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Lift Strike to Tie-up New Areas if Realty Board Stays Adamant

Militant Spirit and Action Pervades Workers' Ranks in 2nd Week

The Building Service Union enters the second week of the strike with ranks firm. The strike has been extended by stages until forty thousand workers are now affected. James J. Bambrick announced today that if the Mayor's peace proposals are not accepted unconditionally by the Real Estate bosses—twenty-five thousand additional service workers in four thousand buildings including department stores will be called out.

Many conferences of Union representatives and bosses have been held in Mayor LaGuardia's office, sometimes with the attendance of Edward McGrady of the U.S. Department of Labor. No progress toward a settlement was reached by these conferences until today when the proposal made by the mayor was accepted unconditionally by the union and with many conditions and strings attached by the bosses.

La Guardia's Proposal

The mayor's proposal provides (1) Acceptance of the tentative definition herein below quoted in reference to union recognition. It is the same definition which was tentatively accepted the other morning, provided an increase of wage would be granted. (2) The matter of wages, hours, conditions and duration of contract be submitted to arbitration, both sides agreeing to abide by the decision. (3) The arbitrator to be agreed upon by representatives selected from each side. (4) All employees to return to work on the selection of the arbitrator. Arbitrator to be selected within twenty-four hours.

The formula referred to above provided for no discrimination against union members and vacancies created by the discharge or withdrawal of a union member are to be filled by other members of the union.

Enthusiastic young union members battled with strike-breakers and bosses thugs in innumerable clashes. Many strikers have been arrested, many injured but the spirit of the union rises above difficulties.

Large numbers of tenants are giving their support to the strike. In some cases tenant organizations join with the strikers on the picket line. Others supply pickets with refreshments and still larger numbers withhold rent from the landlords.

The union has repeatedly announced its willingness to arbitrate differences but the Real Estate operators determined to smash the union once and for all have rejected all overtures. At the same time numerous individuals have signed up with the Union as having also several companies owning strings of apartment buildings.

Statement of Local 22

A vigorous statement, pledging support to the building service strikers and denouncing the "ruthless" attitude of the realty interests, was issued today by Dressmakers Local 22, I.L.G.W.U., an organization of 30,000 members.

"The strike of the thousands of building service workers of New York deserves and must get the full and wholehearted support of the entire labor movement, of the tenants and of all fair-minded people generally. These workers, including some of the most exploited elements in the city, toiling long hours under intolerable conditions for miserable wages, have at last come to realize that organization is their only salvation, that only through a strong union can they hope to achieve standards more fit for human beings. That is why the realty interests, organized in the Real Estate Advisory Board, determined to maintain the inhuman conditions of exploitation in the building service trades, are so savagely set upon smashing the building service union and depriving the men of their only protection. The outright refusal of these interests even to listen to the more than reasonable proposal of the building service union for arbitration, shows that their attitude is one of ruthless disregard of everything but their own profits, of cynical indifference to the rights of their employees or the welfare of their tenants."

The New Militant calls upon all workers to give every possible support to the strike. Tenants should bring every pressure upon their landlords for quick settlement. All workers should be ready to assist on the picket lines whenever such assistance is requested by the union.

574 Pledges Aid to Milwaukee Strikers

More than 2,000 pickets, drawn from all the leading sections of the labor movement in Wisconsin, marched last Saturday in a mass line around the plant of the Hearst Wisconsin News where the American Newspaper Guild unit is fighting a courageous strike battle against Hearst sweatshop conditions.

Farell Dobbs, secretary-treasurer of Minneapolis Local 574 called on Heywood Brown in New York early this week to offer the full cooperation of the Minneapolis truck-drivers to the striking guildsmen. Specific plans for organizing Minneapolis support for the Milwaukee struggle were discussed.

Labor organizations throughout the country will make this fight against the Fascist Hearst their own and back the men on the picket-line with a national boycott of the Hearst press.

Boycott Hearst! Support the American Newspaper Guild in its fight to organize Hearst editorial employees!

IW A Leader Is Framed on Fake Charge

Auto Accident Used as Basis for Four Months Sentence of James Cross

By GERRY ALLARD
GILLESPIE, Ill., Mar. 1—James Cross, youth director of the Illinois Workers Alliance and a member of the national committee of the Spartacus Youth League, is at the Vandall Penal Farm beginning a four month sentence on a charge which indirectly grew out of his labor activities.

Cross gained the enmity of the Macomb county Democratic machine because of his courageous leadership in several strikes. A year ago he led a strike of six hundred high school students against a member of the faculty who had carried a gun against striking steel workers at Alton. The scab teacher was removed from his job. Later, Cross, as chairman of the Hod Carriers Union, led a strike which compelled the contractor of a local post office job to grant union recognition and 75 cents an hour for common labor.

These incidents, and the fact that Cross had been arrested at Belleville, Ill., along with A. J. Muste and C. H. Mayer, on charges of criminal syndicalism, were made use of both by the presiding Judge George and States Attorney Seyffrit.

Hold Ohio WPA Meet

TOLEDO, O., Feb. 23—Representatives of WPA workers groups from twenty Northwest Ohio cities and towns participated in the Northwest Ohio WPA Workers Conference held here today to lay the basis for a wide spread unified movement of the WPA workers and unemployed. The conference was sponsored by the WPA Workers Union of Lucas County and the Lucas County Unemployed League.

Fraternal delegates from Detroit, Southwestern Michigan and Indiana attended the conference and indicated their intention to push for organization similar to that of Lucas County which would be coordinated with the general unemployed and WPA movement.

The conference went on record to call another enlarged conference before March 30 as the beginning of a drive to organize throughout the entire state of Ohio. It also launched a campaign for the organization of WPA unions throughout 24 N. W. Ohio counties and into southern Michigan.

There is widespread opinion here that there will be a complete fusion effected shortly between the WPA Workers Union, Unemployed League and Workers Alliance. The disruptive tactics of the Communist Party in joining the local Workers Alliance to prevent unity between it and the Unemployed League is now thoroughly exposed.

Hearst News Gripped in Milwaukee

Bottom Drops out of Advertising as Guild Continues Strike

MILWAUKEE, Wis., March 6.—The Milwaukee Newspaper Guild in its strike against the Hearst owned Wisconsin News won an important victory in the circuit court here Friday when Judge Charles L. Aarons held that the guild under certain conditions could continue its secondary picketing of department stores, theaters and other advertisers of the News.

The News management had petitioned the court for a blanket injunction forbidding all secondary picketing, relying on an earlier decision of the court holding that such picketing was illegal.

Judge Aarons held, however, that such picketing could continue, if the picketing was not directed at the advertiser. The court said the pickets could carry signs stating that the News was unfair to continue its secondary picketing of department stores, theaters and other advertisers of the News.

Gene L. Green attorney for the guild, argued that the intent of the secondary picketing was to induce the advertiser to cease patronizing the News, not to harm the business of the advertiser.

The presence of guild pickets in front of places of business is not expected to ease the difficulty of the News management in keeping its advertisers in line. Many of them have already ceased advertising in the News for the duration of the strike and others will follow suit.

Although a municipal primary election is only four days away and hundreds of candidates are in the field, not a line of political advertising has appeared in the News, except for an ad of the Electric Co. which is opposing a municipal ownership referendum.

The News circulation continues to drop and the management has resorted to the device of free copies to stem the tide. Some of the readers have made bundles of the free copies and dumped the bundles in the circulation office.

The feeling of organized labor against Hearst's refusal to bargain collectively with his reporters and photographers has compelled the News to display the label of the Allied Printing Trades Council in one ear of the front page. The management by printing this label is hoping to escape the anti-labor brand that has been placed upon it. The strike will enter its fourth week Monday, unless the News publisher has a sudden change of heart and agrees to bargain. The striking reporters and photographers are holding firm.

2,000 On Picket Line

MILWAUKEE, March 4.—The strike of the Wisconsin News Newspaper Guild against Hearst today reached its 15th day. Last Saturday's mass picket demonstration, when more than 2,000 marched behind a brass band provided by the Musicians' Union showed the extent to which labor organizations of this whole region have lined up in solidarity with the 29 Wisconsin News editorial workers who are striking for a closed shop contract and an agreement for a living wage and decent working conditions.

The strike has already cut so sharply into the circulation of the Wisconsin News, which is one of Hearst's less profitable ventures, that unofficial "feelers" have already been extended toward the strikers with a suggestion of a settlement.

Hearst has gone to Madison Wisconsin looking for scabs and offered newspapermen \$75 and \$100 a week for jobs which he pays his regular workers \$15 and \$18 for! Not a single newspaperman would touch the scab money. A few journalism school students were found to function as strikebreakers—showing that the Guild will have to reach down into those schools to prevent the growth of newspaper scabs instead of newspaper workers.

Wide-Spread Support

Advertisers are already cutting down under the pressure of mass popular support for the strike, and the support of the Milwaukee labor movement in particular. Financial pledges are pouring in from Guilds and other labor organizations throughout the country.

The New York Guild alone has pledged and is sending nearly \$400 a week paid out of the pockets of the New York Guildsmen. Support has been pledged and is being given

Hitler Makes Bid for Anti-Soviet Alliance

Jail French Bolsheviks in Class Fight

Solidarity with Brest-Toulon Strikers Evokes Repression by C. P. Allies

(From Revolution, Paris, France)

PARIS—On February 6th, three of our comrades were placed on the docks of bourgeois justice. They were: one of them, Brun, was the former business manager of Revolution, organ of the Revolutionary Socialist Youth (J.S.R.) and the Bolshevik-Leninist Group. The other two, Maria Craipeau and Jean Melchior had sold the special issue of Revolution which proclaimed its solidarity with the heroic fighters of Brest and Toulon, which branded as assassins the radical-reactionary ministers and called upon the young soldiers not to fire upon their working class brothers.

The reply was immediate. The police were ordered to tear down our posters entitled "Brest and Toulon"; the T.S.F. (government radio station) announced that Fred Zeller was wanted by the police; the Minister of Justice confiscated Revolution (or at least tried to), issued orders for its confiscation all over France, searched for it in the barracks, arrested two salesmen and prosecuted the paper.

That is why although the trial was held during working hours, a large number of young people crowded into the courtroom of the 14th Chamber and a long line of others, who could not get in, crowded into the hall.

The Trial

The press box was filled. The judge summoned the accused. He lingered on the case of Maria Craipeau, 19 year old member of the J.S.R. "So young and already so noted for her revolutionary propaganda! Her husband already sentenced by the same 14th Chamber for a similar motive," he said in astonishment.

Then the witnesses were called. Of the cited witnesses only Maurice Thorez, secretary of the C.P., and Malraux, novelist were absent. Malraux excused himself by letter. As for Thorez how could he solidarily himself with the revolutionary defeatists when his party at this very moment is preparing the defense of "its fatherland"?

The Reformists' Defense

Marceau Pivert took the stand. He greeted the action of Revolution and of our comrades "led on by the impetuosity of youth (!) The J.S.R.," he said, "have left our socialist party; but they have held to the same doctrine, which is socialist and not anarchist." We are grateful to Marceau Pivert, but the solidarity of the Socialist Party with revolutionary defeatism is indeed a little too much! At the very time the bourgeoisie was hounding

New Japan Gov't Tool of Army

'Moderate' Cabinet Stop-Gap Until Road Is Clear for Final Lunge

By LO SEN

After being coddled and coaxed for three days while they held public buildings in the heart of Tokyo, the military insurgents who last week assassinated three Japanese government leaders were politely ushered back to their barracks and jittery chancelleries all over the world were assured that the crisis in Japan was "over".

On March 5 Koki Hirota, Japanese foreign minister, was named premier to succeed Katsuke Okada, who calmly rose from the grave to which the world had consigned him, thinking him assassinated, but who had to make way, nevertheless, for a premier more acceptable to the High Command.

Koki Hirota is essentially the army's man. He is known as one of the leaders of the ultra-nationalist Black Dragon society and is entirely persona grata to the generals. During the past two years, as foreign minister, he pursued with particular skill the policy of combining diplomatic with military pressure upon China. His results were far from negligible. All of North China came in this period under the direct sway of the Japanese Empire. The time was well employed, meanwhile, in Manchuria in completing the strategic net of railways and roads branching north, east and west toward the borders of the Soviet Union and Outer Mongolia.

The Stop-Gap Solution

As premier, Koki Hirota represents a temporary compromise between the "aggressive" and the "moderate" representatives of Japanese imperialism. He will unquestionably be more subject to War Office pressure than his predecessor, who was not precisely at loggerheads with the chancelleries of Empire. Internal contradictions, as the whole episode of the military coup showed, will sharpen and the whole forward pace of Japanese imperialism toward new military adventures on continental Asia will be accelerated. Hirota will be no better able than Okada to deal with Japan's insoluble contradictions.

His very accession to power indicates that the time for the inevitable explosion has drawn nearer. The delay of six days between the surrender of the insurgents in Tokyo and the appointment of Hirota was by no means accidental. Having shot one bolt, Japanese imperialism watched, poised, the reaction on all fronts.

Clearly for long, surcharged hours the whole world waited for the thunder to break. In those

St. Louis Kroger Clerks Ask Labor Aid for Long Strike

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 1—Fighting one of the most important battles in the history of the labor movement here, one hundred and forty six men—members of the Warehouse Workers Union 667, Retail Clerks International Protective Ass'n.—have been on strike against the Kroger Grocery and Baking Co. for the last sixteen weeks.

The trouble started when weeks before, the agreement, under which the union men were working with the Kroger Company at the St. Louis Warehouse, expired. The Kroger Company instituted what was known as the Dyer system which enabled them, under the guise of efficiency, to discriminate against union men. Then, on November 6th the company offered the men a contract which would have practically denied them all gains they had made in the two years previous through their union, and when the men rejected this they were locked out. The demands of the union at that time were (and still are): 1. The forty hour week; 2. Full senior-

ity right; 3. Elimination of the Dyer system; 4. A closed shop working agreement; and 5. A wage increase of 7 and one half cents an hour.

Fink Agencies Used

Since the beginning of the strike, the Kroger company has resorted to the most vicious tactics imaginable; they have employed the A. A. Ahner and Pinkerton strike-breaking detective agencies; they have used the radio and the daily newspapers to spread their malicious propaganda of lies, slander and hate. Besides this, they are now conspiring with the police force to frame several members of the union on false charges of bombing and vandalism.

On the other side of the picture, the union has gotten and is getting the support of many unions in this vicinity and the strike has been endorsed by the central labor bodies of St. Louis, East St. Louis, Belleville, Jefferson City, Staunton and many other cities in Missouri and Illinois. One of the union's chief sources of support financially, mor-

Invasion of Rhine Drives Nail into Versailles Coffin

Italy Holds Trump Cards as Powers Face Alternative of United Front Against USSR or Anti-German Bloc

Nazi Germany this week ripped the paper bottoms out of the Versailles and Locarno treaties by marching troops, guns and tanks into the demilitarized Rhineland.

This move, long heralded and sedulously prepared, brings French and British imperialism face to face with the alternatives of mobilizing once more against Germany or accepting Hitler's offer of a united front against the Soviet Union.

Faced with the Italian threat to support the Reich in its denunciation of the Locarno pacts, Britain, which has just launched the mightiest armament program the world has ever seen, has given ample indication that it would far sooner make terms with Hitler than risk war at a time when it could have little confidence in the outcome.

French imperialism, uncertain of British support, desperately desires of winning Italy back into the concert of Powers, is meeting the crisis with hesitation and indecision. All its careful years of diplomacy designed to keep Germany vanquished and impotent have come to naught. Across the border a mighty, quarried Reich has once more hurled its challenge for a place in the imperialist sun.

In this explosive situation, Mussolini holds the whip hand. It was with Mussolini's encouragement that Hitler unilaterally denounced the Locarno treaty and marched across the Rhine. At the same time, almost to the moment, Mussolini accepted Geneva's "peace" proposal—which is only a formula for bringing the Powers once more to the negotiation table for a division of the spoils and a choosing of sides. In demanding his pound of flesh, Mussolini holds over London and Paris the menace of an Italo-German alliance drawing Austria, Hungary, Poland and Bulgaria into its orbit, demanding as his price a complete relaxation of pressure on his East African conquests.

F.D. Sharpens Ax for WPA Relief Men

Hunger Only Solution of Capitalist Politicians for Unemployment Crisis

By JAMES EVANS

Half a million relief workers will receive the axe at the hands of Federal Administrator Harry L. Hopkins within the next four months. This vicious onslaught against the impoverished and destitute indicates the extent to which the Roosevelt administration takes its orders from the larger taxpayers and the commercial associations. It is a positive indication of the government's determination to cease all relief by gradual stages.

The immediate effect of this decision will be to increase the ranks of the unemployed by a substantial percentage. Every such action demonstrates that the political agents of the capitalist class have no solution for the problem of unemployment except slow starvation. And not alone will these luckless half-million be directly affected. The proportionate increase in unemployment decreed by Roosevelt and Hopkins means proportionate decreases in the wage and living standards of those workers still hanging on to ill-paid jobs.

Hopkins expresses the hypocritical desire that the majority of those fired from the WPA will find private employment. This reminds one of the custom of some primitive tribes who beg the bear's forgiveness before they apply the knife to his throat. It must be remembered that the spring and summer crops are soon to be harvested; and in this connection, Hopkins is simply following the time-honored procedure of forcing workers into the fields at below subsistence wage-levels. But this time there will be no relief set-up to take care of these workers after they have finished gathering the oranges and picking the cotton. In order not to make the wholesale revision of the rolls too flagrant, Hopkins declares, of course, that some of the discharged workers will be returned to direct relief.

There is but one answer to this attack couched in terms of statistics and slobbery sentiment. That answer is struggle on the part of all workers' organizations so that not one relief citizen shall be dropped from the rolls, not one WPA worker discharged! During the next four months, the unemployed struggle must draw in greater masses and reach greater heights. Otherwise, every working-class district in America will become an Italy

Hitler is by no means only Mussolini's trump. He is playing cards of his own.

While tanks trundled across the Rhine bridges and planes swooped jubilantly over Rhineland cities, Hitler stood in the Kroll Opera House in Berlin and offered a 25-year non-aggression pact to France, Belgium, Lithuania and all states bordering on the Reich, to be guaranteed by Britain and Italy.

He offered a western air pact to France, Belgium, Britain, Holland and Italy.

He offered to come back to the League of Nations if promised the junking of the Versailles Treaty and the granting of colonial concessions to Germany.

All this he offered—if France would break its pact with the U.S.S.R. and if the Powers would help satisfy Germany's land hunger at the expense of the Workers' State.

Hitler bluntly declared that for him the world is divided into "two halves," a truth that cannot fail to strike chords of sympathy in leading currents of both the French and British ruling classes.

The "Two Halves" of the World

"That half which is built up of independent, self-sustaining national States of the peoples with whom we are bound a hundredfold through our history and culture, and with whom we should like, for all the future, to remain bound just as with the free and independent nations of other than European continents (in other words Japan)."

"And in the other half, that which lays claim to general international rule, a doctrine which preaches destruction even to the most eternal and sacred values of this life and the life hereafter, in order to build up another world, which, to us, appears horrible as regards culture and the appearance of its contents."

Hitler made a passionate appeal for European "cooperation," with Germany functioning on a basis of complete armed equality with all the other Powers. He offered cooperation to all Europe on a straightforward anti-Soviet basis.

"I refused and refuse cooperation, not with Russia, but with Bolshevism. . . . I tremble for Europe and the thought of what would happen to our old, over-populated continent if the chaos of a Bolshevik revolution should be successful. . . ."

He appealed directly to France on the basis of a threat of proletarian revolution in that country to drop its alliance with the Soviet Union and joined that appeal to an open threat of independent action "in Germany's own interests" if his terms were not met.

Hitler extended the hand of friendship to Britain, congratulating the "realistic sense of an English administration" which resulted in the conclusion of the Anglo-German naval accord last year.

Fire on France-Soviet Pact

He centred all his fire on the Franco-Soviet pact, marking it off

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