

# Win the Miners' Strike!

LABOR UNITY received a statement on the miners' strike issued by the Trade Union Educational League, which we publish herewith.

THE Miners' Union is facing serious danger. The hundreds of thousands of workers employed in the mining industry and mercilessly exploited by the mine owners are confronted by a determined effort on the part of the employers to strike a deadly blow at the union and to reduce the standard of living of the workers to a starvation level.

The arrogant offensive of the operators calls for the most thorough organization of all the workers' resources. It must be resisted with all the power at the command of the union. The thing that is at stake is the very life of the Miners' Union. A victory of the mine owners would mean increased misery and starvation for the miners, their wives, and their children.

The Lewis administration has failed completely to mobilize the workers and to prepare the union for the struggle. The vital task of the hour, the organization of the unorganized miners, was totally ignored. The demands of the progressive rank and file to put the union in shape for an effective strike was met with attack and persecution.

The coal operators are making all preparations in anticipation of the coming coal strike. The government, too, is making preparations to enter into the strike in its traditional role of strike-breaker to crush the workers and help the employers. The miners must be fully conscious of the nature of the class struggle in which they are about to engage and which will have to be prosecuted with the utmost determination and political consciousness in order to secure victory for the miners. This is a struggle which must heighten the political understanding of the workers, accelerate the movement for a labor party, and pave the way for an energetic struggle for the nationalization of the coal mines.

The union cannot afford to give in to the demands of the mine owners. Acceptance of the employers' terms would mean destruction of the union and slavery for the miners. The challenge of the coal barons must be met by a determined and militant strike in the entire coal industry, supported by the labor movement as a whole. The proposal for separate district agreements, which is calculated to divide the miners and strengthen the employers, must be categorically rejected. A national strike for a national bituminous agreement must be the demand of all workers employed in the mining industry. Out of this struggle should come a strengthened Miners' Union and an aggressive campaign to organize every miner in the country.

Miners! Mobilize your forces for the strike on April 1st. Make the strike a national strike in the entire coal mining industry. Demand a national agreement and resist district settlements. No wage cuts for the organized miners. Wage increases for the unorganized. Demand the utmost concentration by the union to bring the unorganized miners out on strike. Beware of the reactionary Lewis machine. Demand a special national convention of the Miners' Union to insure the victory of the strike. Defend your standards of living and save your union.

Workers of all industries! The fight of the miners is the fight of the whole labor movement. A defeat of the U. M. W. A. in the coming strike would be a defeat for every section of organized labor. Therefore the entire trade union movement must rally solidly behind the miners and extend them every possible support. The miners' strike must be won.

TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE,

Wm. Z. Foster, Secretary.