of the Guffey Bill acted before to postpone strike action it can now be expected to serve as a means to cancel strike action for the coal miners' demands altogether. This after all is its real purpose.

The Guffey Bill is a part of the legislation symbolical of the Roosevelt regime. Similar in essence to the Wagner Bill it is to serve as a means of what is popularly called, "diminishing the causes of labor disputes." But this merely diplomatic way of saying the bill is designed to prevent the workers from resorting to strike action to gain their demands. With its various provisions the Guffey Bill aims to divert the coal miners from the path of struggle, from making use of their organized power and instead to tie them up in a complicated system of governmental boards.

Power to Big Operators

The Guffey Bill has been called a little NRA for the coal industry. It imposes a code on the industry.

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POWERS READY Boycott of Imperialist Italy Must Begin Now

International diplomacy is spinning its last threads in the web of imperialist intrigue around the kingdom of Ethiopia. While "neutrality" was being guaranteed effecting both Italy and Ethiopia, it Duce kept laying in war supplies and purchasing the raw materials necessary for the manufacture of arms and munitions. Boatloads of Italian troops are keeping up a steady traffic on the way to East Africa.

More than one quarter of a million men are now camped in the territories bordering on Ethiopia. Only the military command: ready, aim, fire, is needed to set off a conflagration that must inevitably bring all of humanity into a new world carnage.

In the meanwhile, Haile Selassie, king of the Negus, is mobilizing—if it could be called that—750,000 men to stand off the imperialist invasion.

Britain is sending war ships to the Suez Canal, Malta and other strategic naval stations in the war zone.

And Laval, with typical French polish and sophistication has unearthed a pretty euphemism for Mussolini's imperialist war of invasion, calling it a "colonial expedition."

Britain's Game

The greatest factor which has so far kept Il Duce from his desired goal has unquestionably been the attitude of Great Britain. As stated previously in these columns England has too much to lose from a complete domination of Ethiopia by Italy. England wants absolute control for herself of the Lake Tzana region, source of the cotton wealth in the British controlled Egyptian Sudan.

France, too, would prefer a "peaceful" slicing apart of Ethiopia with each of the imperialist powers concerned getting "equitable" portions. Ethiopia remaining "nominally independent."

And so the League of Nations is to meet again on September 4. There France will endeavor to get Italy to see the broad, humanitarian way out of the conflict, by taking as much of Ethiopia "peacefully" as she could possibly get by war. For is not France a peace-loving country? It is. Stalin has so declared it. And Herriot shall represent France in the debates on this worthy ally. For is not Herriot "a

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Armed Vigilantes Terrorize Calif. Agricultural Workers

SANTA ROSA, Calif., Aug. 23.—Santa Rosa is the chief town in Sonoma county from which come the big, red, juicy, Gravenstein apples and hops. The crops are ripening now. The trees are loaded; the branches sagging to the earth. Labor is needed to harvest the apples and hops. The cry is for labor, labor.

Labor does not respond to the cry because the wages offered are not sufficient to maintain even the low standard of life the agricultural workers are accustomed to. The workers are organizing and forming into unions.

A few weeks ago there was a strike of apple-pickers in Santa Rosa. The workers called a meeting. Vigilantes crashed into this strike meeting, dispersing it, and beating up workers. From this period, the vigilantes have been terrorizing Sonoma county. The highest point to date was reached on the night of Wednesday, August 21, when two active militant workers, accused of being Communists, were tarred and feathered and then marched through town for eight hours.

Patriotism and a Drunken Mob
The night riders began their activities by taking Jack Green, a sign painter of Santa Rosa. Jack Green for many years was president of the Central Trades and Labor Council of Sonoma county, and up to two months ago was president of the local union of sign painters. He is at present a delegate to the Central Trades and Labor Council.

They then descended upon S. Nitzburg, a rancher. Shotgun fire met them at Nitzburg's ranchhouse. A brave mob of 300 then fell back and sent for tear gas. When the gas arrived it was shot into the ranchhouse, driving Nitzburg and his family out. They rounded up three others, manhandling women in their attempts to capture their victims. The five were ordered to kiss the American flag. Nitzburg and Green refused, while the others "acceded." Finally they beat Nitzburg and Green into doing likewise, but as a reprisal for their refusal, they shaved the heads of the two and then dumped tar and feathers over them. Shouting, the triumphant mob, many of whom were drunk, paraded the two through the streets of Santa Rosa.

The vigilantes instructed all five to leave town immediately.

At present, the vigilantes, encouraged by the great feat of 300 vanquishing five, are mouthing threats of invading San Francisco and "cleaning up" on the waterfront unions. Their reception by the maritime unions will be warm. They will be met with open arms, and doubled fists.

The local police and authorities undoubtedly cooperate with the vigilantes. While the victims were being paraded up and down the main streets of Santa Rosa for a period of eight hours, the police did nothing. The police of Santa Rosa have not yet been able to answer the question: how did the raiders get the tear gas bombs that were

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Shipping Clerks Out Solid in NY Strike; Drivers Move Scab Goods

Practically every shipping clerk in the ladies garment industry in New York is on strike. Responding to the call of Ladies Apparel Shipping Clerks Federal Union between 12 to 15,000 walked out on Tuesday. It was an overwhelming response. The union was not prepared to handle such masses and some confusion resulted. With the support of other unions, efforts to perfect the strike machinery are being made.

Besides the usual difficulties such as strike breakers, thugs and cops, the strikers have an additional obstacle to overcome. Truck Drivers Local 102 I.L.G.W.U. is working overtime to move shipments held up by the strike. Feeling against the leaders of Local 102 is running high. Pressure from other unions has been brought to bear on Sol Metz, Secretary-Manager of the Local and other officials and there is some hope that strikebreaking by union truck drivers will be stopped.

Numerous clashes between pickets and company thugs have taken place. The young strikers, in all cases, gave a good account of themselves. Cops and squad cars on horse and afoot are getting in their usual strikebreaking. Many pickets have been arrested. One picket, a Negro, who struggled with an armed thug because a shot from the thug's revolver wounded a passer by.

The shipping clerks, some of whom push racks of dresses through the streets, are the lowest paid and the most overworked of all in the ladies' garment industry. They are striking for union recognition, a \$25 minimum weekly wage and the 35 hour week.

The strike shows a great need of a change in the structure of the I.L.G.W.U. in the direction of an industrial union, with an agreement cover all workers in the industry. While the shipping clerks are striking, the truck drivers are at work and in some cases actually doing the work formerly done by the strikers. In the shops, dressmakers and cloak makers are at work and though anxious in the main to support the strike, they are bound by contract. Apparently no attempt was made before the strike was called to arrange for what limited support could be given by the Cloak-makers, Dressmakers, Truckdrivers and Elevator Operators unions. As a result all sorts of charges and challenges are being hurled back and forth. Dressmakers charge the officials of Local 102 with strike breaking, and the charge seems well founded. Metz of Local 102 challenges the Dressmakers to call a sympathetic strike though he knows that they are under a contract, which forbids sympathetic strikes. All of this could be avoided or at worst minimized by the proper conferences being held prior to the strike.

Despite the difficulties, the marvelous spirit of the young strikers rises over all. Many shops have signed on with the union and there is every reason to expect a solid organization of shipping clerks as a result of the strike.

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