

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE

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National Fight In Textile Strike

Lawrence Strike Develops Opposing Camps Because of Treachery of Reactionary and Traitorous Officials of United Textile Workers

Lawrence, Massachusetts, has been the scene of a bitter struggle in the labor movement. The workers have been on the firing line in some of the hottest fights that occurred between capital and labor in the United States, and they have had years of experience with the facts. As a result the strikers are not particularly welcome during periods of strife, the workaholic of the strike, Thomas F. McMahon, president of the United Textile Workers, decided to go to Lawrence and take the strike over his own control. Unfortunately for Mr. McMahon the strikers of Lawrence had not forgotten the shameful actions of his predecessor, John Golden, who in 1912 as president of the United Textile Workers of America, led the strike to obtain "union scale" and to break the strike, while the men and women of Lawrence were on the streets joining to the battle of their lives against the lawless boss.

When Mr. McMahon arrived in Lawrence and proceeded to work he was met by a delegation from other unions, which has been organized in Lawrence for a year and a half, and tried to help organize the scattered labor against the employers. This McMahon refused to do. At a meeting of the Committee to Save the Majority of the strikers decided to refuse the action of the president of the United Textile Workers and accepted the leadership of the O. B. U. in the strike. Ben Lawrence, an organizer of the O. B. U., and a resident of Lawrence is the moving figure in the strike and is widely known as the "Red" of Lawrence. He is a determined leader at Lawrence, and it is his aim to ward off any action throughout the strike area of New England.

Propose One Day Strike

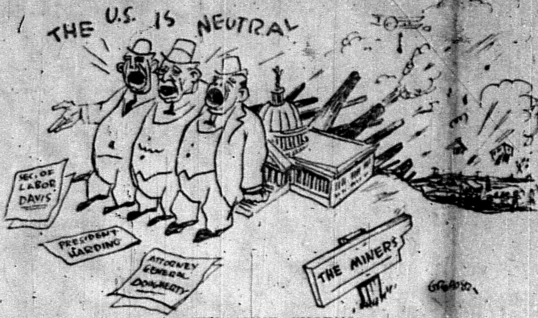
A proposal for a one day strike of all the workers in Lawrence in support of the objects of the O. B. U. is being made. The proposal is being brought by the officers of the United Textile Workers, who evidently believe in playing the game of the houses by keeping the workers from taking united action. It has been charged time and again that the reactionary control of the United Textile Workers in the Lawrence strike process is, at least in part, the small support that the United Textile Workers have given to the O. B. U.

Troops Withdrawn From Part of Zone

All National Guard troops except a detail of twenty-five men left to look after the handling and shipment of Quartermaster stores and supplies were withdrawn from strike area in Blackstone Saturday and de-mobilized by order of Governor Sanborn. The departure of the troops marked the close of nearly eight weeks of military occupation of the city, which began Feb. 21 following a fatal riot at the Jencks Spinning Company's plant.

Should Agree on Unity of Action

In a struggle of this kind it is absolutely necessary that unity of action be secured, for although the strike so far has been magnificent and has advanced steadily, there is al-



THE ANVIL CHORUS

Russia and Germany Sign Treaty That Staggers Allied Envoys

Agreement Reached on Easter Sunday That Wipes Slate Clean and Restores Pre War Relationship - France May Not Continue in Conference as Result of Pact

LOYD GEORGE CENSURES GERMANY FOR ACTION

Most Important Document Drawn Up Since Close of War - Of More Importance to World Than Treaty of Versailles - Pact Was Inevitable - Allied Press Unrestrained Denunciation

Germany and Russia have signed a treaty under which relations are to be resumed at once upon a basis of complete equality. The burden of the agreement is a reciprocal discharge of war obligations. All expenses involved between the two countries during the war are renounced and the slate is wiped clean in all war claims of any kind are concerned. The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk has been officially abrogated by the action of the two nations involved, although one of the demands of the Versailles Treaty was that it must be repudiated.

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N. S. Wales Labor Joins The Red International

The Labor Council of New South Wales, the largest trade union organization in the Australian continent, has carried a motion to affiliate with the Red Trade Union International. The constitution of the council will have to be altered to bring it into line with the constitution of the Red International.

NUMBER ON STRIKE INCREASES OVER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND BRINGING TOTAL TO 630,000

Many Thousand Workers Flock to Ranks of Striking Miners Daily and Strike at Beginning of Third Week Gaining in Power as It Sweeps Masses Into Organized Fight Against Labor-Hating Coal Barons

RAILROAD WORKERS ALSO HELP ORGANIZE

Activity of Railroaders So Effective That Coal Barons Are Trying to Devises Means of Suppressing Rail Unions in Coal Districts - United States Steel Mills Can Run About One Week More Because of Stoppage of Coal Supply

As the great mine strike enters its third week industrial America is rapidly approaching the stage where complete paralysis will hold it in its grasp. Against the power of the mine barons and their unscrupulous henchmen, against the Constabulary of Pennsylvania and against the judges of West Virginia, the strike has steadily progressed and has enlisted in its ranks thousands more non-union men than ever the fondest dreams of the leaders anticipated.

By the time the strike enters its fourth week, it is doubtful if there is coal enough on hand or coal that can be shipped into the district sufficient to enable them to run for another week. In the steel district all the power of the labor-hating corporation, under control of Judge Elbert H. Gary, have been invoked against the mine strikers, but so far the struggle has increased in numbers and intensity and the strikers are redoubling their efforts to enlist every non-union worker in the entire industry.

Three Internationals Adopt Weak Program

Public Mass Demonstrations Urgent Efforts to Be Put Forward in Face of World Crisis That Challenge Organized Power of Proletariat

At the recent meeting of the representatives of the Executives of the British, French and German Three Internationals, a decision was reached for "practical united action" to be taken at the earliest possible date. The attempt to rally the working class that has been attempted elsewhere, has failed. There was adopted and signed a joint declaration, the main features of which are the following five points, which they urge the proletariat of all nations to support by public mass demonstrations during the Geneva conference, preferably on April 20, but if impossible on that date owing to the difficulties of organization or otherwise, on May 1.

General Strike in Portugal

A general strike has been declared in Portugal in protest against the arrest of 120 Syndicalists. So far, however, the call has not met with any response, mostly on note from the workers.

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WORKERS' CHALLENGE

A Weekly Labor Paper

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A LABOR 'VICTORY'

In the city of Chicago the Amalgamated Clothing Workers were compelled to take a wage cut of ten per cent. It was a palpable defeat and a definite set-back to the organization...

An honest labor leader would have admitted the defeat, explained the economic errors made in regard to the unfavorable expiration of contracts and urged the membership to take advantage of the first opportunity to take back by force what has been taken from them by force.

The Chicago wage cut is a 'great victory' indeed in the eyes of the rank and file and the labor press.

'REVOLUTIONARY' TACTICS

The Workers' Party of America loudly protests against the charges of the genuine revolutionists of the United States to the effect that it is a 'centrist' party, or worse.

More 'revolutionary' tactics are indulged in when Mr. Allison, who is circulation manager, announced in a panegyric to the staff of The Worker that Louis Engdahl, instead of serving the capitalist class with his valuable talents and experience...

Everyone knows that the Workers' Council leaders would never have consented to affiliating their organization with the American Labor Alliance had it not been for the fact that they were all promised a place at the pie-counter along with the leaders of the A. L. A.

a concrete example of revolutionary tactics, by using the avowed 'centrist' of the Workers' Council for their own ends.

Now we have had four months of revolutionary practice of the Workers' Party avowedly, and we find that the avowed centrists have merely their leadership, while the leadership of the American Labor Alliance, which was centrist, but who denied their centrist tendencies and persistently revolutionary phrases while sabotaging revolutionary practice.

We find that the avowed centrist, Engdahl, who wanted to become affiliated with the Third International in order to change it from within, holds one of the most responsible positions in the organization, that of managing editor of the official organ of the party, The Worker.

The executive secretary is Caleb Harrison, one of the American Labor Alliance group. There is also an assistant secretary named Jim F. Kruse. Harrison has been in the rear most of the time since the organization of the Workers' Party, therefore he needs an 'assistant'.

No wonder the Workers' Party propaganda appears like the canned dog of the old Socialist Party that used to be dumped out of the rear of the car.

It can accomplish this only if it is an absolutely independent organization with a definite program of its own.

If dishonesty were the exclusive qualification necessary to hold a job on a capitalist sheet, Engdahl would be one of the supreme journalists of the world.

Worker for April 15 there is an article on 'Gena, Soviet Russia and the Proletariat' written by William Koenen, of Berlin. The article is published in the International Press Correspondence service furnished in all languages from a central office in Berlin, Germany.

There is a great deal of discontent expressed to the Workers' Party by the members of the American Labor Alliance group and the situation keeps the leaders of that faction of the Workers' Party busy finding plausible excuses for their mistakes.

One of the stories peddled by the leaders of the American Labor Alliance group is that the Workers' Party is a unit with the Lore-Engdahl-Trachtenberg group in order to prevent their organizing a 'pure' centrist party and gaining the support of hundreds of thousands of workers.

ON THE UNITED FRONT

By Leon Trotsky

The function of a Communist Party is to lead the proletarian revolution in order to call upon the proletariat to seize the reins of government.

But as long as it has not such a majority at its command, it must fight to win over the majority.

It can accomplish this only if it is an absolutely independent organization with a definite program of its own.

After the Communist Party has gained its independence and achieved the ideological homogeneity of its membership, it struggles for influence among the majority of the working class.

It is self-evident that during this period of preparation the class-struggles of the proletariat do not cease.

It is thus that the existing conditions

front arises out of the necessity of enabling the workers to organize a united front in their struggle against the bourgeoisie.

Where the Communist Party is as yet only an organization of an insignificant minority, the question of its attitude towards the united front is one of no great importance or of any practical organizational significance.

But in those countries where the Communist Party is the only leading organization of the workers, as in Bulgaria, for instance, there can also be no question or problem of a united front.

But what is still more: the Communist Party must itself seize the initiative in effecting and maintaining unity in the course of these struggles.

Without effecting a radical and final breach with the Social Democrats the Communist Party would never have become the party of the proletarian revolution.

Whoever fails to grasp this, does not understand the first letter of the Communist alphabet.

Had the Communist Party not followed the path which at every given moment enabled it to undertake common actions of the proletarian class, it would never have been able to bring about a Communist propaganda society.

It does not at all suffice merely to unite the ranks of the proletarian class.

Does the united front apply to the working masses alone or does it also hold for the proletarian class as a whole?

This is the second letter in the Communist alphabet.

Of course, it would be better if we could simply rally the working masses about our flag and our practical slogans of the day, without the reformist, political, as well as trade-union organizations.

The very reason d'etre for this problem is that certain, very considerable parts of the working-class belong to and support these reformist organizations.

The first one, the Communist group, is striving for the Social Revolution.

The second one, the Reformist group, is knitting the cloak of reconciliation with the bourgeoisie.

It is thus that the existing conditions

make possible the uniting of the workers in these three sorts of organizations and of the inorganized masses influenced by these organizations for common action in a number of proletarian life-questions.

We repeat that not only are Communists not to oppose such common actions, but they are to assume the initiative for the following reasons.

But we have not severed our connections with them? Yes, because we did not agree in the basic questions of the labor movement.

Will they, however, not claim that although we broke away from them, we nevertheless need them? Yes, indeed, their leaders can say it.

Of course, the policy adopted for the united front does not guarantee an actual united front in all cases.

But this discipline cannot be absolute. In cases where the reformists proceed to carry on the struggle to their detriment of the movement and against the trend of circumstances and the will and spirit of the masses, we always retain the right to proceed as an independent organization and to carry on the struggle to their bitter end without our provisional half-allies.

Only a journalist who thinks he is warring off the reformists by always criticizing them with the very same expressions and epithets, without as much as leaving his editor's desk, only he who actually fears a collision with the reformists in the presence of the masses, who also fears lest the working masses get the opportunity to compare the Communists with the Reformists by carrying out the mass-organizing struggle, will be so frightened as to interpret this policy in terms of an approach towards the reformists or reformism.

Under this veil of revolutionary fear of 'approach' we find hidden political passivity, that is passivity that wishes in the continuation of that condition that permits of strictly separated and limited fields of activity of distinct meeting-audiences and press, both for the Communists and reformists.

We have broken with the reformists and with the centrists in order to have unlimited freedom to criticize betrayals, deceptions, indecision and division in the labor movement.

We participate in the united front; but not for a moment do we dissociate in it. We take part in it as an independent unit.

We will see that we fight with more determination, self-consciousness and cleverness in our common actions, because the formation of the united revolutionary front under an undisputed Communist leadership

is thus that the existing conditions