

In The California Labor World

San Francisco Labor Council Condemns Stalinist Frauds

SAN FRANCISCO.—Indignation against the despicable attempts of the Stalinists to introduce the "G.P.U. frame-up methods in the American trade union movement is rising ever more loudly in the ranks of organized labor. Following on the heels of the decisive condemnation of the C.P.'s tactics by the official labor movement in Minneapolis, the San Francisco Labor Council struck another powerful blow against the Stalinist disrupters and slanderers in a resolution adopted by it on Friday, December 10, 1937. We reprint the resolution in full below:

Whereas, The brutal murder of P. J. Corcoran, secretary-treasurer of the Teamsters' Joint Council of Minneapolis was a blow at the labor movement of that city, as well as the general labor movement throughout the United States; and

Commend Teamsters' Council

Whereas, the Teamsters' Joint Council of Minneapolis has offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the assassin or assassins; and

Whereas, In order to protect the labor movement and its chosen officers from a terroristic murder campaign the most relentless efforts must be made to bring the assassins to deserved punishment; and

Whereas, An attempt is being made to attribute the murder of Corcoran to forces inside the labor movement, and to besmirch trade unions with the accusation that "gangsterism and racketeering" inside labor's ranks is responsible for this murder, and this constitutes a foul slander on the bona-fide labor movement and its martyred officer and shields the real murderers and dark forces behind them; and

Whereas, The daily press controlled by the employers and the "Daily Worker" published by the Communist party have joined in a campaign to smear and discredit the martyred Corcoran and the trade union movement, with the charge that his assassination was caused by "racketeering and gangsterism" in the trade unions; and

Whereas, These same forces are active on the Pacific Coast in a like attempt to besmirch the bona fide labor movement, and are joining with the capitalist press in charges of "A.F. of L. and gangster plot" whenever any legitimate conflict arises within the labor movement; and

Warn Against Repetition On West Coast

Whereas, These same forces recently issued public statements attempting to link the Sailor's Union of the Pacific in a plot with the shipowners to throw 35,000 men out of work, and in another statement charged that "A.F. of L. forces within the organized labor movement" were participating in a plot on the life of a well-known West Coast C.I.O. director, and that this plot originated in Minneapolis, and have repeatedly made false charges against the organized labor movement that "gangsters," "goon squads," etc., were ruling the organized labor movement; now, therefore, be it

For Exposing Union Busters

Resolved, that we condemn such tactics by this irresponsible element as splitting and discrediting the labor movement and call for a full concentration of all efforts to expose these anti-labor elements within the labor movement for what they are; union-busting, boss collaborationists who are out to discredit and wreck the bona fide labor movement.

department of justice men arrested the 14 seamen on charges of "mutiny" based on a law passed in 1790! The charges declared that the seamen "were conspiring and endeavoring to revolt against the master of their vessel." The charges are a brazen lie.

Only Crime: Refused To Scab

The only "crime" of the seamen was their refusal to work alongside scabs, and this is an inalienable right of a union man. Convicted on two counts, the 14 seamen face a maximum punishment of five years imprisonment and \$1,000 fine or both. The trial was held in a federal court. A national campaign to rally the organized labor movement against the terrible convictions and for the freedom of the seamen had been announced by the National Maritime Union, of which the workers are members.

STALINISM and BOLSHEVISM
by Leon TROTSKY
10 C
Pioneer Publishers
160 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

West Coast Labor Notes

Harry Bridges, West Coast C.I.O. representative and Stalinist stooge number one, is screaming his lungs out here demanding a government investigation of the San Francisco maritime union! Via the press and through his mouthpiece, James O'Neil, C.I.O. publicity man, Bridges is shouting to high heaven that the Frisco unions are seething with provocateurs, stool pigeons and strike breakers. He claims he has proof of this that he is anxious to present to a government hearing. This flagrant betrayal of elementary trade unionism is obviously and openly directed at the rank and file paper of the Marine Firemen, Oilers, Wipers and Watertenders Association which has rallied over a fourth of the membership of that union around a program of amalgamating the three seafaring crafts on the West Coast—the Sailors', Firemen's and Cooks' unions.

The firemen, sailors, cooks and even the longshoremen in his own union are asking Bridges some very embarrassing questions. They especially want to know why he doesn't give his information to the Maritime Federation of the Pacific so the men in the unions can act instead of

calling in the government to pry into their affairs. Many consider his action to be that of the chief stool pigeon of all. If the government is to have access to the union hall and books it wont need to send in stool pigeons, they argue. The Department of Justice can get all the information it wants direct.

Fired out of the C.I.O. office when she disagreed with the Communist Party, Gertrude Wilk took her case to her union—the United Office and Professional Workers Union, C.I.O. Making a pretense of acting on the case he Stalinist dominated dismissal committee of the union investigated it and on their finding sent a protest against the discrimination to Harry Bridges. When the latter refused to consider the case the Stalinist dominated executive committee of the union voted to drop the matter and to strike references to it from their minutes! A group of progressives in the union issued a leaflet exposing the betrayal of their rights to the membership and have succeeded in rallying a large minority of the members against the Stalinists.

S.U.P. Hits Bridges Call for Gov't Inteferece in Unions

SAN FRANCISCO.—The Sailors Union of the Pacific, at a recent membership meeting, overwhelmingly condemned the action of the Stalinist stooge, Harry Bridges, in attempting to get the federal government to interfere in the affairs of the maritime unions on the West Coast. Constantly losing ground among the rank and file membership of the maritime unions here because of their class collaboration policies and disruptive tactics, the Stalinists have, in desperation, sought to obtain the aid of the Washington authorities, in an effort to stem the tide of resentment among seamen and port workers.

The progressive leadership of the Maritime Federation has made serious advances in every union here, including those controlled by the Bridges gang. The appeal of the San Pedro local of the International Longshoremen's Union, still in the grip of the Bridges gang, to the LaFollette Committee represents an act of desperation on the part of the Stalinists which has served only to intensify the resentment of the workers against them. The S.U.P. resolution, adopted at its last meeting, follows in full:

WHEREAS, Local 1-13 San Pedro I.L.W.U. and Harry Bridges, West Coast C.I.O. Director, have seen fit to send the following telegram to the LaFollette Committee of the United States Senate: "Have every reason to believe and evidence to point that our ranks are infested with industrial spies and provocateurs Stop Request that your committee make arrangements to investigate situation in Maritime Unions on this coast."

AND WHEREAS, the Maritime Unions of the Pacific Coast have demonstrated their ability to conduct their own affairs without the assistance or interference of outside government agencies, and WHEREAS, the function of the

said LaFollette Committee is the investigation of employer spying, thuggery and anti-union activity; the said committee having no right or authority for interference in the internal affairs of labor organizations, and

WHEREAS, this requested investigation is not only an unwarranted insult against all maritime unions on this coast, but would also open the way for a barrage of false and malicious testimony from ship-owners' stool-pigeons, commissar stooges, and every other conceivable type of enemy of the Maritime Unions of the Pacific Coast, and

WHEREAS, this testimony would be planned and calculated to influence unfavorably pending legislation now before Congress,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that we, the members of the Sailors Union of the Pacific meeting in headquarters Monday, December 20th, condemn Harry Bridges and I.L.W.U. 1-13 for this attack on the independence and integrity of the Maritime Unions of the Pacific Coast, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that we notify the LaFollette Committee of the United States Senate that the Maritime Unions of the Pacific Coast are capable of settling their own problems and determined to resist any interference from unauthorized political agents of interests which are outside of, foreign to, and repeatedly hostile to those of the membership of the Maritime Unions of the Pacific Coast.

Copies of this resolution to be sent to Harry Bridges, all I.L.W.U. locals, the LaFollette Committee, the Maritime Federation of the Pacific Coast and its component organizations, the Voice of the Federation and the West Coast Sailor.

(Passed overwhelmingly by the Sailors Union of the Pacific, Monday, December 20, 1937.)

Left Jabs

"The Land of Cotton"

Romance, beautiful women, southern chivalry and happy singing workers in the fields! Ah yes, let us drop in on them. That's what Owen P. White did and he tells about it in "Collier's"

"My Home in Dixie"

"I went into their two-room cabin, with a small kitchen attached, wherein eleven people live, and was amazed at its emptiness. In the kitchen I saw two wooden benches, a rickety table, a crippled cookstove, and as a total visible supply of food for the family, a part of a sack of corn meal and a small slab of fat-back, or grease meat. In the other two rooms were three old double beds on which were three old, thin cotton mattresses covered with torn, worn, cotton quilts. Also in those two rooms, there was only one chair. No sheets, no pillow-cases, no shoes and no clothing were to be seen anywhere in the house, although, hanging on the line outside I noticed a tiny pair of blue overalls, and two or three towels made from fertilizer bags."

"Say Man, How be you?"

In 1935 the F.S.I. (Farm Security Administration) had on its books.... in Alabama and Georgia, 26,259 families, averaging six persons each, whose net worth per family, including clothes, food, livestock, chickens, farm equipment and household furniture, was \$3.03. Their health status is so bad as to be almost unbelievable.... Of 121,388 persons examined twenty-eight per cent had hookworm... children, sixty-two per cent. Venereal diseases are common. Malaria and pellagra likewise are very prevalent."

"Sweet Land of Liberty"

"I saw people who are miserably sick and yet so ignorant that they don't know they are sick. I saw slatternly, barefooted, filthy, tobacco-chewing women; and scabby-headed babies who have never had a bath, except one maybe, since they were born; and adolescent boys and girls; and shifty-eyed, shiftless men, so tired all the time that they'd lie down on the ground to talk to me, all living, eight or ten of both sexes, crowded into one room. Add to this picture child marriage, or not even marriage, with a birth rate three and one half times greater than the national average, and with practically every baby born infected with disease."

"The Gay Southland"

Is it really the same country that the Times says lures the tourists. "Land of cotton fields and share-cropper cabins, of magnolias and vivid moonlight... dogwoods bloom in white clouds over the hills, Cherokee roses... camelias and azaleas bloom riotously in old gardens. Yachting, horse racing, fishing and golf offering diversions. The gayety loving population lives in an atmosphere of festivity, Mardi Gras... garden tours, flower shows, musical events... yellow jessamine, wild honey-suckle etc., etc." Let us be thankful, there are no classes in America.

Algic Trial Hits Labor

Ship Strikers Condemned As Mutineers For Solidarity Move

(Continued from page 1)

sit-down to help the strike of longshoremen at Montevideo, Uruguay this September.

Nothing would be more fatal to Roosevelt's pro-war policies than a continuation of the feeling of international solidarity among the maritime workers since it will be difficult to drag the trade union movement into an imperialist war to slaughter their union brothers in other countries, if solidarity exists.

Foreshadows War Regime

How ruthless Roosevelt will be against the labor movement during the coming world war was demonstrated by the manner the Algic sit-down was broken.

The captain of this government-owned ship wired Washington for instructions on handling the sit-down. "Put them in irons," replied Joseph Kennedy, then head of the Maritime Commission, "and send them home."

When the Algic returned here,