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**Minneapolis: Watch the Fingers of the Frame-Up Artists!**

The cold-blooded murder of Patrick J. Corcoran, secretary-treasurer of the Minneapolis Teamsters' Joint Council has come as a blow and a shock to the entire labor movement of the country.

None but the blind or the mendacious can fail to see and point out in the assassination of Corcoran a treacherous blow aimed at the trade union movement itself. The prompt action of the Joint Council in offering a \$10,000 reward for the apprehension of his murderers and in calling a half-day stoppage on the occasion of his funeral, is an authentic reaction of genuine trade unionism to his assassination. No trade unionism worthy of the name could fail to display the same attitude.

**The Meaning of the Stalinist Attack**

The Minneapolis Stalinists, who control and discredit what is called the CIO in that territory, have already rushed into print with a statement exonerating the bosses in advance of all responsibility for the crime, and calling upon the police to look for the assassin in the ranks of the Drivers' Union leadership.

The meaning of this should be clear to all. These shameless scoundrels, who are nothing but the hired and conscious agents of the international Stalinist frame-up and murder machine, have fish of their own to fry in Minneapolis. Their object is not to protect the labor movement against the horrible menace of assassination and gangsterism.

Indeed, these methods are not alien to their own. Whoever knows, for example, of their most recent exploits in the Cafeteria Union of New York, where they were closely tied-up in the leadership with the remnants of the Dutch Schultz gang, will need no enlightenment as to their true attitude in this question.

No, the Stalinists are not concerned with the struggle of the workers against gangsterism. Their aim is to "smear" the General Drivers Local 544 and concoct a frame-up against its leaders. That is what the Stalinist black guards are up to in Minneapolis. Workers on Guard!

This magnificent labor organization, which was built up to a tower of strength out of nothing, has been a thorn in the side of the Minneapolis and Northwest open-shoppers for the past four years. By sheer militancy and doggedness, it has raised the living conditions and the self-respect of thousands of workers in its territory, and brought to their knees more than one hard-boiled employer. Breaking radically with the conservative and futile methods of old-line unionism, it introduced a new spirit of aggressiveness and mass activity in the Northwest labor movement. After having won signal victories in many of its own battles, it extended the warmest assistance not only to truckers in other cities throughout the Northwest, but gave material, financial and moral aid to the workers of other industries and crafts who asked for 544's help in the fight for organization and union recognition. A thousand tricks by the employers, their Citizens Alliance, their political puppets, and even reactionary labor leaders, have proved incapable of breaking the solidity of Local 544 and its intelligent, class conscious leadership.

**Local 544—A Thorn in the C P's Side**

But Local 544 has also been a thorn in the hide of the Stalinist machine. Bending every effort to take over the control of the Minnesota labor movement for their political ends—that is, for class collaboration, for herding the workers into support of the coming imperialist war—the Stalinists have been frustrated at every turn by the firmness of Local 544 and those workers and labor organizations associated with it. Abuse, slander, blackmail, hooliganism, threats, bribery—all the methods of reaction—have availed the Stalinists nothing. Even after they captured control of the Minnesota CIO movement, and installed their stooges, Smith and Mauseth, as spokesmen of it, they proved unable to crush Local 544. They did succeed, however, in discrediting the great CIO

movement in the eyes of all the militant labor elements in Minnesota who originally looked towards it with cordial sympathy—as was shown by the recent convention of the State Federation of Labor.

Now, however, the Stalinist wrecking crew think they see their supreme chance. They are trying to use the blood of Patrick Corcoran to smear Local 544 and its spokesmen, to discredit it, to break it down; thereby they hope to remove the main obstacle to their bureaucratic dominion over the Minnesota labor movement.

All the statements of Mauseth, and of his bosses in the Daily Worker, all their appeals to Mayor Leach and his Police Chief to strike jointly at Local 544, are calculated toward that end.

**The Plan for a Frame-Up**

They are planning to frame-up the leaders of Local 544 who, according to Alderman Bastis, are next on the murder list—Bill Brown, Vincent Dunne, Grant Dunne, Miles Dunne!

Only those who are purblind, and do not see what the Stalinist vultures are doing throughout the world, can ignore this danger to the Minneapolis labor movement.

The blood-hounds who framed-up and executed hundreds of revolutionists in the Soviet Union know no infamy too loathsome to stop them in their tracks.

The GPU gang which did not hesitate to lynch Andres Nin in Spain, to kidnap, imprison and murder hundreds of Trotskyists, members of the POUM, anarchists, syndicalists and left wings socialists right in the midst of the war against Fascism, will not hesitate at such a "trifle" as framing the militant leaders of Local 544.

The assassins who took the Polish revolutionist, Ignace Reiss, for a ride in Switzerland, in approved Chicago gangster style, and left his corpse riddled with bullets—using White Guard Russians for the purpose—will not hesitate to use the reactionary Mayor and Police Chief of Minneapolis to help exterminate the indomitable fighters who stand in the path of their course of rule-or-ruin.

Workers of Minneapolis! On guard against the frame-up gang! Remember the Stalinist record in Russia, in Spain, in Switzerland. Build an iron wall of militant labor solidarity around Local 544, which is under such severe attack by the enemies of the working class. Turn the searchlight of pitiless publicity on the unspeakable creatures who offer, in public statements, to work with the bosses and the bosses' police.

Watch the finger of the Stalinist frame-up artists!

**Sam Baron Released**

Sam Baron, leading member of the Socialist Party, (Right Wing) has been released from a prison in Loyalist Spain, in which he had been confined by the Stalinist G.P.U. for his refusal to swallow in full the suppression of working class organizations by Stalin's hangmen. In obtaining the release of Baron, the massed protest of working class organizations throughout the world have driven a breach in the frame-up campaign of the Communist International against all those who, to one degree or another, refuse to reconcile themselves with the surrender of independent working class action in Spain and elsewhere for the benefit of the counter-revolutionary bureaucracy.

The Baron case proves that the Stalinist frame-up artists are not beyond control, that their sinister machinations can be exposed and broken down. Baron is free, but dozens, hundreds of other working class victims of Stalinism still remain in the jails of the G.P.U. The fate of Erwin Wolf, of Mark Rein, of Kurt Landau is still unknown. Wolf, Rein, Landau must yet be saved from the G.P.U.'s executioners!

All those who rejoice at Baron's release, all those who cherish the freedom of working class action, all those who realize the danger to the labor movement in the nefarious methods of the Stalinist G.P.U. must join hands in a united front to liberate the other working class victims of Stalinism. Only the broadest united front of labor organizations can stay the hand of the Stalinist madmen.

**Three Cheers For Red (White & Blue)**

We reprint below an item released by United Press from its Washington office. Comment is superfluous.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—Mrs. William A. Becker, national president of the Daughters of the American Revolution—an out-spoken opponent of Communism—last night attended an elaborate reception at the Russian Embassy "to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the great October socialist revolution."

With her was the editor of the D.A.R. magazine, Mrs. Frances Parkinson Keyes.

**Lessons of the Goodyear Sit-Down**

By Blake Lear

AKRON, Ohio, Nov. 21.—The recent sit-down at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company plants in Akron, like similar sit-downs in the auto industry, should be studied carefully by every worker and revolutionist, for they mark a new important stage in the sharpening class struggle in this country, a stage in which the workers—now well organized—are being brought face to face with the fundamental problems of capital-

ism. Trade unionism alone will not solve these problems. A revolutionary political party is needed. The course of the unions in the current period of reaction will depend to a large degree upon what influence revolutionary socialists can exert in the given situations.

Trouble began at the Goodyear factory on Thursday, November 18, when 1,600 men received their lay-off notices. Shortly after midnight, when the militant fourth shift entered the factory, all three plants of the greatest rubber factory in the world were closed tight by a huge sit-down.

This sit-down signalized the breaking into the open of a long, wearing struggle which began with the hiring of 1,500 tire-builders after the great Goodyear strike of last year. The hiring of these men, plus the activity of Goodyear's Gadsden, Los Angeles, and Jackson, Michigan, plants enabled Goodyear to build up a very large inventory which would permit them to close down for long periods of time.

**Why Offensive Was Launched**

Coupled with this is the deep national recession in business, which has reflected itself here in work schedules which average, even the press reports, twelve hours per week. With this well in mind, heartened by the defeat of Little Steel (Tom Girdler is on the board of directors of Goodyear), the defeat of Labor's Non-Partisan League candidate in the mayoralty campaign, a three-way split in the labor movement in Akron, and a reactionary union leadership, the company decided to launch its offensive.

Fourteen hundred men were laid off. There is no relief in Akron. The membership stormed, but no effective opposition leaders existed. Union men knew what was coming. John House, reactionary president of the local, stayed away from the office for weeks—"ill." The company bided its time.

Last Thursday, while House was pursuing interminable negotiations with the company, dismissal notices were sent out. No seniority whatever was observed. Immediately, the "radical" fourth shift sat down when they came in on the graveyard shift—midnight. When the first shift came in at six, they joined those already sitting down.

**House Knives Sit-Downers**

House promptly disclaimed any responsibility for the sit-down. Mayor Schroy's police were immediately dispatched to the plants, where they prevented the hoisting in of food. Governor Davey, who trotted into office clinging to the coat-tails of the great Humanitarian, Roosevelt, and who himself is casting sheep eyes toward the presidency, immediately ordered the national guard to be ready to move into Akron, and denounced the sit-down as, "illegal, immoral, and revolutionary."

A government mediator was rushed in.

On Saturday the sit-downers were ordered out of the plant by the union leadership. Confused, filled with wild rumors, and lacking adequate leadership, the men evacuated the plants—angry, knowing they were being betrayed, but coming out. The so-called Communist Party supported the emptying of the plants. House, to placate the boiling membership, called a meeting for Sunday at the Akron armory for the purpose of deciding what course to pursue. Later, after more conferences with the management, House stated that no strike vote could be taken, the requisite twenty-four hour notice not having been given the members! Saturday night, on the eve of the formulation of one of the most important decisions in the local's history, the members were locked out of their hall!

That the rank and file could have the sell-out agreement rammed down their throats at the Sunday meeting is due entirely to the lack of a genuine leadership of the rank and file operating over a period of months and preparing the membership for just such a crisis. Despite a program advanced by progressive militants at the Sunday meeting, the bureaucracy was able to ride rough-shod over their opposition.

**More Lay-Offs Coming**

The rubber barons and the union bureaucracy have won a temporary victory. Though the membership has been victimized, however, economic laws have their logic. More lay-offs are coming, not only at the Goodyear, but at the other rubber shops as well. The membership will learn, and especially will they learn if the present progressives organize, prepare, and extend their influence.

The old leaders who fought and established the unions in the mass industry have already hardened into harassed bureaucrats. A new cadre of rank and file militants must be created; and in the developing events only revolutionists will be able to give far-sighted and clear direction, because only they see the direction of the motion. They will have to fight the bureaucratic leadership of the C.I.O., as well as that of the A.F. of L. They will have to fight the C.P. which is faithfully acting as the G.P.U. of the bureaucrats in the unions. They will have to expose the treacherous aims of increasing government "mediation." Their influence must be diffused throughout the mass industries.

Lacking a genuinely militant leadership, the unions are in grave danger of having their influence whittled down, and in some cases, of being destroyed altogether. Nevertheless, class conflict on a national scale seems in the offing. This will have its political reverberations. Now, as never before in recent years, will the revolutionary tendency have the possibility of recruitment, not merely from the workers duped by the C.P., but especially from native and heretofore unpoliticalized workers thrown up against the inadequacy of simple trade unionism.