

Social-Democracy Strips Itself Naked

(Continued from page 1)

leaders. When those gentlemen entered the strike committee, it was their task to promote the strike, for their standpoint was too anti-socialist, too anti-peaceful, too much in favor of the commanding general of the army. They took part in the strike for the purpose of preventing it, and they did so with the idea of being ready on the spot should something happen.

Blunderbuss (harshly): Why did the social democratic party not issue warnings against the strike, like the Christian and Hitroch Duncer take unions?

WITNESS WUSCHIK: If the party committee had been anxious for the strike to last as long as possible and to be carried on with the utmost energy, all it had to do was to give this advice to the workers, many of whom were opposed to the party committee.

(Vorwärts, Dec. 10, 1924, evening edition.)

WITNESS WUSCHIK: Certainly, in some works the workers were

called up by the military authorities on the third or fourth day of the strike. At that time the Spartacus movement was active in propagating the idea of refusing military service. One worker submitted this question specially to Ebert, and Ebert declared that he could not by any means support this proposition of the radicals. However, he said it might be for the individual, the call to military service must be unconditionally obeyed.

(Vorwärts, Dec. 10, 1924, evening edition.)

Equal Representation?
WITNESS WUSCHIK: However, we did not let loose, and finally succeeded in having three delegates allowed us, the independent social democrats also having three representatives in the strike committee. We did not obtain this from the meeting itself but from the strike committee, which included Haase, Ledebour and Dittmann. Further hours of persuasion were required before our party committee was induced to exercise influence upon the action, for the purpose of bringing it to an end as speedily as possible.

(Vorwärts, Dec. 10, 1924, evening edition.)

COMMUNIST-CHILDREN COLUMN

Philanthropy: Where the Money Comes From

By MARTIN P. MORRIS.

JOHET, Ill., Feb. 20.—Here is a picture of capitalism in action that is real food for thought for every child of the working class.

On Jan. 26, 1924, the board voted to abolish three kindergarten classes and to stop the feeding daily of 30 undernourished boys and girls. In steps our kind benefactor, Mr. Theodore Gerlach, owner of one of the country's largest calendar-making factories. He publicly announced that he will donate \$1,105 to continue the feeding of poor children each day. And all the church-going people pray for his soul that he may fly right into heaven when he dies.

But Communists are different. They investigate. And here is the dope on Theodore Gerlach.

In Gerlach's factory is employed the sister of one of the poorly fed kindergarten tots. This girl is sixteen years of age and every day she works in this factory to help support a big family of brothers and sisters. Her job is painting little cards for which up to Feb. 9 she was receiving \$1.00 per day or one cent a card. Then Mr. Gerlach, the benefactor, ordered a

cut in wages. So now she gets only 80 cents a hundred. His reason is that one highly skilled worker in a test case of two weeks continues speeding was able to earn \$35 during those two weeks.

This may sound like fiction, but it is the real truth of capitalist exploitation as witnessed in Jolet, Ill.

750,000 Irish Workers AND Peasants Are Starving
The failure of the potato crop and the destruction of the fuel supply has left them cold and hungry.
THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN ARE SLOWLY DYING OF HUNGER

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as possible. Ledebour exerted his utmost eloquence to prevent the admission of the majority socialist. When he did not succeed in this, he finally observed to me: "Well, Witness, now you have throttled the strike, for that is the sole task intended to be accomplished here by your party friends."

(Vorwärts, Dec. 10, 1924, evening edition.)

No Political Demands!
ADOLF RICHTER was then briefly informed. At the time of the union workers' strike he participated in the consultations with the party committee of the S. D. party as he himself was an independent. According to his evidence, President Ebert declared at that time in the party committee that:

the party leaders of the German S. D. party would by no means share the responsibility for this strike if it were required before our party committee was induced to exercise influence upon the action, for the purpose of bringing it to an end as speedily as possible.

(Vorwärts, Dec. 11, evening edition.)

Ebert's Further Declaration.
 "I was never of the opinion that strikes could shorten the war. I never said to anybody that he should refuse to obey when called up for military service, much less made a public appeal to that effect. Such an utterance on my part would have been inconsistent with my attitude towards the war before and after the strike."

(JUSTITIZEN) recalled that at a session of the S. D. party committee at that time the question was raised from another side, of whether public commands to join the army should be obeyed or not. We were unanimous in the opinion that, should there be any indication that workers would refuse to obey when called up, this tendency should be decidedly combated. I also distinctly recalled that I informed the chief chairman of the general commission of the trade unions, Bauer, of the views of the party leaders on this subject. Bauer declared himself in agreement with me.

(Vorwärts, Dec. 11, evening edition.)

(continued next week.)

Big Mass Meeting

to be held
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1925, 8 P. M.
 at
3201 SO. WABASH AVENUE
 SOUTH SIDE COMMUNITY CENTER
SPEAKERS:
KARL REEVE E. L. DOTY
GORDON OWENS

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SPECIAL MAGAZINE SUPPLEMENT THE DAILY WORKER

February 21, 1925.

Social-Democracy Strips Itself Naked

EBERT SPEAKS
FROM the beginning of the war until the end I stood without reservation on the side of defense of passive countries, and acted accordingly. During the whole war I was opposed to strikes among the workers of our country. I spoke with particular emphasis to this effect at the national conference of the German democratic party on Sept. 21, 1916.

The munition workers' strike in Berlin in January, 1918 broke out without the prompting or approval of the social democratic party.

Neither had I personally anything whatever to do with the strike either directly or indirectly, on the contrary, it took me completely by surprise.

In the morning of Jan. 28, 1918, a rapid succession of workers' delegations from numerous Berlin works presented themselves at the office of the social democratic party, bringing reports on the strike and requesting that the central committee of the social democratic party should send representatives to the strike committee, in order to prevent violence from happening. On behalf of the party leaders I pointed out that the strike had originated without the cooperation or approval of the social democratic party. The strikers had already elected a strike committee and formulated certain demands. After this nobody could expect the leaders of the social democratic party to undertake the subsequent responsibility. The workers' delegations then asked if the party leaders would send a delegation to the strike committee, should the delegates' meeting request them to do so. After a long discussion this was replied to in the affirmative.

Here the decisive motive of the party leaders was to prevent the interests of the country from being injured by the strike and to try to bring the strike to an end as speedily as possible, by means of negotiations with the government.

ATTER a violent contention in the delegates' meeting itself, the majority of the meeting voted for the motion and the committee of the social democratic party commissioned Otto Braun, Scheidemann, and myself to undertake the party representation of our entry into the strike committee. In view of the protest declared to the workers' delegation that the strike committee was to be organized on party lines, it is clear that the social democratic party was to be represented in the committee in equal numbers as the independent social democratic party. It was agreed that a renewed discussion on the demands already formulated was to be made possible.

(Berlin, Vorwärts, Dec. 10.)

MILITARIST THANKS EBERT.

TODAY I am of the opinion that the fully settled if the German government had not adopted a formalist standpoint. In Cologne the commander of the fortress expressed his thanks to the representatives of social democracy for what they had accomplished in preventing Germany's being injured with relation to abroad. At that time I emphasized, at a strike meeting, that the strike was not sense, since the English munition workers were even inspiring their holidays.

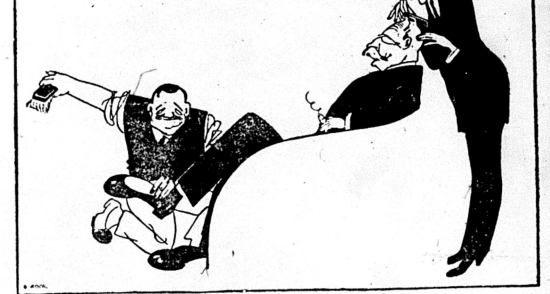
(Berlin, Reichs-Polize, Dec. 14.)
N Munich, the then Bavarian party committee, von Dittmann, spoke on the strike on Feb. 1, 1918 in the presence of deputies. In the course of his

speech he turned to the social democrats with the following words:
 He thanked them for having now undertaken the leadership of the affair, for from them he hoped that they would guide the movement to a peaceful conclusion, and thus out an end to the insurrection, which was really damaging us seriously in our relations with abroad.

(Vorwärts, Dec. 10.)

FROM DITTMANN'S EVIDENCE.

WITNESS DITTMANN: The social democrats, and the independent



Henderson King George MacDonald
KING GEORGE: As long as the Second International exists the King can slumber and arise in tranquility.

As well, had invariably declared open that it is the duty of every German. Haase emphasized this on every occasion. Ledebour too invariably opposed the few million.

The chairman asked the deputy Dittmann. It was thus your intention to help the strikers to get their demands accepted?

Witness Dittmann: I had this question very strange in this connection. The formulation is such that I cannot but assume that you mean we had the intention to press something thus by force in opposition to the interests of the German reich.

(Vorwärts, Dec. 10.)

Out of Their Own Mouths . . .

EBERT, social-democratic president of Germany, last December brought suit for libel against the press and individuals of the monarchist persuasion who had accused him of "treason" during the war.

The documents introduced and the testimony given at the trial have just reached us and they constitute the most damning indictment of the social-democracy ever compiled. We publish herewith the first of a series of articles compiled largely from this matter—most of it taken from the social-democratic press of Germany which published it to show that during the war the German socialists of the Second International outdid the monarchists and capitalists in support of the Kaiser, the imperialist war, in crushing the strikes and the revolution that followed the war.

O "T" of their own mouths . . .

An "INSULT."

MA RTIN (harshly): How does this advance agree with the action taken by the witness with reference to the mutiny in the fleet?

Dittmann (shibbly exclaim): I protest against this unheard of attack. I never took any action towards inciting mutiny in the fleet. I shall call you legally to account for this.

Landsberg (harshly): It is perfectly disgraceful to insult the witness here in such a manner.

(Vorwärts, Dec. 10.)

How It Is Done.

THIS witness Kimber, a carpenter, spoke of the attitude taken by the witness, Dittmann, at a strike meeting.

Dittmann spoke after Ebert. He said that what had but as together was the will to peace.

He did not speak of the strike, any more than Comrade Ebert did.

(Ibide, Vorwärts, Dec. 10.)

The Witness Wuschik.

WITNESS WUSCHIK, party secretary, from 1918 onwards the growth of the Spartacus movement was observable in the works and fac-

ing that members of our party committee should enter the strike committee. But this did not appear advisable to us, for it was very questionable whether we should be in a position, under the circumstances, to hold a factory meeting at all. We therefore negotiated immediately with Ebert, Scheidemann, Muller, and Braun. We told them that we should do our utmost to induce the representatives of the functionaries to admit the members of our party committee into the strike committee.

At that Ebert was very stiff and declared: "I have not the slightest intention of taking part in this movement." Those who have made this bed can lie upon it themselves."

SCH EIDEMANN and Braun were equally unwilling at first, and it was not until after a lengthy discussion that the opinion was arrived at that the members of the party committee, in the interests of national defence, should enter the strike committee, mainly for the purpose of guiding the whole movement into peaceful channels and shortening it.

Chairman: Do you know how the members of the majority S. D. party consider the social democrats as differing from the "independents" (Ed) entering the strike?

Witness: They entered after the majority socialist workers took part. I assume that the well-disciplined right socialist workers took part. I assume that the well-disciplined right socialist workers put pressure on the

(Continued on page 8.)

SECOND SECTION
 This magazine supplement will appear every Saturday in The Daily Worker.