

# BRITISH MINE STRIKE DUE MAY DAY

## LEGALIZE WINE AND BEER, URGE A. F. OF L. CHIEFS

### Green's Agent Pleads for Light Drinks

(Special to The Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, April 9.—A direct appeal by organized labor for modification of the Volstead act to permit sale of light wines and beer was made to the senate "wet and dry" committee today by William Roberts, personal representative of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, at the hearing today. Senator Harreld, republican of Oklahoma, conducted the session in place of Senator Means, who is sick.

The prohibition law, Roberts said, is being openly disregarded by the American people and has turned the country into a nation of law violators. "Give the people a chance to vote on the issue," said Roberts, "and there will be no doubt of the result."

"When the federation meets in conventions each year, its delegates are well informed on all subjects that come before the body, as they know the attitude of the rank and file," declared Roberts. "Therefore, when the federation conventions declared by practically unanimous votes that the Volstead act should be modified it was in response to the voice of the rank and file. At every convention the delegates have freely stated that the unrest among the wage earners because of the Volstead act is ever-increasing."

**Gompers Missed the Beer.**

Roberts told of travelling 30,000 miles with the late Samuel Gompers. "Every where we went there was plenty of distilled liquor but seldom real beer. We found the homes of the people had been turned into breweries and distilleries which turned out dangerous concoctions that if drunk to any extent would ruin the health of those who drank them. When asked why they drank such stuff they said there was nothing else to be obtained. They invariably asked when were members of congress going to realize that the manufacture and sale of beer would make for true temperance. Women as well as men were interested in such questioning."

Eighteenth Amendment O. K.

"Is it your opinion the consumption of hard liquors would be reduced if beer and light wines were allowed?" asked Senator Reed, (D) of Missouri.

"It certainly is," said Roberts.

"You are not opposing the eighteenth amendment, then?" asked Senator Harreld, (R) of Oklahoma.

"No, not at all," Roberts replied. "We stand for true temperance and we believe modification of the present law to permit beers and light wines is the only way to true temperance."

**McSorley Testifies.**

William J. McSorley, president of the building trades department of the federation, said he "favored a law which will give the working men beer and light wines."

"The working man does not believe the present law is just or fair," said McSorley. "He feels that the rich man, who had enough money, could stock his cellar and have his drink of whiskey, beer and wine all his life"

(Continued on page 2.)

## MASSACHUSETTS TEXTILE BARONS TRY TO BLOCK PASSAIC RELIEF

BOSTON, April 9.—In a screaming headline article published in the Boston Telegram, strenuous efforts are made to discourage workers from contributing to relief of the Passaic strikers. Norman Abbot, the writer of the series of articles writes openly in the name of the industries and manufacturing plants of Massachusetts. This of course can be none other than the textile manufacturers, who are the most powerful forces in Massachusetts' industrial life.

Following the traditional method of the prostitute capitalist press, the article attempts to give the impression that the relief campaign is a Communist plot, whose purpose is "To seize the Hub," and "To seize control of the city and plant the red flag of Communism here." The attempt on the part of the Telegram to attack the various labor organizations which are part of the Greater Boston Conference for the Relief of the Passaic Strikers

## HE CAN'T SEE THE BIG FELLOW



## ROADS REFUSE CLERKS \$7.24 A MONTH RAISE

### Pennsylvania's Surplus Is \$25,892,985

NEW YORK, April 9.—The application of the clerks of the Pennsylvania railroad for a restoration of the wage scale in effect prior to July 1, 1921 has been refused by the company.

The management declared that neither the facts arrived at by the committee appointed by the road and by the employees nor supplementary statements offered later by the employees justified an increase.

The rail labor board reduced the rate of wages for clerks \$7.24 a month in 1921, and the clerks asked the cut be cancelled.

On the same day, in which the railroad announced its inability to pay its clerical force the small additional sum of \$7.24 a month for each man or woman clerk employed, there was made public the report of the company for last year showing that 1925 had been one of the most prosperous years in its history.

The gain in net income over the pre-

(Continued on page 2.)

## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME HITS NEW YORK APRIL 25 AND ENDS SEPTEMBER 26

(Special to The Daily Worker)

NEW YORK, April 9.—Daylight saving time goes into effect in New York on April 25, the last Sunday of the month.

Standard time will be resumed on September 26.

## WORKERS RALLY TO FOREIGN-BORN CAMPAIGN IN N. Y.

### Plan Mass Meeting on April 16th

NEW YORK, April 9.—The workers of New York are fast rallying to the support of the New York council for the Protection of Foreign-Born Workers in its drive against the anti-alien bills now pending in congress.

200,000 Workers.

The council, organized in February and backed by over 200,000 organized workers, has already begun the campaign which aims to unite all workers of the city in a fight against the attempts to create a conscript army of foreign-born workers and thus establish a club over the heads of the entire American working class.

A mass meeting against the Aswell, Johnson, McClinton and all other alien registration laws will be held on Friday, April 16, 8 p. m., at Manhattan Lyceum, 66 East Fourth street. At this demonstration petitions will be distributed and the drive started for 1,000,000 signatures voicing the protest of New York Labor and demanding the defeat of all discriminatory measures against foreign-born workers.

It is expected that the meeting will prove a highly successful demonstration. The workers are not fooled by the fact that very little agitation is now being carried on by supporters of these measures. They understand that if action on these bills is postponed, it is merely an election maneuver. American capital has been conspiring for several years to carry thru its vicious plans, and only the organized power, the united efforts of all sections of the American working class will prevent the enactment of the proposed legislation.

## LEFT WING WINS ELECTIONS IN TORONTO A. C. W.

### Ballot-Fixers Defeated in Re-election

(Special to The Daily Worker)

TORONTO, Ont., April 9.—The left wing won an outstanding victory in the elections in the Toronto Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union. The present election was held as a result of rank-and-file demand following the discovery of fraudulent ballot fixing in the regular elections held several weeks ago.

**Counted Out.**

The left wing slate, S. Stolberg, candidate for manager of the union, and A. Temkin, candidate for secretary, was elected by a large majority. In the previous election the left wing candidate for manager, Blugerman, had been counted out in favor of the right-winger, Rosenbloom. The cat was let out of the bag when one of the right-wingers, Jaffe, confessed that ballots for Blugerman had been destroyed in large quantities.

**Rank-and-File Demand.**

A demand was at once made by the left-wingers and all honest union elements for a re-election. The general office, thru General Secretary Schlossberg, tried to discourage this demand and to whitewash the fakery. Finally, however, the rank and file forced the re-election. The voting was the heaviest in the history of the union in Toronto, 1,100 members participating.

## Governor Smith Aids Insurance Companies Dodge Russian Suits

ALBANY, N. Y., (FP)—April 9.—Civil suits by Russians to recover the amounts of their insurance policies from American companies cannot be heard in New York state courts until 30 days after the Soviet government is formally recognized by the United States. Governor Al Smith signed the bill which was sponsored by insurance companies to stop suits for \$25,000,000 on policies cancelled after alleged confiscation of insurance company properties in Russia.

## FORM 24-HOUR PICKET LINE IN PASSAIC

### Strikers Rally to Fight Police Brutality

(Special to The Daily Worker)

PASSAIC, N. J., April 9.—An all-day, all-night picket line is the answer of the United Front Committee to the three attacks by police on picket lines. "We are not daunted, we have just begun to fight," said Albert Weisbord in announcing the continuous lines.

The picket line at the Gera mill was viciously attacked by the police and Andy Bokowsky, Tony Amazon, and Stephen Gede arrested and held under heavy bail. Gede was badly beaten, as were the others. He suffered lacerations about the head and face.

**Attack 2,000 Pickets.**

A picket line 2,000 strong was broken up in the late afternoon when it attempted to pass the Gera mill. Clubs flew, blood spattered the sidewalks, women were trampled and crushed by horses and by an increased motorcycle detachment—all the horror which has become so sickeningly familiar to the strikers in their eleven weeks of dealing with the rioting police, were re-enacted. At the time of writing it was impossible to determine how many were hurt, or how many were arrested.

**Hide Their Badges.**

Police again covered their badges so that strikers might not be able to take their numbers and obtain legal redress for the brutal clabbings. They then charged the crowd with their horses, motorcycles and clubs.

An evening picket line before the Botany mill was also viciously attacked. Helen Bekowsky and Anna Kosh being arrested. They were beaten and abused during their arrest.

**Establish All-Night Picket Line.**

The following statement by Albert Weisbord announced the all-day all-night picket line.

"One thing is very plain and must be kept constantly in mind of the public when it reads about the Cossack brutalities that are daily occurring in Passaic and that is that the responsibility for the violence and disorder now existing in Passaic must be placed fully and plainly on the shoulders of the mill owners. We shall meet their policy of stubbornness and stiffnecked czarism with the same resoluteness, determination and firmness as before. We are not daunted, we have just begun to fight, as the mill owners will soon realize. Hereafter an all-day and all-night picket line will be established before all the mills.

**International Solidarity.**

Europe has turned its eyes on the workers' struggle in Passaic. "Admiration for resistance against gas warfare" and encouragement to continue the struggle was received from fifteen million trade unionists of the entire world in a cablegram received from the central office in Berlin of the International Workers' Aid by the Passaic United Front Committee of (Continued on page 2)

## Jersey Steel Workers Come Out 900 Strong

### Demand Wage Increase and Overtime

(Special to The Daily Worker)

JERSEY CITY, N. J., April 9.—The 900 workers of the Crucible Steel Co. of New Jersey walked out in a 100% strike demanding a 20% wage increase and a half for over-time and double time for Sunday and holiday work. The workers are unorganized.

**Strike Committee.**

A strike committee called on the bosses. They were told that if they got the men back to work immediately the matter of an increase to some of the workers would be considered.

"This is a trick that was worked before in previous strikes in the same plant, and with success.

**Mass Meeting.**

The strikers held a mass meeting yesterday in a hall near the plant. The committee reported the results of its mission. Without discussion a vote was taken.

Workers in some departments voted for separate agreements. This had a demoralizing effect on the meeting.

**Speak for Unity.**

The situation was saved from complete disaster when Louis Kovess was given permission to speak. He told the workers that not a man should return until all the workers get their demands. Separate agreements will lose the present strike as they lost the past one," he said and advocated that the men take immediate steps to form a union.

**Will Fight.**

The workers received the talk enthusiastically and staged a demonstration for a united fight.

A committee was instructed to take action towards forming a union and arrangements made for another strike meeting with English, Hungarian and Greek speakers.

**Low Wages.**

The steel workers in the Crucible plant receive wages as low as 30 and 35c. an hour. In some departments they work as much as 70 to 100 hours a week for \$35.00.

The company, which has plants in various parts of the country, shows an annual profit of over \$11,000,000.

## RICH MAN RAPED NEGRO GIRL AND HE STILL LIVES

### Judge Saves Assailant of 11-Year-Old Child

LOUISVILLE, Ky., (By Mail)—The continued existence of special consideration for white persons charged with crime as compared to the treatment given Negroes accused of the same offense was proven again in the recent decision in the case of a young white man who raped a little colored girl of Lexington, Kentucky.

The man involved was Charles Merchant, son of C. W. Merchant, a prominent building contractor of Lexington. The girl was only 11 years old. The crime was admitted.

In order to escape the consequences of his deed, the defense of insanity was set up. During the course of the trial the young man's father testified to alleged streaks of insanity running in the family. Four psychiatrists, hired by the wealthy contractor, declared the son's mental condition was abnormal.

Circuit Judge R. C. Stoll, who had been waiting all along for a chance (Continued on page 2.)

## N. Y. Legislature Kills 48-Hr. Week Proposal Despite Election Cry

(Special to The Daily Worker)

ALBANY, N. Y., April 8.—The Shonk 48-hour week bill for women and minors in industry is dead. By a vote of 79 to 69 a motion to discharge the rules committee of the assembly from further consideration of the measure was defeated. The majority of the rules committee is opposed to the bill but will not report it out, thus preventing a direct vote on it by the legislature.

Ten republicans voted with the 59 democrats to get the bill on to the floor. The republican party in its platform for the last state election promised the passage of a 48-hour week measure but has taken no steps to carry out their promise. On the other hand, they have blocked every effort, even on the part of a few members of their party, to enact such legislation.

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## COAL MINERS TO FIGHT LONG DAY AND WAGE SLASH

### Whole Labor Movement Behind Them

(Special to The Daily Worker)

LONDON, April 9.—A nation-wide coal strike May 1 that will undoubtedly bring with it a general tie-up in Great Britain is a certainty. A conference of miners' delegates met today in London and voted to stand by their slogan "Not a cent off the pay, not a second on the day." Wage reductions, lengthening of hours and substitution of one national agreement by district agreements were flatly rejected.

**Subsidy Expires.**

The decision of the conference amounts to a rejection of the recommendation of the Royal Coal Commission that had been set up in an effort to stave off the coming crisis. The original coal subsidy of \$50,000,000 appropriated last June that postponed the crisis has now grown to \$115,000,000 and will be discontinued May 1st.

**Wage Cuts.**

The operators have expressed their intention of launching a wage-cut drive on the expiration of the subsidy. It is this that will directly precipitate the strike in the coal fields. The miners have been assured by other sections of the labor movement that their walk-out will be joined by workers in other industries.

**More than Wages.**

A. J. Cook, Secretary of the Miners' Federation, said about the coming conflict, "We are consulting the whole trade union movement because in case of a fight it will not only be the miners' strike but one of the whole movement. Wages will be the immediate object but we are going to get something more. There may be both an industrial and political struggle."

**T. U. C. Behind Them.**

The miners are in consultation with the Special Industrial Committee of the Trade Union Congress preparing plans for the whole organized labor movement of Britain to stand behind the miners. Tonight the miners' representatives will confer with Premier Baldwin.

**Industrial Alliance.**

An Industrial Alliance is being formed to stand by the miners and defend the workers' movement in the coming crisis against the fascist organizations such as the O. M. S. that are being formed with government connivance for strikebreaking purposes. Unions totalling a million and a half members have already voted to join the alliance. The largest of these are the Miners Federation, 800,000 members; Transport and General Workers, 290,000; Amalgamated Engineering Union, 207,000; Workers' Union, 131,000.

**Call For Action.**

The "Call For Action" issued by the British Minority Movement con-

(Continued on page 2)

## Lecture on Religion at N. Y. School Forum

### (Special to The Daily Worker)

NEW YORK, April 9.—"The Role of Religion in Civilization" is the topic of unusual interest which the Workers' School Forum, at 103 E. 14 street announces for this Sunday night, April 11, at 8 p. m. and the speaker is D. Kvitko, who has written much on psychology, philosophy and sociology.

The question of religion, its role in society and the attitude of the Communists towards it, is one of the most difficult problems and one which the Workers Party has not given enough thought to. This forum lecture is intended to provoke discussion of these fundamental problems and to direct attention towards their solution.

On the Sunday following, another controversial subject will be introduced in the forum in the form of a lecture by V. F. Calverton on the problem "Is Proletarian Culture Possible?" Calverton will take issue with the viewpoint of Bukharin and Trotsky on this matter and will in part defend the viewpoint of the proletcult advocates. His talk, therefore, is expected to arouse controversy.

**Open your eyes! Look around! There are the stories of the workers' struggles around you begging to be written up. Do it! Send it in! Write as you fight!**

### ATHEISTS PLAN LEGAL FIGHT ON ECCLESIASTICS

#### Quote Washington as Aid to Campaign

NEW YORK, April 9.—The organized atheists of the country are planning a series of legal attacks upon ecclesiasticism, according to a statement issued today by Charles Smith, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Atheism, Inc., with national headquarters at 49 Vesey street. A fund of \$100,000 is being raised among atheists for the purpose of instituting several legal actions and spreading propaganda in the colleges.

Our suit to remove the chaplains from the houses of congress and the army and navy is but the first move of a campaign to cleanse government of religion," Smith said. "We are now preparing for our second suit and will file it shortly after a decision is handed down in the present case.

U. S. No Christian Nation. "We chose to bring action to remove the chaplains from the federal payroll first because it seems to us that their employment is clearly illegal. We consider that payment of public moneys to priests and propagandists of creeds is plainly a perversion of public funds. Christianity would rise in arms if an atheist were made chaplain of the senate or the house. Who can conceive of a Mohammedan as a chaplain on one of our navy craft? We must keep in mind what George Washington said: 'The United States is not a christian nation any more than it is a Jewish or Mohammedan nation.'

"We are raising \$100,000 for the purpose of instituting legal actions throughout the United States. Our association will bring suit in Oak Park, Illinois, before the close of the present term to restrain the school board of that city from dismissing school children for religious instruction during school hours. Our attorney in Chicago, Richard J. Cooney, is prepared to test the week-day religious issue in the supreme court of Illinois and secure a final decision in the matter," he continued.

### Affairs for Russian Schools to be Given at Workers' House

A Russian vecherinka, concert and dance will be given by the Wicker Park Russian Children's School, tonight (Saturday) at the Workers' House, 1902 W. Division St. The children of the school will participate in the program.

### 2-DAY SPRING FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 10, and Sunday, April 11  
**Look at This!**

Entertainment and Dancing on Saturday Night  
beginning at 8 p. m.

Dancing All Sunday Afternoon  
to good music from 2:30 to 6 p. m.

Entire new program of entertainment and more dancing  
Sunday night—at 8 p. m.

### A. F. of L. Chief for Beer and Wine

(Continued from page 1). and the poor man gets arrested if somebody hands him a bottle." Enforcements Conditions "Terrible." Enforcement conditions are "terrible," McSorley asserted. "Why, district attorneys are calling in justices of the peace and making them resign!"

Brennan Gets Election Issue. George E. Brennan, the rotund democratic "boss" of Chicago, who has had a hand in the making and breaking of many political candidates, from presidential to aldermanic, and who is himself a candidate for the senate this year, told democratic leaders at the capitol that the issue of prohibition is in politics to stay, and that they might as well prepare to meet it in 1928.

Ward Boss Talks Debauchery. "But even that is not the worst of present-day conditions. The tragic part of it is what prohibition is doing to the young folks of this country. It is a trite thing to say that youth is being debauched, and yet there is scarcely any other way to describe present conditions.

Form 24-Hour Picket Line in Passaic Strike (Continued from Page 1) Textile Workers. This is the second such expression of solidarity from abroad. A similar message was received from the Textile Workers Union of Russia.

Rich Man Raped Negro Child and He Still Lives (Continued from page 1) to intervene, at once suspended the criminal trial, impelled a lunacy jury, and after a short session, instructed it to find the young man insane. This done, he ordered the prisoner to be confined in the Eastern State Hospital for the Insane.

Big British Mine Strike Due May Day (Continued from Page 1) ference at Battersea calling for the formation of local councils of action and workers' defense corps against the O. M. S. is being responded to throughout the nation. Almost a million workers were represented at the conference.

### APPOINTMENT OF THOMPSON MEETS WITH OPPOSITION

#### Coolidge Is Questioned as to His Rights

(Special to The Daily Worker) WASHINGTON, April 9.—President Coolidge's right to appoint Carmel Thompson of Cleveland as a special commissioner to investigate conditions in the Philippines was challenged in the senate today by Sen. King, (D) of Utah.

Suspicious Actions. Aginaldo has lost prestige greatly with the natives though he still has a following. Leaders of the independence movement recall many suspicious incidents in his past career, casting grave doubt on his sincerity.

Rich Man Raped Negro Child and He Still Lives (Continued from page 1) He is now a wealthy planter. His economic interests have allied him with the Americans and he has been a consistent supporter of governor general Wood from the beginning of the latter's struggle against the nationalist movement.

Big British Mine Strike Due May Day (Continued from Page 1) ference at Battersea calling for the formation of local councils of action and workers' defense corps against the O. M. S. is being responded to throughout the nation.

### Schwab Talks Prosperity But New Jersey Steel Workers Declare Strike

By J. LOUIS ENGDHAL.

CHARLES M. SCHWAB, powerful steel magnate, chairman of the board of directors of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, declares he is "an optimist on the business outlook." That is a warning to labor.

There is much more. Schwab compliments business for not indulging in "speculative expansion," he is happy over the excellent "transportation service" provided, glories in the operation of "our banking laws" and "credit facilities."

Workers are not benefitted when they indulge in the phantasy of "greater peace with their employers." While they paralyze their own struggle for better conditions, the employers are as active as ever in improving their own favorable position.

The steel workers are now in convention at Pittsburgh. The "optimistic" pronouncements of the steel kaiser, Schwab, could not have been timed better in aid of the reactionary officialdom that loves so much to bask in the sunshine of the employers' favors.

Rich Man Raped Negro Child and He Still Lives (Continued from page 1) The state's attorney asserts that the young man will be tried on the assault charge again upon his release if he recovers from his "mental affliction."

### Railroads Refuse Clerks Pittance of \$7.24 Monthly Raise

(Continued from page 1) ceding year was \$24,085,647. The increase in net operating income was the largest reported by any railroad in the country.

### SKILLED STEEL WORKERS FRETTER BY NEW MACHINE

#### Convention Hears Boss' Representative

By ANDREW OVERGAARD. (Special to The Daily Worker) PITTSBURGH, Pa., April 9.—Today's session of the convention of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers appointed all the delegates representing the sheet and tin division as a committee to consider the wage scale in connection with the new patent doubler which is revolutionizing the steel industry and fast reducing the skilled workers to common labor.

Green's Regrets. The convention received a letter of regret from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, that he could not attend the convention due to very pressing engagements.

Women to Hold Spring Festival on Saturday and Sunday. Altho the ground may be covered with snow, Saturday April 10 and Sunday, April 11, Chicago is going to have spring. For the women of the district are holding a spring festival lasting for the two days of Saturday and Sunday.

Big Tim' Murphy Speaks to Gas Workers. "Big Tim" Murphy in a two-hour speech at the Musicians' Hall to the members of the Gas Workers' Union told them how grateful he was for their having elected him repeatedly to the presidency of the union while he was in Leavenworth prison.

SECTION 3 HOLDS DANCE TODAY TO RAISE FUNDS TO ISSUE SHOP BULLETIN. Section 3, Chicago, of the Workers (Communist) Party, will hold a dance and get-acquainted party at the Vilnis Hall, 3116 South Halsted St., on Saturday night, April 10.

NEW! Lenin and the Trade Union Movement BY A. LOSOVSKY (Secretary of the Red International of Labor Unions) With an introduction by W. M. Z. FOSTER. 15 Cents. TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE Room 37—156 W. Washington St., CHICAGO, ILL.

By the same author: THE WORLD TRADE UNION MOVEMENT Introduction by Earl R. Browder. 50 Cents.



