

Fight Police In Vermont Walkout

Marble Workers Battle Militantly After Three Month Siege

By CYRUS RIGBY

RUTLAND, Vt.—New England, the traditional home of granite-like, rugged American individualism, was Tuesday also the scene of oppressed Yankee workers in revolt.

So close to victory, indeed, had the strikers' battle become that the company, and its vested legal allies, decided to act.

The Battle

About noon two scabs, Arthur Alwill and Radcliffe Lyons, the former a company superintendent, attempted to leave the marble yard in Alwill's car, escorted by armed deputies in automobiles following.

Workers used whatever weapons came into their hands; deputies, reinforced by a torrent of new deputies that came pouring miraculously from the company office nearby, used nightsticks and blackjacks.

When the Smoke Cleared

When casualties were counted it was found that the working class battling average was remarkably high: 12 deputy sheriffs were sent to the hospital against 5 of the militant strikers.

In spite of their notorious Vermont smugness, the "disinterested" citizens of Rutland are more sympathetic with the strike than it would seem from capitalist press accounts.

Students Support Strike

At various times since the strike began intellectuals living in Vermont and neighboring states have come out in complete accord with the strike.

Test Yet to Come

We have pointed out that in the garment industry this is a transition period. The real test of the unions in the industry, and of the various elements in the unions has therefore not yet come.

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Developments in the Needle Trades; A Program for the Progressives

By A. J. MUSTE

Developments are taking place in the needle trades unions which are in themselves important and are also in considerable measure typical of what is taking place or will in industry generally.

When we seek to understand trends in the union movement, we have first of all to examine industrial conditions and in particular the developments in the industry in which a given union operates.

The Changing Situation

Gradually, however, the scene has been shifting. In the general economy of the country the basis for genuine and lasting prosperity has not been laid.

A Hot House Plant

The same holds true of the Lovestonettes, for example. The so-called progressive movement under their leadership by no means constitutes a dependable left wing fighting force.

The fact that this is such a transition period as we have sketched accounts for the utterly confused picture presented by the various "groups" and "clubs" in the needle trades unions and the maneuvers in which they are engaging.

"Soviet Russia and Ethiopia the Goats" Behind the Scenes

By JAMES EVANS

"Soviet Russia and Ethiopia would be the goats."

Rodney Dutcher, Washington NEA correspondent, thus predicts the results that would accompany the possible dissolution of the League of Nations in his column for January 8.

Loaded Dice

Moreover, the Soviet Union is placed in the melancholy position of being a window-dresser; for the contemplated attack upon its very life. Its entrance into the League gave that body an unwarranted prestige in the eyes of millions of workers.

Behind the Scenes

"Statesmen are constantly tempted by the idea of agreements which would preserve peace in western Europe and localize war by giving Germany a free hand to attack Russia while tossing Ethiopia to the Fascist wolf."

"But it can be said authoritatively that Berlin is eager for an understanding with London, and that Moscow, forever worrying over the possibility of attack from Germany and Japan at the same time, is jittery."

These statements are plain and apparent to any revolutionist. Beneath all the pompous ceremonies of the League sessions, and the hypocritical oratory about sanctions, still other sessions are being held—gatherings at which the Soviet Union is discussed but to which it is not invited.

Union Hits Dismissals

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circumstances would they ever be taken back. "Ewing and Solosy attracted unfavorable attention in company circles because of their work as editors of one of our publications, The Gas Man; and because in November, 1934, they were appointed to investigate the conduct of the company union's general council in behalf of the workers in the company's chemical department.

Accompanying Mr. Wersing's letter was a copy of an affidavit by Charles Smith, a former operative for the Railway Audit and Inspection Company, a detective agency, attesting that he was assigned to shadow Solosy while the latter was employed in the chemical department of the Consolidated Gas Co.

"In the latter part of 1935 more than 1,500 workers were dropped by the Consolidated-Edison system," Mr. Wersing's letter charged.

Copies of the Brotherhood's complaint went to Nile F. Malthe, chairman, Public Service Commission; Maurice P. Davidson, Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity; John H. Delaney, chairman, Board of Transportation; John J. McElligott, Fire Commissioner; Dr. John L. Rice, Health Commissioner; and Mrs. Elinore M. Herrick, regional chairman, National Labor Relations Board.

Ohio WPA Wins Rise

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have walked off their jobs and come directly in a body to the headquarters to be organized. Reports of sentiments in the local Workers Alliance, which has consistently refused to cooperate with the union and Unemployed League in the WPA fight, due to the disruptive and slanderous tactics of the C. P. members who have invaded it, indicate that the rank and file is beginning to demand joint action with the union and the leagues.

The union is putting out a weekly paper on the jobs, the "WPA Union News," which has met with a tremendous response. Special weekly leaders' classes on unemployment and labor problems are being held by the union at the Toledo Workers School.

All indications point to a tremendously rapid growth of the union, with a corresponding growth of the Unemployed Leagues. The union has achieved genuine stability and the ideological character of the membership is surprisingly advanced for such a large mass organization.

Brownsville Open Forum

"Sex and the Class Struggle"

Speaker: DR. OSCAR TROPP well known physician Friday, Jan. 24, 8:30 P.M. 1776 Pitkin Ave., nr. Stone

Philadelphia LENIN - LIEBKNECHT LUXEMBOURG Memorial Meeting

SUNDAY, JAN. 26, 8:15 P.M. Grant Fraternity Hall 1626 Arch Street, 3rd floor Speakers: MAX SHACHTMAN Editor New Internationalist MANNY GARRETT Editor Young Spartacus Ausp: Philadelphia Branch, W.P.

OPEN FORUM LOCAL 22, I.L.G.W.U. "The Government and the Unions"

Speaker: A. J. MUSTE THURSDAY, JAN. 30, 6 P.M. in Council Room of Local 22 232 West 40th St., N. Y. C. SUBSCRIBE TO NEW MILITANT

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Relief Rolls Are Pruned In Texas

Starvation, Graft, and Corruption Rife in State

(Special to the New Militant) By JAMES EVANS

DALLAS, Texas—The Texas relief authorities are attempting to appease the hordes of unemployed with a few meager victuals before desperation flares into rebellion.

Adam R. Johnson, the Southern aristocrat who directs relief activities in this state, has announced that surplus vegetables still in the local commissaries would be distributed to the unemployed who have been dropped from the rolls.

Laval Bides His Time When this is accomplished, the French Fascists will make their bid for power, while Monsieur Laval lights his cigar with the Franco-Soviet pact.

"An alternative plan calls for an 'iron ring' around Germany, which would require appeasement of Mussolini and co-operation from Italy. The appeasement presumably would sever a benevolent Anglo-French attitude toward Italian designs on Austria.

These statements are plain and apparent to any revolutionist. Beneath all the pompous ceremonies of the League sessions, and the hypocritical oratory about sanctions, still other sessions are being held—gatherings at which the Soviet Union is discussed but to which it is not invited.

When the case workers, who has thus turned five people into the bread-line, is a woman who has never touched a broom nor picked a row of cotton in her life. When she was appointed to this position two years ago, she boasted to relief clients that she was very glad to have this employment. "I have had nothing to do but ride around and spend money," she said.

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