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THE UNEMPLOYED BIG JOKE ON CAPITALISTS

Buy A Plot of Ground In Heart of Sacramento's Swell Residence Quarter, And Can't Be Moved By Authorities

(Sacramento Star, March 18)
The unemployed "army" put over one huge joke on Sacramento Wednesday.
Sacramento is giggling, the police are dumfounded and the district attorneys are working frantically while 150 unemployed are hanging out their shirts and socks on the limbs of trees in 1 1/2 acres of reclaimed "all their own" in the exclusive city of Oakridge Acres, outside the limits of the city where millionaires live.
Supposedly penniless, they hold a contract for the ground and swarmed there like ants to their mounds Wednesday morning when the police allowed them to march through Sacramento city twice and three after they agreed to disperse from the Yolo county sand lot.
And all their neighbors, including the families of former Sen. Marshall Diggs, A. A. Truablood, financier, and Dr. H. W. Strader and a hundred more of the elite, watched the army march and camp while the district with arms full of blankets packed with pots and pans while some stood watching cocks at the back door.
Then came the wagons of tents, the cooking utensils which could not be carried on back and piles of wood, all of which was dumped on the "vain" ground. When the "army" started to spread news of their rich woe up and started to fume and cuss, call up the police, county sheriffs and all the district attorneys in town.
The only reply they got was: "The army has tied us into a knot. They've gone and bought the land for \$500, the contract was made out and even Morris Brooke, of the Brooke Realty Company, whose agent sold the lot to Mr. McClure, a captain in Gen. Kelley's army, is almost sick in bed over it because Brooke's \$10,000 home is right in the neighborhood."
Sen. Marshall Diggs' \$20,000 concrete mansion adjoining the "armies' plot, Dr. Strader's \$15,000 stone home, with its 200,000 dollar estate in calling distance and A. A. Truablood's \$10,000 place near the "army" to move have been met with orders from the district attorneys to get their place.
The contract for this lot and the receipt of the first payment of \$70 has been shown all the curious and while the unemployed sat around and grinned the police backed away to avoid meeting the district attorneys.
Morris Brooke, whose agent unwittingly signed the contract, was the first to kick against the "army." He telephoned Sheriff Aborn and said: "The army is here taking all the wood on my place," said Brooke. "They are tearing up all the stakes and when I told them to get out they told me to go to hell."
Sheriff Aborn went to the scene with four deputies. Already there were 50 men on the lot.
"We won't get out," they yelled. "It's our lot," and straight-away they produced the contract.
Sheriff Aborn took him to his office and was taken ill with heart trouble. He was later taken to hospital in a taxi. He was immediately ordered to bed by an attending physician, who advised he be taken down to overlook in handling the unemployed situation for the last 10 days.
Atty. E. N. Mitchell was the attorney who helped McClure negotiate the deal. Mitchell declared that he did not know the land was being purchased for the unemployed.

McClure was seen on the main streets at a noon meeting with members of the "army" that had been let over the bridge from Yolo county. He said that McClure had been placed at the Twelfth street bridge on the road leading to Oakridge Acres to direct all the unemployed to their new possession.
According to the agent who sold the land attempts were made by McClure to close the deal Tuesday night.
"We told him that that would be impossible," said the agent, "as the papers had been packed. He came around the first thing in the morning and the papers were returned over. Of course we know for whom the land was being bought."
Brooke, owner of the firm who sold the property, is about the maddest man in town over the deal.

CONDITIONS IN SOUTH CAROLINA REACTION AGAINST GUN- MEN IN SACRAMENTO

(Special to Solidarity)
Spartanburg, S. C., March 16.
Since leaving Cleveland, I have traveled as far south as this town, and expect to go next to Asheville, N. C., or Augusta, Ga., in a couple of months.
There are no roads around here that I can find. The numbers are the only ones who have a semblance of an organization. They have an A. F. of L. local here and nearly all the rest work 10 and 11 hours per day. I worked nearly work for one of the big cotton mill settlements near here. They paid us (plus food) 10 and 11 hours per day. We had to work 10 hours. They said it would not do to have us working 11 hours. We had to work 11 hours. The bosses are wise and know what is going on in the world of labor, and they take every precaution to keep their lives in ignorance.
I tried to talk to some of these "rick handlers" but they were very dissatisfied with the miserable conditions under which they live and are afraid of direct tactics on a number of them.
In this mill that I speak of they work 60 hours per week, 11 hours per day for five days and six hours on Saturday. But the whistle does not blow at quitting Saturday, because they are working the hands in the nearby mills, they work all day on Saturday and might start them on J. W. COX.
(Special to Solidarity)
Sacramento, Calif., March 19.
In reviewing the situation here in this city of pick handles and fire hose, there have been several little stunts pulled off which to the class conscious worker appear more or less comical. One policeman dead, the county sheriff not expected to live, Causey-Steretis, though the papers give the cause as heart trouble resulting from overwork and worry from handling unemployed army the past few days.
A reaction has set in against the "rick handlers" or special deputy sheriffs who for the first few days were real heroes, but as is always the case with the hired gunman who, after doing his dirty work is supposed to vanish, these gangs made up of most part of miners, wine-bums and saloon hangers have as yet failed to go, and remain "rick handlers" or special deputy sheriffs who are trying to forget Sacramento by staying all day at direct tactics on a number of them.
The American Federation of Labor president of the Cigarettes Union, was kicked and beaten up and expelled from the union. Two members of the Cement Workers Union met the same fate. And investigations are under way in many other craft unions.
Verly, Gunman, your name is mud.
DON. D. SCOTT.

Some Observations In Europe

(Special to Solidarity)
Lausanne, Switzerland, Feb. 28.
The last time I saw you in Cleveland I promised to write you a letter along my European trip. I have waited quite a while before doing so, because a fellow cannot get a good impression of a country, its people and its customs and especially a knowledge of the labor movement unless he stays in that particular country a certain length of time.
I took passage at New York on a steamer, and after a few days a ten days voyage we landed in Havre. When we got through with the few formalities of the custom house, we boarded a train for Paris. Right there I took notice that the cars were dirty and the men were unclean, and so much out of date. The American workers would be the whole outfit as unfit for human travel.
I went to the headquarters of the C. G. T., and had a talk with Jouhaux, the general secretary, and Monod, the editor of "La Vie Ouvriere." The latter seems to be particularly well posted regarding the labor situation in France, and my talk we had together, and I could never impress upon me the idea that industrial unionism was a superior form of organization to that of the C. G. T. The anarchist spirit has left its impression, even if they won't admit it. They are of the opinion that a centralized form of organization is detrimental to the workers and that it inevitably kills the spirit of a private initiative in the individual. As far as the German trade unions are concerned the statement is true, because in Germany centralization is pushing an extreme. There was a strike, however and it resulted in 400 and 400 men, while I was in Paris I attended a meeting at the "Bourse du Travail," called under the auspices Hill.
The Workingmen's Defense League of Los Angeles, sends to Solidarity a complete report in detail of receipts and expenditures for the defense of the so-called rioters at the Plaza in that city last Christmas. The report shows total receipts of \$1,200 and \$206. In the same connection is a detailed report of the "Bourse du Travail" of the Worker Adams, who was killed in the riot. The report for the general fund for the "Bourse du Travail" totaled \$55,641; funeral expenses, \$65,000; and \$100,000 for the "Bourse du Travail," called under the auspices Hill.

The Police and the Unemployed

The unemployed problem continues to agitate New Yorkers in various ways that are illuminating and side-splitting. The newspapers having declared that the original statistics of unemployment, used by the I. W. W., were misleading, the police were ordered to take a census instead. These "I. W. W. figures," it must be stated, were originally compiled by Supt. Hopkins, of the employment bureau of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. They were the tabulated results of letters sent to and answered by labor organizations, charity societies, corporations, employment agencies, and other mediums of employment. They showed 325,000 to be unemployed in New York city. Then came the I. W. W., unemployed demonstrations and with them the newspaper repudiation of Supt. Hopkins' figures; and the taking of the police census. Now, it may be observed in passing, that the police, as unemployed census takers, are fulfilling a new police function. It is also Mayor Mitchell's way of "solving the unemployed problem." Mayor Mitchell is one of those benign gentlemen who will do anything for the unemployed but give them a job. He is a reformer; and the first step, to reform is to complicate a very simple situation.
Well, the police, always reliable and honest, never guilty of participation in fraudulent manipulation or malfeasance. But their census shows 100,000 to be unemployed in greater New York. It so happens that the writer lives in a flat which is the inhuman habitation of eight families. To his own knowledge, there were three men in this house unemployed, by the time the census was being taken, viz: a printer, a structural iron worker and an interior painter. Inquired on the part of the writer has revealed the fact that the police have not visited this flat to interrogate ANY FAMILY in it regarding unemployment. How many other houses, containing unemployed, did these conscientious policemen avoid?
So much for the municipal police; now for another kind of police, the kind that William English Walling joins Lloyd George in calling "the best policemen for the syndicalists," namely, the opportunistic socialist parties.
It happened in Cooper Union, on March 19. The Socialist party called a meeting to consider state insurance for unemployed in connection with the prevailing unemployed problem. A meeting for workmen—ostensibly—was called, but unemployed were not permitted to give their side from the platform. It was like playing Hamlet with Hamlet left out. And for the same reason that Mayor Mitchell took the police census—for political effect. State unemployed insurance has never settled the unemployed problem. It has placed the cost of unemployment maintenance on the workers and driven Germany's unemployed, for instance, to other countries, there to enhance the unemployed problem still more. It is a questionable palliative, fastening the greatest grip on the worker and making the latter less self-reliant and independent.
The meeting in Cooper Union resulted in the arrests of Joe O'Carroll and Jack Morris; who are held on charges of "inciting to riot," because the workers present insisted on O'Carroll's being allowed to talk for them! There was much turbulence and some blows; but, think of it, workmen who insist on speaking on matters more vitally affecting themselves than the Hillcuts, who pretend to talk for them, are charged with "inciting to riot." And, yet, the "class conscious" politicians are so busy with theory that they are barely distinguished from them. History will not repeat itself with them, except in so far as such repetition but accentuates their resemblance to reaction. Yes, the funniest thing in the unemployed situation is the "class consciousness" Socialists, who are more conscious of policy than they are of the meaning of their high-sounding phrases. They are the butt of ridicule in many working class quarters, besides those of the I. W. W.
J. E.

Here's A Chance To Kick At The Boss

Kennett, Shaasta Co., Cal., Mar. 17.
Solidarity:
I am in issue of March 7th, I notice an article headed, "A Donation with a Kick." I will be cheerfully given to those who desire to promote the cause of the unemployed to do excellent work towards building up this, the only miners' local in California, and the only one in the world. Born in Redding, I will stand the gaff on the job of laboring men. Several good industrial salvation among the slaves of the mine. I am a member of the W. F. of M. of Kennett Local of the W. F. of M. It is nothing more or less than a "volunteer" chance to make a kick never has or never will be any more made by the W. F. of M. to improve conditions of the mine. An invitation is cordially extended to our friends with the kick to roll his clothes and become a member of the W. F. of M. of Kennett. The W. F. of M. has a local at Kennett, which maintains a good record for the past year. This secretary visits the camps he is allowed expenses. The eight-hour law (capitalist legislation) is openly violated by the mining companies and the W. F. of M. has never dared for the chance to make a kick. The old timers are disgusted with the tactics of the mine, and are ripe for the teachings of the O. B. U. Free reading room—Ed. Ray, Los Angeles.

NOTICE

WITH the coming issue we hope to have the entire subscription list of The Industrial Worker on our mailing list. Those who were already subscribers of Solidarity will have their subscription extended to the time due them from the Worker. This has meant a very heavy financial burden to Solidarity to fill these subscriptions due to the increased amount of paper and postage needed, and the fact that the organization has not been in shape to reimburse us for this expense. This will also further deplete the receipts on account of the delayed renewals of subscriptions extended way ahead of time.
However, we are glad to reach this number of new readers with our propaganda and give them value received for their money, and hope to be able to make the grade with the help of each of our readers. Now is the time to get on our feet. Do your utmost to boost the \$1,000 fund and secure new readers. Introduce our literature and paper to your friends. In short it will be necessary to use every means at our command to Boost, Boost, BOOST for a larger and better paper. Let us hear from YOU today.

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Local 318 wants to hear from George McClure, whose duplicate card No. 82,774, is held by the local. McClure will do well to get in touch at once—J. B. Benson, Sec'y, Box 219, Redding, Cal.

