

NEW MILITANT

with which is merged THE MILITANT Published weekly by the New Militant Publishing Co., 55 East 11th Street, New York City Phone. ALgonquin 4-9058

Entered as second class mail matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1919. JAMES P. CANNON Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In the United States \$1.00 per year; 65c six months. Canada and Foreign \$1.50 per year; \$1.00 six months. Single copies: Two cents per copy. Vol. 1 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1935 No. 41

Statement of the W.P. on War

(Continued from Page 1) national state, but in ever sharper attack against the bourgeoisie and the national state.

The struggle against war is not and cannot be conceived as an "independent" struggle, having a special status above class conflicts. It is an integral part of the revolutionary struggle for workers' power.

More clearly than any other phase of revolutionary activity does the struggle against war attest the international character of the revolutionary movement.

The struggle against imperialism is the struggle for socialism; the struggle for socialism is the struggle for the Fourth International, for the world revolution.

Support French Bolshevik-Leninists

FRANCE today is the most important battle ground of the classes, the key to the fate of Europe and perhaps of the world. Should Fascism add this country to its list of conquests it will hurl the proletarian cause back for decades and mortally injure the existence of the Soviet Union.

The Bolshevik-Leninists constitute the spearhead of the revolutionary forces in France today (of active resistance to Fascism and the revolutionary assault on capitalism). They have raised in the French labor movement the demands for workers' militia, the general strike, workers' and peasants' government, socialization and workers' control.

Consequently the Workers Party is responding immediately to the appeal of our French comrades for financial support for La Verite, organ of the Bolshevik-Leninists and their most important single weapon in the struggle in which they are now engaged.

We call upon all our branches and members to make the utmost sacrifices in order that a preliminary installment of our contribution may be sent to France immediately. Collection lists are being sent to the branches and should be widely circulated among the workers and all our sympathizers.

Two Int'ls For League Moves

(Continued from Page 1)

good fellows of socialism cheer the sentiments of pacifism in their ranks and then vote to send their workers off to the slaughter in the defense of British royal imperialism.

And the Third International? Its efforts are just as energetic in the service of the British bourgeoisie—but more ludicrous, if there can be anything ludicrous in this monster betrayal.

We take the line from the Daily Worker question box for October 2: "The aim of the communists in the present situation in Africa is

forward their contributions in response to the appeal from La Verite. For convenience in transmission remittances should be made out in the name of A. J. Muste and sent to 55 E. 11th St., New York. Please designate clearly the purpose for which the contribution is sent.

For prompt and enthusiastic support of our French comrades! For the building of the Fourth International!

What the Miners Did Not Get

LAST week the NEW MILITANT prophesied that the bituminous coal strike called by John L. Lewis would soon be over, that it was a shadow-boxing act to give the operators a chance to get rid of some of their surplus coal, Lewis to bluster and show that he was "not to be trifled with" and Roosevelt-McGrady to put on their act and save the country once more from "bitter industrial strife."

Despite the magnificent demonstration of solidarity by 400,000 miners who came out 100 percent in the union fields and nearly as solidly, it would appear, in the partly unionized fields of Tennessee, Virginia and Kentucky, despite the prompt settlement on the basis of a union contract in most of the fields and the concessions won, the strike was not a real victory for the miners. On Lewis's part it represents a fresh betrayal of the workers.

1. THE MINERS FAILED TO GET THE SIX HOUR DAY AND FIVE DAY WEEK, FAILED, IN FACT, TO GET ANY REDUCTION IN HOURS. Almost before the negotiations began Lewis gave up this demand. He kept the miners from striking for the 30-hour week. But a reduction in hours represented the one really important gain which they might have won.

Had the miners led a real fight for the 30-hour week, which the A. F. of L. has put forth as the major plank in its platform against unemployment, other workers would have followed. At once reality and vigor would have been given to the whole 30 hour week movement. But this the employers, once again piling up profits during a temporary and spotty upturn in business, did not want.

2. THE MINERS DID NOT WIN ANY REAL INCREASE IN WAGES. It is true that there is a nominal increase of 50 cents a day for day workers providing a \$5.50 basic rate in the Appalachian area. A similar nominal increase of about 51 percent was given in other rates. But this will not even cover the increase in the cost of living since the last contract was made.

3. THE CHANCE TO FORCE THE OPERATORS IN THE NON-UNIONIZED FIELDS OF TENNESSEE, VIRGINIA AND KENTUCKY TO SIGN A UNION CONTRACT AND THUS TO EFFECT A NATION-WIDE 100 PERCENT ORGANIZATION OF THE BITUMINOUS MINERS, LEWIS SURRENDERED WITHOUT PUTTING UP EVEN THE SEMBLANCE OF A FIGHT. This was done in spite of the fact that the union today is so strong and the operators themselves are so averse to a real battle that the union scale may be paid in these fields even if no contract is signed.

Once again we say to the miners: Awake! Build a single united miners' union and a left-wing to make that union clean, militant, progressive. Once again we say to the progressives throughout the trade union movement: Expose the fake progressivism and "industrial unionism" of Lewis and Company! Build the left-wing in every union and every section of the country in order that the native militancy and growing solidarity of the American workers may not be prostituted as it was in the recent miners' strike, but may be organized and directed to victory!

The resolution further demanded an investigation of the activities of the "red squad" and demanded that the report be made public. Every union in the Los Angeles area should pass similar resolutions and continue the fight until this scourge of labor is driven from the city.

Five members of Furniture Workers local No. 1561 were so severely beaten that they had to be taken to the hospital when strikebreakers attacked a picket line at the plant of the Morris Furniture Co. last Thursday evening.

The strike at the Morris plant has been in progress since April 29th, and has been characterized by the grim determination of the workers to stay out until better conditions have been won.

Determined to initiate a reign of terror in order to break the spirit of the strikers, a sudden attack was launched on the picket line by a gang of scabs armed with clubs, monkey wrenches, and screw drivers, as the day and night shifts were changing places.

Police rushed to the scene of the battle in several cars and took the most seriously injured men to the hospital. Of course none of the strikebreaking thugs who perpetrated the vicious attack were arrested.

Having become a power in the labor movement through its great mass trial of mayor Scab Latimer, the Provisional N.P.L.D. Committee of Minneapolis has now been given a charter. Among those on the National Executive of the N.P.L.D. for the charter are Henry Schultz, secretary of the State Employees Assn.; Elmer Huset of the Farmer-Labor Veterans Assn.; Farrell Dobbs, secretary of Local 574; Mrs. Carlson of the F.-L. Woman's Auxiliary.

If the number following your name on the wrapper is 41 your subscription has EXPIRED. We urge you to send in your renewal by return mail, thus insuring the receipt of your copy without interruption.

STRUGGLE RAGES ON WEST COAST

Cal. State Fed Is Dominated by Fakerdom

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 23.—The cause of progressive unionism suffered a number of severe defeats at the thirty-sixth annual convention of the California State Federation of Labor held at San Diego last week.

Despite a bitter fight on the part of militants to oust them, two arch foes of progressive unionism, Edwin D. Vandeleur and Paul Scharrenberg were re-elected to the offices of president and secretary-treasurer respectively.

Vandeleur was re-elected without opposition, the progressives deciding to concentrate their fire on Scharrenberg. The vote for the office of secretary-treasurer was: Scharrenberg 54,178, A. C. Rodgers 17,605.

In the Ninth (San Francisco) District, where four vice-presidents were elected, three incumbents were re-elected and Harry Bridges was defeated for the seat vacated by B. F. Dodge.

A "red hunt" of major proportions that will have as its goal the ousting of every militant from the labor movement of the state, is forecast by the adoption of a resolution asking local unions to expel Communists and members of allied organizations from their membership. That this move is aimed not only at members of radical parties but at all militants is made clear by the phrase, "members of allied organizations." Thus the way is made clear to brand all militants as allies of Communism.

The reactionary nature of the convention is further evidenced by the rejection of the idea of political action by labor and the adoption of a resolution endorsing collective bargaining as the sole means of obtaining economic security.

Resolutions "commending the efforts of President Roosevelt on behalf of the workers of the nation," demanding the freedom of Tom Mooney, repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism law, and condemning vigilante terror were adopted.

Investigation of the scab herding activities of Capt. William ("Red") Hynes, head of the infamous "red squad" of the Los Angeles police department was demanded in a resolution recently adopted by the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. The resolution, submitted to the mayor, chief of police, board of public commissioners, and the city council, cited the payment of \$7,393.99 by the Los Angeles Railway for Hynes' strike-breaking services during the street car strike last fall.

"It is the expressed opinion of this organization (Pacific Electric Lodge No. 912, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen) that public servants, either elected or appointed, are bound to serve the entire public and the action of a public official in lowering the dignity of his office by resorting to the activity of herding scabs is repugnant to every sense of decency of his employer, the general public."

The resolution further demanded an investigation of the activities of the "red squad" and demanded that the report be made public.

Every union in the Los Angeles area should pass similar resolutions and continue the fight until this scourge of labor is driven from the city.

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Union Militant Murdered In L.A. Vigilante Terror

By EARL LANE

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—The continually mounting wave of California vigilante terror claimed another victim on September 4, when Arthur G. Ross, member of the I.W.W. and the International Longshoremen's Association and for fifteen years an outstanding militant fighter in the labor movement of Southern California died as the result of a beating received at the hands of Edgar Rueb, a fellow union member who had fought side by side with him during the maritime strike last summer.

The death of Ross is but one incident in the attack that the boss class has launched upon the progressive forces in the labor movement of California. Upon the conclusion of last summer's memorable marine strike the bosses determined to drive out of the maritime unions every militant worker who showed capacity for leadership, in order to strengthen the hands of their agents within the unions, "Pedro Pete" Peterson, Fredli, and Co. In the bitter warfare which ensued the bosses and their labor lieutenants of course had the co-operation of the "law enforcement" agencies. The police were always busy elsewhere while vigilante bands and Fredli's infamous "beef squad" terrorized and slugging militant workers, raiding meetings, and kidnapping and beating workers' attorneys. Fredli himself became a victim of the wave of terrorism that he had helped to launch, being killed by the police. His death has never been satisfactorily explained, but in all probability was the result of some private feud.

Sometime during the course of this bitter campaign against the militants Rueb deserted his former friends and became a tool of the dark forces that had as their ultimate goal the smashing of the

maritime unions of the Pacific Coast. He conceived a bitter hatred for his former friend Ross, who was an outstanding progressive.

On Sunday, September 1, in front of the I.L.A. hall in San Pedro, he assaulted Ross, striking him twice and knocking him to the pavement. Fellow union members picked Ross up in an unconscious condition. After a cursory examination by the police he was turned out to wander the streets all night and half the next day in a semi-conscious condition. Later he was picked up by the police on a DRUNK CHARGE and thrown in the drunk tank. His fellow workers, having become alarmed at his absence, instituted a search which ended with their locating him in the jail. They offered to bail him out but the police would not accept bail and refused to allow them to see Ross. After a night spent lying on the stone floor of the drunk tank he was released to his wife and friends who rushed him to a hospital where he died on September 4, never having regained consciousness.

Rueb, placed under arrest, admitted having struck Ross, claiming that he was drunk and did not know what he was doing. He was held on suspicion of manslaughter. At the subsequent inquest the coroners jury ordered that he be held.

This case is more than the isolated death of a militant worker. It is part of the campaign of the boss class to wipe out the more advanced workers in the ranks of the unions and thus to strike terror into the hearts of the rank and file. It is hoped that by the use of these methods that the workers will be terrorized into submitting to the domination of their unions by the labor lieutenants of the bosses. Every class conscious worker must consider well what these attacks on the vanguard mean to him and his union.

Showdown Is Close on Cal. Waterfront

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 30.—The question of war or peace on the waterfronts of the Pacific coast will in all probability be decided within the next few days.

The battle over the question of whether or not the maritime unions will handle "hot cargo" is being fought out in San Francisco, with the I.L.A. bearing the brunt of the employers' attack. Because of the strength of the militants in this key port the bosses have chosen it as the battleground, feeling that if they are successful there, the fight in the other ports will be comparatively easy.

The dispute over the handling of hot cargo was placed in the hands of the labor relations board that was set up under the 1934 award. When this committee came to a deadlock last week, the matter was put into the hands of Federal arbitrator, M. C. Sloss. After a great show of considering the matter from all angles in order to be able to render an "impartial decision," that office boy of the bosses' government ruled that the longshoremen were breaking their agreement if they refused to handle hot cargo. The I.L.A., the union, immediately asked for a rehearing on the question. Sloss lost no time in denying this request.

On Sunday the bargemen's and warehousemen's unions lifted the ban on goods produced by the Santa Cruz Packing Co., and cargo transported by the River Lines, Inc., pending the outcome of negotiations with the employers and the labor relations board.

There the situation rests today, with the employers announcing through their spokesman, Thomas G. Plant, their determination to hire scab longshoremen to replace the union members refusing to scab. This morning it was announced that 1,440 longshoremen were on the blacklist and that 29 ships were tied up directly or indirectly because of the "hot cargo" dispute.

Ample proof that while they consider "impartial arbitration" an effective opiate with which to dull the fighting spirit of the workers, they do not intend to rely on it as their only weapon, but intend to launch a campaign of vigilante terrorism against the maritime workers if they consider it necessary, is contained in an article in a recent issue of the San Francisco "Shipping Register," organ of the waterfront employers.

Under a caption "Are All the Vigilantes Dead?" an editorial complained that maritime workers are "asking for abortive increases in wages." "There are hundreds of thousands of red-blooded Americans here in San Francisco," the editorial declared. "What say we take a day off from our regular business and attend to the matter in a proper manner?"

Preparations were made for a vigorous campaign to secure the freedom of the victims of the Sacramento conspiracy at a conference held in Los Angeles September 25. As a result of this conference the Los Angeles section of the National Sacramento Appeal Committee was formed with the following organizations participating: the I.W.W., the Socialist Party, the Workers Party, Spartacus Youth League and the Young Peoples Socialist League. A steering committee consisting of the following members was elected: Chairman, Gardner Wells, Socialist Party; Secretary, Mark Knight, Workers Party; Treasurer, Claude Erwin, I.W.W.

An effort to draw every labor and liberal organization in the Los Angeles area into this fight for the rights of labor will be made. Each organization participating in the Los Angeles local of the N.S.A.C. has pledged itself to circulate collection lists and to widely circulate the pamphlet "Union Smashing in Sacramento." A mass meeting to bring this case to the attention of the public at large will be held in the near future.

Similar committees already exist in San Francisco and Oakland.

Labor Defense Front

THE SACRAMENTO APPEAL

In response to a call from the International Labor Defense, the Joint Committee to Aid the Herndon Defense has been set up by the I.L.D., League for Industrial Democracy, Non-Partisan Labor Defense, General Defense Committee, National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, and League of Struggle for Negro Rights. Mary Fox of the I.L.D. has been elected secretary.

The committee announces several immediate activities to aid the drive for 2,000,000 signatures to petitions calling on the governor of Georgia to release Herndon from the 20-year chain-gang sentence imposed by an Atlanta Jim Crow court. The new committee, in addition to publishing and circulating its own petition forms bearing the names of its constituent bodies, will during the coming week publish a new 16-page pamphlet on this important labor case. Already 20,000 copies have been ordered by various organizations. It will sell at 2 cents per copy. Send orders to the Non-Partisan Labor Defense, 22 East 17th St., N. Y. C.

The new committee is calling a New York City Action Conference October 19 at Imperial Hall, Harlem. Angelo Herndon will participate and the new pamphlet will be on sale.

Through the sale of this pamphlet and circulation of petitions, W. P. members will be able to continue their agitation for Herndon's freedom in an organized way. Rush your orders for pamphlets and petitions to the N.P.L.D.

PHILLY WORKERS FREE

Five members of the Philadelphia Retail Fruit Clerks Union of Philadelphia, held on charges rigged against them by the bosses' association during the recent strike, have been freed.

Since the last report in these columns, a defense committee was organized by the union, with Lou Roberts, union secretary, in charge. Attorney Frank Nowwe of the N.P.L.D. of New York aided in organizing the defense. On a visit to New York Roberts, aided by the N.P.L.D., secured financial aid for the defense from brother unions.

HARLAN MINERS

Another drive is being made for the pardon of the six U.M.W.A. members railroaded to prison for life in Harlan, Ky., on charges of murder growing out of the historic "Battle of Evarts" between miners and deputies. A committee has been appointed by the N.P.L.D. to aid this defense: Adelaide Walker, who was a leading figure in the caravan of writers which went into Bloody Harlan four years ago and who was indicted for criminal syndicalism, is chairman.

Funds to aid the Harlan miners should be sent to Herbert Mabler, General Defense Committee, 94 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. C.

HEISLER IN BISMARCK

Francis Heisler, attorney of the Chicago N.P.L.D., is now in Bismarck, N. D., to argue the appeal of the Fargo strikers to the State Supreme Court.

Form Labor Party in Ohio

(Continued from Page 1)

The Congress candidates as not committing them specifically to the endorsement of a Labor, or third party.

Local Socialists, emboldened by the favorable glances of the union officials, are running up a temperature in the campaign and are all heated up about their inclusion in "big-time politics." The Communist Party is going through some amusing contortions trying to squirm into the picture.

Although the Congress has put forth a platform containing a preamble full of vaguely radical phrases, no particular fear is being evinced by the reactionary elements in the city. It is pretty generally understood, and the leaders of the Congress are making no efforts to dispel this understanding, that the bark of this movement is out of all proportion to its bite.

Commenting in an editorialized news story on the formation of the Congress, the Toledo News-Bee, Scripps-Howard sheet, stated: "While the preamble of the platform on which the candidates are campaigning leads off with a Socialist doctrine, it is likely that most of the candidates signed the platform as a matter of political expediency rather than a pledge of conversion to the doctrine of Socialism."

Clyde Kiker, free-lance politician, perennial office seeker and state secretary of the Ohio Federation of Teachers, is campaign manager for the Congress' slate. Kiker ran in the last congressional primaries for congressman on the Democratic Party ticket.

Sunday Night Lecture Series

Oct. 6 - The Struggle Against Fascism (HISTORICAL LESSONS FOR AMERICA)

Oct. 13 - The Road To The Fourth International (FORCES AND PROSPECTS FOR A NEW WORLD PARTY UNDER THE BANNER OF MARX AND LENIN)

Speaker: James P. Cannon Editor of New Militant Irving Plaza, Irving Place and 15th Street Admission 15 cents per lecture Auspices: Workers Party, New York District.